

Current Affairs By
MAHINDRA LAW ACADEMY

IMPORTANT HIGHLIGHTS OF THE MONTH

- Santoor maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori & singer Sidhu Moose Wala & KK Died
- FIFA Rankings, FIH Rankings, Global Liveability Index & GEP Index released
- Droupadi Murmu set to be elected the first tribal woman President of India
- FINA bars trans swimmers from participating in women's events
- Tomb of Sand becomes the first Hindi Novel to win Booker Prize
- SC's order on Sex Work, how it Changes Things and Laws
- Columbia & Philippines elect their new President
- Is free trade really a tool to solve the food crisis?
- Right to Property and its Evolution in India
- Agnipath Scheme: Explained



FEATURING:

- 500+ High Level Questions
- Current Affairs based GS
- Revision Corner
- Infographics

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     **MAHINDRA LAW ACADEMY**

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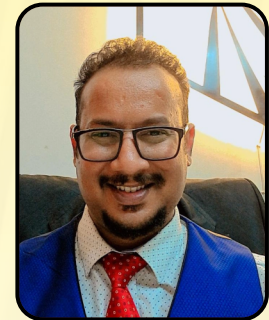
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I welcome you on behalf of the whole institute and thank you for showing your interest in us.



For years we have been educating young men and women who entered its community and attained their transformation into responsible citizens and leaders in respective field. By joining us, you are embarking on an education system that is meant to be transformative – academically, socially, and personally. “Excellence and Values” are our guiding principles which are reflected in every activity of the Institute.

My word of advice to the young students is that they should be true to themselves. It is understandable that at college level there are so many things apart from studies that students are exposed to. May be, they are also necessary for overall development, however, one should understand how much time is to be given to what activity? Allocating time is very important for an individual as it helps in many ways. They should be focused as to what they want to do after their college and should work accordingly. I’m sure, if they keep their future in mind, they will achieve what they want in life.

Young people should not worry about the failures they may encounter in their search for their goal. Failure is an essential element of success. I have failed many a times at different stages in life, but then I worked on my mistakes and have achieved this position. Perseverance is the thing that always keeps me working in the right direction. Therefore, work upon your mistakes and learn from them. That is the essential key to success.

Just remember “There is no way to Happiness, Happiness is the only way”

Once again, welcome to our community of shared principles and values. Wish you happy, healthy, and fruitful years ahead.

Looking forward to welcoming you to the Institute.

GAURAV MAHINDRA
(Founder Mahinda Law Academy)



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An edge above others...

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Burning Issues of the Month

Agneepath Scheme: Explained



The Agnipath scheme, announced on June 14, provides for the recruitment of youths between the age bracket of 17-and-half years to 21 for four years with a provision to retain 25% of them for 15 more years. Later, the government extended the upper age limit to 23 years for recruitment in 2022. The Army stated that the 'Agniveers' would form a distinct rank and a "distinctive insignia" will be worn by the Agniveers on their uniform during their service period.

What Is Agneepath?

According to the government, AGNEEPATH scheme has been designed to enable a youthful profile of the Armed Forces. It will provide an opportunity to the youth who may be keen to don the uniform by attracting young talent from the society who are more in tune with contemporary technological trends and plough back skilled, disciplined and motivated manpower into the society. As for the Armed Forces, it will enhance the youthful profile of the Armed Forces and provide a fresh lease of "Josh' and 'Jazba'" whilst at the same time bring about a transformational shift towards a more tech savvy Armed Forces – which is indeed the need of the hour. It is envisaged that average age profile of Indian Armed forces would come down by about 4-5 years by implementation of this scheme. According to the government, the nation stands to immensely benefit by infusion of highly inspired youth with deeper understanding of self-discipline, diligence and focus that would be adequately skilled and will be able to contribute in other sectors. The dividends of a short military service to the nation, society and the youth of the nation are immense.

Salient details

- The 'Agniveers' will be eligible for 30 days leave in a year as against 90 days for those in regular service. Medical leave will be granted based on medical advice.
- The Army said 30% of the monthly salary of the Agniveers will be compulsorily deposited in a corpus and an equal amount will be contributed by the government.
- The Army said the new recruits will be subjected to the provisions of the Army Act, 1950, and will be liable to go wherever ordered by land, sea or air.
- The Army has stated that based on organisational requirements and policies, 'Agniveers', on completion of their engagement period in each batch, will be offered an opportunity to apply for enrolment in the regular cadre.
- "These applications will be considered in a centralised manner by the Army based on objective criteria, including performance during their engagement period and not more than 25% of each specific batch of Agniveers will be enrolled in regular cadre post completion of their four-year engagement period," said the Army.
- "Agniveers so enrolled as regular cadre would be required to serve for a further engagement period of 15 years and will be governed by terms and conditions of service (of Junior Commissioned Officer/ Other Ranks) currently in vogue," it said.

Who are Agniveers?

The youth joining the armed forces under Agnipath scheme will be known as Agniveers. Agniveers will be given an attractive customised monthly package along

with Risk and Hardship allowances as applicable in the three services. On completion of the engagement period of four years, Agniveers will be paid one time 'SevaNidhi' package which shall comprise their contribution including accrued interest thereon and

matching contribution from the Government equal to the accumulated amount of their contribution including interest as indicated below:

Year	Customised Package (Monthly)	In Hand (70%)	Contribution to Agniveer Corpus Fund (30%)	Contribution to corpus fund by GoI
All figures in Rs (Monthly Contribution)				
1 st Year	30000	21000	9000	9000
2 nd Year	33000	23100	9900	9900
3 rd Year	36500	25580	10950	10950
4 th Year	40000	28000	12000	12000
Total contribution in Agniveer Corpus Fund after four years			Rs 5.02 Lakh	Rs 5.02 Lakh
Exit After 4 Year	Rs 11.71 Lakh as Seva Nidhi Package (Including, interest accumulated on the above amount as per the applicable interest rates would also be paid)			

The "Seva Nidhi" will be exempt from Income Tax. There shall be no entitlement to gratuity and pensionary benefits. Agniveers will be provided non-contributory Life Insurance Cover of Rs 48 lakh for the duration of their engagement period in the Indian Armed Forces. During this period of service to the nation, the Agniveers will be imparted with various military skills and experience, discipline, physical fitness, leadership qualities, courage and patriotism.

Future Road Map

Post this stint of four years, the Agniveers will be infused into the civil society where they can contribute immensely towards the nation building process. The skills gained by each Agniveer will be recognised in a certificate to form part of his unique resume. Agniveers, on completion of the four-year tenure in the prime of their youth, will be mature and self-disciplined with the

realisation to become better version of himself/herself both professionally as also personally. The avenues and opportunities that will open up for their progress in the civil world after Agniveer tenure would certainly be a big plus towards nation building.

The 'Seva Nidhi' of approximately Rs 11.71 lakh would aid the Agniveer to pursue his/her future dreams without the financial pressure, which is normally the case for young people from the financially deprived strata of society. The individuals, selected for enrolment in the Armed Forces as regular cadre, would be required to serve for a further engagement period of minimum 15 years and would be governed by the existing terms and conditions of service of Junior Commissioned Officers/Other Ranks in Indian Army and their equivalent in Indian Navy and Indian Air Force and that of Non Combatant enrolled in the Indian Air Force, as amended from time-to-time.

"Failure Will Never Overtake Me If My Determination To Succeed Is Strong Enough."

"Knowing Is Not Enough; We Must Apply. Wishing Is Not Enough; We Must Do."

Explained: The Supreme Court Order On Sex Work, How It Changes Things, And Laws On Sex Work



Noting that the attitude of the police towards sex workers is often brutal and violent, the Supreme Court of India earlier this month said that sex workers should be treated with decency and dignity, and the police should not interfere or take any criminal action when an adult engages in consensual sex work.

In an order on 19 May, the Supreme Court also asked the Centre to clarify its stand on recommendations made by a panel formed by the apex court in 2011, which looked into the prevention of human trafficking and questions of rehabilitation as well as the dignity of sex workers. The Centre in 2016 told the SC that the panel's recommendations were incorporated in draft legislation. However, no law has since been made.

In the absence of such a law, the Supreme Court said that its directives would be valid until a law on the subject is made.

What did the SC say?

The Supreme Court bench of Justices of L Nageswara Rao, BR Gavai, and AS Bopanna said sex workers and their children are covered by the protections of the Article 21 of the Constitution of India like every other profession and person.

Article 21 — dubbed the Right to Life — says: No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to procedure established by law.

The authorities, when dealing with cases concerning trafficking, have to be mindful of this Constitutional protection, said the SC order.

It further said, "Whenever there is a raid on any brothel, since voluntary sex work is not illegal and only running the brothel is unlawful, the sex workers concerned should not be arrested or penalised or harassed or victimised.

When it is clear that the sex worker is an adult and is participating with consent, the police must refrain from interfering or taking any criminal action.

Article 21 of the Constitution of India: Protection of Life and Personal Liberty

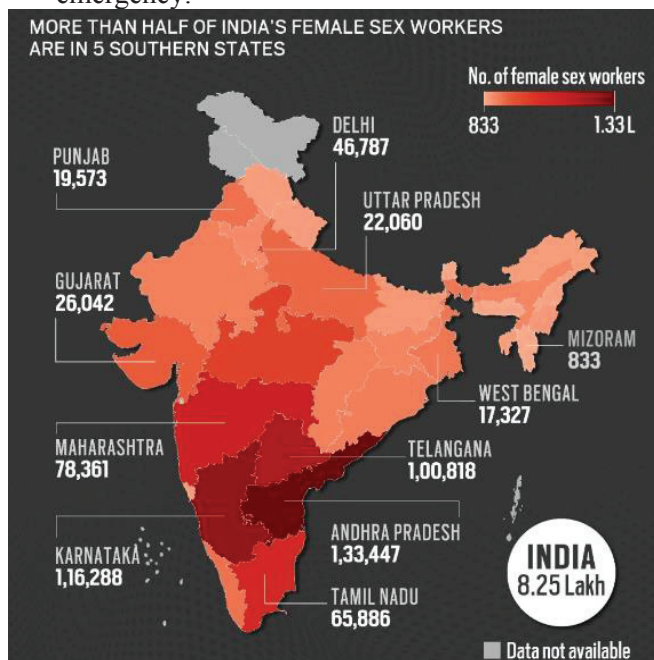
Article 21 states that "No person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to a procedure established by law." Thus, article 21 secures two rights:

- 1) Right to life, and
- 2) Right to personal liberty.

The Government of India Act, 1935 provided for the establishment of Article 21 of the Indian Constitution. It declares that no person shall be deprived of his life or personal liberty except according to the procedure established by law. Article 21 comes under the Part III of the Indian constitution and is one of the fundamental rights guaranteed to all citizens of India.

Characteristics:

- Article 21 is a fundamental right and is included in Part-III of the Indian Constitution.
- This right is available to all citizens as well as non-citizens alike.
- Supreme Court has described this right as the “heart of fundamental rights”
- According to Justice Bhagwati, Article 21 “embodies a constitutional value of supreme importance in a democratic society.”
- Article 21 secures two rights: The right to life and the Right to personal liberty.
- Article 21 cannot be suspended during an emergency.



What are existing laws on sex work?

Sex work in India is governed primarily by the Immoral Traffic (Prevention) Act, 1956 (ITPA), but Indian Penal Code (IPC) and Juvenile Justice Act also have provisions dealing with prostitution and trafficking in India, as per an article published by the Columbia University's Institute for the Study of Human Rights (ISHR).

Private prostitution is not illegal in India, but soliciting it, doing it publicly, and owning a brothel are illegal.

The IPC makes the following illegal:

- Soliciting prostitution services publicly
- Prostitution activities in hotels
- Prostitution by arranging for a sex worker
- Arranging a sexual act with a customer

It adds that prostitutes are to be arrested if they are found soliciting their services or seducing others. "Furthermore, call girls are prohibited from making their phone numbers public. They can be punished for up to six months along with penalties if found doing so".

What changes with SC order?

1. The Supreme Court order sets limits on police actions regarding sex workers and puts sex workers and their children at par with rest of the people.
2. Consensual adult sex work and the mere presence of sex workers in a brothel would not warrant an arrest or police interference, as per the SC order. This is important as the police are known for harassing sex workers.
3. The law makes sex workers living in Red Light Areas vulnerable to police action who while enforcing anti-trafficking laws often cross their limits by taking action against sex workers and their clients who are engaged in consensual and private sex work, noted the ISHR article cited above. This would need to stop as per the SC guidelines.
4. Moreover, the SC stated that when a sex worker comes forward with a complaint, it would be treated as any other complaint, and she would not be treated as an offender but as a complainant.
5. The SC stated, "Any sex worker who is a victim of sexual assault should be provided with all facilities available to a survivor of sexual assault, including immediate medical assistance."
6. This assistance will be in line with Section 357C of the Code of Criminal Procedure and guidelines and protocols for survivor and victims of sexual violence issued by the Union health ministry.
7. The apex court noted issues faced by sex workers, saying "Needless to say, this basic protection of human decency and dignity extends to sex workers and their children, who, bearing the brunt of social stigma attached to their work, are removed to the fringes of the society, deprived of their right to live with dignity and opportunities to provide the same to their children."
8. The SC order also prohibits forcible separation of children of sex workers. The order stated, "Further, if a minor is found living in a brothel or with sex workers, it should not be presumed that he/she has been trafficked. In case the sex worker claims that he/she is her son/daughter, tests can be done to determine if the claim is correct and if so, the minor should not be forcibly separated."

Right to Property and its Evolution in India

RIGHT TO PROPERTY UNDER ARTICLE 31



Everyday some or the other legal developments take place. We have been given certain rights and with it comes duty. In order to protect people fundamental rights are given to them in Constitution, but it is interesting to see that in one instance in order to do economic justice, a person's fundamental right was converted into just a constitutional right, that is Right to Property.

AIM

The main aim of this article is to enable readers to know why the legal status of the Right to Property was changed from a fundamental right to a constitutional right.

What is Property?

The word property interpreted by SC for Art. 31 has said, should be given a liberal meaning and should be extended to all those well-recognized types of interest which have the insignia or characteristic of property right. The expression property in Article 300A is confined not only to land alone. It includes both corporal and incorporeal rights. It includes Money, contract, interest in the property, etc.

Right to Property as a fundamental right

Since the Constitution of India came into force in the 1950s, the right to property was given fundamental status. Basically, two articles Art. 31 and Art. 19(1)(f)

ensures that any person's right against his property remains protected.

Art. 31 clause (1) reads as No person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law. It gives protection to persons against the government or State's arbitrary action to seize private property for public use and private use. That means a person has right to move to SC in case of violation of this right. At this juncture it is essential to understand the power of Eminent Domain- every government has an inherent right to take and appropriate the private property belonging to an individual citizen for public use. It is based on the legal maxim Salus Populi est suprema lex meaning the welfare of people or the public is the paramount law.

In America, this power was limited by imposing three restrictions:

1. there must be a law authorizing the taking of property
2. the property must be taken for a public purpose
3. just compensation should be paid.

In India clause (1) of art. 31 provides for first restriction and clause (2) reading No property shall be compulsorily acquired or requisitioned save for a public purpose and save by authority of a law which provides for acquisition of the property for an amount which shall be fixed by such law, and no such law be called in question in any court on the ground that the amount so fixed is not adequate for the other two restrictions.

Article 19(1)(f) provides the freedom to citizens to acquire, hold, and dispose of the property within the territory of India.

But by the Constitutional 44th Amendment act 1978, these two above mentioned articles were deleted and a new chapter IV was added in Part XII, containing only one article 300A.

The legal status of the Right to Property was changed from the fundamental right to constitutional right. As a result, people were not allowed to approach Supreme Court directly u/A 32 of the constitution for violation of the Right to Property although they still could invoke jurisdiction at high court u/A 226 of COI.

Why the 44th amendment act was made?

In order to understand why such a step was taken by the Parliament of India, it is necessary to understand that before India get its independence there were four major systems prevailing-

1. the Ryotwari system,
2. Mahalwari system,
3. Zamindari system, and
4. Jagidari system.

Due to these large parts of land was in possession of zamindars, tenants, and like people, which causes an unequal distribution of land and increases the gap between rich and poor.

Land ceiling was one of the strongest measures taken in this regard. Ceiling means the maximum limitation on the area that can be acquired by a private person. In the year 1959 at the Nagpur conference of Indian National Congress, it was decided that laws or acts related to the restriction of land limits must be implemented till the end of the year. The land ceiling act was implemented from 1960-1972 and from 1976-1999.

Despite such efforts by the government the zamindars and other land owners whose ceiling limit exceeded approached Supreme Court using their fundamental

right to property with the intention to hold acts unconstitutional. So, in order to stop this from happening and with a view to doing economic justice, Art.31, and Art. 19(1)(f) ceased to be a fundamental right and was modified as a constitutional right in new chapter IV Part XII of the Constitution as Art. 300A, which continues to exist and follow till today.

Present Legal Status of Right to Property

By 44th Amendment Act 1978 of the Constitution of India, a new article namely 300A was inserted and titled as Right to Property. It read as:

No person shall be deprived of his property save by authority of law. This article provides restrictions on the State that it cannot take anybody's property without the force of law also interpreted can be deprived of the force of law. The word 'law' here means a validly enacted law which is just, fair, and reasonable. TM

The main question arises if any person is deprived of his property by the force of law for the public interest, will he be entitled to compensation?

The answer is yes. Although it is not explicit like in Art. 30(1)(A) as well as in 2nd proviso of Art.31A (1) but yet it can be inferred in Article 300A. The State has to justify its stand on justiciable grounds which depends upon legislative policy.

Conclusion

Due to the excessive possession of land by the zamindars and tenants, the legal status of the Right to freedom was changed from a fundamental right to a constitutional right in order to avoid the situation of misusing of right to property as a fundamental right by zamindars and another landowner against state measures to acquire land and to implement land ceiling laws in India. Still, this right is available to all persons as a constitutional right and can invoke the jurisdiction in high court u/A 226 of the Constitution of India.

"There is a powerful driving force inside every human being that, once unleashed, can make any vision, dream, or desire a reality."

"Keep on going, and the chances are that you will stumble on something, perhaps when you are least expecting it. I never heard of anyone ever stumbling on something sitting down."

Is free trade really a tool to solve the food crisis?



Once again, G7 political leaders and wealthy nations are cheering for more free trade as a solution to ensure global food security. Small-scale food producers and global peasant movements, however, are warning that it is the wrong recipe. Decades of rampant globalisation and expansion of free trade have decimated local economies, increased rural poverty, generated agrarian conflicts, spurred migration, and worsened hunger and inequality. It is time for a radical shift towards guaranteeing food sovereignty everywhere.

Climate change, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the war against Ukraine have created massive disruptions in international agricultural markets and global food systems. The prices of farm inputs and some primary food and agricultural commodities have skyrocketed. Rising food inflation in countries worldwide is threatening to push more people into hunger. Several import-dependent countries are now struggling to import the food needed to feed their people.

Transnational agribusiness corporations seem keen to milk the crisis. They prefer to hoard and export rather than fulfil domestic demand, sometimes forcing national governments to impose export bans to tame rising domestic prices. A recent investigation has found that excessive speculation by investment firms and funds in the commodities markets has contributed to the price spike.

In short, the global food system, sustained by free trade agreements and bilateral investment treaties, is failing once again in the face of significant disruptions. Yet all

we hear is chorus calls from wealthy nations for more free trade. It is déjà vu. In 2008, during the global food crisis, international trade was touted as the magic pill to solve food insecurity worldwide. That has just proven to be a tale that could cost the lives of hundreds of millions of people worldwide.

What Is a Free Trade Agreement (FTA)?

A free trade agreement is a pact between two or more nations to reduce barriers to imports and exports among them. Under a free trade policy, goods and services can be bought and sold across international borders with little or no government tariffs, quotas, subsidies, or prohibitions to inhibit their exchange.

How a Free Trade Agreement Works

In the modern world, free trade policy is often implemented by means of a formal and mutual agreement of the nations involved. However, a free-trade policy may simply be the absence of any trade restrictions.

The Economics of Free Trade

In principle, free trade on the international level is no different from trade between neighbors, towns, or states. However, it allows businesses in each country to focus on producing and selling the goods that best use their resources while other businesses import goods that are scarce or unavailable domestically. That mix of local production and foreign trade allows economies to experience faster growth while better meeting the needs of its consumers.

Real solutions were always on the horizon

For nearly a quarter of a century, La Via Campesina, the global peasant movement, has been advocating that national public policies built on the principles of food sovereignty can build stable, re-localised food systems. Such local efforts can weather the storm of massive disruptions that we see today. Instead of globalising food trade through WTO and other free trade agreements, countries should have the right to protect and promote local food production, regulate agricultural markets, and develop public stockpiling.

Yet, since its 2013 Ministerial Conference in Bali, the WTO has been dragging its feet on finding a permanent solution to public stockholding for food security purposes. A proposal tabled by the G-33 grouping of WTO has been in deep freeze since 2013, despite a majority of the developing nations supporting it.

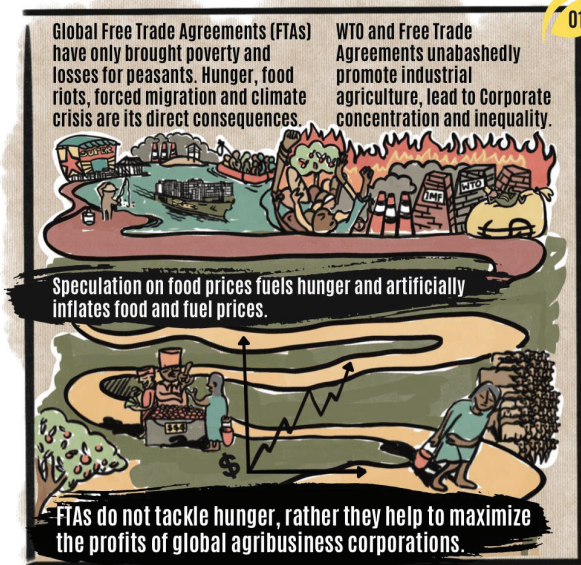
Middle and low-income countries have also been asking for a special safeguard mechanism (SSM) to prevent food dumping, allowing them to raise import tariffs when faced with an import surge. Yet, no solution seems to be in sight, even as the Agreement on Agriculture by the WTO allows a total of 39 countries (17 developed and just 22 developing countries) to use a special safeguard. International trade rules around food imports also force middle and low-income countries to remain obligated to a free-market trading system, disallow any policy protecting the local economies, and sometimes even force them to reformulate their national laws.

Why do we need a global institution like WTO that only bats for the wealthy and the powerful?

The world cannot wait anymore for the WTO to reform itself and find solutions that matter. West Africa faces its worst food crisis in 10 years, with over 27 million people suffering from hunger. The prevalence of hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean now stands at 9.1 percent, the highest it has been in the last 15 years. The social unrest we witness in Sri Lanka, Lebanon, Egypt and elsewhere demands urgent attention from the global society.

There are concrete steps that can lay the pathway to food sovereignty.

All existing WTO rules that prevent countries from developing public food stockholding systems and supporting their local farmers should be immediately suspended. The speculation on agricultural commodities should be forbidden, and exporting-importing countries should conduct transparent negotiations to ensure accessible prices for import-dependent countries. The use of agricultural products to produce agrofuels should be prohibited. The public debt of the most vulnerable countries should be abolished.



In the longer term, stabilising the global food system requires a significant change in food governance and politics. Small-scale food producers should be at the heart of global food governance, not agribusiness corporations. Rights such as those stated in the UN Declaration on the Rights of Peasants should be implemented as a legally binding instrument. Peasant agroecology and agrarian reform must become the essential means of sustainable food production while coping with environmental challenges.

WTO has lost the trust of the people, and all governments must keep agricultural matters out of free trade agreements. The time has come to build an alternative international framework for trade and agricultural policies based on the principles of food sovereignty. Several governments, faced with a significant social crisis at home, might be willing to take these radical steps towards food sovereignty. They will face massive resistance from wealthy nations and exporting powers unwilling to lose the golden goose.

Recent Appointments

Iran appoints new IRGC spy chief as Israel tensions rise



Iran appointed Mohammad Kazemi, new commander to head the powerful intelligence service of its Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) with no reason given as to why the previous chief left the job. Hossein Taeb was replaced by Mohammad Kazemi, who previously headed the Intelligence Protection Organisation, the counterintelligence arm of the IRGC. The 59-year-old Taeb, who was previously a senior figure in the Iranian intelligence ministry, switched to the IRGC in the late 2000s, and was appointed as the head of the paramilitary Basij organisation in 2008. One year later, the intelligence unit of the IRGC was formed and Taeb took its helm, a position he held until his replacement was announced.

IRGC

The Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps is a branch of the Iranian Armed Forces, founded after the Iranian Revolution on 22 April 1979 by order of Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini.

Commander-in-Chief: Mohammad Kazemi

Founded: 5 May 1979, Iran

Iran

- Capital: Tehran
- President: Ebrahim Raisi
- Currency: Iranian rial
- Supreme leader: Ali Khamenei

Senior IPS Officer appointed Director General of NIA

Dinkar Gupta, the former Punjab DGP was appointed as the new Director-General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA).



NIA is an anti-terror probe agency that was formed after the 26/11 attack in Mumbai. Earlier in May 2021, Director General of CRPF Kuldeep Singh was given an additional charge of the NIA after the retirement of Y C Modi. As per the official order announcing the new NIA Director General, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet cleared the name of Dinkar Gupta, a 1987-batch IPS officer from Punjab, for the top NIA post. Dinkar Gupta will hold the post of NIA Chief will March 31, 2024, which is the date of his retirement or till further orders, whichever comes earlier. Dinkar Gupta held the position of the Director General of Punjab Police in 2019 and served in the post for a period of two years and seven months. Dinkar Gupta also held the post of Director General of Police, Intelligence, Punjab, which involved the direct supervision of the Punjab State Intelligence Wing, Organised Crime Control Unit (OCCU), and State Anti-Terrorist Squad (ATS). Dinkar Gupta, an experienced and distinguished officer, earlier had an eight-year stint on the central deputation from June 2004 to July 2012. During this time, he held sensitive assignments including as the head of the Intelligence Bureau Unit which looked after the security of VVIPs.

NIA

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founder: Radha Vinod Raju
- Founded: 31 December 2008

India may get its first tribal, second woman President as Droupadi Murmu

Droupadi Murmu, an Odisha-based Santhal, as its nominee for the highest constitutional position, India may ultimately elect its first tribal president.



After the legislative board of the party endorsed what is widely seen as Prime Minister Narendra Modi's pick for Rashtrapati Bhavan, BJP leader JP Nadda announced Murmu's candidacy.

More Info:

If elected, Murmu will become the second woman to hold the office of President following UPA supporter Pratibha Patil (2007–12). Murmu is the front-runner to succeed incumbent Ramnath Kovind, a Dalit from UP, in Rashtrapati Bhavan after the July 18 elections, as the BJP-led NDA is confident in making up the shortfall with the help of regional players like BJD's Naveen Patnaik and YSRCP's Jagan Mohan Reddy — the chief ministers of Odisha and Andhra Pradesh, respectively.

Edtech company Unacademy appoints Navneet Sharma as chief business officer



Edtech company Unacademy has appointed Navneet Sharma as its chief business officer – new initiatives. Joining the Unacademy team he will be charting the growth strategy, business plan, and sales development frameworks for the new avenues that the Test Prep business is exploring, in order to achieve the larger vision and goals of the brand. As a part of his new mandate, Sharma will be responsible for formulating new avenues of growth for the digital and hybrid models for the test prep business. Sharma was also associated with Airtel as chief executive officer, Gujarat.

Unacademy

- Founded: 2015
- CEO: Gaurav Munjal
- Headquarters: Bengaluru
- Founders: Roman Saini, Gaurav Munjal, Hemesh Singh
- Subsidiaries: WiFiStudy, Konselect Educare Private Limited, etc.

Ruchira Kamboj became Newly-appointed India's Permanent Representative to UN



Ruchira Kamboj who is currently the Indian Ambassador to Bhutan has been appointed as the next Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations at New York. Ruchira Kamboj will succeed TS Tirumurti and is expected to take up as India's Permanent Representative to UN shortly. Ruchira Kamboj was the All India Women's topper of the 1987 Civil Services batch and the topper of the 1987 Foreign Service batch. She had joined the Indian Foreign Service in the same year. Kamboj, during her career, has been Permanent Representative of India to UNESCO in Paris, Indian High Commissioner in South Africa and Chief of Protocol in New Delhi. Ruchira Kamboj has a past experience at the UN in New York. She was earlier posted as the Counsellor at India's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York from 2002-2005, where she had dealt with wide range of political issues. From 2011-2014, Ruchira Kamboj was India's Chief Protocol. She is the first and only woman diplomat so far in the Indian Government to have held this position.

What is the role of India's Permanent Representative to UN?

- The Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations is India's foremost diplomat representative to the UN.
- The permanent representative is the head of the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations.

- The role of India's Permanent Representative to UN is to represent the country in the global body on various issues.

Legendary Australia Cricketer Lisa Sthalekar became new FICA President



The 42-year-old former Australia captain, Lisa Sthalekar was confirmed in the role at the FICA Executive Committee meeting held in Nyon, Switzerland. She will take up a position that has previously been held by former South Africa batter Barry Richards, former West Indies all-rounder Jimmy Adams, and most recently by former England batter Vikram Solanki. The Executive Committee meeting was held ahead of the FICA and World Players' Association Player Development Conferences and was the first in-person meeting of the group since the COVID-19 pandemic. Sthalekar represented Australia in 187 international matches across the three formats and was part of the Australian teams that won the ODI World Cups in 2005 and 2013 and T20 World Cups in 2010 and 2012. She was the first woman to score 1000 runs and take 100 wickets in ODI cricket. She also played eight Tests and 54 T20 International matches. In 2021, she became only the fourth woman to be inducted into the Australian cricket Hall of Fame.

Federation of International Cricketers Association (FICA)

The Federation of International Cricketers' Associations (FICA) is an organisation that co-ordinates the activities of all the national players' associations that represent professional cricketers.

- Founded: 1998
- Members: Australia, Bangladesh, England, New Zealand, South Africa, Sri Lanka, West Indies
- Chairman: Tony Irish

Gustavo Petro elected Colombia's President

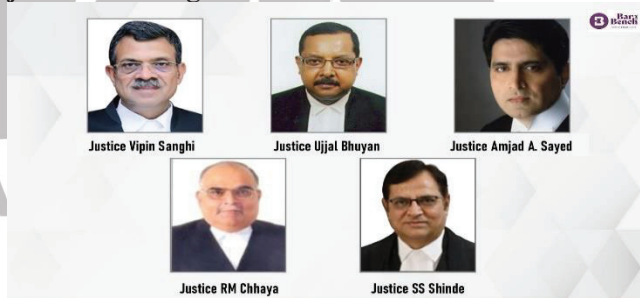


Gustavo Petro elected Colombia's President; Francia Marquez, to be the country's first black woman Vice President. Gustavo Petro is slated to become Colombia's President after winning the country's Presidential Elections. The former guerrilla won against 77-year-old construction magnate Rodolfo Hernandez. His running mate Francia Marquez, a single mother and former housekeeper, will become the country's first black woman Vice President.

Colombia:

- Capital: Bogotá
- Currency: Colombian peso

Government clears the appointment of new chief justices in 5 high courts



Government has cleared the appointment of new chief justices in five high courts. Law and Justice Ministry has notified the appointment for Uttarakhand, Telangana, Himachal Pradesh, Rajasthan and Gauhati. Justice Vipin Sanghi of the Delhi High Court will be appointed as the Chief Justice of the Uttarakhand High Court, while Justice Ujjal Bhuyan of Telangana High Court to Chief Justice of Telangana High Court. Justice Amjad Ahtesham Sayed of the Bombay High Court will take over as the Chief Justice of Himachal Pradesh High Court and Justice Shinde Sambhaji Shiwaji of Bombay High Court has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Rajasthan High Court. Justice Rashmin M Chhaya of the Gujarat High Court has been appointed as the Chief Justice of the Gauhati

High Court. The Ministry said, Telangana High Court Chief Justice Satish Chandra Sharma has been appointed to the Delhi High Court.

Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai named PCI chief, first woman to head the media watchdog



Former Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is believed to have been chosen as the next head of the Press Council of India (PCI). Justice Desai recently served as the chairman of the Delimitation Commission on Jammu and Kashmir, which was established to redesign the Union Territory's assembly constituencies. Since Justice Chandramauli Kumar Prasad (retd) completed his tenure as PCI chairperson and demitted office in November of last year, the position has been empty. The appointment of Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai as PCI chairwoman was accepted by a committee that included Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and PCI member Prakash Dubey. Justice Desai, 72, has also served on the Bombay High Court as a judge. The selection of Justice Desai as the PCI chief will be announced in the near future. A suggestion for the recruitment of MPs to the panel is also awaited.

COAI names Reliance Jio's Pramod Mittal as Chairperson for 2022-23



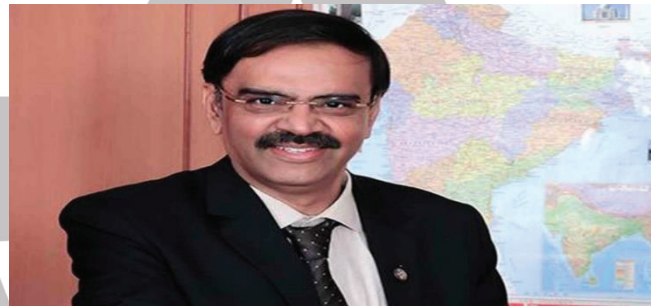
Industry body Cellular Operators' Association of India (COAI) named Pramod K Mittal, President of Reliance Jio Infocomm, as the new Chairperson of the association for 2022-23. Mittal was previously the

Vice-Chairperson of the COAI, whose members include Reliance Jio, Bharti Airtel, and Vodafone Idea (VIL). Mittal will replace Ajai Puri as the COAI Chairperson. Mittal comes with a rich experience of 42 years in telecommunications. Prior to joining India's leading telecom operator, the Reliance Jio Infocomm President has also served in the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) for over 37 years. P Balaji, Chief Regulatory and Corporate Affairs Officer of Vodafone Idea (VIL), will be the Vice-Chairperson of the association for 2022-23. Balaji is also the Chairman of Assocham National Digital Communications Council, and a Member of the National Council of apex industry chambers CII, Ficci, Assocham and All India Management Association.

Cellular Operators' Association of India:

- Founded: 1995
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Director-General: Dr. S.P. Kochhar

R Subramaniakumar appointed as MD & CEO of RBL Bank



Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed R Subramaniakumar as the MD & CEO of RBL Bank. He has been appointed at RBL for three years from the date of taking charge. He is a former managing director and chief executive director of state-run Indian Overseas Bank. He was appointed the administrator of Dewan Housing Finance Co Ltd after the mortgage financier's board was superseded. Subramaniakumar's tenure will begin from the date of his taking charge, under Section 35B of the Banking Regulation Act 1949. Subramaniakumar's appointment came nearly six months after RBL Bank's long-term MD and CEO Vishwavir Ahuja had stepped down in December 2021. Subramaniakumar's appointment as the RBL Bank chief comes in the backdrop of the bank reporting a net loss of Rs 74.74 crore in FY2022, as against a profit of Rs 50.77 crore in FY2021. The RBL bank had also reportedly come

under regulatory lens, with the RBI, in December 2021, appointing its chief general manager Yogesh K Dayal as an additional director of the private lender for two years.

RBL Bank:

- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Founded: August 1943

Indian diplomat Amandeep Singh Gill appointed as UN Chief's envoy on technology



UN Secretary-General Antonio Guterres has appointed senior Indian diplomat Amandeep Singh Gill as his envoy on technology to coordinate programmes for international digital cooperation. Amandeep Singh Gill has a solid understanding of how to leverage the digital transformation responsibly and inclusively for progress on the Sustainable Development Goals. He has been India's permanent representative to the Conference on Disarmament in Geneva from 2016-to 2018. He is now the chief executive officer of the International Digital Health and Artificial Intelligence Research Collaborative (I-DAIR) project at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies in Geneva. Gill joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1992 and served in various capacities in disarmament and strategic technologies and international security affairs, with postings in Tehran and Colombo. He was also a visiting scholar at Stanford University. Gill holds a Ph.D in Nuclear Learning in Multilateral Forums from King's College, London, a Bachelor of Technology in Electronics and Electrical Communications from Panjab University in Chandigarh and an Advanced Diploma in French History and Language from Geneva University.

Who is UN Chief's envoy?

The Envoy will work with the member states and the Executive Office of the Secretary General to convene a regular gathering of Ministers Responsible for technology.

IMF's Georgieva names Krishna Srinivasan to head Asia-Pacific dept



International Monetary Fund, Managing Director Kristalina Georgieva has announced the appointment of Indian national Krishna Srinivasan as director of the Asia and Pacific Department (APD) from June 22. Srinivasan will succeed Changyong Rhee whose retirement from the Fund was announced on March 23. Mr. Srinivasan has more than 27 years of Fund experience, starting in 1994 in the Economist Program. He is currently a Deputy Director in APD where he oversees the department's surveillance work on a number of large and systemically important countries such as China and Korea, and smaller states in the Pacific such as Fiji and Vanuatu. Prior to joining the Fund, Mr. Srinivasan was an Assistant Professor of Economics and International Finance at Indiana-Purdue University and a consultant at the World Bank in DC and the Center for Policy Research and Planning Commission in New Delhi.

IMF:

- Formation: 27 December 1945
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
- Member Countries: 190 others...
- MD: Kristalina Georgieva

Music maestro AR Rahman named ambassador of Indo-UK culture platform



Music Maestro, AR Rahman has been appointed as ambassador of The Season of Culture, which marks the 75th anniversary of India's independence. It was

officially launched, by Britain's Deputy High Commissioner to India Jan Thomson and Director (India) of the British Council Barbara Wickham. The Season of Culture aims to strengthen India-UK collaboration in the areas of arts, English and education. Over 1,400 artists will showcase their collaborations to millions of audiences across India, Britain, Scotland, Wales, and Northern Ireland, through a wide array of arts such as theatre, dance, visual arts, literature, music, architecture, design, fashion, tech-art and new media art. The 'Season of Culture' intends to build on the British Council's work in India and strengthen partnerships between India and the UK in the arts, English, and education. People in both nations will get the opportunity to see unique and exciting creative work by UK and Indian artists.

British Council:

- Director: Barbara Wickham
- Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi

International Aluminium Institute appoints Satish Pai as new Chairman



International Aluminium Institute (IAI) announced the appointment of Satish Pai as its new Chairman. He is the Managing Director of Hindalco Industries, one of the world's largest integrated producers of aluminium. Earlier serving as Vice Chairman, he succeeds Ben Kahrs, Chief Innovation Officer, Alcoa Corporation. An engineer by education and profession, Satish earlier worked with Schlumberger, based out of Paris, where he was responsible for Schlumberger's operations globally. The IAI's purpose is to promote the sustainable development of the aluminium industry and to increase demand for aluminium products by raising awareness of their unique and valuable properties. Satish was the driving force behind Hindalco's transformation from an upstream company to a fully integrated aluminium player with products that input into future-critical industries such

as EV mobility and low carbon transportation. IAI members are engaged in the production of bauxite, alumina, aluminium, the recycling of aluminium, or the fabrication of aluminium in all major producing regions.

Meta appoints Guy Rosen as its chief information security officer



Meta has appointed Guy Rosen as its first Chief Information Security Officer (CISO). Guy Rosen, who has been at Facebook since 2013 and most recently led the company's product safety and integrity efforts and in his new role he will continue to oversee and look across the breadth of safety & security risks the people who use our services, our company and industry face. This is the first CISO Facebook has had. Note: Facebook was renamed Meta Platforms in October 2021 but it kept the name "Facebook" for its social media app.

Meta:

- Founded: February 2004
- CEO: Mark Zuckerberg
- Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States
- President: Nick Clegg

Sachin Tendulkar to continue as UNICEF's Goodwill Ambassador for 20th year



Sachin Tendulkar will continue as United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) 'Goodwill Ambassador' for a record 20th year, working for the welfare of

underprivileged children. The iconic cricketer has been associated with UNICEF for a long for various causes. In his almost two-decade-long partnership with UNICEF, he has been vital in furthering the campaigns, especially the ones aimed at providing a better future for underprivileged children.

Background:

In 2003, he was chosen to take lead in the initiative to create awareness and promote polio prevention in India. Later in 2008, he was roped in to create and promote hygiene and sanitation among communities and has been continuing to do so over the years. In 2013, he was appointed UNICEF Ambassador for South Asia to advocate good hygiene and sanitation across the region. In 2019, he went on a three-day trip to Nepal to raise awareness for UNICEF Nepal's 'Bat for Brain Development' campaign. Important takeaways for all competitive exams:

UNICEF:

- Headquarters: New York, New York, United States
- Head: Catherine M. Russell
- President: Tore Hattrem
- Founded: 11 December 1946

Ex-SBI Executive Natarajan Sundar Appointed NARCL MD & CEO



Natarajan Sundar has been nominated Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of the National Assets Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL), the government-backed bad bank. He has been appointed to replace the incumbent chief executive officer Mr. Padmakumar M Nair.

Key Information:

- Earlier in May 2022, Natarajan Sundar retired as Deputy Managing Director and Chief Credit Officer of State Bank of India (SBI).
- NARCL had appointed Karnam Sekar as an independent director and non-executive chairman

of the board. He is a former MD and CEO of Indian Overseas Bank and Dena Bank

- Malvika Sinha, retired executive director of RBI, also joined as an independent director.

National Assets Reconstruction Company Ltd (NARCL):

NARCL has been incorporated under the Companies Act and has applied to the Reserve Bank of India for a license as an Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC). NARCL has shareholding from 15 Indian banks, and Canara Bank is the sponsor bank of this ARC. NARCL has been set up by banks to aggregate and consolidates stressed assets for their subsequent resolution. NARCL board has five nominee directors from shareholder banks and independent directors. Together with India Debt Resolution Company Ltd (IDRCL), they are presently engaged in completing the financial and legal due diligence of identified accounts for takeover from lenders and are expected to make binding financial offers for a few accounts.

Rajesh Gera appointed DG at National Informatics Centre



Rajesh Gera took over as the Director-General of the National Informatics Centre (NIC). He was earlier serving as the Deputy Director-General in NIC. He has been associated with NIC for more than 31 years. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet approved his appointment to the post of Director-General, NIC. Rajesh Gera has previously headed several prominent divisions in the NIC including the satellite network division, video conferencing division, and aadhaar authentication division.

National Informatics Centre:

The National Informatics Centre (NIC) is a government organization under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY). It was established in 1976 by the late N Shesagiri under the Electronics Commission of India. It was later moved under the planning commission of India and

then it came under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology. The centre was established with the key objective of providing technology-driven solutions to central and state governments. The centre provides IT Consultancy, infrastructure, and IT Services not limited to the design, architecting, development and implementation of IT Systems to central and state governments. It enables the delivery of government services to Citizens and pioneers the initiatives of Digital India.

Centre Appoints S L Thaosen as Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal



Senior IPS officer S L Thaosen has been appointed as the new Director-General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). An order was issued by the Centre that S L Thaosen, a 1988-batch Indian Police Service officer, has been appointed to the post of Director-General of the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB). “S L Thaosen has been appointed as the DG, SSB “up to 30.11.2023 i.e. date of his superannuation or till further orders, whichever is earlier,” Thaosen, a Madhya Pradesh-cadre IPS officer, has been serving as the Special Director General of the Border Security Force (BSF). The post of SSB chief has been lying vacant after incumbent DG Kumar Rajesh Chandra retired on December 31 last year. Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) DG Sanjay Arora has been holding the additional charge of the Sashastra Seema Bal DG since then. The Sashastra Seema Bal force guards the country’s borders with Nepal (1,751 km) and Bhutan (699 km).

SSB:

- Founded: 1963
- Headquarters: New Delhi

Senior IPS Zulfiqar Hasan Becomes the New DG of BCAS

IPS officer Zulfiqar Hasan has been appointed as Director General (DG) in the Bureau of Civil Aviation Security (BCAS).



Presently, Hasan is serving as Special Director General, Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) in Delhi. The post of the Director-General, BCAS has been vacant since January 4 after incumbent Nasir Kamal opted for voluntary retirement. Bureau of Civil Aviation Security Joint DG Jaideep Prasad has been holding the charge of the Director-General in an additional capacity. The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security functions under the Union civil aviation ministry and is tasked with framing security-related protocols for aviation operations. The official order stated that Zulfiqar Hasan has been appointed “for a tenure up to his superannuation on 31.10.2024”

Bureau of Civil Aviation Security:

The Bureau of Civil Aviation Security is an attached office of the Ministry of Civil Aviation. It is the regulatory authority for civil aviation security in India. It is headed by an officer of the rank of Director general of Police and is designated as Director General of Bureau of Civil Aviation Security.

- Founded: January 1978, India

Justice Mohanty gets additional charge of Lokpal chairperson



President Ram Nath Kovind has given justice Pradip Kumar Mohanty the additional charge of Lokpal chairperson after justice Pinaki Chandra Ghose completed his term as the Lokpal chief. At present, there are six members in the Lokpal. President Ram Nath Kovind had on March 23, 2019, administered the oath of office to justice Ghose as the Lokpal chairperson.

Details:

Two posts of judicial members have been lying vacant for over two years. The Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, which envisages the appointment of a Lokpal at the Centre and Lokayuktas in states to look into cases of corruption against certain categories of public servants, was passed in 2013. A Lokpal chief and members are appointed for a term of five years or until attaining the age of 70 years. A Lokpal chief and its members are appointed by the President after obtaining the recommendations of a selection committee headed by the Prime Minister and comprising the speaker of the Lok Sabha, the Leader of Opposition in the lower house, the Chief Justice of India or a judge of the Supreme Court nominated by him, and an eminent jurist as recommended by the chairperson and members of the selection panel.

Marcos Jr proclaimed next President of Philippines by Congress

Ferdinand Marcos Jr, son of the former dictator, was proclaimed the next President of the Philippines by Congress. Sara Duterte, daughter of the outgoing President Rodrigo Duterte, was declared as the Vice President. Marcos Jr had won the presidential election by a huge margin, bagging double the number of votes his rival secured.

Philippines:

- President: Rodrigo Duterte
- Capital: Manila
- Currency: Philippine peso

Health Secretary appointed as chairperson of Committee B at 75th World Health Assembly

Union Health Secretary, Rajesh Bhushan has been appointed as the chairperson of the Committee B at the 75th World Health Assembly (WHA). Committee B primarily discusses administrative and financial matters of the World Health Organization (WHO). Each year, the World Health Assembly has a long and complex list of health challenges and responses to review and the Assembly functions through two committees — A and B.

Committee A:

Committee A meets to debate technical and health matters. It has listed critical issues to discuss during the 75th WHA including pandemic preparedness and response, amendment in International Health Regulations 2005, WHO work in a health emergency, Global Strategy for HIV, TB, Viral hepatitis and eradication of polio, Immunisation agenda 2030, Infection prevention and control and human resources for health etc.

Committee B:

Committee B will discuss and prepare a report on many important issues which includes health conditions in the occupied Palestinian territory including East Jerusalem and the occupied Syrian Golan, the budget for WHO for the year 2022-23, prevention of sexual exploitation, WHO reforms Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property, audit report of WHO, Global strategy and plan of action on public health, innovation and intellectual property and intergovernmental organizations issues.

“The Best Way To Get Started Is To Quit Talking And Begin Doing.”

“You Learn More From Failure Than From Success. Don’t Let It Stop You. Failure Builds Character.”

National News

India's largest gold reserves to be explored in Jamui

A survey by the Geological Survey of India has stated that a gold reserve of around 222.88 million tonnes including 27.6 tonnes of mineral-rich ore are present in the Jamui district of Bihar. The Nitish Kumar government in Bihar has now decided to give permission for the exploration of what is being called as India's largest gold reserve. The State Mines and Geology Department is in consultation with agencies engaged in the exploration, including GSI and the National Mineral Development Corporation (NMDC), for the exploration of gold reserves in Jamui. The top official added that the consultation process had started after analysing the survey findings which indicated the presence of gold in areas such as Karmatia, Jhajha and Sono in the Jamui district. The Bihar government is likely to sign a memorandum of understanding with a central agency or agencies for G3 (preliminary) stage exploration within a month's time, adding that in certain areas G2 (general) exploration can also be carried out.

Bihar:

- Capital: Patna
- Governor: Phagu Chauhan
- Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar

Himachal Pradesh becomes the first Indian state to approve a policy for drones

The Himachal Pradesh government gave nod to a drone policy as it seeks to enable the use of drones and similar technology for different public services in the hill state. The 'Himachal Pradesh Drone Policy 2022' was approved by the chief minister Jai Ram Thakur. The policy envisions creating a holistic drone ecosystem built upon the foundation of Governance and Reforms Using Drones (GARUD). With this new drone policy, Himachal Pradesh has become the first state in the country to formally acknowledge the public use of drones.

Details:

Himachal's drone policy mainly focuses on creating drone-enabled technology, creation of manpower through the establishment of training schools, startup and innovation schemes, and more. The policy aims to

propagate the use of drone-enabled technology in different sectors such as defence, transport, health, agriculture and more. Delivery of medicines, medical equipment, and other essential supplies will also commence with the help of drones in pandemic-affected and remote areas. Important takeaways for all competitive exams:

Himachal Pradesh:

- Capital: Shimla (Summer), Dharamshala (Winter)
- Governor: Rajendra Arlekar
- Chief Minister: Jai Ram Thakur

Jammu & Kashmir to host G20 meetings in 2023

In a significant development, Jammu and Kashmir will be hosting the 2023 meetings of G-20, an influential grouping that brings together the world's major economies, with the Union Territory government setting up a five-member high level committee for overall coordination. This will be the first major international summit to be held in Jammu and Kashmir after the erstwhile state's special status guaranteed under Article 370 of the Constitution was withdrawn and it was divided into two union territories in August 2019. In September last year, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal was appointed as India's Sherpa for the G20. India will hold the G20 presidency from December 1, 2022, and will convene the G20 leaders' summit in 2023 for the first time. G20 brings together 19 of the world's leading economies and the European Union, with its members accounting for more than 80 per cent of global GDP, 75 percent of global trade and 60 percent of the global population. The G20 member nations are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, Germany, France, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, South Korea, Turkey, the United Kingdom and the United States.

J&K

- Union territory: 31 October 2019
- Districts: 20
- Lt. Governors & Administrators: Manoj Sinha
- Capital: Srinagar (Summer) Jammu (Winter)

New Surrogacy Rules: Couples Must Buy 3-Year Health Insurance for Surrogate Mothers

Couples who intend to take the surrogacy route to become parents will have to buy a general health insurance coverage in favour of a surrogate mother for a period of 36 months, according to the Surrogacy (Regulation) Rules issued recently. The insurance amount should be sufficient enough to cover expenses for all complications arising out of the pregnancy and also postpartum delivery complications. According to the rules notified by the Union health ministry on June 21, the number of attempts of any surrogacy procedure on the surrogate mother should not be more than three times. The surrogate mother may be allowed for abortion during the process of surrogacy in accordance with the Medical Termination of Pregnancy Act, 1971. A woman may opt for surrogacy if she has no uterus or missing uterus or abnormal uterus or if the uterus is surgically removed due to any medical conditions such as gynaecological cancer. One can opt out also in cases of multiple pregnancy losses resulting from an unexplained medical reason, or any illness that makes it impossible for a woman to carry a pregnancy to viability or pregnancy that is life threatening, among others. Note: The Surrogacy (Regulation) Act, 2021 came into force on January 25 this year.

Tamil Nadu pips West Bengal to become the largest State in terms of outstanding microfinance loan portfolio

Tamil Nadu has displaced West Bengal to emerge as the largest State in terms of the outstanding portfolio of microfinance loans. According to MFIN Micrometer Q4 FY21-22, a quarterly report published by Microfinance Institutions Network (MFIN), the gross loan portfolio (GLP) of Tamil Nadu as of March 31, 2022 stood at ₹36,806 crore. It was followed by Bihar (₹35,941 crore) and West Bengal (₹34,016 crore). At the end of Q3FY22, West Bengal topped the chart with the highest outstanding portfolio of loans at ₹32,880 crore, followed by Tamil Nadu (₹32,359 crore). The Top 10 States (based on total microcredit universe) constitute 82.4 per cent of total GLP of the industry. West Bengal was followed by Karnataka, Uttar Pradesh and Maharashtra. According to the report, around 64 per cent of the microfinance portfolio is concentrated in the East, Northeast, and Southern regions.

Tamil Nadu:

- Capital: Chennai
- Chief Minister: MK Stalin
- Governor: RN Ravi

One Nation, One Ration Card scheme becomes operational in entire country with its implementation in Assam

Assam has become the 36th State to implement One Nation One Ration Card scheme. With this, One Nation One Ration Card scheme is successfully implemented in all the 36 states and Union Territories making food security portable throughout the country. This scheme is aimed at enabling migrant workers and their family members to seamlessly lift their entitled subsidized foodgrains from any Fair Price Shop of their choice anywhere in the country. One Nation One Ration Card scheme has significantly contributed in ensuring subsidized foodgrains to beneficiaries especially migrant beneficiaries during the Covid pandemic. Within a short-span of time, it covered 80 crore beneficiaries. Since its inception in August 2019, 71 crore portable transactions have taken place under this scheme, delivering foodgrains equivalent to 40 thousand crore rupees as a food subsidy. To make this scheme more seamless and swift, MERA RATION mobile application was rolled out. This mobile app is providing a host of useful real time information to the beneficiaries and is available in 13 languages.

Assam:

- Capital: Dispur
- Governor: Jagdish Mukhi
- Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

PM Modi launches special stamp to mark 200th anniversary of Mumbai Samachar

PM Narendra Modi released a special postal stamp commemorating the 200 years of the Mumbai Samachar newspaper. The event will be held at the Jio World Centre in Mumbai's Bandra Kurla Complex. There will also be an exhibition where visitors will be able to see a newspaper printing machine from the 18th century. PM Modi will also release a book and video film on the 200-year journey of Mumbai Samachar. Bombay Samachar (as it was called then) started as a weekly in 1822 to primarily inform the readers ship movements and commodities, and

gradually evolved into a true city newspaper with a focus on trade that it is today.

Mumbai Samachar:

The Bombay Samachar, now Mumbai Samachar, is the oldest continuously published newspaper in India. Established in 1822 by Fardunjee Marzban, it is published in Gujarati and English

- Owner: Cama family
- Founder: Fardunjee Marzban
- Editor: Nilesh M Dave
- Founded: 1822
- Headquarters: Mumbai, India

Delhi govt in partnership with UNDP set up oxygen generation plant

To supplement oxygen supply capacities, the Delhi Government, in collaboration with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India, has built an oxygen producing facility at G. B. Pant Hospital in New Delhi. Kanni Wignaraja, UN Assistant Secretary General and UNDP Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, inaugurated the oxygen plant in the presence of G. B. Pant Hospital Medical Director Dr. Anil Agarwal. Ms. Wignaraja also paid a visit to the COVID-19 Vaccination Centre at Lok Nayak Jai Prakash Narayan Hospital before to the opening. She talked with the personnel and observed Co-operations, WIN's which support one of India's largest vaccination programmes. The oxygen plant produces 1,000 litres of oxygen per minute using pressure swing adsorption (PSA) technology. It will serve 750 hospital beds, including ventilator-assisted beds and the Intensive Care Unit. The hospital is a multi-specialty tertiary care facility that receives referrals from all around the country.

UNDP:

The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is a UN agency entrusted with assisting countries in eradicating poverty and achieving long-term economic and human development. It is the largest UN development aid agency, with operations in 170 countries and headquarters in New York City.

Mumbai airport becomes 1st in India to use wind energy for consumption needs

Mumbai's Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport has become the first in India to explore utilisation of wind energy for consumption purposes.

Under the pilot project, a vertical axis wind turbine (VAWT) unit and solar hybrid (solar mill) have been installed at the airport. According to an official, the technology is expected to generate minimum energy of 36 kWh per day. This technology is a vital step in deploying a solution at the airport that is renewable, clean, green, environment-friendly, bird-friendly, and a silent solution with a 25-year design life. This sustainable initiative undertaken by the airport aims in reducing dependence on conventional electricity which propels its journey towards 'net zero' emissions. The hybrid project will be launched in collaboration with WindStream Energy Technologies India Pvt Ltd. WindStream Energy Technologies India Pvt Ltd has developed this first-of-its-kind, fully integrated, hybrid renewable energy product which harnesses solar and wind energy, combined, to generate electricity.

Cabinet approves development of new Dholera greenfield airport in Gujarat

Union Cabinet approved development of new Dholera greenfield airport in Gujarat. The Airport is planned for operationalization from 2025-26. This airport will be connected through multi-modal connectivity like railways and highways. Over one thousand 305 crore rupees will be spent on first phase and it will be completed within 48 months. The initial passenger traffic is estimated at three lakh passengers per annum. Mr Thakur said, the passenger traffic is expected to grow upto 23 lakh in 20 years. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has directed to recruit ten lakh people in government jobs in mission mode in next 18 months.

Gujarat:

- Capital: Gandhinagar
- Governor: Acharya Devvrat
- Chief minister: Bhupendrabhai Patel

Govt launched Pradhan Mantri Aadi Adarsh Gram Yojana for faster development of tribal villages

Union Minister of Tribal Affairs Arjun Munda has said that the government has started a scheme, "Pradhan Mantri Aadi Adarsh Gram Yojana" for faster development of tribal villages. The focus of the scheme is on converging different programs of 41 ministries in the tribal villages to ensure their all

round development. The aim of the govt is to take the villages into a saturation mode. The program is to turn the focus on such remote and backward villages of the country which are lagging behind due to lack of attention. Efforts are also being made to ensure the geo-tagging of and market linkages for the tribal products through TRIFED.

Indian Railways launches Railway Innovation Policy

Union Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched Railway Innovation Policy “StartUps for Railways” in Rail Bhavan, New Delhi. Under the policy, a grant of up to Rs. 1.5 Crore will be provided to innovators on equal sharing basis with milestone-wise payment provision. The Railway Innovation policy will provide start ups with a good opportunity to connect with the Indian Railways. Under the phase 1 of the programme, 11 problem statements involving rail fracture and headway reduction will be taken up out of over 100 problem statements received from different divisions and field offices of Railways. These problem statements will be presented before the start ups to find innovative solutions.

Railway Innovation Policy: 5 Important Features

1. Grant up to Rs. 1.5 Crore to innovator on equal sharing basis with provision of milestone-wise payment.
2. The entire process, starting from floating of problem statement to development of prototype, will be online with defined time line to make it transparent and objective.
3. The trials of prototypes will be done in Railways. Railways will provide enhanced funding to scale up deployment on successful performance of prototypes.
4. The selection of innovators will be done in a transparent and fair manner through online portal inaugurated by the Railway Minister.
5. The innovator will hold the Developed Intellectual property rights (IPR).

Government approves establishment of State Investigation Agency in J&K

The Jammu and Kashmir administration has given its approval to the establishment of the State Investigation Agency in the Union Territory. SIA in J&K will be a nodal agency that will coordinate with the central probe agencies. The Administrative

Council (AC) which met under the Chairmanship of LG Manoj Sinha, approved the proposal of the Home Department for creating new posts under different categories for the establishment of SIA in Jammu and Kashmir.

State Investigation Agency in J&K

The State Investigation Agency (SIA) will be the Nodal Agency for coordinating with the National Investigation Agency (NIA) and other central agencies, with the mandate to take such measures as may be necessary for speedy and effective investigation and prosecution of terrorism-related cases.

Sitharaman inaugurates GST museum installed in 400-yr-old building in Goa

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman inaugurated 'Dharohar', the National Museum of Customs and GST in Goa. The two-storey 'Blue building', which was earlier known as Alfanega, during the period of Portuguese rule in Goa, has been standing on the banks of the Mandovi River in Panaji for more than 400 years. Dharohar is one of its kind museums in the country that showcases not only the artifacts seized by Indian Customs but also depicts various aspects of work performed by the Customs Department. 'Dharohar' has eight galleries — Introductory gallery, History of Taxation Gallery, Guardians of our economic frontiers gallery, Guardians of our Art & Heritage, Guardians of Flora & Fauna, Custodians of our social well being, Journey of Indirect taxes –Salt Tax to GST and the GST gallery. GST Gallery is a brand new addition to the Dharohar Museum. A first-of-its-kind initiative in the country, this GST Gallery takes one through the long and arduous journey of GST spanning two decades.

Govt launches Rashtriya Puruskar Portal for inviting nominations for various awards to ensure transparency and public partnership

The Union Government has launched the Rashtriya Puruskar Portal for inviting nominations for various awards of the various Ministries, Departments and agencies to ensure transparency and public partnership. This common portal has been developed by the government to bring together all the awards under one digital platform. The Portal aims to facilitate citizens to nominate individuals and

organizations for various awards instituted by the Government of India. Presently nominations and recommendations for Padma Awards are open till the 15th of September this year for Sardar Patel National Unity Awards, nominations will be open till the 31st of next month. Nomination for Tenzing Norgay National Adventure Award will remain open till the 16th of this month and nomination for Jeevan Raksha Padak series of Awards will be open till 30th of September this year. The individual can be nominated for Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya Telecom Skill Excellence Award till 16th of this month. Individuals and organisations can visit www.awards.gov.in for further details.

Blue Duke Declared State Butterfly of Sikkim

Chief Minister P.S. Golay, during the World Environment Day celebrations, declared Blue Duke as the State Butterfly of Sikkim. Blue Duke, a native butterfly species of Sikkim, edged past another contender Krishna Peacock to be announced as the State Butterfly of Sikkim. The Blue Duke represents Sikkim with its two unique colours blue representing the sky and white depicting the snow clad mountains of the Himalayas, it is befitting to Sikkim and its unique identity. Blue Duke is found at an altitude below 1,500 metres in the Himalayas and is commonly found in places like Pakyong, Passingdong and Hee-Gyathang in Dzongu, Lingee in South Sikkim and Yangsum in West Sikkim and closer to the State capital in places like Tadong and Ranka. Nosang found the species in 2012, around the area of Nar Bahadur Bhandari Degree College at Tadong, Gangtok. Since then he has approached both the previous and the current State government to recognise the butterfly species as the State butterfly. Blue Duke which is also called Bassarona durga durga is unique to Sikkim and Eastern Himalayas, first discovered in the State in 1858. Blue Duke falls in the Schedule 2 of Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 and is a highly protected species of butterfly in the Himalayas. Important takeaways for all competitive exams:

Sikkim:

- Capital: Gangtok
- Governor: Ganga Prasad
- Chief minister: PS Golay

Centre amends defence forces rules for appointment of next CDS

The Union Defence Ministry has issued a gazette notification to amend regulations of 3 defence forces related to appointment of Chief of Defence Staff. The notification states that the government may now consider officers who are serving as Lt Gen equivalent or General equivalent for appointment of CDS. The officers who have retired in the rank of Lt Gen or Gen but have not attained the age of 62 years on the date of appointment can also be considered for CDS appointment. The CDS position has been lying vacant since the passing of India's first-ever Chief of Staff, General Bipin Rawat in the tragic IAF helicopter crash in Tamil Nadu on December 8, 2022.

Previously

As per earlier CDS Appointment guidelines, a four-star general from any of the three services was eligible to be appointed as the Chief of Defence Staff (CDS). The CDS appointment was done on the basis of merit-cum-seniority of the military officer.

India' first Chief of Defence Staff

General Bipin Rawat had taken charge as India's first Chief of Defence Staff (CDS) on January 1, 2020. The office of CDS was one of the biggest military reforms in India, leading to better coordination between the defence forces and the government. Late General Bipin Rawat also served as the principal military advisor to the Union Defence Minister Rajnath Singh. He had assumed the CDS post after retiring as Army Chief on December 31, 2019.

Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates Food Laboratory of FSSAI at Raxaul in Bihar

Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare and Chemicals and Fertilizers Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurated the National Food Laboratory of FSSAI at Raxaul in Bihar. This laboratory has been established under the Indo-Nepal bilateral agreement to reduce the time in the testing of imported food samples brought into Raxaul from Nepal. Earlier, all the imported samples having legal sanctity were being sent to National Food Laboratory at Kolkata, for testing. The laboratory is likely to get accreditation from National Accreditation Board for Testing and Calibration Laboratories (NABL) by July-August this year and will start the analysis of the import samples under the product categories of Cereal and Cereal products, Fat

and Oil, Spices and Condiments, Fruits and vegetable products and Packaged drinking.

FSSAI:

- Formed: 5 September 2008
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairperson: Rajesh Bhusan
- Chief Executive Officer: Arun Singhal, IAS
- Parent agency: Ministry of Health & Family Welfare, Government of India

North India's first Industrial Biotech Park inaugurated at Kathua in J&K

Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Lieutenant Governor, Manoj Sinha and Union minister Jitendra Singh inaugurated the north India's first Industrial Biotech Park constructed at Ghatti near Kathua. The Industrial Biotech Park at Kathua will transform the economy and enable scientists to tackle the challenges of climate change. The enabling infrastructure will fuel a new wave of innovation and impact various sectors, from health and agriculture to cosmetics and materials.

Industrial Biotech Park:

With new biotech capabilities and innovation, J&K, bestowed with more than 3500 medicinal plant species, will be able to harness market advantages in the most effective way and help the farmers to generate more income, asserted the Lt Governor. The new Industrial Development Scheme has enabled J&K to fetch investment of more than Rs 38,800 crore as of date, which also includes proposals of 338 industrial units associated with the biotech sector in some way or the other. The Biotech Park would act as the hub for the incubation of new ideas and will act as a robust platform to support the agri-entrepreneurs, startups, progressive farmers, scientists, scholars and students not only from Jammu and Kashmir and Ladakh but also from nearby states of Punjab, Haryana and Himachal Pradesh.

Uttarakhand forms panel to implement Uniform Civil Code

Uttarakhand government has announced the formation of a 5-member drafting committee to implement the much-debated Uniform Civil Code (UCC) in the state. The retired Supreme Court judge Ranjana Desai, who currently heads the Delimitation Commission of India is the Head of the committee. Other members of the

committee are: Delhi High Court judge Pramod Kohli, ex-state chief secretaries Shatrughan Singh, Manu Gaud and Surekha Dangwal. The Governor has given his permission to establish an expert committee to check all the relevant laws which control personal matters for people living in Uttarakhand and to prepare a report on amendments in the present laws

Uniform Civil Code:

The UCC is referred to a common set of laws governing personal matters such as marriage, divorce, adoption, inheritance and succession for all citizens, irrespective of religion. The UCC will be an important step to solidify the spirit of the Constitution. This will also be an effective step toward Article 44 of the Constitution which talks securing a UCC for every citizen of the country. The apex court, too, from time to time has emphasised on its implementation.

Uttarakhand:

- Chief Minister: Pushkar Singh Dhami
- Capitals: Dehradun (Winter), Gairsain (Summer)
- Governor: Lt Gen Gurmit Singh

Kolkata becomes first metro city to get its biodiversity register

Kolkata is the first metro city in the country to prepare a detailed register of biodiversity. Kolkata Municipal Corporation released the People's Biodiversity Register (PBR), a document with details the floral and faunal varieties in the city as well as its land use and human activities. The document is prepared by the biodiversity management committee (BMC) of the civic body under the supervision of the state biodiversity board and with help from NGOs. Chandigarh and Indore are other important cities that have prepared the document.

Key points:

- The 520-page biodiversity register of Kolkata, a copy of which is with The Telegraph, has documented 138 species of trees, 26 types of Chinese vegetables, 33 species of medicinal plants and 100 other plant species.
- The report also documented around 290 animal species, including 70 species of butterflies, 47 varieties of fish, 84 varieties of birds and 22 varieties of mammals, based on the data sourced from 144 wards in the city.
- The report covers hotspots such as the East Kolkata Wetlands and Rabindra Sarobar.

International Events

Mongolia's Khuvsgul Lake National Park added to UNESCO reserve list

Khuvsgul Lake National Park of Mongolia has been added to the World Network of Biosphere Reserves of UNESCO, announced the Ministry of Environment and Tourism recently. The decision of adding Khuvsgal Lake National Park to the UNESCO World Network of Biosphere Reserves was made during the 34th session of the International Co-ordinating Council of the Man and Biosphere Programme taking place in Paris, France. The primary aim of the Man and Biosphere Programme is to establish a scientific relationship between the people and their environments. Khuvsgul Lake National Park is located in the Northern Mongolian Province of Khuvsgul near the Russian border. Khuvsgul Lake in Mongolia holds nearly 70 per cent of the country's freshwater or 0.4 percent of the world's total. Khuvsgul Lake is 1,645 metres above the sea level, 136 km long and 262 metres deep.

UNESCO

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) is a specialised agency of the United Nations (UN) aimed at promoting world peace and security through international cooperation in education, arts, sciences and culture.

- Formation: 16 November 1945
- Headquarters: Paris, France
- Director-General: Audrey Azoulay
- Parent organization: United Nations Economic and Social Council

UNICEF and WHO launch the first Global Report on Assistive Technology

The World Health Organization (WHO) and the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) have released the first Global Report on Assistive Technology (GRaT). The paper, which was created in conjunction with UNICEF's Office of Research – Innocenti, includes 10 important actionable suggestions for enhancing access to assistive technology for all children, as well as evidence-based best practise examples.

Details:

Through a network of academic institutions, researchers, policymakers, donors, and practitioners, UNICEF Office of Research – Innocenti is at the forefront of the establishment of a Global Research Agenda and Platform for Children to amplify the voice of children and youth with disabilities. With the help of UNICEF's Office of Research – Innocenti, UNICEF and WHO created a series of 11 free-access background papers to accompany the Report. Around the world, 2.5 billion people require assistive technology. According to the estimate, by 2050, the population will have grown to 3.5 billion people. The gaps between low- and middle-income countries and high-income countries in terms of access to assistive technology are disturbing. Access to assistive technology for individuals who need it is as low as 3% in some low- and middle-income nations, whereas it is significantly higher in high-income countries, with up to 90% of people receiving the assistive devices and services they require. The worldwide impact of the WHO-UNICEF Global Report on Assistive Technology in this scenario will be unprecedented. Enabling settings and Assistive Technology are recognised in the Global Report as prerequisites for people in need to realise their human rights.

Sri Lanka revises Minimum Age for Migrant Domestic Workers

In Sri Lanka, the government has amended the minimum age limit for women leaving for foreign employment as domestic aides to 21 years of age. The decision was announced at the weekly Cabinet meeting. However, the minimum age limit for Saudi Arab has been set at 25 years, and 23 years for the other countries in the Middle East. The minimum age limit announced as 21 for the rest of the Middle East countries other than Saudi Arabia. On other hand, a team from the International Monetary Fund is in Sri Lanka for crucial bailout negotiations with the crisis-ridden country that is left with virtually no foreign exchange to import food, fuel and medicines. The talks began as schools and government offices shut down for two weeks and switched to working online to conserve fast depleting fuel supplies. The nine-

member team has met Prime Minister Ranil Wickremesinghe and will be in the country for 10 days.

Sri Lanka:

- Capitals: Colombo, Sri Jayawardenepura Kotte
- President: Gotabaya Rajapaksa
- Currency: Sri Lankan rupee
- Prime minister: Ranil Wickremesinghe

Japan to attend NATO summit for first time

Japanese Prime Minister, Fumio Kishida will attend this month's NATO summit in Madrid, becoming the country's first leader to join a top meeting of the transatlantic alliance. The June 28-30 gathering is seen as a crunch moment for the 30 North Atlantic Treaty Organization allies, four months into Russia's war in Ukraine. Japan, a key U.S. ally and not a NATO member, has delivered defensive supplies to Ukraine and imposed tough sanctions on Russia in tandem with the other Group of Seven countries. Sweden and Finland, which have applied to join NATO, are sending delegations to the summit, and South Korea's new President Yoon Suk-yeol will also be the first leader from his country to attend.

NATO:

- Formation: 4 April 1949
- Headquarters: Brussels, Belgium
- Secretary General: Jens Stoltenberg
- Total Member: 30
- Last member of NATO: North Macedonia

Pakistan to remain on FATF 'grey list' subject to on-site verification

Global terror financing watchdog Financial Action Task Force (FATF) said Pakistan will not be removed from its 'grey list' immediately. The statement said while Pakistan has substantially completed its two action plans, it warrants on-site visit to verify whether implementation of the reforms has begun and is being sustained. The on-site inspection would be done before October.

Details:

The Paris-based watchdog had included Pakistan in its "Grey List" -- a list of countries that have strategic deficiencies in their regimes to counter money laundering, terror financing and proliferation financing, but which have formally committed to working with the task force to make changes under

increased monitoring -- in 2018. Inclusion in the "Grey List" implies "strategic deficiencies" detected in a jurisdiction's policies to prevent money laundering and terror financing, according to an International Monetary Fund (IMF) working paper. This makes it difficult for a country to get financial aid from world bodies such as the IMF. Not as severe as black-listing, inclusion in the "Grey List" shows that a country is working to remove the deficiencies that have been flagged. Only North Korea and Iran are black-listed.

4th BRICS Summit to be held in Beijing on June 23

Chinese President Xi Jinping will host the 14th BRICS Summit in Beijing on 23rd of June. The summit will be held in virtual format under the theme of 'Foster High-quality BRICS Partnership, Usher in a New Era for Global Development'. China is the chair of the 14th BRICS Summit happening this year which assumes importance as this will be the first BRICS Summit after Russia-Ukraine war began and Russia is currently under severe economic sanction by the west led by the US. President Xi Jinping will also host the High-level Dialogue on Global Development in Beijing on 24th of June. The Dialogue will be held in virtual format under the theme of 'Foster a Global Development Partnership for the New Era to Jointly Implement the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development'. China and Russia have also expressed their willingness to discuss the expansion of BRICS group which at present comprises Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa.

BRICS edge above others...

- Founded: 16 June 2009
- 2022 host: China (Xi Jinping)
- Founders: Russia, China, Brazil, United Nations General Assembly

US to launch West Asia Quad with India, Israel and UAE during Biden's visit

The US has said it will launch a new four-nation dialogue with India, Israel and the United Arab Emirates. It will be called I2U2 -- for India and Israel whose names begin with the letter 'I' and the US and the UAE that begin with the letter 'U' -- and will be focussed on West Asia. It will be launched during Biden's visit to Israel, his first leg of his maiden trip as President to West Asia from July 13 to 16. He will

also visit West Bank, home to the Palestinian authority, and Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, where he will meet around a dozen regional leaders. It is focused on expanding economic and political cooperation in the Middle East and Asia, including through trade, combating climate change, energy cooperation, and coordination on other vital shared interests. Since coming into office in January 2021, Biden has launched several multilateral dialogues and initiatives such as a three-nation group with Australia and the United Kingdom called AUKUS and a Quadrilateral dialogue with Afghanistan, Pakistan and Uzbekistan; and deepened and strengthened existing platforms such as the Quad with India, Australia and Japan and the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation. The American President will wrap up his West Asia tour in Jeddah, where he is also expected to attend the summit of the six-nation Gulf Cooperation Council plus Egypt, Iraq and Jordan (known as the GCC+3). He is expected to hold bilateral meetings with his counterparts.

Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative: US to bring together 20 emerging civic leaders from India and US

The United States Department of State launched Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative. The two great luminaries Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Martin Luther King Jr. were known as the patrons of civil rights and social justice. Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative announced by the Department of State's Bureau of Educational and Cultural Affairs aims at bringing together 20 emerging young civic leaders from India and the United States. As per the US State Department, the exchange was championed by the late honorable John Lewis.

Queen Elizabeth II Becomes World's Second-Longest Reigning Monarch

Britain's Queen Elizabeth II overtook Thailand's King to become the world's second-longest reigning monarch in history, after France's Louis XIV. The UK has been celebrating the 96-year-old Queen's Platinum Jubilee to mark 70 years of service to the nation with grand events. After four days of royal parades, street parties, pageantry and other events held across the UK and the Commonwealth to mark the Platinum Jubilee milestone. Crowned in 1953, Queen Elizabeth II became the longest-serving British

monarch in September 2015, surpassing her great-great grandmother Queen Victoria. Now she has overtaken Thailand's King Bhumibol Adulyadej, who reigned for 70 years and 126 days between 1927 and 2016, to set another record. Louis XIV of France remains the longest-reigning monarch, with a 72-year and 110-day reign from 1643 until 1715.

United Kingdom:

- Capital: London
- Prime minister: Boris Johnson
- Currency: Pound sterling

Malaysia abolishes mandatory death penalty

Malaysia has agreed to abolish the mandatory death penalty and has also agreed on a substitute sentence that will be imposed at the discretion of the courts. The step is significant for Southeast Asia where crimes punishable by death include drug trafficking, murder, kidnapping, terrorism, and possession of firearms. Malaysian Government decided to abolish the mandatory death penalty after the presentation of a report on the study of alternative sentences for the mandatory death penalty during the cabinet meeting on June 8, 2022. In May 2022, Zambia had also announced its plan to abolish the death penalty. The decision was welcomed by UN Human Rights, saying that Zambia's plans to abolish the death penalty added to the growing global chorus against the practice.

Background

Capital Punishment in Malaysia is a legal penalty, although there is a moratorium on executions. There are 33 Capital Crimes, including drug trafficking, murder, acts of terrorism, treason, and since 2003, rape resulting in death. The executions are carried out by hanging. The idea behind capital punishment in Malaysia arose from a mix of the common law system that Malaysia inherited during at their time of British colonization, as British Malaya, and the authorization of capital punishment in Islam.

Why death penalty should be abolished?

As per the Human Rights Group, the death penalty breaches human rights, in particular the right to life and the right to live free from torture, cruel, inhuman, or degrading treatment or punishment. Both the rights are protected under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, adopted by the United Nations in 1948.

UNGA adopts India-sponsored resolution on multilingualism, mentions Hindi language for first time

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) has adopted an India-sponsored resolution on multilingualism that mentions the Hindi language for the first time. The resolution passed urges the United Nations to continue spreading vital communications and messages in both official and non-official languages, including Hindi. For the first time, the Hindi language is mentioned in the resolution besides Bangla and Urdu for the first time in the resolution. Since 2018, India has provided an extra-budgetary contribution to the UN Department of Global Communications (DGC) to mainstream and consolidate news and multimedia content in the Hindi language. As part of these efforts, 'Hindi @ UN' project was launched in 2018 with an objective to enhance the public outreach of the United Nations in the Hindi language and to spread greater awareness global issues among millions of Hindi-speaking populations around the world. The six official languages of the United Nations are Arabic, Chinese, English, French, Russian, and Spanish, with English and French serving as working languages for the UN Secretariat.

UN

- Founded: 24 October 1945
- Headquarters: New York, United States
- Secretary general: António Guterres
- Subsidiaries: United Nations Security Council, etc

Five new countries elected to UN Security Council

The UN General Assembly elected Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland as non-permanent members of the Security Council. It will be Mozambique and Switzerland's first time serving on the council, Japan's 12th time, Ecuador's third and Malta's second. The results of the secret ballot vote in the 193-member General Assembly were Ecuador 190, Japan 184, Malta 185, Mozambique 192, and Switzerland 187. Non-permanent members are elected for a two-year term, with the newly-elected members' terms set to begin in January 2023. The United Nations Security Council (UNSC) is composed of 15 members, five permanent and 10 non-permanent.

UNGA

- President: Abdulla Shahid

- Headquarters: New York, United States

Thailand 1st Asian country to legalise marijuana consumption; smoking still banned

Thailand legalised the growing of marijuana and its consumption in food and drinks, the first Asian country to do so. However, smoking pot is still against the law. Harsh penalties, up to three months imprisonment and an \$800 fine for smoking cannabis in public, will remain in place under the Public Health Act. Thailand, which has a tradition of using cannabis to relieve pain and fatigue, legalised medicinal marijuana in 2018. Cafes and restaurants can also serve cannabis-infused food and drinks, but the products should only contain less than 0.2 per cent tetrahydrocannabinol (THC), the plant's main psychoactive compound.

Thailand:

- Capital: Bangkok
- Currency: Thai baht
- Prime Minister: Prayut Chan-o-cha

Top 10 economies for FDIs as per UN

India is among the top 10 economies for FDI inflows in 2021, ranking 7th after the US, China, Hong Kong, Singapore, Canada and Brazil, according to United Nations Conference on Trade and Development's latest World Investment Report. South Africa, Russia and Mexico rounded up the top 10 economies for FDI inflows in 2021. Despite a fall, India remains among the top 10 economies of the world that receives Foreign Direct Investment. FDI inflows have declined by USD 19 billion to USD 45 billion in 2021. Flows to India declined to USD 45 billion. However, a flurry of new international project finance deals were announced in the country: 108 projects, compared with 20 projects on average for the last 10 years," the report said, adding that the largest number of 23 projects was in renewables. Large projects include the construction of a steel and cement plant in India for USD 13.5 billion by Arcelormittal Nippon Steel (Japan) and the construction of a new car manufacturing facility by Suzuki Motor (Japan) for USD 2.4 billion. Outward FDI from South Asia, mainly from India, rose by 43 per cent to USD 16 billion. The report noted that the war in Ukraine will have far-reaching consequences for international investment in economic development and the

Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in all countries. It comes as a fragile world economy was just beginning an uneven recovery from the effects of the pandemic.

US overtakes China as India's largest trading partner with \$119.42 billion in FY22

The United States overtook China to become India's top trading partner in 2021-22, reflecting strong economic ties between the two countries. According to commerce ministry data, in 2021-22, bilateral trade between the US and India stood at US\$ 119.42 billion as against US\$ 80.51 billion in 2020-21. Exports to the US increased to US\$ 76.11 billion in 2021-22 from US\$ 51.62 billion in the previous fiscal, while imports rose to US\$ 43.31 billion as compared to around US\$ 29 billion in 2020-21. During 2021-22, India's two-way commerce with China aggregated at \$115.42 billion as compared to \$86.4 billion in 2020-21, the data showed. Exports to China marginally increased to \$21.25 billion last fiscal year from \$21.18 billion in 2020-21, while imports jumped to \$94.16 billion from \$65.21 billion in 2020-21. The trade gap rose to \$72.91 billion in 2021-22 from \$44 billion in the previous fiscal year.

India's Top Trading Partners 2021-22:

In 2021-22, the UAE is India's third-largest trading partner with USD 72.9 billion. It is followed by Saudi Arabia (USD 42.85 billion) as 4th, Iraq (USD 34.33 billion) as 5th, & Singapore (USD 30 billion) as its 6th largest trading partner.

US-based Joby Aviation gets 1st FAA approval for commercial air taxi service

US-based electric aviation company Joby Aviation has received its first certification from the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) that allows it to begin its air taxi operations commercially with an aircraft. However, Joby Aviation still needs two more certifications before it can legally fly passengers. The company has aimed to launch its air taxi service by 2024.

Federal Aviation Administration (FAA):

- Formed: August 23, 1958
- Preceding agency: Civil Aeronautics Administration
- Jurisdiction: U.S. federal government
- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., U.S.
- Administrator (Acting): Billy Nolen
- Parent agency: U.S. Department of Transportation

**“If You Are Working On
Something That You Really Care
About, You Don't Have To Be
Pushed. The Vision Pulls You.”**

Banking & Economy

Non-banks cannot load credit lines into prepaid payment instruments: RBI

In a move that could impact a number of fintech players, the RBI has asked non-bank prepaid payment instruments (PPIs) issuers to not load their PPI instruments through credit lines. Such practice, if followed, should be stopped immediately. Any non-compliance in this regard may attract penal action under provisions contained in the Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007". PPIs are instruments that facilitate purchase of goods and services, conduct of financial services, enable remittance facilities, etc., against the value stored therein. This circular by the RBI is likely to impact those fintech players who offer credit lines to customers via their wallets in association with non-banking finance players. It may also affect fintechs who are issuing prepaid cards in association with a banking partner or a non-banking partner. The main purpose of a PPI license is to act as a payment instrument and not as a credit instrument and we believe many fintechs were using it as a channel to load credit. Many customers were also unknowingly taking a line of credit through their wallets at the point of check-out. PPIs are permitted to be loaded/ reloaded by cash, debit to a bank account, credit and debit cards, PPIs, and other payment instruments issued by regulated entities in India. However, the guidelines do not permit credit lines to top up these instruments.

HSBC India will lend \$250 million to Indian startups

Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited, India (HSBC India) has announced USD 250 million in lending support for high-growth, technology-led start-ups in India, which has the world's third-largest start-up ecosystem. HSBC will administer the lending via its commercial banking division. It has also not mentioned any specific timeframe for disbursement of the amount. HSBC stated that the lending will be done to high-growth, tech-led startups in the third largest startup ecosystem in the world. HSBC has prepared a credit model and offerings to suit the specific requirements of a wide

spectrum of startups and new-age entities, ranging from growth stage to unicorns.

HSBC India:

- Founded: 1853
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- CEO: Hitendra Dave

India's UPI, RuPay cards to be accepted in France

The National Payments Corporation of India International, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Lyra Network of France. As per the signed MoU, Indians will soon be able to pay with their UPI or RuPay Cards in France which will prove to be beneficial for the Indian students or the travelers. UPI is already an internationally accepted mode of payment as it is already used in UAE, Singapore and Bhutan and after France, the next focus of NPCI International is Nepal. The move will also boost RuPay, which recently received a shot after the country's central bank had announced that RuPay credit cards will soon be linked to the UPI network, allowing the users to make payments with their RuPay credit card by using UPI apps. The launch of UPI RuPay in France has also come only two months after NPCI International had announced a partnership with NeoPay, a payments subsidiary of UAE's Mashreq Bank, allowing the Indians in the UAE to make payments using UPI on the company's terminals across the country.

US announces \$122 million for 3 Indian health research institutions

The United States has announced a funding of USD 122 million to top three Indian medical research institutions to prevent avoidable epidemics, early detection of disease threats, and rapid and effective response. The total funding of USD 122,475,000 will, over a period of five years, be distributed to the three top Indian health research institutions -- Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR), National Institute of Virology (NIV) and National Institute of Epidemiology (NIE). The fund will accelerate the progress towards an India which is safe and secure from infectious disease threats through ICMR institutions' focus on emerging and re-emerging

pathogens. ICMR is the apex governing body for numerous national level institutes which are centres for excellence and reference in specific scientific area for India, namely National Institute of Virology, National Institute of Epidemiology, and several others. These institutions are mandated by the Ministry of Health of Family Health and Welfare (MoHFW) to provide an oversight for laboratory confirmation of priority pathogens in India in a tiered manner as well as collate and analyze surveillance data for public health actions and work closely with the state governments where these institutes are located.

US Health and Human Services

- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
 - Founder: Dwight D. Eisenhower
 - Founded: 11 April 1953
 - Secretary: Xavier Becerra
-

WTO approves package of trade agreements

The World Trade Organization's 164 members approved a series of trade agreements that included commitments on fish and pledges on health and food security. The package included the two highest profile deals under consideration - on fisheries and on a partial waiver of intellectual property (IP) rights for COVID-19 vaccines. The accord to curb fishing subsidies is only the second multilateral agreement setting new global trading rules struck in the WTO's 27-year history and is far more ambitious than the first, which was designed to cut red tape. The fishing subsidies deal has the potential to reverse collapsing fish stocks. The deal on a partial IP waiver to allow developing countries to produce and export COVID-19 vaccines has divided the WTO for nearly two years, but finally passed. It has also drawn the fiercest criticism from campaign groups that say it barely expands on an existing exemption in WTO rules and is too narrow by not covering therapeutics and diagnostics. One agreement had also been reached on maintaining a moratorium on e-commerce tariffs, which is considered vital to allow the free flow of data worldwide.

WTO

- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland
 - Founded: 1 January 1995
 - Director-General: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala
 - Membership: 164 members
 - Official languages: English, French, Spanish
-

RBI lifts restrictions on Mastercard

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted the restrictions imposed on Mastercard. The Central bank had announced restrictions on Mastercard in 2021 for failing to comply with the local data storage norms. Under RBI Mastercard restrictions, the US-based payment gateway was barred from onboarding the new customers until it complies with the Storage of Payment System Data norms. Earlier in 2019, the Reserve Bank of India had come up with the storage payments system data and had mandated that for all the banks and service providers to store all the data relating to the payment systems in India.

RBI Mastercard Restrictions: Not the first time

The Reserve Bank of India's action against Mastercard was not the first time that such restrictions had been imposed. In April 2022, the Central Bank had also imposed similar restrictions on the global card networking giants American Express Banking Corp and Diners Club International Ltd.

RBI

- Headquarters: Mumbai (Bombay), Maharashtra, India
 - Founded: 1 April 1935
 - Governor: Shaktikanta Das
-

Google announces startup accelerator program for women founders

Google announced a startup accelerator program for women founders. The program will help them address challenges such as fundraising and hiring. Google for Startups Accelerator India - Women Founders will run from Jul-2022 to Sep-2022. The program is part of a larger effort by Google towards improving the representation of women across different sections of India's digitally-trained workforce — be it entrepreneurship, professionals looking to upskill or young graduates seeking a headstart on their career. The inaugural batch of the 'Google for Startups Accelerator - India Women Founders' will accept up to 20 women-founded / co-founded startups in the country, and support them through a three-month program. The program will place special focus on areas like access to networks, capital, hiring challenges, mentorship, and other areas which, for a variety of social reasons and low representation, prove challenging for female founders. The selected Startups will receive mentorship and support around AI/ML, Cloud, UX, Android, Web, Product Strategy and

Growth. In addition to mentorship and technical project support, the accelerator includes deep dives and workshops focused on product design, customer acquisition, and founders' leadership development.

Google:

- CEO: Sundar Pichai
- Founded: 4 September 1998
- Headquarters: Mountain View, California, United States

Defence Ministry's tech development fund cap raised five-fold to Rs 50 cr

The limit of funding of innovative defence projects under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) has been raised to Rs 50 crore per project, from the present limit of Rs 10 crore. The TDF scheme, executed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), supports indigenous development of components, products, systems and technologies by micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs), and start-ups. To facilitate increased funding for innovative TDF products, the Union Budget for 2022-23 has reserved 25 per cent of the defence R&D budget for private industry, start-ups and academia. There are four schemes under which small defence firms can approach the MoD for funding innovative projects: iDEX (Innovation for Defence Excellence); iDEX Prime; the TDF and Make II and Make III projects, the modalities of which are explained in the Defence Acquisition Policy of 2021 (DAP-2021). The TDF aims at developing products for the military, but also for other strategic industries such as the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO). As with iDEX products, an order to the prime developer benefits all the MSMEs that function in its supply chain. In the decade between 2009-2019, the TDF was allocated Rs 544 crore. In four of those years, the allocation was zero. iDEX is a smaller scheme, run by the military, which seeks innovative solutions for specified functional challenges that are encountered on the ground. It has a limit of Rs 1.5 crore. The government has provided iDEX with budgetary support of Rs 498 crore for the five years from 2021-2026, with the objective of providing financial support to nearly 300 start-ups/MSMEs/individual innovators.

OECD Slashes India Growth Forecast to 6.9% In FY23

The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has forecast India's GDP growth at 6.9 per cent for FY23. This is 120 basis points lower than the 8.1 per cent projection made in December. The lowest by a major bank or institution, saying the country had been adversely affected by Russia's invasion of Ukraine. This is below the Reserve Bank of India's estimate of a 7.2% rise. India's Gross domestic product (GDP) grew 8.7% in 2021-22, making it the fastest-growing major economy in the world. After recording the strongest GDP rebound in the G20 in 2021, the Indian economy is progressively losing momentum as inflationary expectations remain elevated due to rising global energy and food prices, monetary policy normalises and global conditions deteriorate.

RBI raises limit for recurring payment e-mandate to ₹15,000

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the limit for e-mandates for recurring payments such as subscriptions, fees and EMIs from ₹5,000 to ₹15,000. This will further leverage the benefits available under the framework and augment customer convenience. RBI also raised the repo rate by 50 basis points. Under the current framework, the processing of e-mandate based recurring payments on cards requires an additional factor of authentication (AFA) during registration, sending a pre-debit notification. Subsequent recurring transactions to be executed without additional factor of authentication for benefit of convenience.

What is e-Mandate for Recurring Transactions?

An e-mandate refers to the act of a debit or credit cardholder giving a standing instruction to the merchant platform like a website or mobile application to deduct a certain amount of money for recurring transactions. This includes subscriptions on OTT platforms, gas bill payments, electricity bill payments, etc. Through an e-mandate, the cardholder gives the consent to merchant platforms to debit their credit or debit card for recurring payment requests that merchants may send. This is subject to the limit and validity specified by the cardholder. With the RBI's new rule, e-mandate limit has been hiked from Rs 5,000 earlier to Rs 15,000 per transaction. According

to RBI rules, card issuers or the banks have to send a notification to the cardholder at least 24 hours in advance for automated debits.

India's FY23 economic growth forecast cut to 7.5% by World Bank

The World Bank cut India's FY23 economic growth forecast to 7.5% from 8% estimated earlier in April. It cut the forecast due to "headwinds from rising inflation, supply chain disruptions, and geopolitical tensions offsetting buoyancy in the recovery of services consumption from the pandemic". This is the second time that the World Bank has revised its GDP growth forecast for India in the current fiscal 2022-23 (April 2022 to March 2023). In April, it had trimmed the forecast from 8.7 per cent to 8 per cent and now it is projected at 7.5 per cent. Earlier Moody's Investors Service trimmed the GDP projection to 8.8 per cent for the calendar year 2022 from 9.1 per cent earlier, citing high inflation. S&P Global Ratings too had cut India's growth projection for 2022-23 to 7.3 per cent, from 7.8 per cent. Fitch had cut India's growth forecast to 8.5 per cent, from 10.3 per cent, while IMF has lowered the projection to 8.2 per cent from 9 per cent. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has pegged India's growth at 7.5 per cent, while RBI in April cut the forecast to 7.2 per cent from 7.8 per cent amid volatile crude oil prices.

World Bank

- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., United States
- President: David Malpass
- Founders: John Maynard Keynes, Harry Dexter White

NABARD Chairman launches My Pad My Right programme in Leh

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD), Chairman Dr GR Chintala has launched "My Pad My Right programme", in Leh. The programme launched by Nabard's NabFoundation with machinery and materials of a cost of Seven and half Lakh rupees. Dr GR Chintala announced to sanction One more lakh to upgrade the machinery to make sanitary pads suitable to the demands of women of different age groups. These efforts are on for economic empowerment of rural women through menstrual hygiene. This will help women to participate in country's economic development. Under

this unique project, award winning sanitary pad making machines will be installed through the network of self help groups.

NABARD:

- Formation: July 12, 1982
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Chairman: Govinda Rajulu Chintala

Reserve Bank of India penalises Punjab & Sind Bank over non-compliance

The Reserve Bank has imposed a penalty of Rs 27.5 lakh on Punjab & Sind Bank for non-compliance with certain directions issued by it on 'external benchmark-based lending'. A statutory examination of Punjab & Sind Bank revealed non-compliance with the directions, inter-alia, to the extent the bank linked certain floating rate retail loans and floating rate loans to micro and small enterprises, extended by it after October 1, 2019, to MCLR instead of an external benchmark, RBI said. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI), however, added that the penalty is based on the deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers.

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founder: Vir Singh
- Founded: 24 June 1908
- MD & CEO: Shri Swarup Kumar Saha
- Executive Directors: Shri Kollegal V Raghavendra, Dr. Ramjass Yadav

Kiya.ai launches Kiyaverse, India's first banking metaverse

Can you imagine visiting your bank branch without leaving your home? No? Well, metaverse may make it happen soon. Not just discussing investment plans with an advisor, you may even be able to transact, access banking information and avail various banking products from the comfort of your home virtually, in the metaverse! Kiya.ai, a digital solutions provider to financial institutions and governments, announced the launch of India's first-ever banking metaverse named Kiyaverse in Mumbai. Kiyaverse hopes to merge use cases of real-world banking with metaverse banking through an avatar (virtual humanoid) based interactions.

How will customers use Kiyaverse?

Kiyaverse will enable customers to use their personalized avatars on digital banking units, mobiles, laptops, VR headsets and mixed reality environments. The platform will bring banking services from the real world to the virtual world and vice-a versa, interacting with a relationship manager's avatar creation and customisation, AI-based digital customer interaction, portfolio analysis, wealth management, co-lending, and corporate banking. Kiyaverse provides 3-dimensional analysis of data for Banks including CMO Insights, Product Performance, Risk Analysis and Channel Analytics.

BOB Financial & HPCL Launch Co-Branded Contactless RuPay Credit Card

In collaboration with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda (BoB), and Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd (HPCL), a Central Public Sector Enterprise, have been launched the HPCL BoB co-branded contactless RuPay Credit Card.

Key Points:

- The card has several advantages, including rewards for utility, grocery, and department store purchases.
- Through the JCB network, an international payment brand based in Japan, this card can be used at shops and ATMs worldwide.
- Customers will be rewarded for spending at HPCL fuel pumps as well as on the HP Pay app using this card.

BOB Financial Solutions Limited (BFSL):

BFSL is a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) fully owned by the Bank of Baroda (BoB).

- MD & CEO– Shailendra Singh
- Establishment – 1994
- Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

Postal Department and India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) AAROHAN 4.0 started in Shimla

Two days meeting of senior functionaries of the Postal Department and India Post payments Bank (IPPB), AAROHAN 4.0 started in Shimla, Himachal Pradesh. The agenda of the meeting is to discuss and deliberate ways to further deepen the Financial Inclusion drive in the country and to provide banking solutions to every citizen of India. Postal Department along with IPPB is working on the vision of the Prime Minister's Digital India initiative to promote digital payments and bring digital banking services to every nook and corner of the country in a customer-friendly manner. IPPB leverages upon the world's largest postal network of the Department of Posts to offer interoperable banking services at the doorstep benefiting senior citizens, farmers, migrant labourers and women amongst others. The meeting was inaugurated by Shri. Alok Sharma, Director General Postal Services in presence of Shri J Venkatramu, MD & CEO of IPPB, Chief PMG of 23 Postal Circles and other senior functionaries of the Department and IPPB. Discussions were held today to further strengthen the synergy between the post office and IPPB operations.

India Post Payments Bank (IPPB):

The bank has been established under the Department of Posts, Ministry of Communication with 100% equity owned by the Government of India. IPPB was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on September 1, 2018. The bank has been set up with the vision to build the most accessible, affordable and trusted bank for the common man in India.

**"The Man Who Has
Confidence In Himself
Gains The Confidence Of
Others."**

**"The Only Limit To Our
Realization Of Tomorrow
Will Be Our Doubts Of
Today."**

MoU's Signed

Pine Labs acquires fintech startup Setu for over \$70 million

IPO-bound merchant commerce platform Pine Labs has acquired fintech infrastructure company Setu for \$70-75 million. Setu's co-founders will retain the brand identity and 90-100 workforce while continuing to lead the company. Setu offers Application Programme Interface (APIs) across four categories for software applications to interact with each other. Setu's offerings, including the interface for account aggregator, open network for digital commerce and open credit enablement network framework made Setu an attractive bet for Pine Labs. The buyout of the Bengaluru-based firm, which provides API or application programming interface infrastructure solutions for billing, savings, credit and payments was a strategic move. Setu, launched in 2018 by Sahil Kini and Nikhil Kumar, is a technology service provider in the account aggregator ecosystem, enabling users to securely share their financial data with banks and other financial institutions.

Pine Labs

- Founded: 1998
- Headquarters: Noida
- Founders: Lokvir Kapoor, Rajul Garg, Tarun Upadhyay
- Subsidiaries: Qwiksilver Solutions Pvt Ltd., etc.

Govt department to collaborate with SBI for creation of integrated pension portal

The Centre's Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare (DoPPW) will collaborate with the State Bank of India (SBI) to create an integrated pension portal to enhance ease of living of pensioners. SBI field employees were given sessions on pension policy reforms and digitization relating the disbursement of pensions to central government pensioners at a two-day banker's awareness event in Udaipur, Rajasthan. According to a statement from the ministry of personnel, public complaints, and pensions, special sessions on income tax issues pertaining to pensioners were organized, and they were also informed the digital methods of presenting annual life certificates. It was determined that immediate action is required to

link the DoPPW and SBI portals to develop an integrated pension portal in order to offer seamless services to pensioners. According to the statement, banks may heavily promote face authentication technology for digital life certificates. It claimed that face authentication and digital life certificates would revolutionize the way pensioners and banks submit life certificates.

Pakistan secures deal with IMF to restore \$6 billion aid: Reports

Cash-strapped Pakistan has secured a deal with the International Monetary Fund (IMF) to restore the stalled USD 6 billion assistance package and unlock doors for financing from other international sources. The make-or-break deal was reached following the IMF staff mission and the Pakistani team, led by finance minister Miftah Ismail, agreeing on an understanding on the 2022-23 budget after the authorities committed to generate Rs 43,600 crore more taxes and increase petroleum levy gradually up to Rs 50 per litre. The extended fund facility package of USD 6 billion was agreed in July 2019 for a period of 39 months. So far only half of the promised money has been reimbursed. The revival of the facility will immediately provide access to USD 1 billion, which Pakistan badly needs to buttress its dwindling foreign exchange reserves. The coalition government led by Shehbaz Sharif has agreed to revise upward the annual tax collection target by almost Rs 42,200 cr for the year 2022-23 by taking additional tax measures, in a bid to placate the technical team of the IMF.

IMF

- Headquarters: Washington, D.C., U.S.
- Membership: 190 countries
- Managing Director: Kristalina Georgieva
- Chief Economist: Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas

Kotak General Insurance partners with PhonePe to Provide Motor Insurance

Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (Kotak General Insurance) announced that it has partnered with PhonePe Insurance Broking Services Pvt. Ltd (PhonePe), a digital payments platform, to

offer motor insurance to PhonePe's 380 million users, placing a significant bet on the digital distribution and direct-to-customer space.

Details:

Kotak General Insurance will provide its clients quick and easy vehicle and two-wheeler insurance policies via PhonePe. Through this partnership, PhonePe users will be able to quickly and easily purchase automobile and two-wheeler insurance online from the convenience of their smartphones. The relationship with PhonePe will enable to connect and engage with customers who are digital natives and seeking convenience. Kotak General Insurance, made it a mission to serve customers with straightforward and simple-to-understand solutions.

Freo partners with Equitas Small Finance Bank to launch digital savings account

Bengaluru-based neobanking platform Freo has launched its digital savings account 'Freo Save' in partnership with Equitas Small Finance Bank. With this launch, it has become the first consumer neobank in the country to provide full-stack neo-banking products, including smart savings account, credit and payments products, cards and wealth-growth products. The neobank is planning to open one million new accounts in the next ten months. Started as MoneyTap in 2016, Freo is India's first credit-led neobank. Currently, Freo offers a wide range of financial products, including credit line, credit cards, EMI cards, deposits & savings, buy now, pay later (BNPL) products in partnership with banks and financial institutions.

PVR, Inox get SEBI nod for merger to create India's largest multiplex chain

Multiplex operators PVR and Inox have approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for their merger, clearing an important step in the regulatory process. The two companies had announced in March a merger to create India's largest multiplex chain with a network of more than 1,500 screens. As per the agreement, Inox would merge with PVR in a share swap ratio of 3 shares (of PVR) for every 10 shares of Inox. Post the merger, the promoters of Inox will become co-promoters in the merged entity, along with the existing promoters of PVR. PVR promoters will have a 10.62 per cent stake

in the combined entity. Inox promoters will have a 16.66 per cent stake. Analysts expect the merger process to be completed in 2-3 quarters following the SEBI approval. When the merger comes into effect, the board of the combined company will be reconstituted with a total board strength of 10 members. The promoter families of PVR and Inox will have equal representation on the board with two seats each.

SEBI

- Founded: 12 April 1992
- Headquarters: Mumbai
- Chairperson: Madhabi Puri Buch
- Type: Statutory corporation
- Subsidiary: National Securities Depository Limited

MoU signed between Directorate General of Shipping and Indian Navy for transition of Indian Navy Personnel to Merchant Navy

The Directorate General of Shipping under Ministry of Ports Shipping and Waterways has issued Order detailing 16 transition schemes for Indian Navy Personnel to Merchant Navy. These transition schemes have been drawn after a detailed discussion with Indian Navy. These Schemes enable smooth transition of the retiring Indian Navy Personnel into Merchant Navy by acquiring necessary certification to work on Merchant Ships in accordance with the Standards of Training Certification and Watchkeeping Convention of International Maritime Organisation. To implement these schemes, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) has been signed by Vice Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, AVSM, NM, Chief of Personnel on behalf of Indian Navy and Shri Amitabh Kumar, Director General of Shipping, on behalf of Directorate General of Shipping, Ministry of Ports Shipping and Waterways, Govt. of India. The scheme envisages acceptance of training given by the Indian Navy to its officers and ratings and the sea service experience on Indian Naval or cargo ships on the basis of a certificate issued by the Indian Navy.

Indian Navy

- Founded: 26 January 1950
- Navy Day: 4 December
- Commander-in-Chief: President Ram Nath Kovind
- Chief of the Naval Staff: Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- Vice Chief of the Naval Staff: Vice Admiral Satish Namdeo Ghormade

Telangana joins 'Save Soil' campaign, signs MoU with Isha Outreach

Joining the 'Save Soil' campaign, Telangana signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Isha Outreach, a branch of Isha Foundation, founded by Sadhguru. With this, Telangana became the sixth state in the country to join the movement to save soil. The MoU was exchanged between Minister for Agriculture Singireddy Niranjan Reddy and Sadhguru at a Save Soil event in Hyderabad's GMC Balayogi Sports Complex. In India, nearly 30% of fertile soils in the country have already become barren and are incapable of yield. The primary objective of the Save Soil Movement is to urge all nations of the world to mandate a minimum of 3-6% organic content in agricultural soils through urgent policy reforms. Without this minimum organic content, soil scientists have warned of the imminent death of soil, a phenomenon termed "soil extinction"

Telangana

- Founded: 2 June 2014
- Capital: Hyderabad
- Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan
- Chief minister: K. Chandrashekar Rao

MoU signed to set up India's first Dark Sky Reserve in Ladakh

A memorandum of understanding (MoU) has been signed between Ladakh's administration, LAHDC Leh and Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) to set up India's first Dark Sky Reserve at Hanle's Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary. It'll preserve the pristine dark skies of Hanle for science. Moreover, Ladakh Lieutenant Governor said that the site will contribute to the economy of the locals. A dark sky sanctuary promotes proper illumination where and when it is needed without wasting energy and polluting other areas, especially the night sky, which does not require illumination. At a height of 4,500 metres, Hanle is already home to optical, gamma ray and infrared telescopes at the Indian Astronomical Observatory complex operated by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), Bengaluru. These telescopes are in use for studying stars, galaxies, exoplanets and the evolution of our universe. Hanle is pristine for the dry weather for most months of the year, remains cloudless during nights and offers dark skies – making it a perfect natural setup for sky gazing.

What is a Dark Sky Reserve?

A dark-sky preserve is an area, usually surrounding a park or observatory, that restricts artificial light pollution. The purpose of the dark-sky movement is generally to promote astronomy. However, astronomy is certainly not the only objective of conserving a dark sky.

UPEIDA signs MoUs with PSBs to boost investment in UP Defense Industrial Corridor

To encourage investment in the UP Defense Industrial Corridor, the Uttar Pradesh Expressways Industrial Development Authority (UPEIDA) has inked MoUs with the State Bank of India (SBI), Bank of Baroda (BOB), Punjab National Bank (PNB), and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).

Details:

The bank would provide financial help in the form of ease of doing business to investors in the UP Defense Industrial Corridor, according to the deal. UPEIDA has now collaborated with three major nationalised banks in the country, State Bank of India (SBI), Bank of Baroda (BOB), Punjab National Bank (PNB), and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), as part of its continuous support to investors in the Corridor, according to a release. These are intended to assist investors interested in establishing a business in the UP Defence Industrial Corridor in obtaining financial support as part of the Ease of Doing Business initiative. Banks will provide these investors with tailored financial support on a case-by-case basis to assist them in establishing their businesses.

Ex-Myntra CEO's Mensa Brands acquires smart wearables brand Pebble

Former Myntra CEO and Medlife Co-founder Ananth Narayanan's Mensa Brands has acquired Noida-based smart wearable brand Pebble for an undisclosed sum. Founded in 2013 by father-daughter duo, Ajay Agarwal and Komal Agarwal, Pebble is a lifestyle electronics brand that emphasises user-friendly product design. It offers audio products, fitness wearables, and charging solutions with designs and innovative technology to enhance the user experience.. Earlier in January, Mensa Brands had acquired the majority stake in personal care brand Florona. Mensa builds digital-first brands from India by partnering with the entrepreneurs, investing into

the business, and bringing the team's expertise and technology to scale the brands.

EU signs gas deal with Egypt & Israel to reduce dependency on Russia

European Union (EU) signed a deal with Egypt and Israel to increase liquified natural gas (LNG) sales to EU countries in Cairo. The deal aims to reduce dependency on Russian oil amid Ukraine war. As per deal, Israel will send gas to EU countries via Egypt, which will liquify it for exports via sea. This would be done in line with "long-term decarbonization objectives" and would be based on market-related prices. The EU would also help Egypt and Israel increase gas production and exploration in their respective territorial waters. Last year, the EU imported roughly 40 percent of its gas from Russia. Countries have been struggling to reduce that dependency in order to sanction Russia over its ongoing invasion of Ukraine.

European Union:

- President of the Commission: Ursula von der Leyen (Germany)
- President of the Parliament: Roberta Metsola (Malta)
- President of the European Council: Charles Michel (Belgium)
- Presidency of the Council of the EU: France
- Currency: Euro (€)

LinkedIn, UN Women join hands to create employment opportunities for women

LinkedIn, the world's largest professional network will invest USD 5,00,000 (Rs 3.88 crore) in partnership with UN Women to advance women's economic empowerment. The project will launch a pilot in Maharashtra to cultivate the digital, soft and employability skills of 2,000 women and present them with a range of career-building opportunities through job fairs, mentoring sessions and peer-to-peer networks. The three-year regional collaboration will digitally upskill women, providing them greater access to jobs and equipping them to fully participate in the formal economy. The partnership will be guided by the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs), a set of effective, actionable principles that guide businesses on how to promote gender equality and

women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace and community.

Fino Payments Bank partnered with Go Digit for shop insurance policy

Fino Payments Bank Limited has partnered with Go Digit General Insurance Limited, one of India's fastest growing general insurers, to provide small and medium business owners with shop insurance coverage. Fino Payments Bank serves as a corporate representative for Go Digit. Through the partnership, small and medium businesses are allowed to take advantage of Digit's My Business Policy in the case of a catastrophe. The insurance is for one-year that will cover loss or damage to inventory or goods caused by burglary, earthquakes, fire, lightning, storms, floods, and riots. The customers of Fino Bank can join Go Digit's coverage for Rs 550 per year (for a sum insured of Rs 3 lakh), which will rise to Rs 2,600 per year (for a sum insured of Rs 15 lakh).

Fino Payments Bank:

- Founded: 4 April 2017
- Headquarters: Juinagar, Navi Mumbai
- MD & CEO: Rishi Gupta

Iran & Venezuela sign 20-year cooperation plan amid US sanctions

Iran and Venezuela signed a 20-year cooperation plan during Venezuelan President Nicolas Maduro's visit to Tehran. The countries, both of which are under US sanctions, will cooperate in the fields of oil, petrochemicals, defence, agriculture, tourism and culture. Venezuela has shown exemplary resistance against threats from imperialists.

Iran:

- Capital: Tehran
- Currency: Iranian rial

Venezuela:

- Capital: Caracas
- Currency: Venezuelan bolívar

ICICI Bank partners ZestMoney to expand "cardless EMI" facility

ICICI Bank has announced that it has partnered with digital EMI/pay-later platform ZestMoney, to expand its 'Cardless EMI' facility for purchases on retail and e-commerce platforms. The partnership enhances

affordability of customers of the Bank who can use pre-approved cardless credit to instantly buy products/services using ZestMoney and take care of the cost into Equated Monthly Installments (EMIs). Customers can convert transactions up to Rs 10 lakh into EMIs by simply putting their registered mobile number, PAN and OTP (received on registered mobile number) at the check-out of the e-commerce website/app or at the PoS machine in retail outlets, without using cards. The facility, in partnership with ZestMoney, is live on select e-commerce websites and will soon be available at retail stores. With this partnership, the Bank's customers will be able to use ZestMoney's wide merchant base. They will also be able to use ZestMoney's flagship 'Pay-in-3' offering, where they can split the bill into three EMIs without extra cost.

ZestMoney:

- CEO & Co-Founder: Lizzie Chapman
- Established: 2015
- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka

Ather Energy partners with SBI for customer retail finance

Electric two-wheeler manufacturer Ather Energy has partnered State Bank of India to provide customers with vehicle financing. As part of the association Ather Energy customers will get instant loans at interest rates as low as 9.55 percent per annum. Pre-approved loans will also be administered, depending on the buyer's creditworthiness. SBI will offer the vehicle loans on their YONO mobile application as well as at their branch network, as the public sector lender ensures ease of adoption for the buyers. With this collaboration, the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) aims to accelerate the growth of the electric vehicle (EV) ecosystem in the country. The customers, depending on their profiles, will be eligible to avail loans up to 85 percent of the on-road prices of the electric two-wheelers. The approved loan amount will be credited directly to the dealer's account. Customers can avail the loan through YONO at an EMI of as low as Rs 251 per Rs 10,000 under SBI Easy Ride loan.

Ather Energy:

- Owner: Hero MotoCorp
- Headquarters: Bengaluru
- Founders: Tarun Mehta, Swapnil Jain

India-UAE pact on industrial cooperation receives Cabinet's approval

The government has approved a proposal for signing a bilateral Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between India and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) on cooperation in the field of industries and advanced technologies. The MoU envisages cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis in areas including strengthening the supply chain resilience of industries, renewable and energy efficiency, health and life sciences, space systems, artificial intelligence, standardisation, metrology, conformity assessment, accreditation, and halal certification. The MoU aims at strengthening and developing industries in both nations through investments, technology transfer and the deployment of key technologies in industries. India-UAE bilateral trade, valued at USD 180 million per annum in the 1970s, has increased to USD 60 billion at present, making the UAE India's third-largest trading partner after China and the US. The UAE is the eighth largest investor in India with an estimated investment of USD 18 billion. Indian investments in the UAE are estimated at around USD 85 billion (Rs 6.48 lakh crore). Both the countries have implemented a comprehensive trade agreement with an aim to increase bilateral trade from USD 60 billion to USD 100 billion in the next five years.

UAE

- President: Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- Currency: United Arab Emirates dirham
- Prime minister: Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum
- Capital: Abu Dhabi

Cabinet approves signing of MoU between India & USA in field of health sector

The Union Cabinet approved signing of Memorandum of Understanding among the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India and the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and International AIDS Vaccine Initiative IAVI, USA to contribute towards the development of new, improved and innovative biomedical tools and technologies to prevent and treat HIV, TB, COVID-19 and other emerging infectious and neglected diseases. This MoU will further strengthen relations between India and the USA within the framework of international scientific and technological cooperation in fields of

mutual interest. The Cabinet also approved the proposal for signing a bilateral MoU between India and the United Arab Emirates UAE on Cooperation in the field of Industries and Advanced Technologies. The Cabinet was apprised of the signing of MoU to establish collaborative guidelines between the National Institute for Environmental Studies, Japan and Aryabhatta Research Institute of Observational Sciences, ARIES, India so as to carry out and implement joint research on air quality and climate change.

India, Vietnam sign Joint Vision Statement on defence partnership towards 2030

India and Vietnam have signed Joint Vision Statement on defence partnership towards 2030 which will significantly enhance the scope and scale of existing defence cooperation. Wide-ranging discussions on effective and practical initiatives to further expand bilateral defence engagements and regional and global issues were held between the two sides. On the occasion, a Memorandum of Understanding on Mutual Logistics Support was also inked. This is a major step towards simplifying procedures for mutually beneficial logistic support and is the first such major agreement which Vietnam has signed with any country. Both countries also agreed for early finalisation of 500 million dollar Defence Line of Credit extended to Vietnam. Implementation of the projects will add substantially to Vietnam's Defence capabilities and further Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision of Make in India, Make for the World. India also announced gifting two simulators and monetary grant towards setting up of Language and IT Lab at Air Force Officers Training School for capacity building of Vietnamese Armed Forces.

Vietnam:

- Capital: Hanoi
- Currency: Vietnamese dong
- President: Nguyễn Xuân Phúc
- Prime Minister: Phạm Minh Chính

India and Senegal sign MoUs for cultural exchange, cooperation in youth matters and visa free regime for officials

India and Senegal have signed three MoUs for cultural exchange, cooperation in youth matters and visa-free regime for officials. The MoUs were signed after

delegation-level talks between Vice President M Venkaiah Naidu and President of Senegal Macky Sall in the capital city of Dakar. Mr. Naidu assured Senegal of India's continued commitment to support the socio-economic development of that country through all means, bilateral, regional and international frameworks. The Indo-Senegalese trade saw a 37 percent increase to 1.5 billion dollars during the last one year despite Covid-19 pandemic. Referring to the huge Indian import of phosphates from Senegal, Indian companies, especially heavy earth moving equipment companies can offer their expertise in this area. India looks forward to working closely with Senegal within the International Solar Alliance and One Sun One World One Grid initiative. Vice President Venkaiah Naidu, who is on his 3-nation tour of Gabon, Senegal and Qatar, from 30th May to 7th June, visited the Monument of African Renaissance in Dakar, Senegal.

Senegal:

- Capital: Dakar
- President: Macky Sall
- Currency: West African CFA franc

Israel signs first Arab free trade agreement with UAE

Israel has inked its first free trade agreement with an Arab country, with the United Arab Emirates (UAE). The agreement was signed in Dubai by Israel's Economy and Industry Minister Orna Barbivay and the UAE's Economy Minister Abdalla Bin Touq Al Marri. According to an official statement released by Israel's Ministry of Economy and Industry, the comprehensive, significant, and ground-breaking agreement is expected to increase bilateral trade in goods and services, increase Israeli exports to the United Arab Emirates, and provide customs exemption on 96% of trade between the countries: food, agriculture, cosmetics, medical equipment, medication, and more.

Details:

Regulatory and standardisation concerns, customs, collaboration, government procurement, e-commerce, and intellectual property rights are all covered under the agreement. This is a crucial visit for the State of Israel's commercial relations with the United Arab Emirates, the first free trade zone deal with an Arab country. The free trade zone agreement they signed is expected to improve bilateral commerce, remove

barriers, and create new economic possibilities and collaborations, all of which will serve as a foundation for our common road forward.

MoD signs 2971 crore rupees contract with BDL for supply of ASTRA MK-I Beyond Visual Range Air to Air Missile for IAF and Indian Navy

Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Bharat Dynamics Limited for the supply of ASTRA MK-I Beyond Visual Range Air to Air Missile and associated equipment for the Indian Air Force and Indian Navy at a cost of two thousand 971 crore rupees. Till now, the technology to manufacture missiles of this class was not available. ASTRA MK-I missile has been indigenously designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation, DRDO, based on the requirements of the Indian Air Force. Air to Air missile provides large Stand-Off Ranges to own fighter aircraft which can neutralise the adversary aircraft without exposing themselves to adversary Air Defence measures.

Bharat Dynamics Limited:

- Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL) is one of India's manufacturers of ammunitions and missile systems.
- Founded 1970
- Headquarters: Hyderabad, Telangana
- Chairman & MD: Commodore Siddharth Mishra

Tata Motors signs MoU with Gujarat govt for acquisition of Ford's Sanand plant

Tata Motors has signed an MoU with the Gujarat government for the potential acquisition of Ford India's Sanand plant. The agreement includes a transfer of Ford India's land, buildings, vehicle manufacturing plant, machinery and transfer of all eligible employees. As per a report, Tata Motors would pay \$100-150 million for the plant. The Ford plant in Sanand is a state-of-the-art site, located adjacent to the Tata Motors Passenger Vehicles manufacturing facility. Tata Motors will invest in new machinery and equipment required to make the unit ready to produce its vehicles. Following the investments, the plant would have a capacity of 300,000 units per annum, scalable to more than 400,000 units.

Tata Motors:

- Headquarters: Mumbai

- Founder: J. R. D. Tata
- Founded: 1945, Mumbai
- Chairman: Natarajan Chandrasekaran

Mahagram Partners with IndusInd Bank to Nurture Digital Payments in Rural India

Rural NEO Bank Mahagram has tied up with the IndusInd Bank to digitize the nation's payment ecosystem and provide a wider scope to transact for its customers in rural India. Mahagram was launched with a vision to transform India into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. The partnership between the two aims to boost financial inclusion, encourage socio-economic development, mitigate the risks of a shadow economy, and accelerate the growth of a cashless society. This association will also ensure the building of an efficient, reliable, and secure payment ecosystem, which will not only promote and encourage the use of e-payments methods but will also help merchants across the country to accept digital payments easily, making it more accessible for everyone.

IndusInd Bank:

- Founded: 1994
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
- MD & CEO: Sumant Kathpalia
- Tagline: We Make You Feel Richer

Andhra signs deals worth \$16 bn at WEF, to generate 38,000 jobs

Andhra Pradesh signed renewables investment pacts worth \$16 billion (around ₹1.2 lakh crore) with three companies, Adani Green Energy, Singapore's GIC sovereign wealth fund-backed Greenko and Aurobindo Realty & Infrastructure, during the WEF at Davos. The pacts involve setting up hydro, solar and wind power related projects in the state. The investments will create 38,000 jobs. With an agreement with Adani, Andhra Pradesh aims to establish green energy projects including a 3,700 megawatt pumped hydro storage project and a 10,000-megawatt solar power project. In addition to this, ArcelorMittal Nippon Steel (AMNS) India has confirmed that it will invest ₹1,000 crore towards the brownfield expansion of its Vizag pellet plant in the state. The rest will come from Greenko and Aurobindo, which will set up projects related to hydro, solar and wind power.

Awards & Recognitions

Prime Minister's Awards for Outstanding Contribution towards the Development and Promotion of Yoga-2021

The Prime Minister's Award for Outstanding Contribution towards the Development and Promotion of Yoga, one of the most coveted honours in the field of Yoga, has been announced for the year 2021. Two individuals, namely Shri Bhikkhu Sanghasena and Shri Marcus Vinicius Rojo Rodrigues and two organisations, namely, The Divine Life Society and the British Wheel of Yoga are the recipients of the same. The awards for the Outstanding Contribution towards the Development and Promotion of Yogawas announced by the Prime Minister of India on the occasion of the 2nd International Day of Yoga celebrations at Chandigarh on 21st June, 2016.

Following are the awardees of the Prime Minister's Awards for Outstanding Contribution towards the Development and Promotion of Yoga for the Year 2021:

1. Marcus Vinicius Rojo Rodrigues (Sao Paulo, Brazil): International Individual
2. British Wheel of Yoga, United Kingdom: International Organisation
3. Bhikkhu Sanghasena: National Individual
4. The Divine Life Society, Uttarkhand: National Organisation

Note: The winners will be felicitated with of a Trophy, Certificate and a Cash Award each. The value of each Cash Award would be Rs. 25.00 lakh.

Bengaluru airport named best regional airport in India, South Asia

Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport was named 'Best Regional Airport in India and South Asia' at the Skytrax World Airport Awards 2022. Based in the UK, Skytrax is a global consultancy firm that runs an airline and airport review and ranking site. The awards ceremony was held at Passenger Terminal EXPO in Paris, France. The Bengaluru airport has been accorded this recognition after being adjudged by customers, who vote every year for the airport which has the best customer service, the company said in a statement. Based on check-ins, arrivals, transfers, shopping, security, immigration, and departures at the

gates, the survey evaluates the consumer experience across airport service and key performance factors. Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi was honoured with the Cleanest Airport in India / South Asia at the Skytrax World Airport Awards 2022.

The World's Top Airports for 2022:

- World's Best Airport: Doha Hamad
- World's Best Airport Staff: Singapore Changi
- World's Most Family Friendly Airport: Istanbul
- World's Cleanest Airport: Tokyo Haneda
- World's Best New Airport: Bahrain
- World's Best Regional Airport: Centrair Nagoya
- World's Best Airport Dining: Singapore Changi
- World's Best Airport Shopping: Istanbul
- World's Most Improved Airport: Riyadh
- World's Best Domestic Airport: Tokyo Haneda
- World's Best Low-Cost Terminal: Kansai – T2
- World's Best Airport Hotel: Crowne Plaza Changi Airport
- World's Best Airport for Baggage Delivery: Kansai
- World's Best Airport Group COVID-19 Excellence: AENA
- World's Best Airport Immigration Service: Copenhagen
- World's Best Airport PRM & Accessible Facilities: Tokyo Haneda
- World's Best Airport Security Processing: Zurich
- World's Best Airport Website & Digital Services: Amsterdam Schiphol

NHAI sets Guinness record by constructing 75km road in 105 hrs 33 mins

The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has set a Guinness World Record by constructing "75km continuous bituminous concrete road in single lane on NH-53 section between Amravati and Akola in 105 hours and 33 minutes". The total length of the 75 km of single-lane continuous bituminous concrete road is equivalent to 37.5 km of two-lane paved shoulder road and the work started on 3rd June 2022 at 7:27 am and was completed on June 7, 2022, at 5 pm. The project was implemented by 720 workers including a team of independent consultants who worked day and night to complete this task. Before this, the Guinness World Record for the longest

continuously laid bituminous was for building 25.275 km which was achieved in Doha, Qatar in Feb 2019. The task took 10 days to complete. The Amrawati to the Akola section as part of NH 53, this is an important east-east corridor which connects major cities like Kolkata, Raipur, Nagpur and Surat.

NHAI

- Founded: 1988
- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Chairperson: Alka Upadhyaya

IIFA Awards 2022: Vicky Kaushal, Kriti Sanon win top honours; check out complete winners list

The International Indian Film Academy Awards (IIFA) held in Abu Dhabi. This year the IIFA 2022 Awards was hosted by Salman Khan, Maniesh Paul and Riteish Deshmukh. Sidharth Malhotra's Shershaah dominated the awards this year, with the film winning in as many as five categories. Sardar Udham, Mimi and Ludo won in two categories each.

List of the winners of IIFA 2022:

- Best Actor (Male): Vicky Kaushal (Sardar Udham)
- Best Actor (Female): Kriti Sanon (Mimi)
- Best Director: Vishnuvaradhan (Shershaah)
- Best Film: Shershaah
- Best Playback Singer Female: Asees Kaur for 'Raataan Lambiyan', (Shershaah)
- Best Playback Singer Male: Jubin Nautiyal for song 'Raataan Lambiyan', (Shershaah)
- Best Lyrics: Kausar Munir for 'Lehra Do', 83
- Best Music Direction: A R Rahman for Atrangi Re and Jasleen Royal, Javed-Mohsin, Vikram Montrose, B Praak, Jaani for Shershaah
- Best Male Debut: Ahan Shetty (Tadap)
- Best Female Debut: Sharvari Wagh (Bunty Aur Babli 2)
- Best Story Adapted: Kabir Khan, Sanjay Puran Singh Chauhan for 83
- Best Original Story: Ludo by Anurag Basu
- Best Supporting Actor Female: Sai Tamhankar (Mimi)
- Best Supporting Actor Male: Pankaj Tripathi (Ludo)

Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award: Rajasthan CM Ashok Gehlot announces honorary award for sportspersons

The Chief Minister of Rajasthan Ashok Gehlot announced that Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award will be introduced in the state for sportspersons. The Chief Minister said that Rajasthan Government is taking big decisions for the development of the sports in the state and also assured that the incentive amounts for the medal-winners will continue to increase. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot made the announcement of the Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in Rajasthan while addressing the inauguration and the player award ceremony at Sawai Mansingh Stadium in Jaipur.

Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympics in Rajasthan: Key details

1. Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot also announced that Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympics will start on August 29, 2022.
2. As per the CM, more than 27 lakh players of all ages will take part in Rajiv Gandhi Rural Olympics.
3. The event will become a big platform for the talent hunt in Rajasthan.
4. The winners in the Rural Olympics will also be given priority in the recruitment of the vacant posts in the Panchayat Cadre.
5. The Chief Minister of Rajasthan also released the torch of Rural Olympics at the ceremony.

Khel Ratna Award:

Khel Ratna Award which is formally known as Major Dhyani Chand Khel Ratna Award, formerly known as Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award in sports and games is the highest sporting honour in India. It is awarded annually by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports. As of 2020, Khel Ratna Award comprises a medallion, a certificate, and a cash prize of Rs. 25 lakh.

Young women entrepreneur Rashmi Sahoo wins Times Business Award 2022

Director of Ruchi Foodline, Eastern India's leading food brand and Odisha's No.1 spices company, Rashmi Sahoo has been presented the Times Business Award 2022. In a recently held event of the 3rd Times Business Awards, Sahoo was given the award by renowned Bollywood actor and social activist Sonu Sood. The award was given in the category of Eastern India's Leading READY -TO-EAT brand. While

working as director of Ruchi Foodline, she established Frozit – Odisha’s first frozen food company.

Frozit:

Gradually Frozit has made a name of itself nationally and internationally in the category of ready-to-eat food and bakery and which are not only healthy but also cost-effective. Frozit now serves various food of India as well as traditional Odia foods like Biryani, Pasta, Ghee-Rice, Mutton Kasa, Laccha Paratha, Mughlai Chicken, Veg Pulao, Kadai Soyabin, Chana Masala, Friend Rice, Tandoori Mushroom, Garlic Mushroom, Zeera Rice, Mix Veg, Pada Pitha, and Kheer.

What is Times business Awards?

The Times Business Awards recognises awardees for exemplary and ground-breaking performance in their respective business verticals every year. Today, the award is a benchmark for excellence in corporate India.

Father Stan Swamy to be honoured by Geneva rights foundation

Father Stan Swamy, the Jesuit priest and tribal rights activist from Jharkhand who was arrested in the Bhima Koregaon case and died in July 2021, will get a “special, posthumous homage” at the Martin Ennals Award in Geneva. The award is widely regarded as the Nobel Prize for human rights defenders. The winners this year are Daouda Diallo from Burkina Faso, Pham Doan Trang from Vietnam and Abdul-Hadi Al-Khawaja of Bahrain. Before he died at the age of 84, Swamy had spent a lifetime working with Adivasi communities on their land, forest and labour rights. He had filed a PIL the arrests of thousands of young adivasis whom investigating agencies had labelled “Naxals”. According to the NIA, which had arrested him with other activists such as lawyer Sudha Bharadwaj under the Unlawful Activities Prevention Act (UAPA) in 2020, Swamy was a part of the banned CPI (Maoist).

IAF officer martyred in CDS chopper crash awarded Shaurya Chakra

Group Captain Varun Singh, who was martyred in a helicopter crash that also claimed the life of India's first CDS General Bipin Rawat, was posthumously awarded Shaurya Chakra by President Ram Nath Kovind. Singh averted the loss of a Light Combat

Aircraft and safeguarded civilian property and lives in October 2020. Singh's wife and mother received the award. The government announced the Shaurya Chakra for Singh on August 15, 2021 for exceptional courage and remarkable presence of mind in handling a rare mid-air emergency involving the Tejas light combat aircraft (LCA) the previous year. The President also awarded a Kirti Chakra (Posthumous), India's second-highest peacetime gallantry medal, to Jammu and Kashmir police constable Altaf Hussain Bhat. The awards given by Kovind included 14 Shaurya Chakras (eight of them posthumous), 13 Param Vishisht Seva Medals and 29 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals for distinguished service of exceptional order.

Kashmiri RJ receives UNICEF award for work during COVID-19 pandemic

Radio Jockey Umar Nisar (RJ Umar) from South Kashmir, has been awarded the '01 Best Content Award' and the Immunization Champion award by United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) at the annual Radio4Child 2022 Awards in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The award was presented by multi-Grammy Award-winning music composer, environmentalist, and UNICEF celebrity supporter Ricky Kej, OIC UNICEF, UP Dr Zafrin Chowdhury, chief of communications and advocacy and partnerships, UNICEF India. The award has been conferred to Umar for his work of providing awareness and countering rumours to reach audiences during the pandemic. The Radio4Child felicitated radio professionals from private FM and All India Radio from across the country for their commendable work during the COVID-19 pandemic as well as for routine vaccination. These radio professionals highlighted the importance of routine vaccination among people.

Sanjit Narwekar conferred with V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement award

The 17th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival of India (MIFF 2022) confers Dr V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award on noted author and documentary filmmaker Shri Sanjit Narwekar to commemorate his exquisitely deep, remarkably diverse and inspiring body of work. Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution and Textiles Piyush Goyal

presented the award to Sanjit Narwekar along with a cash prize of Rs 10 lakhs (Rs 1 million), Golden Conch and a citation.

Indian documentary 'All That Breathes' wins L'Oeil d'Or 2022 at Cannes

Indian filmmaker Shaunak Sen's 'All That Breathes', India's only entry at the 75th Cannes Film Festival, won L'Oeil d'Or 2022, the top prize for documentary films. The 90-minute documentary film narrates the story of two brothers who devote their lives to protecting and treating birds, especially Black Kite, amid the darkened backdrop of Delhi's escalating violence and apocalyptic air. The film also recently won the World Cinema Grand Jury Prize: Documentary at the 2022 Sundance Film Festival. It had been acquired by HBO and will debut on the channel and its streaming service- HBO Max in 2023 after its release in the United States later this year

L'Oeil d'or Award

The L'Oeil d'or is a documentary film award that was established in 2015. It was awarded for the first time on May 23, 2015. The award is conferred to the best documentary presented in one of the sections of the Cannes Film Festival. It was initiated by the Civil Society of Multimedia Authors (SCAM) and its President Julie Bertuccelli. The award is conferred in partnership with the Institut national de l'audiovisuel and with the support of the Cannes Film Festival and its General Delegate Thierry Frémaux. The award comprises a cash prize of €5,000.

'Tomb of Sand' by Geetanjali Shree becomes first Hindi Novel to win Booker Prize

Geetanjali Shree's 'Tomb of Sand' has become the first Hindi novel to win the International Booker Prize. The translated Hindi novel has become the first book written in an Indian language to win the prestigious 2022 International Booker Prize. 'Tomb of Sand' which was originally published in Hindi as Ret Samadhi is translated into English by Daisy Rockwell. 'Tomb of Sand' by Geetanjali Shree, the winner of the International Booker Prize 2022, was among the 13 long-listed novels, which were translated into English from 11 languages and originated from 12 countries across four continents. Geetanjali will be awarded GBP 50,000, which will be split evenly between the author and the translator.

International Booker Prize

It is an international literary award which is hosted in the United Kingdom. The introduction of the International Prize to complement the Man Booker Prize was announced in June 2004. Since 2016, International Booker Prize has been given annually to a single book translated into English and published in the UK or Ireland. The prize is shared equally between the author and the translator.

Director of ICAR won VASVIK industrial research award 2020

A Gopalakrishnan, Director of the ICAR-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute has won the VASVIK (Vividhlaxi Audyogik Samshodhan Vikas Kendra) Industrial Research Award for the year 2020 in the category of Agricultural Sciences and Technology. The award, which carries a cash prize of Rs 1.51 lakh and citation, is in recognition of his significant contribution towards the research works related to fish genetics. The research works related to fish genetics which is relevant for conserving many commercially important and endangered species. The award committee observed that Dr Gopalakrishnan's genetic studies conducted and the technologies developed have served to produce molecular markers for many endangered fishes which is crucial for biodiversity conservation. Broodstock's development techniques and mariculture technologies formulated and standardised by him have helped in the economic upliftment of the society by providing alternate livelihoods.

An edge above others...

VASVIK research award:

The VASVIK research award is presented to scientists and researchers who have excelled in various fields including agricultural sciences. His research works include the Genetic Stock Identification (GSI), species inventory, taxonomy, breeding and seed production of threatened and commercially important species for mariculture which has helped in improving scientific knowledge on Indian fishery and the conservative measures.

"You Are Never Too Old To Set Another Goal Or To Dream A New Dream."

Sports

Indian men's team rises to 104th in FIFA rankings, women's at 56th

The Indian men's senior national football team reaped rewards after their stellar Asian Cup qualification as they advanced two places up from 106th to 104th in the latest FIFA world rankings. The Indian women's senior national football team too earned fruition as they advanced three places up from 59th to 56th. The Blue Tigers highlighted an excellent performance in the AFC Asian Cup qualifiers campaign, where they topped Group D in style by securing three out of three wins against Afghanistan, Cambodia, and Hong Kong. Chhetri and co. created history, as it was India's first-ever back-to-back qualification in the AFC Asian Cup, scheduled to be held in 2023. They are now placed just below New Zealand (103rd), who recently lost their World Cup qualification spot to Costa Rica. However, India's AFC ranking remains unchanged as they stand 19th, with Iran leading the rankings in the first place. The Blue Tigresses, on the other hand, beat Egypt and Jordan 1-0 each earlier this year in international friendlies.

Men's Ranking

1. Brazil
2. Belgium
3. Argentina
4. France
5. England

Women's Ranking

1. USA
2. Sweden
3. France
4. Netherlands
5. Germany

Indian women's Wrestling team wins Under-17 Asian Championship with total of eight gold in Kyrgyzstan

Indian women's Wrestling team has won five medals to claim Under-17 Asian Championship title with a total of eight gold at Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. India lifted the title with a total of 235 points from eight golds, one silver and one bronze. Japan had to be content with the runners-up trophy with 143 points and Mongolia finished third with 138 points. Bouts in 5

weight categories of women wrestling were held. Indian women including Ritika won gold in 43 kilogram, Ahilaya Shinde got gold in 49 kilogram, Siksha lifted gold medal in 57 kilogram, Priya received gold in 73 kilogram while Pulkit secured a Silver medal in 65 kilogram. In addition, the competitions in three weight categories of Free Style were also held and Parwinder Singh won Gold in 80 kilogram while Narender secured Silver in 71 kilogram. The competition in the remaining seven weight categories of Free Style will be held soon.

Kyrgyzstan

- Capital: Bishkek
- Currency: Kyrgyzstani som
- President: Sadyr Japarov

Andhra Pradesh team wins U19 T20 National Cricket Championship for Deaf

The Indian Deaf Cricket Association (IDCA) organised the 1st Under-19 T20 National Cricket Championship for Deaf between 16th June- 19th June. The four-day tournament saw teams from across the country competing for the coveted T20 Championship title. Andhra Pradesh Deaf won the T-20 Championship title in its maiden season, beating Gujarat Deaf by five wickets. Opting to field after winning the toss, Andhra Pradesh deaf bowlers restricted Gujarat deaf to 97 for ten.

- Best Batsmen: Mustakim Kaji
- Man of the Match: P Vijaya Bhaskar
- IDCA President: Sumit Jain

Canadian GP: Max Verstappen holds off Carlos Sainz to seal maiden Montreal victory

Red Bull's Max Verstappen held off Ferrari's Carlos Sainz to win his sixth Formula One race of 2022 at Canadian Grand Prix. The 24-year-old Dutchman took his 26th career win second ahead of Spaniard Sainz. Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton finished third. Verstappen is now 46 points clear in world championship standings after his 150th career race.

Canadian GP

- First held: 1961
- Most wins (drivers): Michael Schumacher (7) & Lewis Hamilton (7)

➤ Most wins (constructors): Ferrari (14)

2022 Winners

1. M. Verstappen (Red Bull)
 2. C. Sainz Jr.(Ferrari)
 3. L. Hamilton(Mercedes)
-

Cyclist Ronaldo creates history, wins India's 1st ever 1-km time trial int'l medal

India enjoyed a successful outing at the Asian Track Cycling Championship with two bronze medals in New Delhi. Ronaldo Singh created history as he bagged the country's first-ever international medal in the 1km time trial event. After three days, India has 20 medals in the kitty. World junior champion and Asian record holder Ronaldo pedalled the cycle with a speed of 58.254 km/hr and clocked 1:01.798s to come on the leaderboard. He won the bronze medal in the 1km time trial event of the men's senior category. This was his and India's first-ever medal in this event. Yuta Obara of Japan won gold with 1:01.118s (speed 59.902 km/h), Malaysia's cyclist Mohammad Fadhil clocked 1:01.639s to claim the silver. Another bronze was added by Birjit Yumnam who pulled away from Ilya Karabutov (Kazakhstan) and Amir Ali (Iran) after 35 laps to claim the third position in the 40-lap race of 10km in men's junior category. Hwarang KIM of Korea secured the gold, while Zulfahmi Aiman of Malaysia finished second.

FINA bars trans swimmers from participating in women's events

The swimming's world governing body FINA has voted to restrict the participation of transgender athletes in elite women's competitions while vowing to create a working group to establish an "open" category for them. The creation of an open category will mean that everybody has the opportunity to compete at an elite level. The new eligibility policy for FINA competitions states that male-to-female transgender athletes are eligible to compete only if "they can establish to FINA's comfortable satisfaction that they have not experienced any part of male puberty beyond Tanner Stage 2 (of puberty) or before age 12, whichever is later". The policy was passed with a roughly 71 percent majority after it was put to the members of 152 national federations with voting rights who had gathered for the congress at the Puskas Arena in Budapest, Hungary. The new FINA policy

also opens up eligibility to those who have "complete androgen insensitivity and therefore could not experience male puberty". Swimmers are also allowed to compete in women's races if they have had "male puberty suppressed beginning at Tanner Stage 2 or before age 12, whichever is later, and they have since continuously maintained their testosterone levels in serum (or plasma) below 2.5 nmol/L". Female-to-male transgender athletes (transgender men) are fully eligible to compete in men's swimming competitions.

FINA

- Headquarters: Lausanne, Switzerland
 - President: Husain Al Musallam
 - Founded: 19 July 1908
 - Sport: Swimming; diving; artistic swimming; water polo; open water swimming; high diving
-

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra wins gold at Kuortane Games in Finland

Olympic champion Neeraj Chopra clinched his first top podium finish of the season by winning the javelin throw event at the Kuortane Games in Finland, beating reigning world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada for the second time in four days. The 24-year-old Chopra's opening throw of 86.69m turned out to be the winning distance. Trinidad and Tobago's 2012 Olympics champion Keshorn Walcott was second with a first round throw of 86.64m. Peters was third with a best throw of 84.75m, which also came in the opening round. Chopra's second and third attempts were fouls and he did only three throws. That meant Chopra had single legal throw and he won the competition with it. His throw was not as big as the 89.30m effort while finishing second in the Paavo Nurmi Games in Turku, Finland, in a star-studded field but the win will surely boost his confidence ahead of the Stockholm Diamond League on June 30. Chopra's earlier national record was 88.07m which he had set in Patiala in March last year. He had won the Tokyo Olympics gold with a throw of 87.58m on August 7, 2021.

World no. 1 Axelsen beats Jun Peng to defend Indonesia Open title

World number one Viktor Axelsen won Indonesia Open for the second consecutive year after defeating China's Zhao Jun Peng. Axelsen won the match in 38 minutes. The Olympic champion had won the Indonesia Masters 2022 just last week. The women's

singles finals, meanwhile, ended with second-ranked Tai Tzu Ying of Taiwan securing victory over China's unseeded Wang Zhi Yi.

Indonesia Open 2022:

- Total prize money: US\$1,200,000
- Location: Jakarta, Indonesia

Champions:

- Men's singles: Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
- Women's singles: Tai Tzu-ying (Chinese Taipei)
- Men's doubles: Liu Yuchen (China), Ou Xuanyi (China)
- Women's doubles: Nami Matsuyama (Japan), Chiharu Shida (Japan)
- Mixed doubles: Zheng Siwei (China), Huang Yaqiong (China)

Hubert Hurkacz beats world no.1 Medvedev to win Halle Open title

Polish tennis player Hubert Hurkacz defeated world number one player Daniil Medvedev to win the Halle Open Singles title. Hurkacz had defeated Australia's Nick Kyrgios in the semifinals, whereas, Medvedev defeated Oscar Otte in the semifinals. It was a fifth straight defeat in a championship match for Medvedev, who has not won a title since winning his maiden Grand Slam title at US Open last year. Notably, Medvedev had denied Novak Djokovic a Calendar Slam by winning the US Open.

2022 Halle Open – Doubles

- Champions: Marcel Granollers (Spain), Horacio Zeballos (Argentina)
- Runners-up: Tim Pütz (Germany), Michael Venus (New Zealand)

Golden State Warriors win 4th NBA championship in 8 years

Golden State Warriors defeated Boston Celtics 103-90 in Game 6 of NBA 2022 finals to win their fourth championship in eight seasons. With the 4-2 win in finals, Warriors have now won a total of seven NBA titles. They are the first team to win four championships in an eight-year span since Chicago Bulls won six from 1991 to 1998. Steph Curry finished the series averaging 31.2 points, 6 rebounds, 5 assists and 5.2 three-pointers per game and was handed the 2022 Bill Russell NBA Finals Most Valuable Player award.

National Basketball Association (NBA):

- Founded: June 6, 1946 (as BAA)
- Inaugural season: 1946–47
- Commissioner: Adam Silver
- No. of teams: 30
- Countries: United States (29 teams), Canada (1 team)
- Headquarters: New York, U.S.
- Most recent champion: Golden State Warriors (7th title)
- Most titles: Boston Celtics, Los Angeles Lakers (17 each)

ICC ODI Player Ranking 2022: Imam-Ul-Haq jumps past Virat Kohli

Pakistan's Imam-Ul-Haq has surpassed the former skipper of the Indian Cricket team, Virat Kohli, in the newly released ICC ODI Player Ranking 2022. Imam-Ul-Haq was earlier in the third place in the rankings just below the Captain of Pakistan Cricket Team Babar Azam and Virat Kohli, however, brilliant performance in the home series has brought him four points clear of Kohli at number two, a career-best ranking for him in ICC ODI Rankings 2022. Pakistan's Babar Azam has successfully retained a top position in the latest ICC ODI Player Rankings 2022, with Pakistan's Captain holding his massive lead at the top of the ODI batter rankings following his 17th ODI century in the first match against West Indies. Virat Kohli, who was only second to Babar Azam in ICC Player Rankings now sits at the third spot with 811 points.

ICC ODI Ranking 2022: ICC ODI Ranking Batsmen

Rank	Player	Country	Rating
1	Babar Azam	Pakistan	892
2	Imam-Ul-Haq	Pakistan	815
3	Virat Kohli	India	811
4	Rohit Sharma	India	791
5	Quinton de Kock	South Africa	789
6	Ross Taylor	New Zealand	775
7	Rassie Van der Dussen	South Africa	769
8	Jonny Bairstow	England	746
9	Aaron Finch	Australia	745
10	David Warner	Australia	737

ICC ODI Ranking 2022: ICC ODI bowling ranking

Rank	Player	Country	Rating
1	Trent Boult	New Zealand	726
2	Josh Halewood	Australia	691
3	Matt Henry	New Zealand	683
4	Shaheen Afridi	Pakistan	681
5	Jasprit Bumrah	India	679
6	Mujeeb Rahman	Ur Afghanistan	676
7	Chris Woakes	England	676
8	Mehedi Hasan:	Bangladesh	661
9	Mohammad Nabi	Afghanistan	657
10	Shakib Al Hasan	Bangladesh	657

ICC ODI Player Ranking 2022: ICC ODI All-rounder ranking

Rank	Player	Country	Points
1	Shakib Al Hasan	Bangladesh	419
2	Mohammad Nabi	Afghanistan	323
3	Rashid Khan	Afghanistan	290
4	Chris Woakes	England	268
5	Colin de Grandhomme	New Zealand	262
6	Mitchell Santner	New Zealand	260
7	Ben Stokes	England	253
8	Imad Wasin	Pakistan	233
9	Mehedi Hasan	Bangladesh	233
10	Zeeshan Maqsood	Oman	231

BWF Indonesia Masters 2022 winners

The 2022 Indonesia Masters badminton tournament (officially known as the Daihatsu Indonesia Masters) took place at the Istora Gelora Bung Karno, Jakarta, Indonesia. Olympic champions Viktor Axelsen and Chen Yufei clinched the respective men's and women's singles titles at the BWF Indonesia Masters 2022.

BWF Indonesia Masters 2022:

- Category: Winners
- Men's singles: Viktor Axelsen (Denmark)
- Women's singles: Chen Yufei (China)
- Men's doubles: Fajar Alfian (Indonesia) & Muhammad Rian Ardianto (Indonesia)

- Women's doubles: Chen Qingchen (China) & Jia Yifan (China)
- Mixed doubles: Zheng Siwei (China) & Huang Yaqiong (China)

Neeraj Chopra shatters own National Record with 89.30 Metre Javelin throw

Neeraj Chopra achieved a new National world record at Paavo Nurmi Games 2022 in Finland with his career's best throw of 89.30 meters. He bagged a silver medal in the tournament. The 24-year-old scripted history on June 14, 2022, which was also his first International tournament after Tokyo Olympics 2022. In Pavo Nurmi Games 2022, Finland's 25-year-old Oliver Helander won the gold medal with his second throw of 89.83 meters. The Paavo Nurmi Games 2022, a gold event in the World Athletics Continental Tour, is one of the biggest track and field tournaments outside the Diamond League. Neeraj Chopra will next compete at the Kuortane Games in Finland before he heads to the Stockholm leg of the Diamond League on June 30. Chopra will then head to the Athletic World Championships from July 15 to 24 in Oregon before the Commonwealth Games starting on July 28.

Khelo India Youth Games 2021 concludes; Haryana top tally with 137 medals

The Khelo India Youth Games 2021 concluded, with Haryana grabbed the top position in the medal tally with 52 gold, 39 silver and 46 bronze medals. Maharashtra got second position by winning 125 medals including 45 gold, 40 silver and 40 bronze medals. Karnataka remained at third place with 22 gold, 17 silver and 28 bronze medals. The fourth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games saw athletes from over 36 states and Union Territories compete in 25 different sports. Sikkim, Nagaland, and Laskhsadweep were the only participants not to win a single medal. Haryana, India is named as the host city. Note: Five new indigenous sports, mallakhamb, gatka, kalaripayattu, thang-ta and yogasana, have been added to the sports list for the 2021 edition.

Saanapathi Gurunaidu clinches Gold medal in men's 55-kilogram event at IWF Youth World C'ships

Indian weightlifter Saanapathi Gurunaidu clinched Gold medal in men's 55 kilogram event at the IWF Youth World Championships in Leon, Mexico.

Two other Indian weightlifters Vijay Prajapati and Akansha Kishor Vyavhare clinched silver medals on the opening day of the event. Saanapathi won Gold medal in men's 55 kilogram event with total lift of 230 kilogram. He lifted 104 kilogram in Snatch winning Silver while 126 kilogram lifting in Clean and Jerk to finish on the top to grab the Gold medal. Vijay finished second in the Men's 49 kilogram event with a total lift of 175 kilogram. Vijay lifted 78 kilogram in Snatch and 97 kilogram in the Clean and Jerk category. Akanksha won the medal in the Women's 40 kilogram category. She finished first in the Snatch portion of the event, lifting 59 kilogram, and third in the Clean and Jerk section, lifting 68 kilogram, earning her the silver medal with a total of 127 kilogram.

Manish Narwal, Singhraj Adhana win silver medals at Mixed Team 50m Pistol SH1 event in Chateauroux Para-Shooting World Cup

The duo of Manish Narwal and Singhraj Adhana won silver medals at the Mixed Team 50m Pistol SH1 event in the ongoing Chateauroux Para-Shooting World Cup in France. With this, India's medal tally now includes three golds and two silver medals. Earlier, the Indian duo of Manish Narwal and Rubina Francis clinched the gold medal in the P6-10m Air Pistol Mixed event at the Chateauroux Para-Shooting World Cup. The Indian duo also created a new world record in the qualification stage with a score of 565. Earlier Tokyo Paralympics gold medallist Avani Lekhara won a gold medal with a world record score of 250.6 in the Women's 10m Air Rifle and secured a place at the Paris Paralympics 2024. The 20-year-old shooter broke her own world record of 249.6. Apart from her, para rifle shooter Srihari Devaraddi clinched a gold medal in Mixed 10m Air Rifle SH2 after defeating Slovenia's Tirsek F by just 0.5 points.

16-yr-old Praggnanandhaa wins chess title in Norway

Indian Grandmaster Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa won the Norway Chess Group A open chess tournament. The 16-year-old chess champion remained unbeaten through the nine rounds and

finished with 7.5 points. Notably, Praggnanandhaa (Elo 2642) finished a full point ahead of second-placed players. Praggnanandhaa, who was the top seed in the event, enhanced his reputation as one of the top upcoming players as he added another feather to his crown. He finished one point ahead of his nearest rivals, Israeli women International Master (IM) Marsel Efroimski and IM Jung Min Seo of Sweden, who shared the second place.

Norway Chess Tournament

Norway Chess is an annual closed chess tournament, typically taking place in the May to June time period every year. The first edition took place in 2013. The tournament has since decided to withdraw from the Grand Chess Tour.

Mithali Raj retires from all forms of international cricket after 23-year-long career

India Women ODI captain Mithali Raj announced her retirement from all forms of international cricket after a career spanning nearly 23 years. Mithali played 12 Tests, 232 ODIs and 89 T20Is, scoring 10,868 international runs. She had captained India in the ICC Women's World Cup earlier this year in New Zealand, where India failed to qualify for the semi-finals. An Arjuna award winner, Mithali made her debut in 1999 at the age of 16 and over the next 2 decades became one of the all-time greats. As captain, Mithali led India to the finals of two World Cups - 2015 and 2017. Mithali was the first batter to score seven fifties in a row in women's ODIs. She is the recipient of several national and international awards, including the Wisden Leading Woman Cricketer in the World in 2017, Arjuna Award in 2003, the Padma Shri in 2015, and Major Dhyanchand Khel Ratna in 2021, All by the Government of India.

Shooter Avani Lekhara wins gold with world record in Para World Cup

Tokyo Paralympics gold medallist Avani Lekhara won gold at the Para Shooting World Cup with a world record score of 250.6 in women's 10m Air Rifle Standing SH1 in Chateauroux, France. With the win, she has become the first Indian paralympic shooter to secure a spot in the 2024 Paris Paralympics. The 20-year-old shooter broke her own world record of 249.6 to secure her a spot at the 2024 Paris Paralympics. Poland's Emilia Babska won the silver medal in the

event with a total score of 247.6 and Sweden's Anna Normann won bronze with a score of 225.6.

Avani Lekhara's Major Awards & Honours:

- 2021 – Khel Ratna Award
- 2021 - Best Female Debut - Paralympic Award by International Paralympic Committee
- 2022 - Padma Shri

ISSF World Cup: Ashi, Swapnil win 50m rifle 3P mixed gold

Swapnil Kusale and Ashi Chouksey won the gold medal in the 50m rifle 3 positions (3P) mixed team competition at the ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun in Baku, Azerbaijan. The pair of Swapnil and Ashi beat Ukrainian's Serhiy Kulish and Daria Tykhova 16-12. This was India's second gold in the tournament after the trio of Elavenil Valarivan, Shreya Agarwal and Ramita clinched the yellow metal in the 10m air rifle women's team event. Besides, the Indian shooters had also bagged three silvers in the tournament and finished second on the medals tally behind Korea. It was also Swapnil's first gold and third medal overall at the Baku World Cup. He had earlier won silvers in both the men's 3P individual and team competitions. The ISSF World Cup was introduced by the International Shooting Sport Federation in 1986 to provide a homogeneous system for qualification to the Olympic shooting competitions.

International Shooting Sport Federation:

- Abbreviation: ISSF
- Founded: 1907
- Headquarters: Munich, Germany
- President: Vladimir Lisin

Aman Sehrawat strikes gold at Bolat Turlykhanov Cup Wrestling tournament

National champion Aman Sehrawat clinched gold medal while Tokyo 2020 bronze medallist Bajrang Punia settled for bronze of the 2022 Bolat Turlykhanov Cup wrestling tournament in Almaty, Kazakhstan. Rio Olympics bronze medallist Sakshi Malik won her first international gold medal in almost five years at the Bolat Turlykhanov Cup wrestling tournament- a UWW Ranking Series event - at Almaty in Kazakhstan. With the two more medals, India concluded the United World Wrestling's ranking

series with 12 medals - six golds, one silver, and five bronze. Five of the golds were won by women.

2022 Bolat Turlykhanov Cup:

- Host city: Kazakhstan Almaty, Kazakhstan
- Champions:
- Freestyle: Kazakhstan
- Greco-Roman: Iran
- Women: India

Medal table:

Rank	Nation	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Total
1	Iran	7	5	2	14
2	India	6	1	5	12
3	Kazakhstan	4	12	12	28

Rafael Nadal clinches 14th title with straight sets win over Casper Ruud

The clay court champion Rafael Nadal has won his 14th French Open title after beating first-time Grand Slam finalist Casper Ruud in the men's singles final. Nadal beat the 23-year Norwegian tennis player in three straight sets of 6-3, 6-3, 6-0 to claim the Roland Garros title. This is Nadal's record-breaking 14th Roland Garros and 22nd Grand Slam. World Number no. 1 Iga Swiatek defeated American teenager Coco Gauff in the women's singles finals at French Open 2022.

French Open 2022:

- Edition: 126th
- Prize money: €43,600,000
- Location: Paris (XVIe), France
- Venue: Roland Garros Stadium

2022 Champions:

- Men's singles: Rafael Nadal (Spain)
- Women's singles: Iga Świątek (Poland)
- Men's doubles: Marcelo Arévalo (El Salvador) / Jean-Julien Rojer (Netherlands)
- Women's doubles: Caroline Garcia (France) / Kristina Mladenovic (France)
- Mixed doubles: Ena Shibahara (Japan) / Wesley Koolhof (Netherlands)

National Spelling Bee 2022: Indian-American Harini Logan wins 2022 Scripps National Spelling Bee

Harini Logan, 14, an Indian-origin teenager living in San Antonio, Texas, has won the Scripps National Spelling Bee 2022. In a first-of-its-kind spell-off round, Logan spelt 22 words in 90 seconds beating

12-year-old Indian-origin Vikram Raju. Logan's final winning word was 'moorhen', a kind of a water bird. The winner of the National Spelling Bee 2022, Harini Logan has won more than \$50,000 in cash and prizes. Words in the final rounds of the National Spelling Bee 2022 included pyrrolidone, scyllarian, Otukian and Senijextee.

Scripps National Spelling Bee:

Scripps National Spelling Bee is an annual spelling bee that is held in the United States. The annual competition is run on a not-for-profit basis by The E.W. Scripps company. Although most of the participants of the National Spelling Bee are from the US, the students from countries such as The Bahamas, China, India, Canada, Japan, Mexico, and New Zealand have also competed in recent years.

Indian women's shooting team bags gold medal in 10m air rifle event at ISSF World Cup 2022 in Baku

Indian women's shooting team of Elavenil Valarivan, Shreya Agarwal and Ramita have bagged a gold medal for India in the 10m air rifle women's team event at the ISSF World Cup 2022 in Baku. This was India's first medal at the ongoing ISSF World Cup in Baku. The trio from India defeated Denmark 17-5 in the gold medal match. Tokyo Olympian Elavenil Valarivan shot above 10 in all the 11 series' in the final. Meanwhile, the men's 10m air rifle team, featuring Rudranksh Balasaheb Patil, Paarth Makhija and Deaflympics champion Dhanush Srikanth, narrowly missed the podium after going down 16-10 to Croatia in the bronze medal match.

FIH World Rankings 2022: India slips to fourth, women team rises to 6th position

FIH World Rankings: The Indian Men's Hockey team has slipped to the fourth spot in FIH World Hockey Rankings 2022. On the other hand, in a first-ever, Indian women's hockey team has made the country proud by rising to the 6th position in the world rankings. With this, the team has achieved their best ever FIH World Ranking. The Indian Women's Hockey Team, with 2029.396 points, now has been placed in the World Hockey Rankings above Spain, who lost both their FIH Hockey Pro League 2021/22 matches to Argentina and lost one each to England and Belgium as well. In men's Hockey rankings, the

Netherlands has replaced India in the third position on the basis of their impressive results in the FIH Pro League. In women's hockey world rankings, Australia, England and Germany remain in third, fourth, and fifth place, respectively.

FIH World Rankings men's: Top 10 teams

1. Australia
2. Belgium
3. Netherlands
4. India
5. Germany
6. England
7. Argentina
8. New Zealand
9. Spain
10. Malaysia

FIH World Rankings women's: Top 10 teams

1. Netherlands
2. Argentina
3. Australia
4. England
5. Germany
6. India
7. Spain
8. Belgium
9. New Zealand
10. Japan

French Open 2022: Rohan Bopanna, Matwe Middelkoop create History, reach first Grand Slam Men's doubles Semi-Final in 7 years

An edge above others...

French Open 2022 Men's Doubles Semi Final: India's Rohan Bopanna reached his first Grand Slam Men's Doubles semifinal in seven years after he along with his Dutch partner Matwe Middelkoop beat Llyod Glasspool and Henri Heliovaara in the men's doubles quarterfinals of French Open 2022 on May 30th. Bopanna and Matwe beat the British-Finnish pair by 4-6 6-4 7-6 (3) in a hard-fought contest. Rohan Bopanna had last reached the men's doubles semifinals of a major tennis event at the 2015 Wimbledon Championships when he along with Romania's Florin Mergea had lost against Jean-Julien Rojer and Horia Tecau after a tough five-setter.

IPL 2022 Awards Winners: Orange Cap, Purple Cap, Emerging Player, Super Striker; Full list of winners

IPL 2022 award winners were announced after the 15th edition of the Indian Premier League (IPL) came to an end where Gujarat Titan (GT) registered a win over Rajasthan Royals (RR) with 7 wickets at Ahmedabad's Narendra Modi Stadium. Gujarat Titans (GT), which was also the new addition to IPL, surprised everyone by lifting the Indian Premier League 2022 trophy. Jos Buttler won massively in IPL Awards 2022 after he took home the honours, including the powerplay of the season, game-changer of the season, super striker of the season, and orange cap among others. Emerging Player of the season went to Umran Malik while the Perfect Catch of the Season went to Evin Lewis for the catch that ended Kolkata Knight Riders' Campaign in IPL 2022. As Gujarat Titans lifted their maiden title, the Indian Premier League awarded some of the extraordinary players with individual awards. Check the complete list of IPL 2022 Awards winners below.

Category: Winners

- IPL 2022 Champions: Gujarat Titans
- Emerging Player of the Season: Umran Malik
- Super Striker of the Season: Dinesh Karthik
- Game Changer of the Season: Jos Buttler
- Perfect Catch of the Season: Evin Lewis
- Purple Cap: Yuzvendra Chahal
- Orange Cap: Jos Buttler
- Most Valuable Player: Jos Buttler
- Super Striker of the Season: Jos Buttler
- Fairplay Award: Gujarat Titans and Rajasthan Royals
- Runner-up trophy: Sanju Samson
- Fastest Delivery of the Season: Lockie Ferguson
- Let's Crack it Sixes Award: Jos Buttler
- Powerplay of the Season: Jos Buttler

"There Are No Limits To What You Can Accomplish, Except The Limits You Place On Your Own Thinking."

India beats Indonesia 16-0 in Asia Cup 2022 hockey tournament

Indian men's team slammed six goals in the final quarter to record a 16-0 win over Indonesia in a thrilling Pool A game of the Asia Cup 2022 to qualify for the Super 4 stage of the Asia Cup. India joined Japan, Malaysia, and South Korea in the Super 4 round of the Asia Cup. India needed to win the contest by at least a 15-0 margin to qualify and the young side thrived under pressure. Both India and Pakistan finished on four points each in Pool A behind Japan but the holders qualified for the Super 4s on the basis of a better goal difference (1). Pakistan had lost 2-3 to Japan earlier in the day. This was India's first win in the ongoing edition of the Asia Cup as they were held to a 1-1 draw by Pakistan before suffering a 2-5 defeat at the hands of Japan, who finished first in Pool A. Japan won all of their three matches in the pool.

Wrestling Federation of India imposes life ban on Wrestler Satender Malik

Wrestling Federation of India (WFI) has imposed a life ban on wrestler Satender Malik after he thrashed referee Jagbir Singh during CWG trials inside the KD Jadhav Hall at the IGI stadium. This was informed WFI's Assistant Secretary Vinod Tomar. The incident took place after Satender Malik lost the 125kg final during the Commonwealth Games 2022 trials. He reportedly punched the referee at the stadium, prompting the wrestling federation to impose a life ban on the wrestler. Following the ban, the wrestler will not be allowed to take part in any wrestling event from now on. Malik said that he will have to obey the decision of the federation.

Wrestling Federation of India:

- Affiliation: United World Wrestling (UWW)
- Headquarters: New Delhi, India
- President: Brijbhushan Sharan Singh
- Secretary: V.N. Prasood

"A Clear Vision, Backed By Definite Plans, Gives You A Tremendous Feeling Of Confidence And Personal Power."

Science & Technology

Jack Dorsey announces a new platform built on Bitcoin Blockchain

Jack Dorsey, the former Twitter CEO, announced a new platform on Twitter called 'Web5'. It is a combination of Web3 and Web2.0 built on the bitcoin blockchain. Web5 promises to fix the issue of securing personal data. As per Twitter, "We struggle to secure the personal data hundreds of accounts and passwords we can't remember. On the web today, identity and personal data have become the property of third parties. Web5, the potentially revolutionary technology will be designed to allow the users to take control of their own data rather than giving it away to the third parties.

What is Web5?

Web5 is developed by The Block Head (TBH) which is one of the Bitcoin Business units at Jack Dorsey's block (formerly square). Web5 brings decentralized identity and data storage to applications. As per Twitter, Web 5 lets developers focus on creating delightful user experiences while returning the ownership of data and the identity to individuals

Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile successfully flight-tested by DRDO & Indian Navy off Odisha coast

Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM) was successfully flight-tested by Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) and the Indian Navy from an Indian Naval Ship at Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha on June 24, 2022. The VL-SRSAM, a ship borne weapon system, is meant for neutralising various aerial threats at close ranges including sea-skimming targets. The launch of the system was conducted against a high speed aerial target mimicking aircraft, which was successfully engaged. The flight path of the vehicle along with health parameters were monitored using a number of tracking instruments deployed by ITR, Chandipur. The test launch was monitored by senior officials from DRDO & the Indian Navy.

VL-SRSAM

The Vertical Launch - Short Range Surface to Air Missile, or VL-SRSAM is a quick reaction surface-to-air missile.

- Detonation mechanism: Radio proximity fuze
- Engine: Solid-propellant rocket
- Flight altitude: 12 km (7.5 mi)
- Launch platform: Surface Ship
- Maximum speed: Mach 4.5

Oracle launches OCI dedicated region for India market

US-based technology major Oracle's cloud services platform, Oracle Cloud Infrastructure (OCI) has launched 'OCI dedicated region' for the India market to offer public cloud services to customers on their premises. It will enable customers to leverage public cloud services on their premises while meeting strict latency, data residency, and data sovereignty requirements. According to the company, the OCI dedicated region requires 60-75 per cent less data centre space and power on average, with a significantly lower entry price of around \$1 million a year for a typical customer. The new offering will allow Oracle to deliver over 100 OCI public cloud services to customers within their premises, which were earlier available only to public cloud consumers. It will also help boost the adoption of public cloud in the public sector, banking and other sectors that were so far restricted to do so due to regulatory and other requirements.

Oracle:

- Founded: 16 June 1977
- Founder: Larry Ellison, Bob Miner, Ed Oates
- Headquarters: Austin, Texas, US
- CEO: Safra Ada Catz

Indian Oil unveils indoor solar cooking stove, Surya Nutan

Indian Oil Corporation (IOC) has unveiled its patented indigenous solar cook top, "Surya Nutan", developed by the oil refiner's Faridabad R&D centre. Surya Nutan will aid in reducing India's CO 2 emissions drastically and keep our citizens insulated from the vagaries of the high international fossil fuel prices. The

product was demonstrated in the presence of the Minister of Petroleum & Natural Gas (MoPNG) HS Puri; Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Minister Giriraj Singh; Minister of State (MoS) for Commerce & Industry Som Prakash; MoS for Housing & Urban Affairs Kaushal Kishore, and Minister of Finance and Parliamentary Affairs of Uttar Pradesh Suresh Khanna.

Surya Nutan:

The solar cook top is a stationary, rechargeable and kitchen-connected indoor solar cooking system. It offers an online cooking mode while charging/ Surya Nutan works in hybrid mode, which means it can run on both solar and auxiliary energy sources simultaneously. The insulation design of the solar cook top minimises radiative and conductive heat losses. The initial cost of the product was Rs 12,000 for the base model and Rs 23,000 for the top model. However, the cost is expected to reduce substantially with economies of scale. At present, pilot projects are being held in around 60 places such as Leh (Ladakh) to ascertain various operational and commercial aspects related with its application.

ISRO successfully launches India's Communication satellite GSAT-24 from Kourou in French Guiana

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has successfully launched communication satellite GSAT-24 from Kourou in French Guiana. GSAT-24, built by ISRO for NewSpace India Limited (NSIL), was launched by French company Arianespace. GSAT-24 is a 24-Ku band communication satellite weighing 4180 kg with pan-India coverage for meeting DTH application needs. It was the first demand driven communication satellite mission undertaken by NSIL post space sector reforms. NSIL, a Government of India company under the Department of Space, has leased the entire satellite capacity to Tata Play.

NSIL:

- Founded: 6 March 2019
- Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka, India
- CMD: Radhakrishnan Durairaj
- Director (Technical & Strategy): A. Arunachalam
- Services: Transponder provisioning, Satellite launch, Spacecraft and Subsystems, Mission Support & Ground Infrastructure for Space based Needs

China launches third, most 'advanced aircraft' carrier named 'Fujian'

China launched its third aircraft carrier, the country's most advanced as well as the first "fully domestically built" naval vessel, as an aggressive Beijing sought to extend the range of its navy in the strategic Indo-Pacific region. The aircraft carrier named 'Fujian' was launched at a brief ceremony held at the Shanghai's Jiangnan Shipyard. The Fujian is China's first domestically designed and built catapult aircraft carrier. The 3rd aircraft carrier built by China State Shipbuilding Corporation Limited has a displacement of more than 80,000 tonnes and is equipped with electromagnetic catapults and arresting devices. Fujian is the name of China's eastern coastal province of Fujian. China's first aircraft carrier, the 'Liaoning', was a refit of the Soviet-era ship commissioned in 2012 followed by the indigenously built 2nd aircraft carrier 'Shandong' in 2019. Liaoning and Shandong are names of two provinces of China.

China:

- President: Xi Jinping
- Capital: Beijing
- Currency: Renminbi

India test fires Prithvi, 2nd nuclear-capable missile in 10 days

India carried out another test of its other nuclear-capable missile, Prithvi, nearly 10 days after the routine test of Agni was carried out. The missile is a proven system and is capable of striking targets with very high precision, adding that the "user training launch successfully validated all operational and technical parameters of the missile". The test comes days after India tested its Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile Agni-IV on June 6, which can travel as far as 4,000 km.

Prithvi-II missile:

Developed by DRDO, Prithvi-II is a single-stage missile — nine-metres tall, single-stage liquid-fuelled and powered by liquid propulsion twin engines. It is a state-of-the-art missile with a strike range of 350 km and is capable of carrying 500-1,000 kilograms of warheads. It uses Advanced Inertial Guidance System (AIGS) with a manoeuvring trajectory to hit its target with high accuracy. Prithvi is the first missile to have been developed by the DRDO under the Integrated Guided Missile Development Programme (IGMDP).

Inducted into India's armed forces in 2003, it was first used by the Indian Air Force as the primary user, and the variant has been inducted into the Army as well since then. What makes Prithvi-II stand apart is that it is capable of carrying nuclear weapons and attacking even at night being launched from a mobile launcher.

Microsoft to retire Internet Explorer after 27 years

Microsoft has finally decided to retire the internet explorer after 27 years. The web browser was first launched in 1995 as part of the add-on package Plus! for Windows 95 that year. Later versions of Internet explorer were available for free downloads, or in service packs and were included in the original equipment manufacturer (OEM) service releases of Windows 95 and later versions of Windows. While informing Microsoft shutting down Internet Explorer, Microsoft Edge Program Manager Sean Lyndersay said that the Internet Explorer 11 desktop will be retired and go out of support on June 15, for certain versions of Windows 10.

Why Microsoft has decided to retire Internet Explorer?

Reportedly, Internet Explorer reached its peak in 2003 with around 95 per cent usage share. However, with the release of the new browsers from other competitors, the user base of internet explorer fell further in the years that followed. Microsoft 365 ended the support for Internet Explorer on August 17, 2021, and Microsoft teams ended the support for IE on November 30, 2020. Internet Explorer is all set for discontinuation on June 15, 2022.

PM Modi inaugurates IN-SPACE HQ in Gujarat

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the headquarters of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) in Bopal, Ahmedabad.

What is INSPACE?

INSPACE is an independent nodal agency under Department of Space for allowing space activities and using of Department of Space-owned facilities by non-government private entities and ensuring greater private participation in the sector.

INSPACE Composition

IN-SPACE Chairman- The organisation is chaired by Pawan Goenka. It comprises technical experts for space activities along with safety expert, academic

experts and legal and strategic experts from other departments. It also comprises members from PMO and MEA of Government of India.

INSPACE Objective

The organisation will take care of the needs and demands of private players, including educational and research institutions. It will also explore ways to accommodate these requirements in consultation with ISRO. The private entities will now be able to utilise the existing ISRO infrastructure to carry out their space-related activities.

What is Amyloidosis, the condition that Pak's ex-Prez Pervez Musharraf is suffering from?

Amyloidosis is when an abnormal protein called amyloid builds up in your tissues and organs. Amyloid proteins are abnormal proteins the body cannot break down and recycle. When it does, it affects their shape and how they work. Amyloidosis is a serious health problem that can lead to life-threatening organ failure.

Cause

Many different proteins can lead to amyloid deposits, but only a few have been linked to major health problems. The type of protein and where it collects tells the type of amyloidosis you have. Amyloid deposits may collect throughout your body or in just one area.

Treatment:

Treatments may include chemotherapy similar to that used to combat cancer. Your doctor may suggest medications to reduce amyloid production and to control symptoms. Some people may benefit from organ or stem cell transplants.

Why in News?

Former Pakistan President Pervez Musharraf is suffering from Amyloidosis.

NASA's DAVINCI Mission is set to launch in 2029

NASA is set to launch a mission called "DAVINCI Mission". DAVINCI stands for "Deep Atmosphere Venus Investigation of Noble gases, Chemistry and Imaging Mission". The mission will fly by Venus and explore its harsh atmosphere in 2029. It will be the first mission to study Venus by means of both flybys and descent. Spacecraft is likely to explore layered Venusian atmosphere. It will reach Venusian surface

by June 2031. The mission would capture data Venus, that scientists are trying to measure since early 1980s.

DAVINCI spacecraft:

DAVINCI spacecraft will serve as a flying chemistry lab. It can measure different aspects of atmosphere and climate of Venus. Spacecraft will take the first descent images of its highlands. Instruments on the spacecraft will also be able to map Venusian surface as well as detect composition of mountainlike highlands of Venus'. This lab will paint a picture of layered Venus's atmosphere as well as the picture of how it interacts with surface in Alpha Regio mountains.

WhatsApp launches SMBSaathi Utsav to help small biz adopt digital mediums

Whatsapp launched SMBSaathi Utsav initiative which aims to support small businesses by helping them to adopt digital mediums like Whatsapp Business App. Utsav has started the initiative with a pilot in Jaipur's Johri Bazaar and Bapu Bazaar where over 500 small businesses are being trained. The initiative was launched in the collaboration with Josh Talks. The SMBSaathi Utsav is the second phase of the SMBSaathi campaign.

WhatsApp:

- Founded: 2009
- CEO: Will Cathcart
- Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States
- Founders: Jan Koum, Brian Acton
- Parent organization: Facebook

Moon Map: China releases world's most detailed map of the moon

A new comprehensive geological map of the moon has been released by China. It is being called the most detailed map of the moon to date and is expected to make a vital contribution. The project of the world's most detailed map of the moon has been led by the Institute of Geochemistry of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, along with other organizations such as the China University of Geosciences, the Chinese Academy of Geological Science, and Shandong University. Earlier in 2020, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) Astrogeology Science Centre released the map of the moon to a scale of 1:5,000,000.

Moon Map Released by China: All you need to know

1. The new comprehensive geological map of the moon released by China is to a scale of 1:2,500,000. It is the most detailed moon map to date.
2. The moon map includes the 12,341 impact craters, 17 rock types, 81 impact basins, and 14 types of structures.
3. The new significant details of moon map have provided abundant information the geology of the moon and its evolution.
4. The most detailed map of the moon was published by Science Bulletin on May 30, 2022.

Prime Minister to inaugurate Biotech Startup Expo - 2022 in New Delhi

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the Biotech Startup Expo - 2022 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. The Biotech Startup Expo - 2022 is a two-day event being held on the 9th and 10th of this month. It is being organised by the Department of Biotechnology and Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council BIRAC. It is being held to mark the completion of ten years of setting up of BIRAC. The theme of the Expo is 'Biotech Startup Innovations: Towards AatmaNirbhar Bharat'. The Expo will act as a platform to connect entrepreneurs, investors, industry leaders, scientists, researchers, bio-incubators, manufacturers, regulators, government officials, etc. 300 stalls will be set up at the Expo, which will showcase the applications of biotechnology in various fields such as healthcare, genomics, biopharma, agriculture, industrial biotechnology, waste-to-value, and clean energy, among others.

Agni-4 Missile: India successfully tests nuclear capable Agni-4 missile

India on June 7, 2022, conducted a successful test of the Agni-4 ballistic missile. The test of the Agni-4 ballistic missile which has a strike range of 4,000 kms took place as part of the night user trial in the operational configuration by the Strategic Force Command (SFC). The two-stage Agni-4 surface to surface missile was flight tested from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, off the Odisha Coast. The test of the Agni-4 Missile by India has come amid the continuing military confrontation with China in Eastern Ladakh.

The conflict has entered its third year now without showing any signs of de-escalation in the high-altitude region. Agni-4 is the fourth in the Agni series of missiles that have been developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

DRDO

- Chairman: Dr G Satheesh Reddy
- Headquarters: DRDO Bhavan, New Delhi
- Founded: 1958
- Subsidiary: Gas Turbine Research Establishment

PM Modi to launch national portal for credit linked govt schemes

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will launch the national portal for credit-linked government schemes- Jan Samarth Portal in New Delhi. It is a one-stop digital portal linking Government credit schemes. The portal is also a first of its kind platform which directly connects beneficiaries to lenders. The main purpose of Jan Samarth portal is to encourage inclusive growth and development of various sectors by guiding and providing them with the right type of government benefits through simple and easy digital processes. On the occasion, Prime Minister will inaugurate a Digital Exhibition which traces the journey of the two Ministries over the past eight years. Prime Minister will also release special series of one, two, five, ten and twenty rupees coins. These special series of coins will have the theme of the logo of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav and will also be easily identifiable to the visually impaired persons.

China's Geely launches 1st 9 low-orbit satellites for self-driving cars

China's Zhejiang Geely Holding Group conducted its first successful satellite launch, sending nine into low earth orbit as it builds out a satellite network to provide more accurate navigation for autonomous vehicles. The self-designed and manufactured GeeSAT-1 satellites, were launched from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in the southwestern province of Sichuan. Geely expects another 63 to be in orbit by 2025 and eventually plans to have a constellation of 240. With the launch, Geely becomes the second major automaker to have an allied space business. SpaceX, owned by Tesla Inc Chief Executive Elon Musk, has more than 2,000 satellites in orbit for its Starlink network that offers commercial internet

services. Starlink plans to have a first-generation network of 4,408 satellites. While SpaceX uses its own rockets to launch its satellites, Geely used a Long March 2C rocket developed and operated by a Chinese state-owned entity to launch the nine. The satellites have an operating lifespan of five years and will disintegrate in earth's atmosphere without leaving any space debris. Note: China currently has more than 400 satellites deployed in space, including commercially owned satellites.

NCTE Launches Portal to Simplify Process of Recognition of Teacher Education Programme

National Council for Teacher Education (NCTE) has launched an online portal to simplify the process of recognition of teacher education programs in higher education institutions. The portal launched to streamline the process seeks to help right from the time of inviting application for courses till the stage of issue of recognition orders including the inspection of institutions. The applications for the recently launched four-year integrated teacher education programmes (ITEP) applications will be processed on this portal.

INS Gomati decommissioned at Naval Dockyard in Mumbai

INS Gomati was decommissioned at the Naval Dockyard under the command of Captain Sudip Malik. INS Gomati derives her name from the vibrant river Gomti and was commissioned on 16 April 1988 by then Defence Minister, KC Pant, at Mazgaon Dock Ltd, Bombay. The third ship of the Godavari class guided-missile frigates, INS Gomati was also the oldest warrior of the western fleet when decommissioned. INS Gomati participated in numerous operations including Cactus, Parakram and Rainbow, and several bilateral and multinational naval exercises. IMS Gomati was twice awarded the coveted Unit Citation, in 2007-08 and again in 2019-20, for remarkable spirit and stellar contribution to national maritime security.

After INS Gomati's decommissioning:

The ship's legacy will be kept alive in an open-air museum being set up on the picturesque banks of the eponymous river Gomti in Lucknow where several of her combat systems will be displayed as military and war relics.

Obituary

Gopi Chand Narang, the Renaissance Man of Urdu, passes away



Renowned Urdu scholar, linguist, theorist, literary critic, and former Chairperson of Sahitya Akademi Professor, Gopi Chand Narang has passed away at 91. He was a Professor Emeritus at the University of Delhi and Jamia Millia Islamia. He has been honoured with the Padma Bhushan (2004) and Sahitya Akademi Awards (1995). He incorporated a range of modern theoretical frameworks, including stylistics, structuralism, post-structuralism, and Sanskrit poetics.

Long distance running legend Hari Chand passes away



Long distance great Hari Chand, a two-time Olympian and a double Asian Games gold medallist, passed away in Jalandhar. He was 69. Chand won the 5000 and 10,000m gold at the 1978 Bangkok Asiad and also the 10,000m title at the 1975 Asian Championships in Seoul. Chand, who hailed from Ghorewaha village in Punjab's Hoshiarpur District, made waves with his barefoot running and broke the 10,000m National record at the 1976 Montreal Olympics which stood for 32 years before falling to Surendra Singh. He was eighth in his heats in Montreal, clocking 28:48.72s. And in the next Olympics, in Moscow 1980, he was 10th in the

10,000m heats and finished 31st in the marathon which had 74 runners.

Former Sony CEO Nobuyuki Idei passes away at 84



Former Sony CEO Nobuyuki Idei died of liver failure, aged 84. Idei joined the company in 1960 and served as CEO from 1998 to 2005. He held leadership roles in Sony's audio, home video and creative communication divisions. Idei stepped down in 2005 to take responsibility for slumping earnings.

Sony:

- Founded: 7 May 1946
- Founders: Masaru Ibuka, Akio Morita
- Headquarters: Sony City, Minato, Tokyo, Japan
- Chairman of the board: Shuzo Sumi
- Chairman, President & CEO: Kenichiro Yoshida

Renowned Santoor maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori passes away



Santoor maestro Pandit Bhajan Sopori passed away in Gurugram. He was 74. He was suffering from colon cancer. He was former Director of Music at All India Radio and looked after Hindustani Classical Music. Born in 1948, Pandit Bhajan Sopori hailed from the Sopore valley of Kashmir. He belonged to the Sufiana gharana of Indian classical music. Bhajan Sopori

delivered his first performance at the age of five in 1953. In a career spanning over several decades, he performed in Egypt, England, Germany as well as the US. He learned western classical music from Washington University and Hindustani from his grandfather, SC Sopori, and father, Shambhoo Nath. In fact, Bhajan Sopori also taught music at Washington University. Sopori was honoured with the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 1992 and the Padma Shri in 2004 for his contribution to Indian classical music.

Noted Singer KK passes away after live performance in Kolkata



Popular singer Krishnakumar Kunnath, known as KK, passed away after a live performance in Vivekananda College Fest - Prayaas 2K22 at Nazrul Mancha in Kolkata on May 31, 2022. The 53-year-old reportedly felt unwell while performing and collapsed after returning to his hotel in Kolkata. KK was not only popular in Bollywood but had also recorded hit songs in Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Bengali and Marathi among others. Krishnakumar Kunnath, popularly known as KK, made his debut with the solo album titled Pal with music composed by Lesle Lewis. The album became a rage among the youngsters with its title track 'Yeh Pal' and songs 'Yaaron' and 'Aap ki Dua'. KK got his Bollywood break with "Tadap Tadap" from Hum Dil De Chuke Sanam in 1999. He had though sung a small portion of the evergreen song "Chhod Aaye Hum" from Gulzar's Maachis in 1996.

He released his second album Humsafar after a gap of almost eight years in January 2008. The album included hit songs such as 'Dekho Na', 'Yeh Kahan Mil Gaye Hum', 'Aasman Ke' and 'Rain Bhai Kaari'. KK also sung songs for television serials including Shaka Laka Boom Boom, Just Mohabbat, Kkavyanjali, Kuch Jhuki Si Palkein, Hip Hip Hurray and Just Dance.

Sidhu Moose Wala: Punjabi singer and rapper shot dead



29-year old Punjabi singer, Sidhu Moose Wala was shot dead by unidentified assailants in Jawaharke village of Mansa district, Punjab. The incident happened a day after the Punjab Police ordered the withdrawal of security of his security along with more than 420 people, including former MLAs, Jathedars of two Takhts, heads of Deras, and police officers.

Sidhu Moose Wala:

Born on June 17, 1993, Shubhdeep Singh Sidhu aka Sidhu Moose Wala belonged to the Moose Wala village in Mansa district. Moose Wala had a fan following running into millions and was popular for his rap. Moose Wala held a degree in electrical engineering. He had learned music during his college days and had later moved to Canada. Sidhu Moose Wala had contested this year's Punjab assembly election on a Congress ticket from Mansa and was defeated by AAP candidate Vijay Singla by a huge margin of 63,000 votes.

"Leaders Think And Talk About The Solutions. Followers Think And Talk About The Problems."

"Leaders Concentrate Single-Mindedly On One Thing- The Most Important Thing, And They Stay At It Until It's Complete."

Miscellaneous Events

First Indian to be recognised as Global SDG Pioneer by UNGC

Ramkrishna Mukkavilli has become the first Indian to be recognised as the Global Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Pioneer for water stewardship by the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC). It is for the first time that an Indian has been recognised for the position. 10 new SDG Pioneers were recognised by the UN Global Compact- the business leaders who are doing an exceptional job to advance the Sustainable Development Goals through the implementation of the UN Global Compact Ten Principles on the environment, human rights, anti-corruption, and labour.

Who is Ramkrishna Mukkavilli?

Ramkrishna Mukkavilli is the founder and the Managing Director of Maithri Aquatech, a Make-in-India company. Mukkavilli has been recognized for his work in building water security with nature-based water solutions across India and 27 countries spanning the Middle East, South East Asia, and Africa. Following this, Mukkavilli was recognized as one of the 10 new SDG pioneers for 2022.

What was the role of Ramkrishna Mukkavilli's firm in water stewardship?

Ramkrishna Mukkavilli's company's unique solution- Meghdoot, is based on an alternative water concept which is known as Atmospheric Water Generation that taps into a vast, renewable water resource- AIR, which contains six times as much fresh water as all the rivers on the planet combined. The proven technology has already met the requirements of the domestic consumers in water-scarce locations, top Fortune 500 companies, large-public sector companies, schools, hospitals, under-served communities, and many others. To date, Maithri Aquatech has generated over 100 million liters of fresh water from the air and has saved an estimated 200 million liters of crucial groundwater resources from exploitation.

The Global Liveability Index 2022 released, Austria's Vienna has been ranked most liveable city while Syria's Damascus has been adjudged as the least liveable city

As per Economist Intelligence Unit's The Global Liveability Index 2022, Austria's Vienna has been ranked as the most liveable city. Vienna also topped the rankings in 2018 and 2019. In second place is Denmark's Copenhagen, while Canada's Calgary has jumped from 18th position to join Switzerland's Zurich in joint third. As many as six European cities feature in top 10. On the other hand, Syria's capital Damascus has been adjudged as the least liveable city. Other least liveable cities include Nigeria's Lagos, Libya's Tripoli and Algeria's Algiers. Note: Wars, conflicts and terrorism are the biggest factors weighing down the ten lowest-ranked cities, of which seven are from Middle East and Africa, the report said.

Global Liveability Index 2022

The Global Livability Ranking is a yearly assessment published by the Economist Intelligence Unit, ranking 140 global cities for their urban quality of life based on assessments of stability, healthcare, culture and environment, education and infrastructure. Auckland has been ranked the most liveable city in 2021.

India now the fourth largest gold recycling country: World Gold Council

India has emerged as the fourth largest gold recycling country in 2021, recycling 75 tons, or 6.5 per cent of the total gold recycled across the globe, said a recent report by the World Gold Council (WGC). Over the past five years, 11 per cent of India's gold supply came from 'old gold'; driven by movements in the gold price, future gold price expectations and wider economic outlook, the WGC report said. When the gold price jumps people tend to sell their gold holdings either to gain from the price rise or to avoid spending on new gold jewellery. Research from Metals Focus found that the percentage of consumers exchanging old jewellery increases when the gold price rises, and when the economy is under stress—gold is sold to meet every day needs. In the short run, a 1 per cent increase in the price of gold pushes

recycling up by 0.6 per cent. Conversely, positive gross domestic product (GDP) growth in the same year and the previous year pushes recycling down by 0.3 per cent and 0.6 per cent, respectively. In addition, a 1 per cent increase in jewellery demand pushes recycling down by 0.1 per cent.

World Gold Council

- Headquarters: London, United Kingdom
- CEO: David Tait
- Founded: 1987
- President: Kelvin Dushnisky
- Subsidiaries: World Gold Council USA Inc, World Gold Council, Research Division

SoftBank overseas business chief quits after 6 months in the role

SoftBank has appointed Alex Clavel as chief executive of SoftBank Group International unit, replacing Michel Combes who quit after just six months in the role. Clavel takes charge of a hodgepodge of assets including chip designer Arm, which SoftBank hopes to list, and stakes in satellite company OneWeb, telco T-Mobile US Inc and robotics firm Boston Dynamics. Clavel earlier spent 19 years at Morgan Stanley before joining SoftBank in 2015. He had participated in the restructuring of office space-sharing firm WeWork and the integration of Latin American funds into the Vision Fund.

SoftBank:

- Founded: 3 September 1981
- Founder: Masayoshi Son
- Headquarters: Tokyo, Japan
- Chairman and CEO: Masayoshi Son

Start-up ecosystem: Kerala ranks top in Asia in global report

Providing a boost for Kerala's start-up ecosystem, the State has been ranked first in Asia in Affordable Talent in Global Startup Ecosystem Report (GSER). The State has also been ranked fourth in global ranking in the GSER, drawn up jointly by policy advisory and research organisation Startup Genome and Global Entrepreneurship Network. In the first GSER published in 2020, Kerala was ranked 5th in Asia and 20th in the world.

In cities category:

As per the report released by the policy advisory and research firm Startup Genome, the city of Bengaluru

has moved up to number 22 in the Global Startup Ecosystem ranking. Bengaluru's tech ecosystem value is at \$105 billion which is higher than that of Singapore at \$89 billion and Tokyo at \$62 billion, report showed.

Global Startup Ecosystem Report:

The GSER was released in the backdrop of the ongoing London Tech Week 2022, which brings together global governments and corporate leaders, inspirational start-up founders and investors to discuss the power of technology for societies. The report includes ranking of the leading 140 ecosystems, continental insights, and founder-focussed articles from thought-leading experts. Top Asian emerging ecosystems were measured on the basis of talent, experience, long-term trends over the most significant performance factors and the ability to generate and keep talent in the ecosystem.

Top 10 nations on World Competitiveness Index as India jumps 6 places

Denmark has been ranked 1st on World Competitiveness Index released by International Institute for Management Development. Switzerland slipped from the top ranking to the second position and Singapore regained the third spot from fifth. Others in the top 10 include Sweden at the fourth position, followed by Hong Kong SAR (5th), the Netherlands (6th), Taiwan (7th), Finland (8th), Norway (9th) and the USA (10th). Meanwhile, the top-performing Asian economies are Singapore (3rd), Hong Kong (5th), Taiwan (7th), China (17th) and Australia (19th). India has witnessed the sharpest rise among the Asian economies, with a six-position jump from 43rd to 37th rank. The top five attractive factors of India's economy for business are – a skilled workforce, cost competitiveness, dynamism of the economy, high educational level and open and positive attitudes. The IMD World Competitiveness Ranking (WCR) found that inflationary pressures are affecting the competitiveness of national economies along with COVID, and the invasion of Ukraine by Russia. IMD business school in Switzerland and Singapore released the 2022 World Competitiveness Ranking. Its think-tank, IMD World Competitiveness Center, ranks 63 economies and assesses the extent to which a country promotes the prosperity of its people by measuring economic well-being via hard data and survey responses from executives.

Founding Member of BharatPe Satyam Nathani Quits

In another major exit at merchant payments and lending fintech BharatPe, the company's founding member Satyam Nathani has resigned. Nathani's resignation comes just days after the exits of chief revenue officer Nishit Sharma and head of institutional debt partnerships Chandrima Dhar. This comes at a time when the Tiger Global and Sequoia Capital-backed company is in the midst of an overhaul of its corporate governance systems and will claw back restricted shares of estranged cofounder Ashneer Grover. Nathani was instrumental in building the company's tech products and the backbone of the tech team at BharatPe. A dropout from IIT Delhi, Nathani joined BharatPe straight out of college and led the building of the first prototype BharatPe's QR code besides other offerings like pay later product PostPe and peer-to-peer lending product 12% Club. Note: Satyam Nathani was also set to play an important role in Unity Small Finance Bank, formerly PMC Bank, which was acquired through a joint venture between BharatPe and Centrum Financial Services.

BharatPe

- Founded: 20 March 2018
- CEO: Suhail Sameer
- Headquarters location: New Delhi
- Founders: Ashneer Grover, Shashvat Nakrani

QS World University Rankings 2023: Top Global Universities

Quacquarelli Symonds (QS), London-based global higher education has released the 19th edition of the world's most consulted international university ranking. The QS World University Rankings 2023 ranks the top 900 universities based on 8 key ranking indicators. This is the largest ever ranking with 1,418 institutions across one hundred locations up from 1300 in the previous year. The ranking was topped by the United States(US)'s Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) followed by the University of Cambridge in the United Kingdom(UK) and Stanford University(US).

QS World University Rankings 2023: Globally

- 1: Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) Cambridge, United States
- 2: University of Cambridge Cambridge, United Kingdom
- 3: Stanford University Stanford, United States

QS World University Rankings 2023: List of top universities in India

- 1: IISc Bangalore
- 2: IIT Bombay
- 3: IIT Delhi
- 4: IIT Madras
- 5: IIT Kanpur
- 6: IIT Kharagpur
- 7: IIT Roorkee
- 8: IIT Guwahati
- 9: IIT Indore
- 10: University of Delhi

India ranks lowest among 180 countries in global environment performance index

India occupies the last spot in the 2022 Environmental Performance Index released by Yale and Columbia University researchers. The Index ranked 180 countries using 40 indicators of environmental health. India's rank is 180 with a total score of 18.9, and in the last decade the performance has gone down by 0.6 scores. Pakistan is ranked at 176 with a score of 24.6 and Bangladesh is at 177 with a score of 23.2. Nepal is ranked at 162 and Sri Lanka at 132, while Bhutan is at 85 and Afghanistan at 81.

Global Performance:

Denmark is on the top of the index with an EPI score of 77.9. Among the top 5 are United Kingdom, Finland, Malta, and Sweden. United States is ranked at 43 with an EPI score of 51. "The aggregate ranking puts the United States behind wealthiest western democracies, including France (12th), Germany (13th), Australia (17th), Italy (23rd), and Japan (25th)

India's Score

India has been given an EPI score of 18.9 EPI. The three primary categories under which scores have been given are ecosystem vitality, environmental health and climate change performance.

Punjab and Sind Bank MD and CEO S Krishnan retires

Punjab & Sind Bank Limited, an Indian nationalised bank, announced that its MD & CEO, S Krishnan to retire from the role. He was appointed as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Punjab & Sind Bank from the date of assumption of office till the date of his superannuation, i.e. 31.05.2022 or until

further orders, whichever is earlier. It is now informed that Shri S Krishnan has retired upon his superannuation on 31.05.2022. S Krishnan, a postgraduate in Commerce (M.Com) and qualified Cost Accountant (ICMA), took charge as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Punjab & Sind Bank on 4th September 2020. Prior to joining Punjab & Sind Bank as MD & CEO, Krishnan was Executive Director of Syndicate Bank and Canara Bank. He started his carrier in Indian Bank in January 1983. He has a long and varied field of banking and administrative experience of nearly 38 years.

Punjab & Sind Bank Limited:

- Headquarters: New Delhi
- Founder: Vir Singh
- Founded: 24 June 1908

Meta COO Sheryl Sandberg to step down after 14 years

Sheryl Sandberg is stepping down from Meta (formerly Facebook) after 14 years at the company. Sandberg was the chief operating officer (COO) at the company and was famously seen as the second-in-command after Zuckerberg. She was responsible for driving many changes in Facebook and its other apps, such as Instagram, Messenger and WhatsApp. She plans to focus more on her foundation and philanthropic work. Sandberg will officially leave the company by the fall of this year. She will continue to serve on Meta's board of directors.

Meta

- Founded: February 2004
- CEO: Mark Zuckerberg
- CTO: Mike Schroepfer
- CFO: David Wehner
- Subsidiaries: WhatsApp, Meta Platforms Ireland, Giphy, etc.
- Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States
- Founders: Mark Zuckerberg, Andrew McCollum, Dustin Moskovitz, Eduardo Saverin, Chris Hughes

People who succeed have momentum.
The more they succeed, the more they
want to succeed, and the more they find a
way to succeed.

Forbes Releases 2022 30 Under 30 Asia List

Forbes magazine has released the 7th edition of the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia List 2022, featuring 10 categories each honouring 30 individuals under the age of 30. The list was edited by Rana Wehbe Watson. The honourees on the list represent 22 countries and territories across the Asia-Pacific region. India tops the list in terms of the number of entries with 61, followed by Singapore (34), Japan (33), Australia (32), Indonesia (30) and China (28). The average age of the 2022 list is 26.8 and the youngest honouree on the list is 14-year old Japanese Olympics skateboarding gold-medalist Momiji Nishiya.

The 2022 List:

Categories in the 30 Under 30 Asia list 2022 are The Arts (Art & Style, Food & Drink); Entertainment & Sports; Finance & Venture Capital; Media, Marketing & Advertising; Retail & eCommerce; Enterprise Technology; Industry, Manufacturing & Energy; Healthcare & Science; Social Impact; and Consumer Technology. The honourees, Entrepreneurs and innovators, featured on the 2022 list are working towards reconnecting Asia following the disruption and isolation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Jack Dorsey steps down from Twitter board

Jack Dorsey has stepped down from the Twitter board of directors. Dorsey quit as Twitter CEO in November last year, handing over the post to Indian-origin Parag Agrawal who was then the CTO of the company. Post Dorsey's exit, Twitter CTO Parag Agrawal was elevated as the CEO of the company. Agrawal, an IIT Bombay alumni, joined Twitter 11 years ago after briefly working at AT&T, Yahoo, and Microsoft. In 2017, he became Twitter's CTO. Dorsey was full of praise for Agrawal in his exit email to employees.

Twitter:

- CEO: Parag Agrawal
- Founded: 21 March 2006
- Headquarters: San Francisco, California, United States
- Owner: Elon Musk

"The only limit to our realization
of tomorrow will be our doubts of
today."

Defence Exercise of the Month

IND-INDO CORPAT

The 38th India-Indonesia Coordinated Patrol (IND-INDO CORPAT) between the Indian Navy Units of Andaman & Nicobar Command (ANC) and Indonesian Navy is being conducted from June 13 to 24 2022 in the Andaman Sea and Straits of Malacca.

The 38th CORPAT is the first post pandemic Coordinated Patrol (CORPAT) between the two countries. It includes a visit by the Indonesian Navy units to ANC at Port Blair from June 13 to 15, 2022 followed by a Sea Phase in the Andaman Sea and visit by IN Units to Sabang (Indonesia) from June 23 to 24, 2022. As part of Government of India's vision of SAGAR (Security And Growth for All in the Region), Naval Component under the aegis of HQ ANC undertakes coordinated patrols with other littoral countries of the Andaman Sea along respective Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) towards enhancing regional maritime security.

CORPAT:

The two Navies have been carrying out CORPAT along their International Maritime Boundary Line (IMBL) since 2002. This has helped build understanding and interoperability between both the Navies and has facilitated measures to prevent and suppress Illegal Unreported Unregulated (IUU) fishing, drug trafficking, maritime terrorism, armed robbery and piracy, etc. The IND-INDO CORPAT contributes towards forging strong bonds of friendship across the Andaman Sea and Straits of Malacca.

Ex Khaan Quest 2022

Multinational peacekeeping exercise- Ex Khaan Quest 2022 featuring participation from military contingents from 16 countries including India commenced in

Mongolia. President of Mongolia, Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh inaugurated the exercise. Indian Army is represented by a contingent from the Ladakh Scouts. The 14-day exercise is aimed at enhancing interoperability, building military to military relationships, developing peace support operations and military readiness among participating nations. The military exercise will enhance the level of defence co-operation among participating countries.

Mongolia:

- Capital: Ulaanbaatar
- Currency: Mongolian tögrög
- President: Ukhnaagiin Khurelsukh

EX SAMPRITI-X

As part of the ongoing India Bangladesh bilateral defence cooperation, a joint military training exercise Ex SAMPRITI-X is being conducted at Jashore Military Station in Bangladesh from 05 June to 16 June 2022. Exercise SAMPRITI is an important bilateral defence cooperation endeavour conducted alternately by both countries which aims to strengthen and widen the aspects of interoperability and cooperation between both the armies. The aim of the exercise is to strengthen interoperability between the two armies and to understand each other's tactical drills and operational techniques. The Indian contingent of company strength is being represented by a Battalion of the DOGRA Regiment. During the joint military exercise Ex SAMPRITI-X, armies of both the Nations will share expertise in multiple simulated scenarios of Counter Terrorism, Humanitarian Assistance & Disaster Relief and UN Peacekeeping Force under UN mandate.

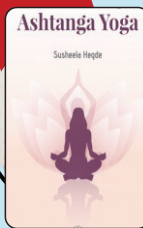
"Success seems to be connected with action. Successful people keep moving. They make mistakes, but they don't quit."

"Many of life's failures are people who did not realize how close they were to success when they gave up."

Important Days of the Month

Day	Observed/Celebrated As	Motto/Importance
Jul-01	Doctor's Day	To mark the Birth Anniversary of Dr. Bidhan Chandra Roy, the legendary physician and the second Chief Minister of West Bengal.
Jul-01	Chartered Accountants Day	To mark the establishment of Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) in 1949.
Jul-02	World UFO Day	It commemorates the date on which the famous Roswell incident was exposed to the public.
Jul-06	World Zoonoses Day	To commemorate the discovery of 1st vaccination against a zoonotic disease that can be spread between humans and animals.
Jul-11	World Population Day	In order to mark the urgency and importance of population issues, UNGA made a resolution to observe the same in 1990.
Jul-12	National Simplicity Day	To mark the birth anniversary of Henry David Thoreau in 1817.
Jul-12	Paper Bag Day	To make people aware about the use of paper bags that contribute to fight with climate change and environment pollution.
Jul-17	World Day for International Justice	To mark the adoption of the Rome Statute in 1998. With the help of this treaty International Criminal Court (ICC) was established.
Jul-18	International Nelson Mandela Day	To recognise the former South African President, Nelson Mandela's contribution to the culture of peace and freedom.
Jul-26	Kargil Vijay Diwas	To commemorate India's victory over Pakistan in the conflict that took place in the mountains above Kargil on the Line of Control in Jammu and Kashmir.
Fourth Sunday in July	National Parent's Day	To honour all the parents for their unconditional love and sacrifice for their children that cannot be measured.
Jul-28	World Hepatitis Day	Achieving the elimination of viral hepatitis within evolving health systems
Jul-28	World Nature Conservation Day	To raise awareness about protecting nature and conserving our natural resources.
Jul-29	International Tiger Day	To promote a global system for protecting the natural habitats of tigers and to raise public awareness and support for tiger conservation issues.

Books & Authors



Book: Ashtang Yoga
Author: Dr Sonu Phogat
About: This book highlights the importance of yoga in everyday life also the Mantra of Yog to Sehyog will show us a new way to the future.



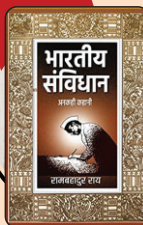
Book: Listen to Your Heart: The London Adventure
Author: Ruskin Bond
About: This book gives readers a peek into the four years he (Ruskin Bond) spent in the Channel Islands and England. It is published by Penguin Random House India.



Book: Gautam Adani: The Man Who Changed India
Author: RN Bhaskar
About: The book delves fascinating anecdotes from Adani's life, illuminating his early childhood, his initiation into business, and the learnings and opportunities he pursued.



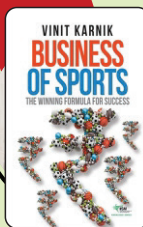
Book: Blood Orange Night: My Journey to the Edge of Madness
Author: Melissa Bond
About: Blood Orange Night is Melissa Bond's extraordinary memoir of an accidental addiction, and what it took to recover.



Book: Bhartiya Samvidhan: Ankahi Kahani
Author: Ram Bahadur Rai
About: The book, along with the history of independence and the untold chapters of our constitution will give a new thinking to the youth of the country.



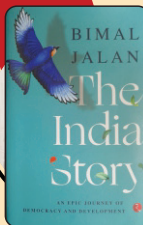
Book: Lapvona: A Novel
Author: Ottessa Moshfegh
About: This is a book of spells and stories, faith and power with an unforgettable young boy at its heart.



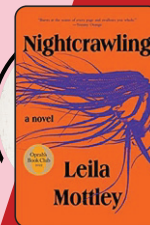
Book: Business of Sports: The Winning Formula for Success
Author: Vinit Karnik
About: This book is India's first-ever book on Sports. The book has been published by Popular Prakashan Pvt. Ltd.



Book: My Greatest Save
Author: Briana Scurry , Wayne Coffey , Robin Roberts
About: This book explores the barriers faced by Briana Scurry that she broke as well as her perseverance through a career ending injury that left her depressed, in debt, and in great pain.



Book: The India Story
Author: Bimal Jalan
About: The book focuses on India's economic history and aims to provide lessons for the future of India's political economy.



Book: Nightcrawling
Author: Leila Mottley
About: An unflinching, mesmerizing, and bruising novel that tackles the injustices of poverty, racism, sexism, and policing with such poetic clarity that it's impossible to put "Nightcrawling" down.

Current Affairs Based GS Question Bank(500+ Que)

Statement Based General Awareness

1. Recently, the Supreme Court (SC) refused to lay down the “yardstick” for determining the inadequacy of representation for granting reservation in promotions.
Consider the following statements regarding Constitutional Provisions for Promotion in Reservation -
- (1) Article 16 (4): Provides that the State can make any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class.
(2) Article 335: It recognises that special measures need to be adopted for considering the claims of SCs and STs to services and posts.
(3) Article 16(4B): It was added by the 80th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2000.
Which of the above is/are correct?
(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above
- Ans: (B)**
Exp: Constitutional Provisions for Promotion in Reservation
Article 16 (4): Provides that the State can make any provision for the reservation of appointments or posts in favour of any backward class of citizens who, in the opinion of the state, are not adequately represented in the services under the State.
Article 16 (4A): Provides that the State can make any provision for reservation in matters of promotion in favour of the Scheduled Castes and the Scheduled Tribes if they are not adequately represented in the services under the State.
Article 16(4B): Added by the 81st Constitutional Amendment Act, 2000 which enabled the unfilled SC/ST quota of a particular year to be carried forward to the next year.
Article 335: It recognises that special measures need to be adopted for considering the claims of SCs and STs to services and posts, in order to bring them at par.
2. Recently, the National Green Tribunal (NGT) directed the constitution of a "Fly Ash Management and Utilisation Mission".
Consider the following statements regarding Fly Ash -
- (1) Fly ash is an unwanted unburnt residue of coal combustion in a coal thermal power plant.
(2) It is emitted along with flue gases during the burning of coal.
(3) It is used in concrete and cement products, and mineral filler among others.
Which of the above is/are correct?
(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct
- Ans: (D)**
Exp: Fly Ash is an unwanted unburnt residue of coal combustion in a coal thermal power plant. It is emitted along with flue gases during the burning of coal in a furnace and collected using the electrostatic precipitators. The fly ash collected with the help of precipitators is converted into a wet slurry to minimise fugitive dust emissions. It is then transported to the scientifically designed ash ponds through slurry pipelines. Composition: Fly ash includes substantial amounts of silicon dioxide (SiO₂), aluminium oxide (Al₂O₃), ferric oxide (Fe₂O₃) and calcium oxide (CaO). It is used in concrete and cement products, road base, metal recovery, and mineral filler among others.
3. Recently, the Prime Minister paid tribute to Lala Lajpat Rai on his Jayanti.
Consider the following statements regarding Lala Lajpat -
- (1) He was also called ‘Punjab Kesari’ and 'Lion of Punjab'.
(2) He was influenced by Swami Dayananda Saraswati and joined the Arya Samaj in Lahore.
(3) He was founded the Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh.
Which of the above is/are correct?
(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct
- Ans: (A)**
Exp: Lala Lajpat Rai was one of the greatest freedom fighters of India. He was also called ‘Punjab Kesari’ and 'Lion of Punjab'. He studied law at the Government College, Lahore. Was influenced by Swami Dayananda Saraswati and joined the Arya Samaj in Lahore. He believed that the ideals in Hinduism combined with nationalism will lead to the establishment of a secular state. Along with Bipin Chandra Pal and Bal Gangadhar Tilak, he formed the Lal-Bal-Pal trio of extremist leaders.

He was also involved with the Hindu Mahasabha. He fought against untouchability.

4. According to recent data from Reserve bank of India (RBI), India's Foreign Exchange (Forex) reserves posted a decline of USD 678 million during the week ended 21st January 2022 to reach USD 634.287 billion.

Consider the following statements regarding Foreign Currency Assets -

- (1) FCAs are assets that are valued based on a currency other than the country's own currency.
- (2) FCA is the largest component of the forex reserve. It is expressed in dollar terms.
- (3) Special Drawing Rights is an international reserve asset, created by the world bank in 1969.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Foreign Currency Assets are assets that are valued based on a currency other than the country's own currency. FCA is the largest component of the forex reserve. It is expressed in dollar terms. The FCAs include the effect of appreciation or depreciation of non-US units like the euro, pound and yen held in the foreign exchange reserves. Special Drawing Rights is an international reserve asset, created by the IMF in 1969 to supplement its member countries' official reserves.

5. Recently, the 2nd ASEAN Digital Ministers' Meeting with India virtually. Consider the following statements regarding ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) Plus:

- (1) It is an annual meeting of Defence Ministers of 10 ASEAN countries and eight dialogue partner countries.
- (2) The ADMM-Plus countries include ten ASEAN Member States and eight Plus countries.
- (3) ASEAN Regional Forum is established in 1989.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: ASEAN Defence Ministers Meeting (ADMM) Plus is an annual meeting of Defence Ministers of 10 ASEAN countries and eight dialogue partner countries. The ADMM-Plus countries include ten

ASEAN Member States and eight Plus countries, namely Australia, China, India, Japan, New Zealand, Republic of Korea, Russian Federation, and the United States (same as in the EAS). ASEAN Regional Forum was established in 1994, the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) is an important platform for security dialogue in the Indo-Pacific.

6. A new genus (*Septemeranthus*) of a parasitic flowering plant has recently been discovered from the Nicobar group of islands.

Consider the following statements regarding Parasitic Plant -

- (1) The plant that obtains all or part of its nutrition from another plant.
- (2) The defining structural feature of a parasitic plant is the haustorium
- (3) Parasitic plants differ from plants such as climbing vines, lianas.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Parasitic Plant obtains all or part of its nutrition from another plant (the host) without contributing to the benefit of the host and, in some cases, causing extreme damage to the host. The defining structural feature of a parasitic plant is the haustorium, a specialised organ that penetrates the host and forms a vascular union between the plants. Parasitic plants differ from plants such as climbing vines, lianas, epiphytes, and aerophytes, though the latter are supported by other plants, they are not parasitic, because they use other plants simply as a structure on which to grow rather than as a direct source of water or nutrients.

7. The Ministry of Defence has launched services for home delivery of medicines under Services e-Health Assistance and Teleconsultation (SeHAT). Consider the following statements regarding SeHAT Initiative -

- (1) The Defence Minister launched SeHAT in May 2018.
- (2) It aims to provide healthcare services to patients in their homes.
- (3) SeHAT Stay Home OPD is based on the lines of eSanjeevani.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Exp: SeHAT Initiative is the tri-services teleconsultation service of the MoD designed for all entitled personnel and their families. As part of the Government's commitment to Digital India and e-Governance, the Defence Minister launched SeHAT in May 2021. It aims to provide healthcare services to patients in their homes. SeHAT Stay Home OPD is based on the lines of eSanjeevani a similar free OPD service run by the MoHFW (Ministry of Health and Family Welfare) for all citizens. SeHATOPD is a patient to doctor system where the patient can consult a doctor remotely through the internet.

8. Recently, 'Bomb cyclone' hits eastern US, which triggers transport chaos, outages.

Consider the following statements regarding Bomb Cyclone -

(1) A bomb cyclone is a large, intense mid-latitude storm.

(2) It has high pressure at its center.

(3) It occurs when a mid-latitude cyclone rapidly intensifies.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: A bomb cyclone is a large, intense midlatitude storm that has low pressure at its center, weather fronts and a array of associated weather, from blizzards to severe thunderstorms to heavy precipitation. Bomb cyclones put forecasters on high alert, because they can produce significant harmful impacts. This can happen when a cold air mass collides with a warm air mass, such as air over warm ocean waters. The formation of this rapidly strengthening weather system is a process called bombogenesis. It occurs when a midlatitude cyclone rapidly intensifies, dropping at least 24 millibars over 24 hours. A millibar measures atmospheric pressure.

9. Recently, the 30th Foundation Day (31st January) of the National Commission for Women (NCW) was celebrated.

Consider the following statements regarding National Commission for Women -

(1) It was set up as a statutory body in January 1992.

(2) The National Commission for Women Act was passed in 1988.

(3) Its mission is to strive towards enabling women to achieve equality and equal participation.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: National Commission for Women was set up as a statutory body in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990. Its mission is to strive towards enabling women to achieve equality and equal participation in all spheres of life by securing her due rights and entitlements through suitable policy formulation, legislative measures, etc.

Its functions are to:

Review the constitutional and legal safeguards for women.

Recommend remedial legislative measures.

Facilitate redressal of grievances.

Advise the Government on all policy matters affecting women.

10. Recently, the Supreme Court (SC) upheld a 2013 judgment of the Gujarat High Court and struck down certain provisions of the Constitution (97th Amendment) Act, 2011.

Consider the following statements regarding Co-operatives -

(1) A cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily.

(2) The United Nations General Assembly had declared the year 2016 as the International Year of Cooperatives.

(3) India has laid the foundation of biggest cooperative movement in the world.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: According to the International Labour Organisation (ILO), a cooperative is an autonomous association of persons united voluntarily to meet their common economic, social and cultural needs and aspirations through a jointly owned and democratically controlled enterprise. The United Nations General Assembly had declared the year 2012 as the International Year of Cooperatives. India is an agricultural

country and laid the foundation of World's biggest cooperative movement in the world.

11. Researchers at IIT Madras have demonstrated that by using Raman thermometry on fibre optic cables, they can achieve monitoring of power transmission cables.

Which of the following statement/s is/are correctly matched?

(I) Raman effect: when light is scattered off an object, two bands are observed, with higher and lower frequency than the original light, called the Stokes and anti-Stokes bands, respectively.

(II) Joule effect: Any current flowing through a conductor would cause a temperature rise.

(III) Meissner effect: It is the expulsion of a electric field from a superconductor during its transition to the superconducting state when it is cooled below the critical temperature.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3)
 (B) Only (1) and (2)
 (C) Only (3) and (2)
 (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: Raman effect: when light is scattered off an object, two bands are observed, with higher and lower frequency than the original light, called the Stokes and anti-Stokes bands, respectively.

Joule effect: Any current flowing through a conductor would cause a temperature rise.

Meissner effect: It is the expulsion of a magnetic field from a superconductor during its transition to the superconducting state when it is cooled below the critical temperature.

12. India's first multi-wavelength space satellite AstroSat helped astronomers in finding rare hot Ultra Violet (UV)-bright stars.

Consider the following statements regarding globular cluster -

(I) A globular cluster is a spherical collection of stars that orbits a galactic core.

(II) The gravitational force of globular clusters gives it a spherical shape.

(III) The first known globular cluster, now called M 22, was discovered in 1665 by Abraham Ihle.

- (A) Only (1) and (2)
 (B) Only (2) and (3)
 (C) Only (3) and (1)
 (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The first known globular cluster, now called M 22, was discovered in 1665 by Abraham Ihle, a German amateur astronomer. A globular cluster is a spherical collection of stars that orbits a galactic core. Globular clusters are very tightly bound by gravity, which gives them their spherical shapes, and relatively high stellar densities toward their centers.

13. General Bipin Rawat, first Chief of Defence Staff who died in an air crash recently, has been conferred with Padma Vibushan posthumously on the eve of the Republic Day (73rd).

Consider the following statements regarding Bharat Ratna:

(1) Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country.

(2) The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.

(3) It is treated on a same footing as Padma Award.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
 (C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Bharat Ratna is the highest civilian award of the country. It is awarded in recognition of exceptional service/performance of the highest order in any field of human endeavour. It is treated on a different footing from Padma Award. The recommendations for Bharat Ratna are made by the Prime Minister to the President of India. The number of Bharat Ratna Awards is restricted to a maximum of three in a particular year.

14. Recently, the Prime Minister of India greeted people of Himachal Pradesh on its statehood day (25th January).

Consider the following statements regarding State Reorganisation Commission: -

(1) S. K. Dhar commission (1948) and JVP Committee (1948) were advocate for reorganization of states.

(2) They were based on geographical contiguity, administrative convenience, financial self-reliance and potential for development.

(3) S. K. Dhar commission Commission was set up for reorganization of state based on linguistic criteria.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: State Reorganisation Commission:

Having achieved India's independence from British rule, reorganization of more than 500 princely states into effective provincial units was one of the biggest tasks. In pursuance of the same, S. K. Dhar commission (1948) and JVP Committee (1948) advocated for reorganization of states based on geographical contiguity, administrative convenience, financial self-reliance and potential for development. However, with the sudden death of Potti Sriramalu following hunger strike in demand for Andhra state created a volatile situation. The Fazl Ali Commission (1953) was set up and its recommendation for reorganization of state based on linguistic criteria (other criteria were also included) was accepted.

15. Recently, the Prime Minister paid tribute to Lala Lajpat Rai on his Jayanti.

Consider the following statements regarding Political career of Lala Lajpat Rai -

- (1) He was elected deputy leader of the Central Legislative Assembly in 1926.
(2) He was also elected President of the All India Trade Union Congress.
(3) He was opposed to the partition of India.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Political contribution of Lala Lajpat Roy:

He joined the Indian National Congress (INC) and participated in many political agitations in Punjab. For his political agitation, he was deported to Burma without trial in 1907 but returned after a few months because of lack of evidence. He was opposed to the partition of Bengal. He was also elected President of the All India Trade Union Congress. He was elected deputy leader of the Central Legislative Assembly in 1926. In 1928, he moved a resolution in the assembly refusing cooperation with the Simon Commission since the Commission had no Indian members.

16. Recently, the Government has clarified that Aadhaar of Husbands is not mandatory under the Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana.

Consider the following statements regarding Aadhar -

(1) UIDAI is a constitution body established on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India.

(2) UIDAI comes under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology.

(3) Aadhar is a 12-digit unique identification number, which is mandated by UIDAI.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Exp: Aadhar is a 12-digit unique identification (UID) number, which is mandated by Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) to all the residents of India. UIDAI is a statutory authority established on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, following the provisions of the Aadhaar Act 2016. The UIDAI was initially set up by the Government of India in January 2009 as an attached office under the aegis of the Planning Commission.

17. North East Center for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) under Saffron Bowl project has identified a few locations in Arunachal Pradesh and Meghalaya for saffron cultivation.

Consider the following statements regarding Saffron -

(1) Saffron is a plant whose dried stigmas are used to make saffron spice.

(2) It has been associated with traditional Kashmiri cuisine.

(3) In ancient Sanskrit literature, saffron is referred to as 'bahukam'.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Saffron is a plant whose dried stigmas (thread-like parts of the flower) are used to make saffron spice. Saffron cultivation is believed to have been introduced in Kashmir by Central Asian immigrants around the 1st Century BCE. It has been associated with traditional Kashmiri cuisine

and represents the rich cultural heritage of the region. It is a very precious and costly product. In ancient Sanskrit literature, saffron is referred to as 'bahukam'. It is cultivated and harvested in the Karewa (highlands) of Jammu and Kashmir.

18. Recently, the Department of Science has stated that India plans to execute the Chandrayaan-3 mission in August 2022.

Consider the following statements regarding different types of orbits -

- (1) A polar orbit travels north-south over the poles and takes approximately 90 minutes for a full rotation.
- (2) Almost all the satellites that are in a polar orbit are at higher altitudes.
- (3) Geosynchronous satellites are launched into orbit in the same direction the Earth is spinning and can have any inclination.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: A polar orbit travels north-south over the poles and takes approximately 90 minutes for a full rotation. These orbits have an inclination near 90 degrees. This allows the satellite to see virtually every part of the Earth as the Earth rotates underneath it. These satellites have many uses such as monitoring crops, global security, measuring ozone concentrations in the stratosphere or measuring temperatures in the atmosphere. Almost all the satellites that are in a polar orbit are at lower altitudes. Geosynchronous satellites are launched into orbit in the same direction the Earth is spinning and can have any inclination. When the satellite is in orbit at a specific altitude (approximately 36,000km above the Earth's surface), it will exactly match the rotation of the Earth.

19. The demand for coal in the country is expected to be in the range of 1.3-1.5 billion tonnes by 2030, according to Economic Survey 2021-2022, despite the push for renewable energy.

Consider the following statements regarding Coal -

- (1) It is one of the most abundantly found fossil fuels.
- (2) The leading coal producers of the world include USA, India, Russia.

(3) The coal producing areas of India include Raniganj, Jharia, Dhanbad and Bokaro in Jharkhand.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: Coal is one of the most abundantly found fossil fuels. It is used as a domestic fuel, in industries such as iron and steel, steam engines and to generate electricity. Electricity from coal is called thermal power. The coal which we are using today was formed millions of years ago when giant ferns and swamps got buried under the layers of earth. Coal is therefore referred to as Buried Sunshine. The leading coal producers of the world include China, US, Australia, Indonesia, India. The coal producing areas of India include Raniganj, Jharia, Dhanbad and Bokaro in Jharkhand.

20. Assam villagers are opposing the sanctuary tag for golden langur habitat.

Consider the following statements regarding Wildlife Sanctuary -

- (1) It is the place that is reserved exclusively for wildlife use.
- (2) The Wildlife Protection Act was passed in 1986.
- (3) Reserve forests are the most restricted forests and are constituted by the State Government.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C) *edge above others...*

Exp: Wildlife Sanctuary: It is the place that is reserved exclusively for wildlife use, which includes animals, reptiles, insects, birds, etc. wild animals, especially those in danger of extinction and the rare ones, so that they can live in peace for a lifetime and keep their population viable. The Wildlife Protection Act, 1972 empowers the central and state governments to declare any area a wildlife sanctuary, national park or closed area. Reserve forests: They are the most restricted forests and are constituted by the State Government on any forest land or wasteland which is the property of the Government. In reserved forests, local people are prohibited, unless specifically allowed by a Forest Officer in the course of the settlement.

21. Recently, the Prime Minister paid tribute to the heroes of freedom struggle on completion of the hundred years of Chauri Chaura incident.

Consider the following statements regarding Chauri Chaura Incident -

(1) The Chauri Chaura incident took place on 4 February 1922 at Chauri Chaura in the Gorakhpur district.

(2) On 1th August, 1920, Gandhiji had launched the Non-Cooperation Movement against the government.

(3) It involved using swadeshi and boycott of foreign goods, especially machine made cloth.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The Chauri Chaura incident took place on 4 February 1922 at Chauri Chaura in the Gorakhpur district of the United Provinces (modern-day Uttar Pradesh) in British India, when a large group of protesters participating in the non-cooperation movement, were fired upon by the police. On 1th August, 1920, Gandhiji had launched the Non-Cooperation Movement against the government. It involved using swadeshi and boycott of foreign goods, especially machine made cloth, and legal, educational and administrative institutions, "refusing to assist a ruler who misrules". In the winter of 1921-22, volunteers of the Congress and the Khilafat Movement were organized into some national volunteer corps.

22. Recently, Pakistan signed a new agreement with China to begin the second phase of the USD 60 billion China-Pakistan Economic Corridor (CPEC).

Consider the following statements regarding CPEC -

(1) CPEC is a 3,000-km long route of infrastructure projects connecting China's northwest to the Ormara Port.

(2) It is a bilateral project between Pakistan and China.

(3) It will pave the way for China to access the Middle East and Africa from Gwadar Port.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Exp: CPEC is a 3,000-km long route of infrastructure projects connecting China's northwest Xinjiang Uygur Autonomous Region and the Gwadar Port in the western province of Balochistan in Pakistan. It is a bilateral project between Pakistan and China, intended to promote connectivity across Pakistan with a network of highways, railways, and pipelines accompanied by energy, industrial, and other infrastructure development projects. It will pave the way for China to access the Middle East and Africa from Gwadar Port, enabling China to access the Indian Ocean and in return China will support development projects in Pakistan to overcome the latter's energy crises and stabilising its faltering economy.

23. Recently, in its interim report, the Jammu and Kashmir (J&K) Delimitation Commission has proposed significant changes to the electoral map of J&K.

Consider the following statements regarding Constitutional Basis for Delimitation -

(1) Under Article 82, the Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census.

(2) Under Article 170, States also get divided into territorial constituencies as per Delimitation Act after every Census.

(3) The Delimitation Commission Act was enacted in 1984.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Constitutional Basis for Delimitation -

Under Article 82, the Parliament enacts a Delimitation Act after every Census. Under Article 170, States also get divided into territorial constituencies as per Delimitation Act after every Census.

Once the Act is in force, the Union government sets up a Delimitation Commission. The delimitation commission is an independent body constituted under Article 82 after the Parliament enacted a Delimitation Act after every census. However, the first delimitation exercise was carried out by the President (with the help of the Election Commission) in 1950-51. The Delimitation Commission Act was enacted in 1952.

24. Recently, the Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare provided information on Anaemia Mukht Bharat (AMB) strategy. Consider the following statements regarding Anaemia -

(1) It is a condition in which the number of red blood cells or their oxygen-carrying capacity is insufficient.

(2) Having anemia, also referred to as typhoid, can make you feel tired and weak.

(3) Aplastic anemia is a condition that occurs when your body stops producing enough new blood cells.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: Anemia is a condition in which you lack enough healthy red blood cells to carry adequate oxygen to your body's tissues. Having anemia, also referred to as low hemoglobin, can make you feel tired and weak. Aplastic anemia is a condition that occurs when your body stops producing enough new blood cells. The condition leaves you fatigued and more prone to infections and uncontrolled bleeding.

25. Recently, the Finance Minister in the Budget 2022 announced that the government proposes to issue sovereign green bonds to mobilize resources for green infrastructure.

Consider the following statements regarding Green Bonds -

(1) Green bonds are issued to exclusively fund projects that have positive environmental.

(2) The projects can include renewable energy, clean transportation and green buildings, among others.

(3) Proceeds from these bonds are earmarked for green projects.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All of the above

Ans: (D)

Exp: Green bonds are issued by companies, countries and multilateral organisations to exclusively fund projects that have positive environmental or climate benefits and provide investors with fixed income payments. The projects can include renewable energy, clean transportation and green buildings, among others. Proceeds from these

bonds are earmarked for green projects. This is unlike standard bonds, the proceeds of which can be utilised for various purposes at the discretion of the issuer.

26. With the onset of summer, the seasonal migration of wild animals has begun from the adjacent wildlife sanctuaries in Karnataka.

Consider the following statements regarding Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary -

(1) It is located in Karnataka.

(2) It is an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve.

(3) It was established in 1973.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary is located in Kerala, Wayanad Wildlife Sanctuary (WWS) is an integral part of the Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve. It was established in 1973. Nilgiri Biosphere Reserve was the first from India to be included in the UNESCO designated World Network of Biosphere Reserves (designated in 2012).

27. Recently, the Ministry of Power has launched Powerthon-2022.

Consider the following statements regarding RDSS -

(1) It was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in July 2021.

(2) It aims to improve the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of discoms.

(3) It provides conditional financial assistance to strengthen the supply infrastructure of discoms.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: RDSS was approved by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs in July 2021 to improve the operational efficiencies and financial sustainability of discoms (excluding Private Sector DISCOMs). It provides conditional financial assistance to strengthen the supply infrastructure of discoms (power distribution companies).

28. Recently, the Central government has released the Central Media Accreditation Guidelines-2022.

Consider the following statements regarding Central Media Accreditation Committee -

(1) The Government shall constitute a Committee called the Central Media Accreditation Committee.

(2) The Committee will be chaired by the Principal Director General, Press Information Bureau.

(3) The CMAC would function for a period of five years.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Central Media Accreditation Committee (CMAC):

The Government shall constitute a Committee called the Central Media Accreditation Committee. The Committee will be chaired by the Principal Director General, Press Information Bureau (PIB) and composed of up to 25 members nominated by the government to discharge the functions laid down under these guidelines. The CMAC would function for a period of two years from the date of its first meeting and shall meet once in a quarter or more frequently, if necessary.

29. The Supreme Court in a recent judgement highlighted the growing misuse of Section 498A IPC, with friction rising in marriages.

Consider the following acts regarding to Indian laws that help curb the instances of violence against women -

(1) The Dowry Prohibition Act was enacted in 1961.

(2) The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act was passed in 1986

(3) The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act was passed in 1987.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Indian laws that help curb the instances of violence against women -

The Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961

The Indecent Representation of Women (Prohibition) Act, 1986

The Commission of Sati (Prevention) Act, 1987

Protection of Women from Domestic Violence Act, 2005

The Sexual Harassment of Women at Workplace Act, 2013

The Criminal Law (Amendment) Act, 2013

30. Recently, Britain rejected a statement from China that affirmed it's support for Argentina's claim to the Falkland Islands.

Consider the following statements regarding Falkland Island -

(1) Falkland Islands is also called Malvinas Islands.

(2) It lies about 300 miles northeast of the southern tip of South America.

(3) The capital and major town is Makita.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Falkland Islands, also called Malvinas Islands or Spanish Islas Malvinas, internally self-governing overseas territory of the United Kingdom in the South Atlantic Ocean. It lies about 300 miles northeast of the southern tip of South America and a similar distance east of the Strait of Magellan. The capital and major town is Stanley, on East Falkland, there are also several scattered small settlements as well as a Royal Air Force base that is located at Mount Pleasant.

31. Recently, the Chief Minister of Puducherry has demanded Statehood for the Union Territory (UT) of Puducherry.

Consider the following statements regarding constitutional provisions of UTs:-

(1) The Indian constitution empowers the Union government to create new states out of existing states.

(2) Article 2 empowers the Union Government to increase or decrease the size of any State.

(3) Puducherry was formed in 1962 out of the four former colonies of French India.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Indian constitution empowers the Union government to create new states out of existing states or to merge one state with another. This process is called reorganisation of the states. As per Article 2 of the Indian Constitution, Parliament may by law admit into the Union, or

establish, new States on such terms and conditions. As per Article 3 of the Indian Constitution, the Union Government has the power to form a State, increase or decrease the size of any State, and alter the boundaries or name of any State. Puducherry city is capital of Puducherry UT in southeastern India. UT was formed in 1962 out of the four former colonies of French India.

32. Many states have demanded that the GST compensation cess regime be extended for another five years.

Consider the following statements regarding GST Taxation & Compensation:

(1) The GST became applicable from 1st July 2016.

(2) It was enacted after 101st Constitution Amendment Act, 2016.

(3) With GST, a large number of central and state indirect taxes merged into a single tax.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: GST Taxation: The GST became applicable from 1st July 2017 after the enactment of the 101st Constitution Amendment Act, 2016.

With GST, a large number of central and state indirect taxes merged into a single tax.

33. As per the NITI Aayog report Faecal Sludge and Septage Management, Service and Business Model in Urban Areas, more than 700 cities/towns are in various stages of FSSM implementation by 2021.

With reference to sewage sludge and septage management, consider the following statements:-

(1) FSSM gives priority to human sewage management.

(2) It is a low cost and easily scalable sanitation solution.

(3) It focuses on the safe collection, transportation, treatment and reuse of human waste.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Faecal Sludge and Septage Management:

India has recognized the gaps in sanitation coverage and embarked purposefully to address them, becoming one of the first countries to

announce a national policy on FSSM in 2017. FSSM prioritizes human excreta management, a waste stream with the highest potential for spreading diseases. It is a low-cost and easily scalable sanitation solution that focuses on safe collection, transportation, treatment, and reuse of human waste. As a result, FSSM promises a means to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) target 6.2 of adequate and inclusive sanitation for all in a time bound manner.

34. According to a recent study, water vapour exhibits a positive radiative effect at the Top of the Atmosphere (TOA), suggesting an increase in overall warming in the High Altitude Himalayas due to it.

Consider the following statements regarding Water Vapour -

(1) Water vapour is the state of water when it is in the hydrosphere.

(2) It can be achieved by water evaporation or boiling of water or by sublimation of ice.

(3) Only 10% of greenhouse gases are water vapour.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Water vapour is the state of water when it is in the hydrosphere. It can be achieved by water evaporation or boiling of water or by sublimation of ice. Water vapour is the most dominant of greenhouse gases. In fact, 95% of greenhouse gases are water vapour. Increased levels of carbon dioxide increase water vapour, which leads to warmer temperatures.

35. Recently, the Union Minister of State for Finance provided information about the Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY) in the Rajya Sabha.

Consider the following statements regarding PMMY -

(1) The government launched it in 2015 for providing loans up to Rs 10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro-enterprises.

(2) It provides funding to the non-corporate small business sector through various last-mile financial institutions.

(3) MUDRA is stands for Macro Units Development & Refinance Agency.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: The government launched it in 2015 for providing loans up to Rs.10 lakh to the non-corporate, non-farm small/micro-enterprises. It provides funding to the non-corporate small business sector through various last-mile financial institutions like Banks, Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) and Micro Finance Institutions (MFIs). MUDRA, which stands for Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd., is a government's financial institution. It does not lend directly to micro-entrepreneurs/individuals.

36. Recently, the congress (political party) has promised a Waiver for Farm Loans for the 2022 Uttar Pradesh Assembly election.

Consider the following statements regarding Volatile Organic Molecules -

- (1) VOCs are carbon-containing chemicals released by petrol and diesel vehicles.
(2) They impact air quality and human health.
(3) It is also linked to medical conditions such as asthma and heart disease.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Effect of VOCs on Health: VOCs can irritate the eyes, nose and throat, damage body organs and cause cancer. Long-term exposure to VOCs is not good because the majority of the VOCs are carcinogenic (cancer-causing). It is also linked to medical conditions such as asthma and heart disease. Black carbon is linked to health problems such as respiratory and cardiovascular disease, cancer and congenital disabilities. It also contributes to climate change.

37. Recently, the Union Cabinet has approved a six-month extension to the commission appointed to examine sub-categorisation of Other Backward Classes (OBCs), up to 31st January 2022.

Consider the following statements regarding OBC Reservation -

- (1) The Kalelkar Commission, was the first to identify backward classes other than the SCs STs at the national level.

- (2) It was set up in 1975.
(3) The Mandal Commission Report, 1980 estimated the OBC population at 52%.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Kalelkar Commission, set up in 1953, was the first to identify backward classes other than the Scheduled Castes (SCs) and Scheduled Tribes (STs) at the national level. The Mandal Commission Report, 1980 estimated the OBC population at 52% and classified 1,257 communities as backward. It recommended increasing the existing quotas, which were only for SC/ST, from 22.5% to 49.5% to include the OBCs.

38. The Central Pollution Control Board (CPCB) in 2018 identified 351 polluted river stretches in India.

Consider the following statements regarding Biological Oxygen Demand -

- (1) Biological Oxygen Demand is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed by microorganisms to decompose organic matter.

(2) The more organic matter there is the less is the BOD.

(3) It is therefore a reliable gauge of the organic pollution of a water body.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Biological Oxygen Demand is the amount of dissolved oxygen needed by microorganisms to decompose organic matter under aerobic reaction. The more organic matter there is the greater is the BOD. Greater BOD, the lower the amount of dissolved oxygen available for higher animals such as fishes. The BOD is therefore a reliable gauge of the organic pollution of a water body.

39. Recently, the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MORTH) has made amendments to the Central Motor Vehicles Rules 1989.

Consider the following statements regarding Road Safety Initiatives in India -

- (1) National Road Safety Council is the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety.

(2) SARATHI app curb malpractices in issuing licences and vehicle registration.

(3) VAHAN app was launched to make all national highways free of railway crossings by 2019.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: National Road Safety Council as the apex body to take policy decisions in matters of road safety. VAHAN (an ICT-based solution for vehicle registration) and SARATHI (for licencing) app to curb malpractices in issuing licences and vehicle registration. Setu Bharatam programme was launched to make all national highways free of railway crossings by 2019.

40. The Supreme Court (SC) is examining allegations of rampant misuse of Prevention of Money Laundering Act 2002 (PMLA) by the government and the Enforcement Directorate (ED).

Consider the following statements regarding Enforcement Directorate -

(1) Directorate of Enforcement is a specialized financial investigation agency.

(2) On 1 May 1956, an "Enforcement Unit" was formed, in Department of Economic Affairs.

(3) In the year 1964, this Unit was renamed as "Enforcement Directorate".

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Directorate of Enforcement is a specialized financial investigation agency under the Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance, Government of India. On 1 May 1956, an 'Enforcement Unit' was formed, in Department of Economic Affairs, for handling Exchange Control Laws violations under Foreign Exchange Regulation Act, 1947. In the year 1957, this Unit was renamed as 'Enforcement Directorate'.

ED enforces the following laws:

Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA)

Prevention of Money Laundering Act, 2002 (PMLA)

41. Recently, India signed an agreement with the United Nations World Food Programme for the

distribution of 50,000 MT of wheat that it has committed to sending to Afghanistan.

Consider the following statements regarding World Food Programme -

(1) It was founded in 1961.

(2) It is headquartered in Rome, Italy.

(3) The WFP has been awarded with the Nobel Prize for Peace 2020.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The World Food Programme (WFP) is the leading humanitarian organisation saving lives and changing lives, delivering food assistance in emergencies and working with communities to improve nutrition and build resilience. It was founded in 1961 by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) with its headquarters in Rome, Italy. It is also a member of the United Nations Sustainable Development Group (UNSDG), a coalition of UN agencies and organisations aimed at fulfilling the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The WFP assists 88 countries, and has assisted 97 million people (in 2019) which is the largest number since 2012. The WFP has been awarded with the Nobel Prize for Peace 2020 for its efforts to combat hunger, bettering conditions for peace in conflict-affected areas and preventing the use of hunger as a weapon of war and conflict.

42. Recently, the fourth meeting of the foreign ministers of the QUAD grouping (India, the US, Australia and Japan) was held in Melbourne, Australia.

Consider the following statements regarding QUAD -

(1) It is the grouping of four democracies –India, Australia, the US, and Japan.

(2) All four nations find a common ground of being democratic nations.

(3) The idea of Quad was first mooted by US President George W. Bush in 2007.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: QUAD is the grouping of four democracies – India, Australia, the US, and Japan. All four nations find a common ground of being

democratic nations and also support the common interest of unhindered maritime trade and security. The Quad is billed as four democracies with a shared objective to ensure and support a “free, open and prosperous” Indo-Pacific region. The idea of Quad was first mooted by Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in 2007. However, the idea couldn't move ahead with Australia pulling out of it, apparently due to Chinese pressure.

43. Recently, the National Investigation Agency (NIA) has filed an appeal against the Bombay High Court order, which granted statutory bail to lawyer-activist Sudha Bharadwaj.

Consider the following statements regarding Types of Bail in India: -

- (1) Regular Bail is a direction given by the Court to release a person.
- (2) For Interim Bail, a person can file an application under Section 437 and 439 of the CrPC.
- (3) Article 22 grants protection to persons who are arrested or detained.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: Types of Bail in India:

Regular Bail: It is a direction given by the Court (any Court within the country) to release a person who is already under arrest and kept in police custody. For such Bail, a person can file an application under Section 437 and 439 of the CrPC.

Interim Bail: Bail granted for a temporary and short period by the Court till the application seeking Anticipatory Bail or Regular Bail is pending before a Court.

Anticipatory Bail: A direction issued to release a person on Bail even before the person is arrested. In this situation, there is apprehension of arrest and the person is not arrested before the Bail is granted.

Article 22 grants protection to persons who are arrested or detained. Detention is of two types, namely, punitive and preventive.

44. Recently, the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE) felicitated various industrial units, institutions and establishments with 31st National Energy Conservation Awards.

Consider the following statements regarding Bureau of Energy Efficiency: -

- (1) The BEE is a statutory body established through the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 under the Union Ministry of Power.
- (2) It assists in developing policies and strategies with the primary objective of reducing the energy intensity of the Indian economy.
- (3) BEE coordinates with designated consumers, designated agencies, and other organizations to identify and utilize the existing resources and infrastructure, in performing its functions.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The BEE is a statutory body established through the Energy Conservation Act, 2001 under the Union Ministry of Power. It assists in developing policies and strategies with the primary objective of reducing the energy intensity of the Indian economy. BEE coordinates with designated consumers, designated agencies, and other organizations to identify and utilize the existing resources and infrastructure, in performing its functions.

45. Recently, the President of India paid tributes to Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj.

Consider the following statements regarding to him: -

- (1) His father Shahaji Bhonsle was a Maratha general who held the jagirs of Pune.
- (2) Shivaji displayed his military zeal for the first time in 1645.
- (3) He successfully got control of the Torna Fort which was under Bijapur in 1629.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj was born on 19th February, 1630 at Shivneri Fort in District Pune in the present-day state of Maharashtra. He was born to Shahaji Bhonsle, a Maratha general who held the jagirs of Pune and Supe under the Bijapur Sultanate and Jijabai, a pious woman whose religious qualities had a profound influence on him. He displayed his military zeal for the first time in 1645 when as a teenager, he successfully got control of the Torna Fort which was under

Bijapur. He also acquired the Kondana Fort. Both these forts were under Adil Shah of Bijapur.

46. Recently, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has sanctioned Rs 2.26 Crores for various activities pertaining to Medaram Jathara 2022.

Consider the following statements regarding Koya Tribe -

(1) Koya tribe is the largest adivasi tribe of Meghalaya and listed as Scheduled Tribe in the state.

(2) The community is spread across Telugu speaking states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh.

(3) Koyas popularly call themselves as Dorala Sattam and Putta Dora.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Exp: Koya tribe is the largest adivasi tribe of Telangana and listed as Scheduled Tribe in Telangana. The community is spread across Telugu speaking states of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh. Koyas popularly call themselves as Dorala Sattam (Lords group) and Putta Dora (original lords). Koyas call themselves “Koitur” in their dialect, like Gonds.

47. Recently, three persons diagnosed with Lassa fever in the UK died. The cases have been linked to travel to west African countries.

Consider the following statements regarding Lassa Fever -

(1) The Lassa fever-causing virus is found in West Africa and was first discovered in 1969 in Lassa, Nigeria.

(2) Matomys rats has the potential to spread the deadly Lassa virus.

(3) The fever is primarily found in countries in West Africa.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The Lassa fever-causing virus is found in West Africa and was first discovered in 1969 in Lassa, Nigeria. The fever is spread by rats and is primarily found in countries in West Africa including Sierra Leone, Liberia, Guinea, and Nigeria where it is endemic. Matomys rats has the potential to spread the deadly Lassa virus. The death rate associated with this disease is low, at

around 1%. But the death rate is higher for certain individuals, such as pregnant women in their third trimester. According to the European Centre for Disease Prevention and Control, about 80% of the cases are asymptomatic and therefore remain undiagnosed.

48. Recently, the six-member Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) kept key policy rates – Repo rate, Reverse repo rate and the Bank rate – unchanged.

Consider the following statements regarding Monetary Policy Committee -

(1) It is a statutory and institutionalized framework under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

(2) The finance secretary is Chairman of the committee.

(3) The MPC determines the policy interest rate (repo rate) required to achieve the inflation target.

Which of the above is/are correct?
(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: Monetary Policy Committee is a statutory and institutionalized framework under the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934, for maintaining price stability, while keeping in mind the objective of growth. The Governor of RBI is ex-officio Chairman of the committee. The MPC determines the policy interest rate (repo rate) required to achieve the inflation target (4%). An RBI-appointed committee led by the then deputy governor Urjit Patel in 2014 recommended the establishment of the Monetary Policy Committee.

49. Recently, Maharashtra has signaled that it may opt out of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana Scheme.

Consider the following statements regarding Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana -

(1) It was launched in 2014 and is being administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare.

(2) It aims to provide a comprehensive insurance cover against the failure of the crop.

(3) The prescribed premium is 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all rabi crops.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Exp: Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana was launched in 2016 and is being administered by the Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare. It replaced the National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (NAIS) and Modified National Agricultural Insurance Scheme (MNAIS). Aim: To provide a comprehensive insurance cover against the failure of the crop thus helping in stabilising the income of the farmers. Scope: All food & oilseed crops and annual commercial/horticultural crops for which past yield data is available. Premium: The prescribed premium is 2% to be paid by farmers for all Kharif crops and 1.5% for all rabi crops. In the case of annual commercial and horticultural crops, the premium is 5%.

50. Recently, the liberation of Goa became a controversial topic during the political campaign in the election of Goa.

Consider the following statements regarding timeline of Integration of Goa into the Indian Union -

(1) Daman & Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli were integrated into India in 1961.

(2) Portugal had changed its constitution in 1951 to claim Goa not as a colonial possession.

(3) Indian Government launched Operation Blue to annexed Daman and Diu and Goa with the Indian

mainland.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Relations between India and Portugal began amicably in 1947 after India's independence and diplomatic relations were established in 1949. Bilateral relations however went into decline after 1950 over Portugal's refusal to surrender its enclaves of Goa, Daman and Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli on India's west coast. Daman & Diu and Dadra and Nagar Haveli were integrated into India in 1961. Portugal had changed its constitution in 1951 to claim Goa not as a colonial possession, but as an overseas province. In 1961, after the failure of diplomatic efforts with the Portuguese, the Indian Government launched Operation Vijay and annexed Daman and Diu and Goa with the Indian mainland on 19th December.

51. River Devika project, built at the cost of over Rs 190 crore, will be complete by June, 2022.

Consider the following statements regarding River Devika project -

(1) The work on the project was started in March 2019 under the National River Conservation Plan.

(2) Under the project, bathing "ghats" (places) on the banks of the Devika River will be developed.

(3) Devika river originates from the hilly Suddha Mahadev temple in Srinagar district of Jammu and Kashmir.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: The work on the project was started in March 2019 under the National River Conservation Plan (NRCP). Under the project, bathing "ghats" (places) on the banks of the Devika River will be developed, encroachments will be removed, natural water bodies will be restored and catchment areas will be developed along with cremation ground. Devika river originates from the hilly Suddha Mahadev temple in Udhampur district of Jammu and Kashmir and flows down towards western Punjab (now in Pakistan) where it merges with the Ravi river.

52. The Narcotics Control Bureau (NCB) launched a 'Darkathon' for cyber experts to find effective solutions to unravel the anonymity of markets in the dark web.

Consider the following statements regarding Darknet -

(1) Darknet is also known as a part of the "Deep Web".

(2) It is basically a layer of the Internet accessible only by using special software.

(3) These are recorded or indexed by commonly used search engines.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: The third layer of Internet is the darknet which is also known as a part of the 'Deep Web'. It is a network built over the internet which is encrypted. It is basically a layer of the Internet accessible only by using special software like Tor (The Onion Router), or I2P, which stands for Invisible Internet Project.

53. Recently, the Ministry of Home Affairs has recommended a ban on 54 Chinese mobile applications, including the popular game Garena Free Fire over concerns related to privacy and national security.

Consider the following statements regarding Juvenile Justice System -

(1) In India, a person below the age of 25 years is considered a juvenile.

(2) The juvenile is a minor who has committed some offence or needs care and protection.

(3) In India, any child below the age of 7 years cannot be convicted of any crime because of the doctrine of Doli incapax.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: The juvenile justice system concerns children who have conflicted with the law and need care and protection. In India, a person below the age of 18 years is considered a juvenile. Minor is a person who has not attained the age of full legal responsibility and the juvenile is a minor who has committed some offence or needs care and protection. In India, any child below the age of 7 years can not be convicted of any crime because of the doctrine of Doli incapax which means incapable of forming intent to commit a crime.

54. Recently, the Prime Minister addressed the The Energy and Resources Institute's (TERI) World Sustainable Development Summit.

Consider the following statements regarding World Sustainable Development Summit -

(1) The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship event of TERI.

(2) It was earlier known as Delhi Sustainable Development Summit.

(3) It is the only Summit on global issues, taking place in the developing world.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The World Sustainable Development Summit (WSDS) is the annual flagship event of TERI. It was earlier known as Delhi Sustainable Development Summit. It is the only Summit on global issues, taking place in the developing world. It has been conceptualized as a single

platform to accelerate action towards sustainable development and climate change. It aims to bring together global leaders and thinkers in the fields of sustainable development, energy and environment sectors on a common platform.

55. Recently, the Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Science & Technology released a draft foresight paper on synthetic biology.

Consider the following statements regarding Synthetic Biology -

(1) The term "synthetic biology" was first used by Barbara Hobomin in 1980.

(2) Synthetic biology enables scientists to design and synthesise new sequences of RNA from scratch.

(3) The term was used to describe the synthesis of unnatural organic molecules.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: The term 'synthetic biology' was first used by Barbara Hobomin in 1980, to describe bacteria that had been genetically engineered using recombinant DNA technology. Synthetic biology refers to the science of using genetic sequencing, editing, and modification to create unnatural organisms or organic molecules that can function in living systems. Synthetic biology enables scientists to design and synthesise new sequences of DNA from scratch. The term was used to describe the synthesis of unnatural organic molecules that function in living systems.

56. Recently, the Directorate General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry has banned the import of foreign drones.

Consider the following statements regarding Drone Shakti Scheme -

The Union Budget pushed for promotion of drones through startups and skilling at Industrial Training Institutes.

It is a layman terminology for Unmanned Aircraft (UA).

Drones will also be promoted for crop assessment, digitisation of land records, spraying of insecticides and nutrients.

(1)

(2)

(3)

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
 (C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The Union Budget pushed for promotion of drones through startups and skilling at Industrial Training Institutes (ITIs). Startups will be promoted to facilitate 'Drone Shakti' through varied applications and for Drone-As-A-Service (DrAAS). Courses for skilling will also be started in selected ITIs across all States. Drones will also be promoted for crop assessment, digitisation of land records, spraying of insecticides and nutrients. Drone is a layman terminology for Unmanned Aircraft (UA).

57. Recently, a US patient with leukemia has become the first woman to be cured of HIV after receiving a stem cell transplant.

Consider the following statements regarding Human Immunodeficiency Virus -

- (1) HIV is a blood cancer caused by a rise in the number of white blood cells in the body.
 (2) HIV attacks CD4, a type of White Blood Cell (T cells) in the body's immune system.
 (3) In a healthy body, CD4 count is between 500-1600.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
 (C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: Leukemia is a blood cancer caused by a rise in the number of white blood cells in the body. AIDS is a set of symptoms or syndrome caused by HIV. But it is not necessary that a person infected with HIV will definitely develop AIDS. HIV attacks CD4, a type of White Blood Cell (T cells) in the body's immune system. The CD4 count of a person infected with HIV reduces significantly. In a healthy body, CD4 count is between 500-1600, but in an infected body, it can go as low as 200.

58. An First Information Report (FIR) is a very important document as it sets the process of criminal justice in motion.

Consider the following statements regarding FIR -

- (1) FIR is a written document prepared by the police of a cognizable offence.
 (2) The term FIR is defined in the Indian Penal Code.

(3) It is generally a complaint lodged with the police by the victim of a cognizable offence or by someone on his/her behalf.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
 (C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: First Information Report (FIR) is a written document prepared by the police when they receive information about the commission of a cognizable offence. It is a report of information that reaches the police first in point of time and that is why it is called the First Information Report. It is generally a complaint lodged with the police by the victim of a cognizable offence or by someone on his/her behalf. Anyone can report the commission of a cognizable offence either orally or in writing. The term FIR is not defined in the Indian Penal Code (IPC), Code of Criminal Procedure (CrPC), 1973, or in any other law.

59. The Government has approved the scheme of Rashtriya Uchchatar Shiksha Abhiyan (RUSA) for continuation till 31st March 2026 or till further review, whichever is earlier.

Consider the following statements regarding RUSA -

- (1) It is the centrally sponsored scheme launched in October 2013.
 (2) It aims at providing strategic funding to higher education institutions throughout the country.
 (3) The funding flows from the Ministry of Education through the state governments/union territories.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
 (C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: RUSA is the centrally sponsored scheme launched in October 2013 that aims at providing strategic funding to higher education institutions throughout the country. The central funding (in the ratio of 60:40 for general category States, 90:10 for special category states and 100% for union territories) is norm based and outcome dependent. The funding flows from the Ministry of Education through the state governments/union territories to the State Higher Education Councils before reaching the identified institutions.

60. Recently, the central government approved the implementation of Phase II of the Inter-Operable Criminal Justice System (ICJS) project by the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Consider the following statements regarding National Crime Records Bureau -

(1) NCRB, headquartered in New Delhi, was set-up in 1986.

(2) It works under Ministry of Law and Justice.

(3) It was set up based on the recommendations of the National Police Commission.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: NCRB, headquartered in New Delhi, was set-up in 1986 under the Ministry of Home Affairs to function as a repository of information on crime and criminals so as to assist the investigators in linking crime to the perpetrators. It was set up based on the recommendations of the National Police Commission (1977-1981) and the MHA's Task Force (1985).

61. Recently, the Ministry of Power has notified Green Hydrogen/Green Ammonia Policy for production of Green Hydrogen or Green Ammonia using renewable sources of energy.

Consider the following statements regarding Type of hydrogen -

(1) Green hydrogen is produced by electrolysis of water using renewable energy.

(2) Brown hydrogen is produced using coal.

(3) Grey hydrogen is produced from natural gas, where the emissions are captured.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Type of hydrogen depend up on the process of its formation:

Green hydrogen is produced by electrolysis of water using renewable energy (like Solar, Wind) and has a lower carbon footprint.

Electricity splits water into hydrogen and oxygen. By Products: Water, Water Vapor.

Brown hydrogen is produced using coal where the emissions are released to the air.

Grey hydrogen is produced from natural gas where the associated emissions are released to the air.

Blue hydrogen is produced from natural gas, where the emissions are captured using carbon capture and storage.

62. Recently, the Tamil Nadu Government has made clear to the Supreme Court that it does not want the Indian Neutrino Observatory (INO) to be set up in Eco-Sensitive Zones in the Western Ghats.

Consider the following statements regarding Indian Neutrino Observatory -

(1) It is a proposed particle physics research mega project.

(2) The objective of the project was to study neutrinos in a 1,200-metre deep cave.

(3) The project is proposed to be set up at Pottipuram village in Theni district in Tamil Nadu.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Indian Neutrino Observatory is a proposed particle physics research mega project. The objective of the project was to study neutrinos in a 1,200-metre deep cave. The project is proposed to be set up at Pottipuram village in Theni district in Tamil Nadu. The project was initially mooted by the Institute of Mathematical Sciences and then by the Tata Institute of Fundamental Research.

63. Eco-Sensitive Zones are areas within 10 kms around Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

Consider the following statements regarding Eco-Sensitive Zones

(1) Eco-Sensitive Zones or Ecologically Fragile Areas are areas within 10 kms around Protected Areas.

(2) ESZs are notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), under Environment Protection Act, 1990.

(3) The basic aim is to regulate certain activities around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Eco-Sensitive Zones or Ecologically Fragile Areas are areas within 10 kms around Protected Areas, National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries. In case of places with sensitive corridors,

connectivity and ecologically important patches, crucial for landscape linkage, even areas beyond 10 km width can be included in the eco-sensitive zone. ESZs are notified by the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC), under Environment Protection Act, 1986.

The basic aim is to regulate certain activities around National Parks and Wildlife Sanctuaries so as to minimise the negative impacts of such activities on the fragile ecosystem encompassing the protected areas.

64. Recently, a report, titled Global Methane Assessment: Benefits and Costs of Mitigating Methane Emissions suggested that the world needs to dramatically cut methane emissions to avoid the worst of climate change.

Consider the following statements regarding Methane -

(1) Methane is gas that is found in small quantities in Earth's atmosphere.

(2) Methane is the complex hydrocarbon.

(3) Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: Methane is gas that is found in small quantities in Earth's atmosphere. Methane is the simplest hydrocarbon, consisting of one carbon atom and four hydrogen atoms (CH₄). Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas. It is flammable, and is used as a fuel worldwide.

Methane is produced by the breakdown or decay of organic material and can be introduced into the atmosphere by either natural processes – such as the decay of plant material in wetlands, the seepage of gas from underground deposits or the digestion of food by cattle – or human activities – such as oil and gas production, rice farming or waste management.

65. Recently, Foreign Ministers from the Group of Seven (G7) countries (USA, UK, Canada, France, Germany, Italy and Japan) held a meeting in London, UK.

Consider the following statements regarding G7 -

(1) It is an intergovernmental organisation that was formed in 1975.

(2) The bloc meets annually to discuss issues of common interest like global economic governance.

(3) The G7 does not have a formal constitution but it is headquartered at Paris.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: Group of Seven (G7) is an intergovernmental organisation that was formed in 1975. The bloc meets annually to discuss issues of common interest like global economic governance, international security and energy policy. The G7 does not have a formal constitution or a fixed headquarters. The decisions taken by leaders during annual summits are non-binding.

66. Recently, the Supreme Court (SC) dismissed a plea by the Election Commission of India (ECI) to restrain media from reporting oral observations of the judges.

Consider the following statements regarding Election Commission of India -

(1) It is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India.

(2) It was established in accordance with the constitution on 25th January 1950.

(3) Part X of the Indian Constitution deals with elections, and establishes a commission for these matters.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Election Commission of India is an autonomous constitutional authority responsible for administering Union and State election processes in India. It was established in accordance with the constitution on 25th January 1950 (celebrated as national voters' day). The secretariat of the commission is located in New Delhi. Part XV (Article 324-329) of the Indian Constitution deals with elections, and establishes a commission for these matters.

67. Recently, the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) has released its Annual Frontiers Report named Noise, Blazes and Mismatches.

Consider the following statements regarding United Nations Environment Programme -

- (1) The UNEP is a leading global environmental authority established on 5th June 1965.
- (2) It works to identify and draw attention to emerging issues of environmental concern.
- (3) Major Reports Are Emission Gap Report, Adaptation Gap Report, Global Environment Outlook.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Exp: The UNEP is a leading global environmental authority established on 5th June 1972. It works to identify and draw attention to emerging issues of environmental concern. Functions: It sets the global environmental agenda, promotes the sustainable development within the United Nations system, and serves as an authoritative advocate for global environment protection. Major Reports: Emission Gap Report, Adaptation Gap Report, Global Environment Outlook, Frontiers, Invest into Healthy Planet. Major Campaigns: Beat Pollution, UN75, World Environment Day, Wild for Life. Headquarters: Nairobi, Kenya.

68. Recently, the UNEP has released its Annual Frontiers Report 10 days ahead of the UN Environment Assembly.

Consider the following statements regarding United Nations Environment Assembly -

- (1) It is the governing body of the UN Environment Programme.
- (2) It is the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment.
- (3) It meets annually to set priorities for global environmental policies.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA) is the governing body of the UN Environment Programme. It is the world's highest-level decision-making body on the environment. It meets biennially to set priorities for global environmental policies and develop international environmental law. It was created in June 2012, during the United Nations Conference on

Sustainable Development, also referred to as RIO+20.

69. Recently, the Centre has extended the PM Cares for Children Scheme till 28th February 2022, which was earlier valid till 31st December 2021.

Consider the following statements regarding PM-CARES for Children Scheme -

- (1) The scheme was launched on 29th May, 2021.
- (2) The objective is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of children in a sustained manner.
- (3) The scheme offers a corpus of Rs 10 lakh to each of these children from the PM CARES fund.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The scheme was launched on 29th May, 2021 with the aim to support children who lost both or surviving parent(s), legal guardian/adoptive parents or single adoptive parent to Covid-19. The status of children in need of care and protection included orphans (10,094), lost either parent (1,36,910) and abandoned (488) taking the total to 1,47,492. The objective is to ensure comprehensive care and protection of children in a sustained manner, enable their wellbeing through health insurance, empower them through education and equip them for self-sufficient existence with financial support on reaching 23 years of age. The scheme offers a corpus of Rs 10 lakh to each of these children from the PM CARES fund.

70. Recently, the Union Cabinet set in motion the process to build a Secretariat that will look after the affairs of organising the G20 summit in 2023.

Consider the following statements regarding G20 -

- (1) It is an informal group of 19 countries and the European Union.
- (2) It does not have a permanent secretariat or Headquarters.
- (3) Argentina, Australia and Taiwan are also member of G20.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: G20 is an informal group of 19 countries and the European Union (EU), with representatives of the

International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. It does not have a permanent secretariat or Headquarters. The membership comprises a mix of the world's largest advanced and emerging economies, representing about two-thirds of the world's population, 85% of global Gross Domestic Product (GDP), 80% of global investment and over 75% of global trade. Its members are Argentina, Australia, Brazil, Canada, China, France, Germany, India, Indonesia, Italy, Japan, Republic of Korea, Mexico, Russia, Saudi Arabia, South Africa, Turkey, the United Kingdom, the United States and the EU.

71. Recently, the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru installed the supercomputer "Param Pravega".

Consider the following statements regarding Supercomputer -

- (1) PETAFL0P is a measure of a Supercomputer's processing speed.
- (2) China has the maximum number of supercomputers.
- (3) India's first supercomputer was PARAM 2000.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: A supercomputer is a computer that performs at or near the currently highest operational rate for computers. Generally, PETAFL0P is a measure of a Supercomputer's processing speed and can be expressed as a thousand trillion floating point operations per second. FLOPS (floating point operations per second) are typically used to measure the performance of a computer's processor. Using floating-point encoding, extremely long numbers can be handled relatively easily. Supercomputers are primarily designed to be used in enterprises and organizations that require massive computing power. For example: weather forecasting, scientific research, intelligence gathering and analysis, data mining etc. Globally, China has the maximum number of supercomputers and maintains the top position in the world, followed by the US, Japan, France, Germany, Netherlands, Ireland and the United Kingdom. India's first supercomputer was PARAM 8000.

72. Recently, a joint team of scientists from Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi, for the first time in the country.

Consider the following statements regarding Quantum Key Distribution Technology -

- (1) QKD, also called Quantum Cryptography, is a mechanism to develop secure communication.
- (2) Cryptography is the study of secure communications techniques.
- (3) Cryptographic algorithms and protocols are necessary to keep a system secure.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: QKD, also called Quantum Cryptography, is a mechanism to develop secure communication. It provides a way of distributing and sharing secret keys that are necessary for cryptographic protocols. Cryptography is the study of secure communications techniques that allow only the sender and intended recipient of a message to view its contents. Cryptographic algorithms and protocols are necessary to keep a system secure, particularly when communicating through an untrusted network such as the Internet. The conventional cryptosystems used for data-encryption rely on the complexity of mathematical algorithms, whereas the security offered by quantum communication is based on the laws of Physics.

73. Recently, the World Economic Forum and the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) signed a MoU to collaborate on a jointly designed 'Sustainable Cities India program'.

Consider the following regarding NIUA -

- (1) NIUA is India's leading national think tank on urban planning and development.
- (2) NIUA was established in 1960.
- (3) NIUA seeks to provide innovative solutions to address the challenges of a fast urbanizing India.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: NIUA - Established in 1976, the National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA) is India's leading national think tank on urban planning and development. As a hub for the generation and

dissemination of cutting-edge research in the urban sector, NIUA seeks to provide innovative solutions to address the challenges of a fast urbanizing India, and pave the way for more inclusive and sustainable cities of the future.

74. Saltwater Crocodiles (*Crocodylus porosus*), used to be found in Vietnam and southern China, became extinct in these areas due to human activity.

Consider the following statements regarding Saltwater Crocodile -

(1) It is the largest of the 23 species of 'extant' or living crocodilians.

(2) This includes 'true crocodiles', alligators and caimans.

(3) The saltie is also called the 'estuarine crocodile'.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Saltwater Crocodile is the largest of the 23 species of 'extant' or living crocodilians. This includes 'true crocodiles', alligators and caimans. The saltie is also called the 'estuarine crocodile' and as the name suggests, is typically found in the brackish water of estuaries. It can also tolerate saltwater in the oceans and can travel long distances over the open ocean, making use of tidal currents.

75. Indian President will inaugurate a year-long celebration of the 400th birth anniversary of Lachit Borphukan.

Consider the following statements regarding Lachit Borphukan -

(1) Borphukan was known for his leadership in the Battle of Saraighat, 1671.

(2) The Lachit Borphukan gold medal is awarded to the best cadet from the National Defence Academy.

(3) The medal was instituted in 2006 to inspire defence personnel.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Lachit Borphukan -

Born on 24th November, 1622, Borphukan was known for his leadership in the Battle of Saraighat,

1671 in which an attempt by Mughal forces to capture Assam was thwarted.

He was the inspiration behind strengthening India's naval force and revitalising inland water transport and creating infrastructure associated with it due to his great naval strategies.

The Lachit Borphukan gold medal is awarded to the best cadet from the National Defence Academy.

The medal was instituted in 1999 to inspire defence personnel to emulate Borphukan's heroism and sacrifices.

He died on 25th April, 1672.

76. Recently, violation of the US' Digital Millennium Copyright Act (DMCA) 1998 was in news recently.

Consider the following statements regarding World Intellectual Property Organisation -

(1) It is one of the oldest specialized agencies of the United Nations.

(2) It was created in 1955 to encourage creative activity, to promote the protection of IP throughout the world.

(3) It currently administers 26 international treaties.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: World Intellectual Property Organisation is one of the oldest specialised agencies of the United Nations. It was created in 1967 to encourage creative activity, to promote the protection of IP throughout the world. It currently administers 26 international treaties. Some of the major treaties are: Budapest Treaty, Paris Convention, Berne Convention, Washington Treaty, Nairobi Treaty, Marrakesh Treaty.

77. A cut in small savings rates at this point would further hurt households amid a surge in inflation, according to economists.

Consider the following statements regarding Rate of Return and Inflation -

(1) The real rate of return is calculated by subtracting the inflation rate from the return on investment.

(2) Inflation has the power to erode a person's annual rate of return.

(3) Rate of return is indicative of the decrease in the purchasing power of a unit of a country's currency.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: The rate of return is the expected or desired amount of money a person receives from an investment in a savings account, mutual fund or bond. The real rate of return is the return on investment after adjusting for the rate of inflation. It is calculated by subtracting the inflation rate from the return on investment. Inflation refers to the rise in the prices of most goods and services of daily or common use, such as food, clothing, housing, recreation, transport, consumer staples, etc.

78. According to the supreme court of India, A disabled particular person can avail the advantage of reservation for promotion even when she or he was recruited within the common class or developed the incapacity after gaining employment.

Consider the following statements regarding Right of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 -

- (1) It fulfills the obligations to the United National Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.
(2) Disability has been defined based on an evolving and dynamic concept.
(3) The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities and the State Commissioners act as regulatory bodies.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Right of Persons with Disabilities Act 2016 fulfills the obligations to the United National Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UNCRPD), to which India is a signatory. Disability has been defined based on an evolving and dynamic concept. The types of disabilities have been increased from 7 to 21. The Chief Commissioner for Persons with Disabilities and the State Commissioners will act as regulatory bodies and Grievance Redressal agencies, monitoring implementation of the Act.

79. Recently, LIGO Scientific Collaboration (LSC) has made the discovery of gravitational waves from a pair of neutron star-black hole (NS-BH) mergers.

Consider the following statements regarding Neutron Stars -

- (1) Neutron stars comprise one of the possible evolutionary end-points of high mass stars.
(2) Once the core of the star has completely burned to iron, it turns into red giant star.
(3) A star supported by neutron degeneracy pressure is known as a 'neutron star'

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: Neutron stars comprise one of the possible evolutionary end-points of high mass stars. Once the core of the star has completely burned to iron, energy production stops and the core rapidly collapses, squeezing electrons and protons together to form neutrons and neutrinos. A star supported by neutron degeneracy pressure is known as a "neutron star", which may be seen as a pulsar if its magnetic field is favourably aligned with its spin axis.

80. The United Nations to convene a high-level dialogue (HLD) in September, 2021 to promote the implementation of the energy-related goals.

Consider the following statements regarding UN-Energy -

- (1) UN-Energy was established by the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination.
(2) It was established in 2010.
(3) It seeks to act to support countries in achieving SDG7 and the interrelated goals of the Paris Climate Agend.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: UN-Energy was established by the UN System Chief Executives Board for Coordination (CEB) in 2004 as the United Nations' mechanism for inter-agency collaboration in the field of energy. It seeks to act to support countries in achieving SDG7 and the interrelated goals of the Paris Climate Agenda and the broader SDG agenda.

81. Recently, the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) decided to felicitate around 54,000 taxpayers to mark the competition of 4 years of Goods and Services Tax (GST).

Consider the following statements regarding GST Council -

- (1) It is a constitutional body under article 279A.
- (2) It makes recommendations to the Union and State Government both.
- (3) The GST Council is chaired by the finance secretary.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: GST Council is a constitutional body (Article 279A) for making recommendations to the Union and State Government on issues related to GST. The GST Council is chaired by the Union Finance Minister and other members are the Union State Minister of Revenue or Finance and Ministers in-charge of Finance or Taxation of all the States. It is considered as a federal body where both the centre and the states get due representation.

82. Recently, the Shiromani Gurdwara Parbandhak Committee (SGPC) commemorated the first entry of a police force inside the Golden Temple on 4th July, 1955 during the Punjab Suba movement (Morcha).

Consider the following statements regarding Formation of Punjab -

- (1) With the passage of the Punjab Reorganization Act 1966, Haryana was separated from Punjab in 1966.
- (2) After that, Haryana becomes the 19th state of India.
- (3) The city of Chandigarh became a Union territory to serve as the provisional capital of both the Punjab and Haryana.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: Formation of Punjab:

With the passage of the Punjab Reorganization Act 1966 (and in accordance with the earlier recommendations of the States Reorganization Commission), Haryana was separated from Punjab in 1966 to become the 17th state of India.

And the erstwhile state of East Punjab was now divided into two states that is Haryana and Punjab. Some territory was also transferred to Himachal Pradesh, then a Union territory.

And the city of Chandigarh became a Union territory to serve as the provisional capital of both the Punjab and Haryana.

83. The "Last Ice Area" (LIA), located in the Arctic's Ice north of Greenland, has started melting earlier than what the scientists had expected.

Consider the following statements regarding Last Ice Area -

(1) This region is located north of Greenland and Ellesmere Island.

(2) This area was believed to be strong enough to withstand global warming.

(3) World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-Canada was the first to call this area the "Last Ice Area".

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Last Ice Area region is located north of Greenland and Ellesmere Island in the Canadian territory of Nunavut. This area was believed to be strong enough to withstand global warming. The total disappearance of summer ice in the Arctic was estimated by the year 2040, however the 'Last Ice Area' was the exception. World Wildlife Fund (WWF)-Canada was believed to be the first to call this area the "Last Ice Area".

84. According to the recent data from the Reserve Bank of India, India's Foreign Exchange (Forex) Reserves surged by \$ 5 billion to \$ 609 billion in the week ended 25th June, 2021.

Consider the following statements regarding Foreign Currency Assets -

(1) A reserve tranche position implies a portion of the required quota of currency.

(2) Each member country must provide to the IMF that can be utilized for its own purposes.

(3) The reserve tranche is basically an emergency account that IMF members can access at any time.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: A reserve tranche position implies a portion of the required quota of currency each member country

must provide to the IMF that can be utilized for its own purposes. The reserve tranche is basically an emergency account that IMF members can access at any time without agreeing to conditions or paying a service fee.

85. Recently, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) pushed back against a plan by the Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC+) Plus group.

Consider the following statements regarding Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries -

- (1) It is a temporary, intergovernmental organization.
- (2) It was created at the Baghdad Conference in 1960.
- (3) It aims to manage the supply of oil in an effort to set the price of oil in the world market.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (C)

Exp: Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries is a permanent, intergovernmental organization, created at the Baghdad Conference in 1960, by Iran, Iraq, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, and Venezuela. It aims to manage the supply of oil in an effort to set the price of oil in the world market, in order to avoid fluctuations that might affect the economies of both producing and purchasing countries.

86. India and the majority of the members of OECD-G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) have joined a new two-pillar plan to reform international taxation rules. Consider the following statements regarding Base Erosion and Profit Shifting -

- (1) BEPS is a term used to describe tax planning strategies.
- (2) It is done to minimize the indirect tax.
- (3) It shifts profits to low tax jurisdictions where there is little or no genuine activity.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)
(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) is a term used to describe tax planning strategies that exploit mismatches and gaps that exist between

the tax rules of different jurisdictions. It is done to minimize the corporation tax that is payable overall, by either making tax profits "disappear" or shift profits to low tax jurisdictions where there is little or no genuine activity.

87. The Ministry of Education has launched NIPUN (National Initiative for Proficiency in Reading with Understanding and Numeracy) Bharat Scheme.

Consider the following constitutional provisions regarding Education in India -

(1) Article 45 and Article 39 (f) of Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), has a provision for state-funded as well as equitable and accessible education.

(2) The 42nd Amendment to the Constitution in 1976 moved education from the State to the Concurrent List.

(3) The 86th Amendment in 2002 made education an enforceable right under Article 21-A.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)
(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Constitutional Provisions for Education in India: Part IV of Indian Constitution, Article 45 and Article 39 (f) of Directive Principles of State Policy (DPSP), has a provision for state-funded as well as equitable and accessible education.

The 42nd Amendment to the Constitution in 1976 moved education from the State to the Concurrent List.

The 86th Amendment in 2002 made education an enforceable right under Article 21-A.

88. Every year, 4th July is observed as the death anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, who is regarded as a one of the finest spiritual leaders and intellects India has produced.

Consider the following statements related to him -

(1) National Youth Day is held every year to observe the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

(2) In 1893, upon the request of Maharaja Ajit Singh of the Khetri State, he took the name "Vivekananda."

(3) He is best known for his speech at the World Parliament of Religion in New York in 1893.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (2) and (1)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Swami Vivekananda was born as Narendranath Datta on 12th January, 1863. He was best known for his speech at the World Parliament of Religion in Chicago in 1893. National Youth Day is held every year to observe the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda. In 1893, upon the request of Maharaja Ajit Singh of the Khetri State, he took the name "Vivekananda."

89. The UK India Business Council (UKIBC) has released a report titled "Road to a UK-India Free Trade Agreement: Enhancing the Partnership and Achieving Self-reliance".

Consider the following statements regarding Atmanirbhar Bharat Programme -

(1) The programme was launched by the Prime Minister in May 2020.

(2) The announced economic package was 10% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2019-20.

(3) The package is focus only on Economy. Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (3) (B) Only (1) and (2)

(C) Only (3) and (2) (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: Atmanirbhar Bharat Programme was launched by the Prime Minister in May 2020 with an economic stimulus package - worth Rs 20 lakh crores aimed towards achieving self-reliance. The announced economic package was 10% of India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in 2019-20. The package is expected to focus on land, labour, liquidity and laws.

90. According to the Central Pollution Control Board's (CPCB) Annual Report on Implementing the Plastic Waste Management Rules, 2016, the plastic waste generated in 2018-19 was 3.3 million tonnes per year (roughly 9,200 tonnes per day).

Consider the following statements regarding Central Pollution Control Board -

(1) CPCB is a statutory organisation which was constituted in September, 1974.

(2) This was constituted under the Environment (Protection) Act-1986.

(3) It was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (1) and (2) (B) Only (2) and (3)

(C) Only (3) and (1) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: Central Pollution Control Board is a statutory organisation which was constituted in September, 1974 under the Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974. It was entrusted with the powers and functions under the Air (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1981. It also provides technical services to the Ministry of Environment and Forest and Climate Change of the provisions of the Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.

91. Recently, a Unified Portal of Gobardhan has been launched to ensure smooth implementation of Biogas schemes/initiatives and their real time tracking.

Consider the following statements regarding gas laws-

(I) Boyle's law of gas denoted as $P_1V_1 = P_2V_2$.

(II) The equation $V \propto T$ was given by Charles.

(III) $PV=nRT$ is the general gas equation obtained by combining three gas laws.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (I) and (III) (B) Only (II) and (I)

(C) Only (III) and (II) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Boyle's law gives the relationship between the pressure of a gas and the volume of the gas at a constant temperature.

$P_1V_1 = P_2V_2$

Charles's law states that at constant pressure, the volume of a gas is directly proportional to the temperature (in Kelvin) in a closed system. Mathematically, Charles's law can be expressed as $V \propto T$

Ideal gases are also known as a perfect gas. It establishes a relationship among the four different gas variables such as pressure (P), Volume(V), Temperature(T) and amount of gas (n).

Mathematically Ideal gas law is expressed as - $PV=nRT$

92. Team of NTPC Limited, the Central PSU under Ministry of Power, has won the All India Management Association (AIMA) Chanakya (Business Simulation Game) National Management Games (NMG) 2020.

Consider the following statements regarding to the same:

(I) NTPC Limited, formerly known as National Thermal Power Corporation Limited is an Indian Public Sector Undertaking.

(II) All India Management Association (AIMA) is a national apex body of the management profession in India.

(III) All India Management Association (AIMA) was established in 1957.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (I) and (III) (B) Only (I) and (II)
(C) Only (III) and (II) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Team of NTPC Limited, the Central PSU under Ministry of Power, has won the All India Management Association (AIMA) Chanakya (Business Simulation Game) National Management Games (NMG) 2020. NTPC Limited, formerly known as National Thermal Power Corporation Limited is an Indian Public Sector Undertaking. All India Management Association (AIMA) is a national apex body of the management profession in India. NTPC Limited is a company incorporated under the Companies Act 1956 and is promoted by the Government of India. All India Management Association (AIMA) was established in 1957. Gurdeep Singh is the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of NTPC Limited.

93. According to a report by Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), the number of registered unrecognised political parties has increased two-fold from 2010 to 2019.

Consider the following statements regarding Association for Democratic Reforms -

- (I) It is an Indian non-governmental organization.
(II) It was established in 1999.
(III) It headquartered at Mumbai.

- (A) Only (I) and (II) (B) Only (II) and (III)
(C) Only (III) and (I) (D) All are correct

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Association for Democratic Reforms is an Indian non-partisan, non-governmental organization which works in the area of electoral and political reforms. ADR is an Indian non-governmental organization established in 1999 situated in New Delhi.

94. The “International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation” was observed on 6 February.

Consider the following statements regarding important days –

(I) National De-worming Day is observed on 10th of February every year.

(II) To raise awareness about the importance of Radio, World Radio Day is celebrated on 12th of February every year.

(III) International Mother Language Day was first announced by UNESCO.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (I) and (III) (B) Only (II) and (I)
(C) Only (III) and (II) (D) None of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: National De-worming Day is observed on 10th of February every year.

World Radio Day is celebrated on 13 February to raise awareness about the importance of Radio. In several countries, it is the primary source for providing information.

International Mother Language Day is celebrated annually on 21 February worldwide to aware of the diversity of the language and its variety. This was first announced by UNESCO.

95. Recently, rules have been amended by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) to put cap on trans fatty acids (TFAs) in the food products.

Consider the following statements regarding FSSAI -

(I) It is an autonomous body that works under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare.

(II) The chairperson is appointed by the Central Government.

(III) It was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (I) and (III) (B) Only (I) and (II)
(C) Only (III) and (II) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) is an autonomous body that works under the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare. It was established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006. The body is responsible for protecting and promoting the public health by the regulation and supervision of food safety. It is headed by a

non-executive Chairperson. The chairperson is appointed by the Central Government.

96. The space industry of Russia announced that the country is going to launch 40 satellites into orbit from 18 different countries of the world in March 2021.

Consider the following statements regarding satellites -

(I) Astronomical Satellites are used for the observation of distant stars and other objects in space.

(II) Earth Observation Satellites are used for observing the earth's surface and as a result they are often termed geographical satellites.

(III) Reconnaissance Satellites are able to see objects on the ground and are accordingly used for military purposes.

(A) Only (I) and (II) (B) Only (II) and (III)
(C) Only (III) and (I) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: Astronomical Satellites are used for the observation of distant stars and other objects in space. India's envisioned ASTROSAT is an Astronomical satellite. The most famous astronomical satellite is the Hubble Telescope.

Earth Observation Satellites are used for observing the earth's surface and as a result they are often termed geographical satellites. India's IRS and RESOURCESAT are part of this.

Reconnaissance Satellites are able to see objects on the ground and are accordingly used for military purposes. As such their performance and operation is kept secret and not publicized. DRONES are part of reconnaissance system.

97. The Russian media recently reported the discovery of a well-preserved Ice Age woolly rhino in Siberia.

Consider the following statement regarding "woolly rhino"-

(I) The woolly rhinoceros was a member of the Pleistocene megafauna.

(II) The scientific name of woolly rhino is *Coelodonta antiquitatis*.

(III) These had two horns.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (I) and (II) (B) Only (II) and (III)
(C) Only (III) and (I) (D) All are correct

Ans: (D)

Exp: The woolly rhinoceros was a member of the Pleistocene megafauna.

The scientific name of woolly rhino is *Coelodonta antiquitatis*.

These had two horns.

98. The World Food Price Index, which measures monthly changes for a basket of cereals, dairy products, oilseeds, meat and sugar, rose in December 2020 for the seventh month in a row.

Consider the following statement regarding the World Food Price Index-

(I) The World Food Price index was averaged at 97.9 points for the whole of 2020.

(II) It was introduced in 1986 for the first time.

(III) It helps in monitoring developments in the global agricultural commodity markets.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (I) and (II) (B) Only (II) and (III)
(C) Only (III) and (I) (D) All are correct

Ans: (C)

Exp: The World Food Price index averaged 97.9 points for the whole of 2020, which is a three-year high and a 3.1 percent increase from 2019. It was introduced in 1996 as a public good to help in monitoring developments in the global agricultural commodity markets. The FAO Food Price Index (FFPI) is a measure of the monthly change in international prices of a basket of food commodities.

99. Shivalik Mercantile Co-operative Bank- SMCB has become the first Co-operative bank of India to transition to a Small Finance Bank..

Consider the following statement regarding in context to Co-operative Bank -

(I) They are broadly classified into Urban, Rural and Regional co-operative banks based on their region of operation.

(II) They could be registered under the Co-operative Societies Act of the State concerned

(III) They could be registered under the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002.

Which of the above is/are correct?

(A) Only (I) and (II) (B) Only (II) and (III)
(C) Only (III) and (I) (D) All are correct

Ans: (B)

Exp: A Co-operative bank is a financial entity which belongs to its members, who are at the same time the owners and the customers of their bank. It is distinct from commercial banks.

They are broadly classified into Urban and Rural co-operative banks based on their region of operation.

They are registered under the Co-operative Societies Act of the State concerned or under the Multi-State Co-operative Societies Act, 2002.

- 100.** A massive rally was organised by the Kuruba community to urge the state government of Karnataka to recommend the Centre inclusion of the community in the Scheduled Tribe (ST) list. Consider the following statements regarding Kuruba -

(I) The Kurubas of Karnataka are a traditional sheep rearing community.

(II) Presently, the Kurubas come under the backward classes category.

(III) Other name of Kurubas in Maharashtra state is known by Rabaris.

Which of the above is/are correct?

- (A) Only (I) and (III) (B) Only (II) and (I)
(C) Only (III) and (II) (D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Kurubas of Karnataka are a traditional sheep rearing community. Presently, the Kurubas constitute 9.3% of the state's population and come under the backward classes category. Kurubas are the fourth largest caste in Karnataka after the Lingayats, Vokkaligas and Muslims. Kurubas in other states are known by different names – as Dhangers in Maharashtra, Rabaris or Raikas in Gujarat, Dewasis in Rajasthan and Gadarias in Haryana.

- 101.** Consider the following statements:

1. The capital of Anga Mahajanapada was Champa.

2. Shravasti was the capital of the Kaushal Mahajanapada.

3. Kaushambi was the capital of the Kuru Mahajanapada.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 1 and 2 only
(C) 1 and 3 only (D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (B)

Exp: Kosala (Kosala) was one of the 16 Mahajanapadas of ancient India. Its area was near modern Gorakhpur. Its first capital was Shravasti. In ancient times, there were 16 Mahajanapadas in India. One of those 16 was Kuru district. This

Kuru district was ruled by the descendants of Yayati's son Kuru, who was known as the Kauravas. The district of Kuru is mentioned from the later Vedic era. Its capital was Hastinapur, which was situated on the banks of the Ganges near Garhmukteshwar. Most of the Upanishads and Brahmins were composed in the Kuru Panchal regions.

- 102.** Consider the following statements:

1. Rajpur was the capital of the Kamboja Mahajanapada.

2. Kushavati/Kushinagar was the capital of the Malla Mahajanapada.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: The capital of malla was Kushinagar, Pawa. It covered the modern districts of Deoria, Basti, Gorakhpur in Eastern Uttar Pradesh. and Rajpura was the capital of the Kamboja Mahajanapad.

- 103.** Consider the following statements:

1. Matsya Mahajanapada was the area around modern Jaipur.

2. Chedi Mahajanapada was the area around modern Allahabad.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C) *edge above others...*

Matsya Mahajanapada was the area around modern Jaipur. Chedi Mahajanapada was the area around modern-day Bundelkhand province. Its capital was Suktimati.

- 104.** Consider the following statements:

1. During the period of Mahmud Ghaznavi, Firdausi composed Shahnama.

2. The famous scholar in the court of Mahmud Gaznavi was the Utabi.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Mahmud of Ghazni (998–1030), who had succeeded in gaining power over eastern Iran

and modern-day Afghanistan by the end of the tenth century. Firdausi composed Shahnama. The famous scholar in the court of Mahmud Gaznavi was the Utabi.

105. Consider the following statements:

1. According to Coriolis, the direction of wind is affected by centrifugal force and the centripetal force.

2. Earth's deflecting force is not the same everywhere. It is the minimum on the equator and maximum at the poles.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (D)

Exp: According to Coriolis, the direction of wind is affected by centrifugal force and the centripetal force. The amount of deflection varies with latitude, the speed of the object and the rotation of the earth. The deflection is greatest at the poles and decreases to zero at the equator. The Coriolis Effect can be seen in action in the general circulation of the atmosphere.

106. Consider the following statements:

1. India's standard Meridian line 82 (1/20) east longitudes have been considered. This passes through Allahabad (Prayagraj).

2. India's total Longitude expansion is approximately 300.

3. India's standard time is 5 hours 30 minutes ahead of Greenwich standard time.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 1 and 2 only
(C) 1 and 3 only (D) 1, 2 and 3

Ans: (D)

Exp: 82° 30' East longitude is taken as the Standard Time Meridian of India or reference letters longitude for IST, as it passes through the middle of India (from Mirzapur, near Allahabad). Indian Standard Meridian (82°30'E meridian) passes through UP, MP, Chhatisgarh, Orissa and Andhra Pradesh.

The country is situated north of the equator between 8°04' to 37°06' north latitude and 68°07' to 97°25' east longitude. (30 longitude APPROX.) India Standard Time (IST) is 5:30 hours (5 hours 30 minutes) ahead of Greenwich Mean Time.

Indian Standard Time was adopted on 1 September 1947.

107. Consider the following statements:

1. Jelep La connects Sikkim with Tibet.

2. Bara-lacha la connects Himachal Pradesh to Leh.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Jelep La or Jelep Pass elevation 4,267 m or 13,999 ft, is a high mountain pass between East Sikkim District, Sikkim, India and Tibet Autonomous Region, China.

Bara-lacha la is a high mountain pass in Zanskar range, connecting Lahaul district in Himachal Pradesh to Leh district in Ladakh.

108. Consider the following statements:

1. The Election Commission of India was established on 25 January 1950.

2. The President of India appoints the Chief Election Commissioner and other Election Commissioners.

Which of the statements given above is/are NOT correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Election Commission of India is an autonomous and quasi-judicial institution that was formed to elect representatives from various and independent institutions in India, independently and impartially in India. The Election Commission of India was established on 25 January 1950. The Commission currently consists of a Chief Election Commissioner and two Election Commissioners. It was a single-member body with only the Chief Election Commissioner from when it first formed in 1950 and until October 15, 1989.

109. Consider the following statements:

1. The idea of incorporation of the Concurrent List in the Indian Constitution has been borrowed from the Constitution of Australia.

2. The first country to introduce the institution of Ombudsman (Lokpal) was Sweden.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: The idea of incorporation of the Concurrent List in the Indian Constitution has been borrowed from the Constitution of Australia. Sweden was the first country to set the institution of ombudsman in 1809.

110. Consider the following statements:

1. The Chief Justice of Hon'ble Supreme Court acts as President of India in absence of both President and Vice president.

2. In case of absence of chief justice, the senior-most judge of Supreme Court acts as President.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: The President (Discharge of Functions) Act, 1969 of India provides that the Chief Justice of India (CJI) (or senior most judge of SC in absence of CJI) shall act as the President of India in the event of the offices of both the President and the Vice President being vacant.

111. Consider the following statements:

1. The number of Legislative Assembly seats in Madhya Pradesh is 231.

2. The number of Legislative Assembly seats in Uttar Pradesh is 404.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Both 1 and 2

112. Which of the following statements is true?

I. An indirect tax is collected by one entity in the supply chain.

II. A direct tax is paid directly by an individual or organization to the imposing entity.

Select the correct option.

- (A) Only I (B) Only II
(C) Both I & II (D) Neither I nor II

Ans: (C)

Exp: An indirect tax is collected by one entity in the supply chain (usually a producer or retailer) and paid to the government, but it is passed on to the consumer as part of the purchase price of a good or service. The consumer is ultimately paying the tax by paying more for the product.

A direct tax is paid directly by an individual or organization to the imposing entity. A taxpayer, for example, pays direct taxes to the government for different purposes, including real property tax, personal property tax, income tax, or taxes on assets.

113. Which of the following statements is true?

I. The law of demand states that a higher price leads to a lower quantity.

II. A savings account is a basic type of bank account that allows you to deposit money.

Select the correct option.

- (A) Only I (B) Only II
(C) Both I & II (D) Neither I nor II

Ans: (C)

Exp: The law of demand states that a higher price leads to a lower quantity demanded and that a lower price leads to a higher quantity demanded.

Demand curves and demand schedules are tools used to summarize the relationship between quantity demanded and price.

A savings account is a basic type of bank account that allows you to deposit money, keep it safe, and withdraw funds, all while earning interest. Savings accounts offered by most banks, credit unions, and other financial institution.

114. Which of the following statements is true?

I. Purchasing Power Parity (PPP) is an economic theory that compares different countries' currencies through a "basket of goods" approach.

II. A direct tax (VAT) is a consumption tax placed on a product whenever value is added at each stage of the supply chain.

Select the correct option.

- (A) Only I (B) Only II
(C) Both I & II (D) Neither I nor II

Ans: (A)

Exp: Purchasing power parity (PPP) is a popular metric used by macroeconomic analysts that compares different countries' currencies through a "basket of goods" approach.

Purchasing power parity (PPP) allows for economists to compare economic productivity and standards of living between countries.

Some countries adjust their gross domestic product (GDP) figures to reflect PPP.

A value-added tax, or VAT, is added to a product at every point on the supply chain where value is added.

Advocates of VATs claim that they raise government revenues without punishing success or wealth, while critics say that VATs place an increased economic strain on lower-income taxpayers and bureaucratic burdens on businesses.

115. Which of the following statements is true?

- I.** Shankar-6 is a variety of cotton.
II. Export of services is an Invisible Export.
 Select the correct option.

- (A) Only I (B) Only II
 (C) Both I & II (D) Neither I nor II

Ans: (C)

Exp: Two Gujarat-based entrepreneurs are planning to set up a commodity-specific special economic zone — one of its kind in the country. It will be a textile SEZ which will be different from the rest on one count: the SEZ will only have units which manufacture end-products using Shankar 6 cotton. Any export that does not have a tangible physical presence (e.g. expertise, insurance underwriting). Here, Invisible Export means export of Services.

116. Which of the following statements is true?

- I.** COFEPOSA was enacted in 1979.
II. Duty Entitlement Pass Book (DEPS) is an scheme of Indian Government provided to exporters.
 Select the correct option.

- (A) Only I (B) Only II
 (C) Both I & II (D) Neither I nor II

Ans: (B)

Exp: DEPB (Duty Entitlement Pass Book) is an export incentive scheme of Indian Government provided to Exporters in India.

Duty Entitlement Pass Book Scheme (DEPB) is an export incentive scheme. The objective of DEPB is to neutralise the incidence of Customs duty on the import content of the export product. The neutralisation shall be provided by way of grant of duty credit against the export product. Under the DEPB, an exporter may apply for credit, as a specified percentage of FOB value of exports made in freely convertible currency.

COFEPOSA or the Conservation of Foreign Exchange and Prevention of Smuggling Activities

Act is an Act of Parliament passed in 1974 during administration of Indira Gandhi, trying to retain foreign currency and prevent smuggling. It was an economic adjunct to the controversial Maintenance of Internal Security Act (MISA) which was enacted in 1971.

117. Consider the following statements.

1. Light from the star Alpha Centauri, which is nearest to the earth after the sun, reaches the earth in 42 second.
2. The light from the sun takes about 8 minutes to reach the Earth after it has been emitted from the sun's surface.

Which is/are correct statement?

- (A) Only 1 (B) Only 2
 (C) 1 and 2 (D) None of these

Ans: (C)

Exp: The nearest stars to Earth are in the Alpha Centauri triple-star system, about 4.37 light-years away. One of these stars, Proxima Centauri, is slightly closer, at 4.24 light-years.

118. Consider the following statements.

1. Stars appears to move from east to west because the earth rotates from east to west.
2. Planets do not twinkle because they are very far away from the earth resulting in decrease in intensity of light.

Which is/are correct statement?

- (A) Only 1 (B) Only 2
 (C) 1 and 2 (D) None of these

Ans: (B)

Exp: Planets do not twinkle because they are nearer to earth and hence we receive a greater amount of light and, therefore minor variations in the intensity are not noticeable.

The stars appear to move from east to west because of the rotation of the earth. The earth rotates from west to east, around its axis. Hence, stars appear to move from east to west.

119. Consider the following statements.

1. Metals are good conductors of electricity because they contain free electrons.
2. Rectifiers are used to convert Direct current to Alternating current.

Which is/are correct statement?

- (A) Only 1 (B) Only 2
 (C) 1 and 2 (D) None of these

Ans: (A)

Exp: Metals are good conductors because they consist of lattice of atoms with free electrons. The free electrons allow a current to flow through. When a negative charge is applied at one end, the electrons are repelled from the negative charge, and move towards the other end.

120. Consider the following statements.

1. Magnetism at the 'centre of a bar magnet' is maximum.

2. The magnetic properties of materials are mainly due to the magnetic moments of their atoms' orbiting electrons.

Which is/are correct statement?

- (A) Only 1 (B) Only 2
(C) 1 and 2 (D) None of these

Ans: (B)

Exp: Magnetism is strongest at north and south poles of the magnet and weakest at the "centre of a bar magnet". This is because the "magnetic field lines" run parallel to the length of the magnet at the centre and run closer and denser at the poles.

121. Which of the following statements is true?

I. Nitrous Oxide' is the chemical name of laughing Gas.

II. Oxide, any of a large and important class of chemical compounds.

Select the correct option.

- (A) Only I (B) Only II
(C) Both I & II (D) Neither I nor II

Ans: (A)

Exp: Nitrous oxide (N₂O), also called dinitrogen monoxide, laughing gas, or nitrous, one of several oxides of nitrogen, a colourless gas with pleasant, sweetish odour and taste,

Oxide, any of a large and important class of chemical compounds in which oxygen is combined with another element.

122. Consider the following statements:

1. Algae are of two types –Unicellular and Multicellular algae.

2. Unicellular algae are of two types Mobile and Non mobile algae.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Included organisms range from unicellular microalgae, such as Chlorella and the diatoms, to multicellular forms, such as the giant kelp.

123. Consider the following statements:

1. The motion in Mobile algae is due to flagella. eg- Chlamydomonas.

2. There is no motion in non mobile algae. eg- Chlorella.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Chlamydomonas is a genus of green algae consisting of about 325 species all unicellular flagellates, found in stagnant water and on damp soil, in freshwater, seawater, and even in snow as "snow algae".

Chlorella is a genus of single-celled green algae belonging to the division Chlorophyta.

124. Consider the following statements:

1. Liver is the largest gland of human body.

2. Two parts of liver is called Caudate and Quadrate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Liver is the largest gland in human body. It carries out many functions such as secretion of bile juices for decomposition of lipids and vitamins, preparation of proteins for blood plasma that enables blood clotting and also detoxification.

125. Consider the following statements:

1. Saprophytic organisms absorb liquid nutrients derived from rotten substances from the surface of the body.

2. Parasite receives their food from living bodies of other organisms.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Saprophytes such as many types of fungi and bacteria, obtain their food in liquid form from the remains of dead organisms

Match The Following

1. In experiments in newborn mice, scientists have reported that sounds appear to change "wiring" patterns in areas of the brain. Match the following branch of treatment with their Organs-

(a) Cardiology	1- Respiratory tract
(b) Oncology	2- Heart
(c) Pulmonology	3- Cancer
(d) Nephrology	4- Kidney

- Options-
(A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (B)

Exp: Cardiology Heart
 Oncology Cancer
 Pulmonology Respiratory tract
 Nephrology Kidney

2. New research shows the average commuter in California is breathing unsustainably high levels of benzene and formaldehyde. Match the following layers of atmosphere with their heights -

(a) Mesosphere	1- 50 to 80 km
(b) Stratosphere	2- 0 to 12 km
(c) Troposphere	3- 12 to 50 km

- Options
(A) a-1, b-2, c-3
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1
(C) a-3, b-2, c-1
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (D)

Exp: Mesosphere 50 to 80 km
 Stratosphere 12 to 50 km
 Troposphere 0 to 12 km

3. Recently, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and MapmyIndia have partnered to come up with an indigenous geospatial portal known as "Bhuvan".

In context to the same match the following Global Navigational Systems with their related countries -

(a) BeiDou/BDS	1- China
(b) Galileo	2- Europe
(c) GLONASS	3- Japan

(d) Quasi-ZSS	4- Russia
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- Options-
(A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: BeiDou/BDS China
 Galileo Europe
 GLONASS Russia
 Quasi-ZSS Japan

4. A team of researchers at Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory (Berkeley Lab) used a quantum computer to successfully simulate an aspect of particle collisions.

Match the following in context to computer -

(a) The term computer worm was used by	1- John Brunner
(b) First calculating device	2- Abacus
(c) Father of artificial intelligence	3- John McCarthy

- Options
(A) a-1, b-2, c-3
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1
(C) a-3, b-2, c-1
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: The term computer worm was used by John Brunner
 First calculating device Abacus
 Father of artificial intelligence John McCarthy

5. The Reserve Bank of India has recently published its State of the Economy Report.

Match the following reports/indices with their related organization -

(a) Global Money Laundering Report	1- ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization)
(b) India State of Forest Report	2- FATF (Financial Action Task Force)
(c) Safety Reports	3- Forest Survey of India
(d) Technical Cooperation Report	4- IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)

- Options-
(A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4

- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

6. The state government in Madhya Pradesh has introduced the "Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021" in the assembly. Match the following bills with their associated articles-

(a) Ordinary Bill	1- Article 107, Article 108
(b) Money Bill	2- Article 117 [1], Article 117[3]
(c) Financial Bill	3- Article 110

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1
(C) a-3, b-2, c-1
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (D)

Exp: Ordinary Bill Article 107, Article 108
Money Bill Article 110
Financial Bill Article 117 [1], Article 117[3]

7. For the first time, the Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in the Exercise Desert Flag-VI, hosted by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force. Match the following exercises with their related countries -

(a) Shakti Exercise	1- India & France
(b) Dharma Guardian	2- India & Japan
(c) Surya Kiran	3- India & China
(d) Hand in Hand Exercise	4- India & Nepal

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: Shakti Exercise India & France
Dharma Guardian India & Japan
Surya Kiran India & Nepal
Hand in Hand Exercise India & China

8. Recently, a Black-Browed Babbler (*Malacocincla perspicillata*) was rediscovered in southeastern Kalimantan, the part of Borneo that is administered by Indonesia.

Match the following bird species with their scientific names -

(a) Parrots	1- Strigiformes
(b) Penguins	2- Psittaciformes
(c) Owls	3- Spheniscidae

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1
(C) a-3, b-2, c-1
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (B)

Exp: Parrots Psittaciformes
Penguins Spheniscidae
Owls Strigiformes

9. World Wildlife Day has recently been observed on 3rd of March.

Match the following days -

Day	Observed as
(a) 1 March	1- World Civil Defence Day
(b) 3 March	2- World Hearing Day
(c) 4 March	3- International Women's Day
(d) 8 March	4- National Security Day

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: 1 March World Civil Defence Day
3 March World Hearing Day
4 March National Security Day
8 March International Women's Day

10. Chemists created a boron-containing chemical group that is 10,000 times more stable than boron on its own.

Match the following compounds with their formulas -

(a) Benzoic acid formula	1- C ₇ H ₆ O ₂
(b) Potassium Bromate formula	2- KBrO ₃
(c) Calcium carbonate formula	3- CaCO ₃

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1
(C) a-3, b-2, c-1
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Benzoic acid formula C₇H₆O₂
Potassium Bromate formula KBrO₃

Calcium carbonate formula CaCO_3

11. New research shows that slight alterations in transfer-RNA molecules (tRNAs) allow them to self-assemble into a functional unit that can replicate information exponentially. Match the following person and the search done by them correctly.

(a) DNA	1- Batting and the West
(b) DDT	2- Watson & Crick
(c) Insulin	3- Paul Muller
(d) BCG	4- Colmet and Guérin

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
 (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (B)

Exp: DNA- Watson & Crick
 DDT - Paul Muller
 Insulin- Batting and the West

12. New computer simulation forecasts a surprisingly optimistic heat load for future fusion facilities designed to harvest on Earth the fusion that powers the sun and stars to generate electricity. Match the correct relation of the following planet and its satellite-

(a) Mars	1- Phobos
(b) Jupiter	2- Titan
(c) Saturn	3- Ganymede

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
 (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (D)

Exp: Mars - Fibos
 Jupiter - Ganyamede
 Saturn – Titan

13. Match List-I (Lake) with List-II (State) and select the correct answer using the codes given below the lists:

List-I	List-II
(a) Chilka Lake	1- Orissa
(b) Kolleru Lake	2- Andhra Pradesh
(c) Sambhar Lake	3- Kerala
(d) Vembanad Lake	4- Rajasthan

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2

- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
 (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: Chilka Lake - Orissa
 Kolleru Lake - Andhra Pradesh
 Sambhar Lake - Rajasthan
 Vembanad Lake - Kerala

14. European health regulator has confirmed "casual link" between blood clot and AstraZeneca vaccine.

Match the following -

(a) Red blood cells	1- Thrombocytes
(b) White blood cells	2- Leucocytes
(c) Platelets	3- Erythrocytes

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
 (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Red blood cells Erythrocytes
 White blood cells Leucocytes
 Platelets Thrombocytes

15. Recently, India has complained about low press freedom rank.

Match the following in context to reports and indices -

(a) World Economic Outlook	1- International Monetary Fund
(b) Global Gender Gap Report	2- Transparency International
(c) World Cities Report	3- UN Habitat
(d) Global Corruption Report	4- World Economic Forum

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
 (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (A)

Exp: World Economic Outlook – International Monetary Fund
 Global Gender Gap Report – World Economic Forum
 World Cities Report – UN Habitat
 Global Corruption Report – Transparency International

16. The six-member monetary policy committee of the Reserve Bank of India has decided to keep key lending rates unchanged.
Match the following committees and their recommendations -

(a) AK Bhuchar Committee	1- Coordination between commercial banks and term lending institutions
(b) Bimal Jalan panel	2- Scrutinizing the applications for new bank licenses
(c) Dave Committee (2000)	3- Pension-related schemes For Unorganized Sector

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1
(C) a-3, b-2, c-1
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: AK Bhuchar Committee - Coordination between commercial banks and term lending institutions
Bimal Jalan panel - Scrutinizing the applications for new bank licenses
Dave Committee (2000) - Pension-related schemes For Unorganized Sector

17. Jute mill owners is facing capacity constraints to take export orders.
Match the following -

Jute centre	State
(a) Ongole	1- Andhra Pradesh
(b) Titagarh	2- Bihar
(c) Gaya	3- West-Bengal
(d) Shahjanwan	4- Uttar Pradesh

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

Exp: Jute centre State
Ongole Andhra Pradesh
Titagarh West-Bengal
Gaya Bihar
Shahjanwan Uttar Pradesh

18. Advanced Metallurgical Group N V Announced Successful Placement of Approximately 3.1

Million Shares Via an Accelerated Book Building Process.

Match the following -

Metallurgical industry	Location
(a) Copper	1- Khetri
(b) Lead	2- Tundu
(c) Zinc	3- Deberi

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1
(C) a-3, b-2, c-1
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Metallurgical industry - Location
Copper - Khetri
Lead - Tundu
Zinc - Deberi

19. The process of mountain erosion can be a source of new carbon dioxide gas that can release it back into the atmosphere far faster than it is being absorbed into newly exposed rock, a study has found.

Match the following -

(a) Biosphere	1- Domain of water
(b) Atmosphere	2- Narrow zone where land, water and air interact
(c) Hydrosphere	3- Blanket of air which surrounds the earth
(d) Environment	4- Our surroundings

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (B)

Exp: Biosphere - Narrow zone where land, water and air interact
Atmosphere - Blanket of air which surrounds the earth
Hydrosphere - Domain of water
Environment - Our surroundings

20. Kiren Rijiju visits Regional Research Institute of Unani Medicine Srinagar
Match the following diseases with their causing agents -

(a) Cancer	1- It is caused by uncontrolled growth and division of cells.
(b) Gout	2- It is associated with an inborn error of uric acid metabolism
(c) Haemophilia	3- It is also known as bleeder's disease.

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Cancer: It is caused by uncontrolled growth and division of cells.

Gout: It is associated with an inborn error of uric acid metabolism

Haemophilia: It is also known as bleeder's disease.

21. The La Soufriere Volcano located on the eastern Caribbean island recently erupted. Match the following volcanoes with their countries -

(a) Mauna Loa	1- Hawaii
(b) Mayon Volcano	2- Costa Rica
(c) Mount St. Helens	3- USA
(d) Arenal Volcano	4- Philippines

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (A)

Exp: Mauna Loa Hawaii
 Mayon Volcano Philippines
 Mount St. Helens USA
 Arenal Volcano Costa Rica

22. Hubert Hurkacz of Poland has won the Miami Open title. Match the following athletes with their related sports -

(a) Dipankar Bhattacharya	1- Badminton
(b) Mahesh Bhupathi	2- Tennis
(c) Sandeep Singh	3- Hockey

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Dipankar Bhattacharya - Badminton
 Mahesh Bhupathi - Tennis
 Sandeep Singh - Hockey

23. Physicists have measured and controlled a superconducting quantum bit (qubit) using light-conducting fiber instead of metal electrical wires. In context to the physics, match the following -

(a) Angular Velocity	1- $v = \omega \times r$
(b) Impulse	2- $\tau = r \times F$
(c) Torque	3- $J = \Delta p$
(d) Rotational Power	4- $P = \tau \cdot \omega$

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

Exp: Angular Velocity - $v = \omega \times r$
 Impulse - $J = \Delta p$
 Torque - $\tau = r \times F$
 Rotational Power - $P = \tau \cdot \omega$

24. International Museum Day is observed on 18th May every year to raise awareness among people about the museums.

Match the following days with their dates -

(a) 10-January	1- World Hindi Day
(b) 14-September	2- Hindi Diwas
(c) 18-May	3- World Wind Day
(d) 15-June	4- World AIDS Vaccine Day

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: 10-January: World Hindi Day
 14-September: Hindi Diwas
 18-May: World AIDS Vaccine Day
 15-June: World Wind Day

25. China and Russia has recently begun the biggest Nuclear Power Project.

Match the following nuclear power plants with their location -

(a) Narora Atomic Power Station	1- Uttar Pradesh
(b) Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant	2- Karnataka
(c) Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant	3- Tamil Nadu

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Narora Atomic Power Station
Uttar Pradesh
Kaiga Nuclear Power Plant
Karnataka
Kudankulam Nuclear Power Plant Tamil Nadu

26. The Finance Ministry has granted "Infrastructure" status for exhibition and convention centres. Match the following fairs with their locations -

(a) Nauchandi Fair	1- Meerut
(b) Purnagiri	2- Mainpuri
(c) Dynamics Fair	3- Kalingner
(d) Martyr's Fair	4- Tanakpur

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (A)

Exp: Nauchandi Fair - Meerut
Purnagiri - Tanakpur
Dynamics Fair - Kalingner
Martyr's Fair - Mainpuri

27. Govt appoints inquiry committee to probe drifting of vessels due to cyclone. Match the following commissions with their objectives -

(a) Thakkar Commission	1- To probe the assassination of Indira Gandhi
(b) Phukan Commission	2- To inquire into corruption allegations in the wake of the Tehelka tapes controversy

(c) Upendra Commission	3- To probe the alleged rape and murder of Thangjam Manorama Devi
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Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Thakkar Commission - To probe the assassination of Indira Gandhi
Phukan Commission - To inquire into corruption allegations in the wake of the Tehelka tapes controversy
Upendra Commission - To probe the alleged rape and murder of Thangjam Manorama Devi

28. As the central government asks states to notify black fungus or mucormycosis an epidemic, an infection called white fungus or Candidiasis has also been found to affect some people.

(a) Anaplasmosis	1- Anaplasma genus
(b) Cryptococcosis	2- Giardia intestinalis
(c) Giardiasis	3- Cryptococcus neoformans
(d) Measles	4- Measles virus

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

Exp: Anaplasmosis Anaplasma genus
Cryptococcosis Cryptococcus neoformans
Giardiasis Giardia intestinalis
Measles Measles virus

29. The MeerKAT Radio Telescope recently discovered two giant radio galaxies. The galaxies were discovered under the MIGHTEE survey. Match the following -

Focal Length	Type of Lens
(a) 14mm - 35mm	1- Wide Angle
(b) 35mm - 85mm	2- Standard
(c) 85mm - 135mm	3- Short Telephoto

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Focal Length Type of Lens What is it used for?
 14mm - 35mm Wide Angle Landscape, architecture
 35mm - 85mm Standard Street, travel, portrait
 85mm - 135mm Short Telephoto Street photography and portraits

30. Every year, on May 21, the United Nations observes International Tea Day.

Match the following days with their dates -

(a) 27-April	1- World Veterinary Day
(b) 21-November	2- World Television Day
(c) 7-June	3- World Food Safety Day
(d) 14-September	4- Hindi Diwas

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

Exp: 27-April World Veterinary Day
 21-November World Television Day
 7-June World Food Safety Day
 14-September Hindi Diwas

31. Recently, Cyclone Tauktae has left a trail of destruction as it swept through the coastal states of Kerala, Karnataka, Goa and Maharashtra. Match the following Cyclones that are addressed by different names in different locations -

(a) Hurricanes –	1- In the Atlantic and Eastern Pacific.
(b) Typhoons –	2- In Southeast Asia
(c) Cyclone –	3- In the Indian Ocean and Western Pacific around Australia.

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (C)

Exp: Hurricanes – In the Atlantic and Eastern Pacific.
 Typhoons – In Southeast Asia
 Cyclone – In the Indian Ocean and Western Pacific around Australia.

32. Recently, Sunderlal Bahuguna, the Gandhian who was the driving force behind the Chipko movement died.

Match the following movements with their leaders -

(a) Narmada Bachao Andolan	1- Medha Patkar
(b) Silent Valley Movement	2- Sailendra Mahto
(c) Appiko Movement	3- Panduranga Hegde
(d) Jungle Bachao Andola	4- M. G. K. Menon

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (A)

Exp: Narmada Bachao Andolan - Medha Patkar
 Silent Valley Movement - M. G. K. Menon
 Appiko Movement - Panduranga Hegde
 Jungle Bachao Andola - Sailendra Mahto

33. MIT researchers developed software to more efficiently run graph applications on a range of computing hardware, including both CPUs and GPUs.

Match the following computer hardware with their functions -

(a) Input devices	1- For raw data input.
(b) Processing devices	2- For data and information retention.
(c) Output devices	3- To disseminate data and information.
(d) Storage devices	4- To process raw data instructions into information.

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (A)

Exp: Input devices For raw data input.
 Processing devices To process raw data instructions into information.
 Output devices To disseminate data and information.

Storage devices For data and information retention.

34. Scientists have just shown that the influence of Saturn's satellites can explain the tilt of the rotation axis of the gas giant.

Match the following planets with their satellites

(a) Jupiter	1- Europa
(b) Saturn	2- Enceladus
(c) Uranus	3- Titania

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Jupiter Europa
Saturn Enceladus
Uranus Titania

35. Recently, India and China announced that both have agreed to establish a Hotline.

Match the following countries with their borders -

(a) Mannerheim Line	1- Russia and Finland
(b) Siegfried Line	2- Germany and France
(c) 17th Parallel	3- North Korea and South Korea
(d) 38th Parallel	4- North Vietnam and South Vietnam

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: Mannerheim Line Russia and Finland
Siegfried Line Germany and France
17th Parallel North Vietnam and South Vietnam
38th Parallel North Korea and South Korea

36. Guru Ravidas Jayanti has recently celebrated on Magh Purnima. Match the following great personalities with their birth year -

(a) Ravidas	1- 1398
(b) Ramananda	2- 1400
(c) Guru Nanak	3- 1469

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Ravidas - 1398
Ramananda - 1400
Guru Nanak - 1469

37. The NHRC issued notices to the Chief Secretaries of Odisha and Chhattisgarh over the action taken to alleviate the sufferings of people displaced by the construction of the Hirakud dam over the Mahanadi river about six decades ago.

Match the following dams with their related rivers in India -

(a) Panchet	1- Damodar
(b) Tehri	2- Krishna
(c) Mettur	3- Kaveri
(d) Srisaillam	4- Bhagirathi

Options-

- (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
- (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (A)

Exp: Panchet Damodar
Tehri Bhagirathi
Mettur Kaveri
Srisaillam Krishna

38. According to recent study, a new microchip could help scientists uncover secrets of heart regeneration in baby mice.

Match the following parts of heart with its function -

(a) The right atrium	1- It receives blood from the veins.
(b) The right ventricle	2- It receives oxygenated blood from the lungs.
(c) The left atrium	3- It receives blood from the right atrium.

Options

- (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
- (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
- (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
- (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (D)

39. The Reserve Bank of India has recently published its State of the Economy Report. Match the following reports/indices with their related organization -

(a) Global Money Laundering Report	1- ICAO (International Civil Aviation Organization)
(b) India State of Forest Report	2- FATF (Financial Action Task Force)
(c) Safety Reports	3- Forest Survey of India
(d) Technical Cooperation Report	4- IAEA (International Atomic Energy Agency)

- Options-
 (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
 (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

40. The state government in Madhya Pradesh has introduced the "Madhya Pradesh Freedom of Religion Bill, 2021" in the assembly. Match the following bills with their associated articles-

(a) Ordinary Bill	1- Article 107, Article 108
(b) Money Bill	2- Article 117 [1], Article 117[3]
(c) Financial Bill	3- Article 110

- Options
 (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
 (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (D)

Exp: Ordinary Bill Article 107, Article 108
 Money Bill Article 110
 Financial Bill Article 117 [1], Article 117[3]

41. For the first time, the Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating in the Exercise Desert Flag-VI, hosted by the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force. Match the following exercises with their related countries -

(a) Shakti Exercise	1- India & France
(b) Dharma Guardian	2- India & Japan
(c) Surya Kiran	3- India & China

(d) Hand in Hand Exercise	4- India & Nepal
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- Options-
 (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
 (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: Shakti Exercise India & France
 Dharma Guardian India & Japan
 Surya Kiran India & Nepal
 Hand in Hand Exercise India & China

42. Recently, a Black-Browed Babbler (*Malacocincla perspicillata*) was rediscovered in southeastern Kalimantan, the part of Borneo that is administered by Indonesia.

Match the following bird species with their scientific names -

(a) Parrots	1- Strigiformes
(b) Penguins	2- Psittaciformes
(c) Owls	3- Spheniscidae

- Options
 (A) a-1, b-2, c-3
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1
 (C) a-3, b-2, c-1
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (B)

Exp: Parrots Psittaciformes
 Penguins Spheniscidae
 Owls Strigiformes

43. World Wildlife Day has recently been observed on 3rd of March.

Match the following days -

Day	Observed as
(a) 1 March	1- World Civil Defence Day
(b) 3 March	2- World Hearing Day
(c) 4 March	3- International Women's Day
(d) 8 March	4- National Security Day

- Options-
 (A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2
 (B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4
 (C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3
 (D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (C)

Exp: 1 March World Civil Defence Day
 3 March World Hearing Day
 4 March National Security Day
 8 March International Women's Day

44. Chemists created a boron-containing chemical group that is 10,000 times more stable than boron on its own.

Match the following compounds with their formulas -

(a) Benzoic acid formula	1- $C_7H_6O_2$
(b) Potassium Bromate formula	2- $KBrO_3$
(c) Calcium carbonate formula	3- $CaCO_3$

Options

(A) a-1, b-2, c-3

(B) a-2, b-3, c-1

(C) a-3, b-2, c-1

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Benzoic acid formula $C_7H_6O_2$
 Potassium Bromate formula $KBrO_3$
 Calcium carbonate formula $CaCO_3$

45. New research shows that slight alterations in transfer-RNA molecules (tRNAs) allow them to self-assemble into a functional unit that can replicate information exponentially.

Match the following person and the search done by them correctly.

(a) DNA	1- Batting and the West
(b) DDT	2- Watson & Crick
(c) Insulin	3- Paul Muller
(d) BCG	4- Colmet and Guérin

Options-

(A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2

(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4

(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (B)

Exp: DNA- Watson & Crick
 DDT - Paul Muller
 Insulin- Batting and the West

46. New computer simulation forecasts a surprisingly optimistic heat load for future fusion facilities designed to harvest on Earth the fusion that powers the sun and stars to generate electricity.

Match the correct relation of the following planet and its satellite-

(a) Mars	1- Phobos
(b) Jupiter	2- Titan
(c) Saturn	3- Ganymede

Options

(A) a-1, b-2, c-3

(B) a-2, b-3, c-1

(C) a-3, b-2, c-1

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (D)

Exp: Mars - Fibos
 Jupiter - Ganyamede
 Saturn - Titan

47. The Ministry of Civil Aviation flagged off the first passenger flight to Bareilly from Delhi airport. Match the following airports with their related cities -

(a) Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport	1- Guwahati
(b) Biju Patnaik International Airport	2- Bihar
(c) Gaya Airport	3- Bhubaneswar
(d) Veer Savarkar International Airport	4- Blair

Options-

(A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2

(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4

(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

Exp:

48. Scientists have recently detected the signs of a hidden structure inside the core of Planet Earth. In context to the same Match each layer of the earth's interior with its composition.

(a) Continental crust	1- silicate minerals
(b) mantle	2- ultramafic silicate minerals
(c) Oceanic crust	3- mafic silicate minerals

Options

(A) a-1, b-2, c-3

(B) a-2, b-3, c-1

(C) a-3, b-2, c-1

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp:

49. The Ministry of Civil Aviation flagged off the first passenger flight to Bareilly from Delhi airport. Match the following airports with their related cities -

(a) Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport	1- Guwahati
(b) Biju Patnaik International Airport	2- Bihar
(c) Gaya Airport	3- Bhubaneswar
(d) Veer Savarkar International Airport Port	4- Blair

Options-

(A) a-1, b-4, c-3, d-2

(B) a-2, b-3, c-1, d-4

(C) a-1, b-2, c-4, d-3

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2, d-4

Ans: (D)

Exp: Lokpriya Gopinath Bordoloi International Airport- Guwahati
 Biju Patnaik International Airport-Bhubaneswar
 Gaya Airport - Bihar
 Veer Savarkar International Airport Port-Blair

50. Scientists have recently detected the signs of a hidden structure inside the core of Planet Earth. In context to the same Match each layer of the earth's interior with its composition.

(a) Continental crust	1- silicate minerals
(b) mantle	2- ultramafic silicate minerals
(c) Oceanic crust	3- mafic silicate minerals

Options

(A) a-1, b-2, c-3

(B) a-2, b-3, c-1

(C) a-3, b-2, c-1

(D) a-1, b-3, c-2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Continental crust silicate minerals
 Mantle ultramafic silicate minerals
 Oceanic crust mafic silicate minerals



●●●

Inception: 2001(FAO)

Edition: 22nd

Organisation Involved: Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Motto: To provide an opportunity to focus attention on milk and raise awareness of dairy's part in healthy diets.

CAMPAIGNS: Raise A Glass Of Milk

Importance:

To recognize the importance of milk as a global food

Why 1st June? This date was chosen because a number of countries were already celebrating a national milk day on or around this time.



●●●

Inception: 2018

Organisation Involved: United Nations

Note: The current blue and white #WorldBicycleDay logo again was designed by Isaac Feld and the accompanying animation was done by Professor John E. Swanson.

It symbolises various types of cyclists around the globe.

Importance:

In 2018, the United Nations General Assembly decided this day to acknowledge the uniqueness, longevity and versatility of the bicycle.

The Day is the result of Leszek Sibilski's campaign and the support of Turkmenistan and 56 other countries for World Bicycle Day.

Multiple Choice question

1. Which one of the following was the first fort constructed by the British in India?
 (A) Fort William (B) Fort St. George
 (C) Fort St. David (D) Fort St. Angelo
Ans: (B)
Exp: Fort St George was constructed in 1644 at the coastal city of Madras. This is considered as the first fort constructed by British in India. It houses the famous St Mary's Church (an ancient Anglican Church), a museum (contains antics and artefacts from British Rule) and Wellesley House (paintings of the Fort Governer.)
2. The currency notes are printed in which city of India?
 (A) New Delhi (B) Nagpur
 (C) Nasik (D) Bombay
Ans: (C)
Exp: The government owned presses are at Nasik (Western India) and Dewas (Central India). The other two presses are at Mysore (Southern India) and Salboni (Eastern India). Coins are minted in four mints owned by the Government of India. The mints are located at Mumbai, Hyderabad, Calcutta and NOIDA.
3. Monistic theory of sovereignty is stated by whom?
 (A) Austin
 (B) Aristotle
 (C) Bodin
 (D) None of these
Ans: (A)
Exp: The monistic theory of sovereignty was given by John Austin. It is called the Monistic Theory of Sovereignty because it envisages a single sovereign in the state. Monism attributes oneness or singleness to a concept e.g., existence. Existence monism posits that, strictly speaking, there exists only a single thing, the universe, which can only be artificially and arbitrarily divided into many things.
4. Maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament is -
 (A) 6 Month (B) 8 Months
 (C) 3 Months (D) 5 Months
Ans: (A)
Exp: The maximum gap allowed between two sessions of the Parliament is 6 months. Hence the parliament must meet at least two times in a year. In India, the parliament conducts three types of sessions each year.
 Budget session: January to may
 Monsoon session: July to August or september
 Winter session: November to December
5. The alcohol used in power alcohol is -
 (A) Propanol
 (B) Ethyl alcohol
 (C) Methyl alcohol
 (D) Ethylene glycol
Ans: (B)
Exp: Power alcohol is a liquid mixture containing 80% petrol, 20% ethanol and a small amount of benzene. It is useful in the field of automobiles to generate energy for its operations. Various types of fuels are utilized in fuel engines. Alcohol is also mixed with gasoline in small amounts to gain some advantages. Ethyl alcohol is used in power alcohol.
6. The Indian Botanical Garden is located in which city?
 (A) Delhi (B) Allahabad
 (C) Kolkata (D) Lucknow
Ans: (C)
Exp: The "Indian Botanical Garden" is most famous for the "Great Banyan Tree", which boasts of having the largest canopy in the world. It is located in Howrah near Kolkata. At present, it is officially called "Indian Botanic Garden, Howrah", but is known generally as the "Calcutta Botanic Garden" in India and abroad.
7. Which one of the following crops can enrich soil with nitrogenous compounds?
 (A) Mustard (B) Rice
 (C) Sugarcane (D) Black gram
Ans: (D)
Exp: Pea crops enrich the soil with nitrogen. Pea and beans are nitrogen-fixing crops and hence they are called legumes. They fix nitrogen in the soil with the help of nitrogen-fixing bacteria present in their roots called Rhizobium.

8. Fixation of nitrogen in the soil -

- (A) Virus
(B) Fungi
(C) Bacteria
(D) Protozoa

Ans: (C)

Exp: Nitrogen is fixed, or combined, in nature as nitric oxide by lightning and ultraviolet rays, but more significant amounts of nitrogen are fixed as ammonia, nitrites, and nitrates by soil microorganisms. Within the nodules, the bacteria convert free nitrogen to ammonia, which the host plant utilizes for its development.

9. Mohiniattam dance form developed originally in which state?

- (A) Tamil Nadu
(B) Orissa
(C) Kerala
(D) Karnataka

Ans: (C)

Exp: Mohini attam, which is also spelled mohiniyattam or mohiniyattam, semi classical dance form from the state of Kerala, southwestern India. 10 Best Traditional Dances of Kerala - Kathakali, Mohiniyattam, Thiruvathirakali, Kolkali, Ottamthullal, Koodiyattam, Chakyar Koothu, Oppana, Margamkali, Theyyam.

10. Annie Besant arrived in India in which year?

- (A) 1878 (B) 1885
(C) 1893 (D) 1900

Ans: (C)

Exp: Besant first visited India in 1893 and later settled there, becoming involved in the Indian nationalist movement. In 1916 she established the Indian Home Rule League, of which she became president. She was also a leading member of the Indian National Congress.

11. India is located on which part of Indo-Australian Plate -

- (A) Northern (B) Southern
(C) Eastern (D) Western

Ans: (A)

Exp: India is situated on the northern side of the Indo-Australian Plate. The Indo-Australian plate is found in both the countries of India and Australia. It was formed approximately 43 million years ago by the fusion of Indian and Australian plates. One of the 7 major plate tectonic boundaries on Earth

is the Indo-Australian Plate. It's the second smallest, slightly larger than the Plate of South America.

12. The "Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary" is situated in the Indian State which state?

- (A) Bihar (B) Tripura
(C) Sikkim (D) Assam

Ans: (D)

Exp: Sonai Rupai Wildlife Sanctuary is a protected area located in the state of Assam in India. This wildlife sanctuary covers 175 km². It is located along the foothills of the Great Himalayan Range. The area was declared as a sanctuary in 1998. It is located 52 km from Tezpur town and 193 km away from Guwahati.

13. Which article of Indian constitution gives the power to the government to make special provisions for the development of SC/ST/OBC against the article 15?

- (A) Article 19 (B) Article 29
(C) Article 25 (D) None of these

Ans: (B)

Exp: Article 29 ensures that anyone residing in India has the right to preserve a distinct language, script or culture and no State educational institute or any institute receiving aid from the state shall discriminate against anyone based on race, caste, creed, etc.

14. Pitch of a sound depends upon its:

- (A) Wavelength (B) Amplitude
(C) Overtones (D) Frequency

Ans: (D)

Exp: Pitch is the number of vibrations produced by the vocal cord in one second. The greater the number of vibrations produces in one second, the higher will be the pitch. This means that a sound with higher frequency will have a higher pitch as well. Hence, the pitch of a sound is directly proportional to its frequency.

15. Rain drops acquire spherical shape due to -

- (A) Surface tension (B) Viscosity
(C) Friction (D) Elasticity

Ans: (A)

Exp: Raindrops start to form in a roughly spherical structure due to the surface tension of water. The cause is the weak hydrogen bonds that occur

between water molecules. On smaller raindrops, the surface tension is stronger than in larger drops.

16. Which substance (in white colour) seen on the inner side of the test tube near its mouth when ammonium chloride is heated in it?

(A) Ammonium chloride
(B) Sulphur chloride
(C) Hydrolic chloride
(D) Magnesium chloride

Ans: (A)

Exp: Ammonium chloride (in white colour) seen on the inner side of the test tube near its mouth when ammonium chloride is heated in it. Ammonium chloride is an inorganic compound with the formula NH_4Cl and a white crystalline salt that is highly soluble in water.

17. Among the given nutrients, milk is a poor source of which substance?

(A) Calcium (B) Protein
(C) Vitamin C (D) Carbohydrates

Ans: (C)

Exp: Milk contains calcium, Vitamin-D, proteins, phosphorus, magnesium, potassium, vitamin-B12, and Zinc. Carbohydrates are also present in little amounts. On comparing the composition milk nutrients, we understood that the vitamin-c is the poor source of milk.

18. Which among the following is known as "Sairandhri Vanam"?

(A) Mudumalai National Park
(B) Silent Valley National Park
(C) Periyar National Park
(D) Guindy National Park

Ans: (B)

Exp: Silent Valley National Park is a national park in Kerala, India. It is located in the Nilgiri hills, has a core area of 89.52 km², which is surrounded by a buffer zone of 148 km². This national park has some rare species of flora and fauna. This area was explored in 1847 by the botanist Robert Wight.

19. Which state first adopted the Panchayati Raj in India in 1959?

(A) Rajasthan (B) Karnataka
(C) Gujrat (D) Punjab

Ans: (A)

Exp: The system later came to be known as Panchayati Raj, which was inaugurated by the then Prime

Minister Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru on 2 October 1959 at Nagour in Rajasthan. The first elections under the Rajasthan Panchayat Samitis and Zilla Parishads Act, 1959 were held in September-October 1959.

20. The existence of isotopes was discovered by whom?

(A) Emil Kraepelin
(B) Trofim Lysenko
(C) Francis Galton
(D) Frederick Soddy

Ans: (D)

Exp: The existence of isotopes was first suggested in 1913 by the radiochemist Frederick Soddy, based on studies of radioactive decay chains that indicated about 40 different species referred to as radioelements (i.e. radioactive elements) between uranium and lead, although the periodic table only allowed for 11 elements.

21. Which of the following type of ore is concentrated by froth floatation process?

(A) Oxide (B) Fluoride
(C) Carbonate (D) Sulphide

Ans: (D)

Exp: Sulphide ores are concentrated by froth- floatation process. Only sulphide ores are concentrated by this method because pine oil selectively wets the sulphide ore and hence brings it to the froth.

22. The "Cannes Award" is given for excellence in which field?

(A) Journalism (B) Films...
(C) Economics (D) Literature

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Cannes Festival until 2003 called the International Film Festival (Festival international du film) and known in English as the Cannes Film Festival, is an annual film festival held in Cannes, France, which previews new films of all genres, including documentaries, from all around the world. Founded in 1946, the invitation-only festival is held annually (usually in May) at the Palais des Festivals et des Congrès. The festival was formally accredited by the FIAPF in 1951.

23. Who is the first Tirthankara of Jainism?

(A) Anantnath (B) Malinath
(C) Rishabha (D) Mahavira

Ans: (C)

- Exp:** Rishabhanatha, the first of the 24 Tirthankaras of Jainism, a religion of India. His name comes from the series of 14 auspicious dreams that his mother had, in which a bull (rishabha) appeared, before his birth.
24. Who among the following introduced the subsidiary alliance system in India?
 (A) Lord Clive
 (B) Lord Wellesley
 (C) Lord Cunningham
 (D) Lord Canning
Ans: (B)
Exp: The Subsidiary Alliance System was "Non-Intervention Policy" used by Lord Wellesley who was the Governor-General (1798-1805) to establish the British Empire in India. According to this system, every ruler in India had to accept to pay a subsidy to the British for the maintenance of the British army.
25. The improvement of computer hardware theory is summarized by which law?
 (A) Metcalf's law (B) Bill's Law
 (C) Grove's law (D) Moore's First Law
Ans: (D)
Exp: Moore's Law states that the number of transistors on a microchip doubles about every two years, though the cost of computers is halved. In 1965, Gordon E. Moore, the co-founder of Intel, made this observation that became known as Moore's Law.
26. Harshcharita and KadamBari are the works of whom?
 (A) Kalhan (B) Panini
 (C) Bana Bhatta (D) Patanjali
Ans: (C)
Exp: Banabhatta was the court poet of Harshavardhana, who wrote Harshacharita and Kadambari. The Harshacharita is the biography of Indian emperor Harsha by Banabhatta, also known as Bana, who was a Sanskrit writer of seventh-century CE India. He was the Asthana Kavi, meaning Court Poet, of Harsha.
27. Where is the Tungabhadra sanctuary located?
 (A) Madhya Pradesh (B) Uttar Pradesh
 (C) Karnataka (D) West Bengal
Ans: (C)
Exp: The Tungabhadra Otter Reserve Sanctuary, a 34-km stretch of habitat along the Tungabhadra river from Mudlapura village to Kampli in Ballari district, was notified in 2016. The stretch also includes the World Heritage site Hampi and covers both Koppal and Ballari districts.
28. Which Indian state has its maximum area under the forest cover?
 (A) Maharashtra
 (B) Madhya Pradesh
 (C) Arunachal Pradesh
 (D) Kerala
Ans: (B)
Exp: As per the latest report 2022, area-wise Madhya Pradesh has the largest forest cover in the country, followed by Arunachal Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Odisha and Maharashtra. Five northeast states in India have the highest percentage of forest cover with reference to the total geographical area, official data shows.
29. What is "Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan" in India?
 (A) A Free Health Checkup for Pregnant Women
 (B) Medical care of the girl
 (C) Medical care of women of rural areas
 (D) Free health checkup for senior citizen
Ans: (A)
Exp: The Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan has been launched by the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW), Government of India. The program aims to provide assured, comprehensive and quality antenatal care, free of cost, universally to all pregnant women on the 9th of every month. Hon'ble Prime Minister highlighted the aim and purpose of introduction of the Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan in the 31st July 2016 episode of Mann Ki Baat.
30. National Science Day is observed on which day?
 (A) January 4 (B) February 28
 (C) March 11 (D) August 5
Ans: (B)
Exp: National Science Day is celebrated in India on 28 February each year to mark the discovery of the Raman effect by Indian Physicist Sir C. V. Raman on 28 February 1928. For his discovery, Sir C.V. Raman was awarded the Nobel Prize in Physics in 1930.

31. The secretariat of GCC is located in which country?
 (A) Kuwait (B) Oman
 (C) Qatar (D) Saudi Arabia
Ans: (D)
Exp: GCC is a political, economic, social, and regional organisation which was established by an agreement concluded in 1981 among Bahrain, Kuwait, Oman, Qatar, Saudi Arabia and UAE in view of their special relations, geographic proximity, similar political systems based on Islamic beliefs, joint destiny and common objectives. The structure of the GCC consists of the Supreme Council (the highest authority), the Ministerial Council and the Secretariat General. The Secretariat is located in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia.
32. What is the name of the disease in man arising out of Vitamin B1 deficiency?
 (A) Scurvy (B) Beriberi
 (C) Pellagra (D) Gingivitis
Ans: (B)
Exp: Beriberi is a disease caused by a vitamin B-1 deficiency, also known as thiamine deficiency. There are two types of the disease: wet beriberi and dry beriberi. Wet beriberi affects the heart and circulatory system. In extreme cases, wet beriberi can cause heart failure.
33. Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee scheme was introduced in which year?
 (A) 2001 (B) 2002
 (C) 2005 (D) 2006
Ans: (C)
Exp: MGNREGA is one of the largest work guarantee programmes in the world. It was introduced in 2005 by Ministry Rural Development. The scheme was introduced as a social measure that guarantees "the right to work". The Ministry of Rural Development monitors the entire implementation of this scheme in association with state governments.
34. The Eklavya Model Residential Schools was started for which caste students?
 (A) Scheduled Tribe
 (B) Scheduled Caste
 (C) Backward Class
 (D) General Category
Ans: (A)
Exp: Eklavya Model Residential Schools started in the year 1997-98 to impart quality education to Schedule Tribes children in remote areas. The schools focus not only on academic education but on the all-round development of the students. Each school has a capacity of 480 students, catering to students from Class VI to XII. These are being set up by grants provided under Article 275(1) of the Constitution. These are funded by the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.
35. What is the maximum limits of Electoral Bonds?
 (A) 10000 (B) 50000
 (C) 100000 (D) No limit
Ans: (D)
Exp: Electoral Bond is a financial instrument for making donations to political parties. The bonds are issued in multiples of Rs 1,000, Rs 10,000, Rs 1 lakh, Rs 10 lakh and Rs 1 crore without any maximum limit. State Bank of India is authorised to issue and encash these bonds, which are valid for fifteen days from the date of issuance.
36. Japanese art 'Ikebana' is related to which of the following?
 (A) sand art
 (B) flower arrangement
 (C) paper folding
 (D) tree cutting
Ans: (B)
Exp: Ikebana is the Japanese art of flower arrangement. It is also known as Kadō ("way of flowers"). It is a 7th century old tradition of floral offerings was made at altars.
37. Pedology is the science related to the study of -
 (A) Atmosphere (B) Soil
 (C) Pollutants (D) Seeds
Ans: (B)
Exp: Pedology is the study of soils as naturally occurring phenomena, taking into account their composition, distribution and processes of formation. Pedology is a discipline within soil science which focuses on understanding and characterizing soil formation, evolution, and the theoretical frameworks for modeling soil bodies, often in the context of the natural environment.
38. Which project is a joint venture of India and France?
 (A) Maitri Missile Project

- (B) Nuclear missile project
 (C) Cog missile project
 (D) InFra missile project

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Maitri missile project is a next-generation quick-reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM) with a lethal hundred per cent kill probability under development by India's Defence Research and Development Organisation. It is a short-range (15 km, 9.3 mi) surface-to-air point defense missile system. On 14 February 2013, India and France concluded negotiations on the Short Range Surface to Air Missile nearly worth of \$6 billion during the talks between French President Francois Hollande and Prime Minister Manmohan Singh.

39. The World Tuberculosis Day is observed on which date?

- (A) February 10 (B) March 24
 (C) March 28 (D) April 5

Ans: (C)

Exp: World Tuberculosis Day, observed on 24 March each year, is designed to build public awareness about the global epidemic of tuberculosis and efforts to eliminate the disease. In 2018, 10 million people fell ill with TB, and 1.5 million died from the disease, mostly in low and middle-income countries.

40. The disease "dieback of shoots" is caused due to the deficiency of the microelement:

- (A) Silver (B) Magnesium
 (C) Potassium (D) Copper

Ans: (D)

Exp: Copper Deficiency in citrus is variously referred to as exanthema, red rust, die-back, multiple bud or peach leaf conditions. Physiological disease caused by copper deficiency is often generally referred to as foliocollosis.

41. Currently how many members are in the European Union?

- (A) 27 (B) 28
 (C) 53 (D) 17

Ans: (B)

Exp: There are 28 members in the EU. United Kingdom is about to leave this organisation, but officially not left this organisation this is why its current membership is 28.

42. Which of the following country is not from South-East Asia?

- (A) Indonesia (B) Vietnam
 (C) Thailand (D) Taiwan

Ans: (D)

Exp: Southeast Asia or Southeastern Asia is the southeastern subregion of Asia, consisting of the regions that are geographically south of China, east of the Indian subcontinent and north-west of Australia. Southeast Asia is composed of eleven countries of impressive diversity in religion, culture and history: Brunei, Burma (Myanmar), Cambodia, Timor-Leste, Indonesia, Laos, Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand and Vietnam.

43. International Institute for Population Sciences was established in which year?

- (A) September 1951 (B) July 1956
 (C) June 1959 (D) April 1962

Ans: (B)

Exp: Global Youth Tobacco Survey (GYTS-4) was conducted in 2019 by the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS) under the MoHFW. IIPS, Mumbai, formerly known as the Demographic Training and Research Centre (DTRC) till 1970, was established in July 1956 under the joint sponsorship of Sir Dorabji Tata Trust, the Government of India and the United Nations.

44. ITBP was raised during which war?

- (A) Sino – Indian War of 1962
 (B) Indo – Pak War of 1965
 (C) Sino – Indian War of 1967
 (D) Indo – Pak War of 1971

Ans: (A)

Exp: Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force is a Central Armed Police Force functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs, Government of India. The ITBP was raised on 24th October, 1962 during the India-China War and is a border guarding police force specializing in high altitude operations.

45. Who of the following chairs the Cabinet Committee on Security?

- (A) Prime Minister
 (B) Defence Minister
 (C) Marshal of the Air Force
 (D) President

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) of the Central Government of India discusses, debates and is the final decision-making body on senior appointments in the national security apparatus, defence policy and expenditure, and generally all matters of India's national security. CCS is chaired by the Prime Minister of India. Major decisions with respect to the significant appointments, issues of national security, defence expenditure of India are taken by the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS).

46. The "Ninety East Ridge" is a submarine volcanic ridge located in which ocean?
 (A) Pacific Ocean (B) Atlantic Ocean
 (C) Indian Ocean (D) Arctic Ocean

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Ninetyeast Ridge is thought to have originated from hot spot volcanic activity now located at the Kerguelen Islands near Antarctica. These islands lie atop the Kerguelen Plateau, which also originated from volcanism at this hot spot. The Indian Ocean has majority of active spreading ridges of the worldwide system of mid-ocean ridges. The Ninety East Ridge is one of the popular hotspot of the Indian Ocean.

47. Which of the following rivers does not flow into the Arabian Sea?
 (A) Tungabhadra (B) Sabarmati
 (C) Mandovi (D) Narmada

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Tungabhadra River is a river in India that starts and flows through the state of Karnataka during most of its course, before flowing along the border between Telangana, Andhra Pradesh and ultimately joining the Krishna River near Gundimalla village in Jogulamba Gadwal district of Telangana.

48. Which of the following was the first high-level programming language?
 (A) FORTRAN (B) LISP
 (C) Plankalkül (D) COBOL

Ans: (C)

Exp: The first high-level programming language designed for computers was Plankalkül, created by Konrad Zuse.[4] However, it was not implemented in his time, and his original

contributions were largely isolated from other developments due to World War II.

49. Who was the first sports person to have the honor of "Bharat Ratna"?
 (A) Milkha Singh (B) Sunil Gavaskar
 (C) Dara Singh (D) Sachin Tendulkar

Ans: (D)

Exp: Sachin Tendulkar, at the age of 40, became the youngest person and first sports person to receive the honour.

50. Westchester Cup belongs to which sport?
 (A) Cricket (B) Polo
 (C) Football (D) Hockey

Ans: (B)

Exp: The International Polo Cup, also called the Newport Cup and the Westchester Cup, is a trophy in polo that was created in 1876 and was played for by teams from the United States and United Kingdom. The match has varied in length over the years from a single game to the best of three games.

51. Name the structural unit of photosynthesis?
 (A) Thylakoid (B) Grana
 (C) Stroma (D) Chlorophyll

Ans: (A)

Exp: Thylakoids are membrane-bound compartments inside chloroplasts and cyanobacteria. They are the site of the light-dependent reactions of photosynthesis. Chloroplast thylakoids frequently form stacks of disks referred to as grana (singular: granum). Thylakoids are the internal membranes of chloroplasts and cyanobacteria, and provide the platform for the light reactions of photosynthesis.

52. Which of the following is negatively charged?
 (A) Alpha-rays (B) Beta-rays
 (C) Gamma-rays (D) X-ray

Ans: (B)

Exp: Alpha denotes the largest particle, and it penetrates the least. Alpha particles carry a positive charge, beta particles carry a negative charge, and gamma rays are neutral. Beta particles are high energy electrons. Gamma rays are waves of electromagnetic energy, or photons.

53. A reaction that has both oxidation and reduction, is called:
 (A) Redox reaction

- (B) Decomposition reaction
 (C) Synthesis reaction
 (D) Double displacement reaction

Ans: (A)

Exp: An oxidation-reduction (redox) reaction is a type of chemical reaction that involves a transfer of electrons between two species. The oxidation state (OS) of an element corresponds to the number of electrons, e⁻, that an atom loses, gains, or appears to use when joining with other atoms in compounds.

54. Under the Ministry of Science and Technology, The Survey of India (SOI) was set up in:
 (A) 1767 (B) 1757
 (C) 1777 (D) 1787

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Survey of India is India's central engineering agency in charge of mapping and surveying. Set up in 1767 to help consolidate the territories of the British East India Company, it is one of the oldest Engineering Departments of the Government of India.

55. Which was first virus detected on ARPANET, the forerunner of the internet in the early 1970s?
 (A) Exe File (B) Creeper Virus
 (C) Peeper Virus (D) Trozen horse

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Creeper virus works by infecting one computer, causing it to print a file. It will then stop working while looking for another TENEX system. It establishes a connection with that computer and so on. After it's done with a system, its final payload or effect is to display its message.

56. The motif of 'Hampi with Chariot' is printed on the reverse of which currency note?
 (A) One Rupee Note (B) Rs. 500 note
 (C) Rs. 50 note (D) Rs. 20 note

Ans: (C)

Exp: The new 50 rupees' banknote from India is in a bright turquoise colour. On the obverse side of the Rs. 50 note is a portrait of Mahatmi Gandhi, India's independence movement leader. On the reverse side of the ₹50 bill is an image of the stone chariot in the UNESCO World Heritage Site of Hampi.

57. 'Line of Blood' is a book written by whom?
 (A) Balraj Khanna (B) Ursula Vernon

- (C) Amal EI-Mohtar (D) Diksha Basu

Ans: (A)

Book 'Line of Blood' is a book written by Balraj Khanna. It's a fiction depicting trauma and tension in the bordering areas of Punjab in the months before Partition in 1947.

58. Mikir Hills is located in which state?
 (A) Meghalaya (B) Assam
 (C) Sikkim (D) Jharkhand

Ans: (B)

Exp: Mikir Hills are a group of hills located to the south of the Kaziranga National Park, Assam. The easternmost Meghalaya comprising the detached Mikir Hills is partly isolated being surrounded by three sides. Karbi plateau or Mikir Hills is known oldest landform in Assam.

59. India has largest deposits of which of the following elements in the world?
 (A) Gold (B) Copper
 (C) Mica (D) Thorium

Ans: (D)

Exp: India has the world's largest reserves of Thorium. The known reserves of thorium in India are estimated to be between 457,000 and 508,000 tonnes.

60. Which of the following was Indian's first mapping satellite?
 (A) CARTOSAT-1 (B) Aryabhata
 (C) Bhaskara -II (D) INSAT-IA

Ans: (A)

Exp: CARTOSAT-1, the India's first cartography (mapping) satellite is ready to be launched from the SHAR Centre in Sriharikota, during the first week of May by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

61. Which of the following is the state bird of Rajasthan?
 (A) Great Indian Bustard
 (B) Emerald Dove
 (C) Indian roller
 (D) Black francolin

Ans: (A)

Exp: Great Indian Bustard is the state bird of Rajasthan. Emerald dove is state bird of Tamil Nadu, Indian roller for Bihar and Orissa, Black francolin for Haryana.

62. Where is the headquarters of Chandler Institute of Governance?
 (A) Singapore (B) Hong Kong
 (C) Malaysia (D) Taiwan
Ans: (A)
Exp: The CGGI is released by the Chandler Institute of Governance which is a private nonprofit organization headquartered in Singapore. The Index classifies 104 countries in terms of government capabilities and outcomes. Each country is measured across over 50 open data points.
63. Which article of the Indian Constitution explicitly prohibits and criminalizes human trafficking and forced labour?
 (A) Article 24 (B) Article 29
 (C) Article 32 (D) Article 23
Ans: (D)
Exp: Article 23 of the Indian Constitution explicitly prohibits and criminalises human trafficking and forced labour. The Right against Exploitation is enshrined in Articles 23 and 24 of the Indian Constitution. These are important Fundamental Rights that guarantee every citizen protection from any kind of forced labour.
64. Which of the following is Asia's first nuclear reactor?
 (A) Kakrapar (B) Kalpakkam
 (C) Apsara (D) Narora
Ans: (C)
Exp: The "Apsara" reactor is India's and Asia's first nuclear reactor. It was inaugurated by Prime Minister Nehru on 20 January 1957. The reactor has been recommissioned with double its previous capacity.
65. In context to size what is the rank of Mars in solar system?
 (A) Third largest (B) Fourth smallest
 (C) Second smallest (D) Fifth largest
Ans: (C)
Exp: Mars is the fourth planet from the Sun and the second-smallest planet in the Solar System. Mars is about half the size of Earth. As Mars orbits the Sun, it completes one rotation every 24.6 hours, which is very similar to one day on Earth (23.9 hours).
66. The Concept of written constitution, first born was -
 (A) UK (B) USA
 (C) France (D) Italy
Ans: (B)
Exp: The concept of constitution was brought by the great American leader George Washington. The purpose of the Constitution is to limit the power of the government such that the rights of the citizens are protected from government abuse.
67. The chemical used as a fixer in photography is -
 (A) Sodium sulphate
 (B) Borax
 (C) Sodium thiosulphate
 (D) Ammonium sulphate
Ans: (C)
Exp: Sodium thiosulfate (sodium hyposulfite), $\text{Na}_2\text{S}_2\text{O}_3$, is used by photographers to fix developed negatives and prints. It acts by dissolving the part of the silver salts coated onto film which remain unchanged by exposure to light. In traditional film photography, chlorine chemistry is most often used. Chlorine is used in the form of silver chloride. Photographic film is the sheet of transparent film. Gelatin emulsion is coated in its one side.
68. Who is considered the father of Sahatara (Sitar)?
 (A) Amir Khusro (B) Mian Tansen
 (C) Baiju Bawara (D) Ghulam Ali
Ans: (A)
Exp: Amir Khusro was an Indian musician, scholar and poet. He was an iconic figure in the cultural history of the Indian subcontinent. A Sufi mystic and a spiritual disciple of Nizamuddin Auliya of Delhi, Amir Khusro was not only a notable poet but also a prolific and seminal musician. Amir Khusro is credited with fashioning the tabla as a split version of the traditional Indian drum, the pakhawaj. Popular lore also credits him with inventing the sitar, the Indian grand lute, but it is possible that the Khusro associated with the sitar was Khusrau Khan, who lived in the 18th century.
69. Yellow fever is spread by -
 (A) Air (B) Water
 (C) Mosquito (D) House fly
Ans: (C)
Exp: Yellow fever virus is transmitted to people primarily through the bite of infected Aedes or

Haemagogus species mosquitoes. Mosquitoes acquire the virus by feeding on infected primates (human or non-human) and then can transmit the virus to other primates (human or non-human).

70. Which was the first bank with limited liability managed by Indians?

- (A) Punjab National Bank
(B) Oudh Commercial Bank
(C) State Bank of India
(D) Bank of Baroda

Ans: (B)

Exp: Oudh Commercial Bank or Awadh Commercial Bank was an Indian bank established in 1881 in Faizabad and operated until 1958 when it failed. It was the first commercial bank in India having limited liability and an entirely Indian board of directors.

71. The excavated remains of _____ found near Patna in Bihar was inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in July 2016.

- (A) Ashoka Pillar (B) Ellora Caves
(C) Sanchi Stupa (D) Nalanda Mahavihara

Ans: (D)

Exp: The excavated remains of Nalanda Mahavihara found near Patna in Bihar was inscribed as a World Heritage Site by UNESCO in July 2016. This ruin dates back to the period from the 3rd century BC to the 13th century AD. Kumargupta I of the Gupta dynasty founded Nalanda Mahavihara in 5th century CE.

72. Which of the following inter-governmental organization promotes international co-operation?

- (A) NATO (B) UN
(C) WHO (D) IGO

Ans: (B)

Exp: The United Nations is an international organization founded in 1945 after the Second World War by 51 countries committed to maintaining international peace and security, developing friendly relations among nations and promoting social progress, better living standards and human rights.

73. Which is considered as oldest civilization of the world?

- (A) Mesopotamian Civilization
(B) Harappan Civilization
(C) Chinese Civilization

(D) Egyptain Civilization

Ans: (A)

Exp: Mesopotamian civilizations formed on the banks of the Tigris and Euphrates rivers in what is today Iraq and Kuwait. Some of the major Mesopotamian civilizations include the Sumerian, Assyrian, Akkadian, and Babylonian civilizations. Mesopotamian Civilization (4000 BC - 6th Cen. BC)
Egyptain Civilization (3400 BC - 1000 BC)
Harappan Civilization (2500 BC - 1750 BC)
Chinese Civilization (1765 BC - 250 BC)

74. The oldest dynasty still ruling in which country?

- (A) India (B) Iran
(C) Japan (D) England

Ans: (C)

Exp: The longest surviving dynasty in the world is the Imperial House of Japan, otherwise known as the Yamato dynasty, whose reign is traditionally dated to 660 BC and historically attested from 781 AD.

75. During Kargil War, who was the Indian Army chief of staff?

- (A) Ved Prakash Malik
(B) Sankar Roy Chowdary
(C) Nirmal chandar Vij
(D) Sundar rajan Padmanabhan

Ans: (A)

Exp: General Ved Prakash Malik served as the 19th Chief of Army Staff of the Indian Army from 30 September 1997 to 30 September 2000. He was the Army Chief during the Kargil War. Currently, he is a member of the Board of Advisors of India's International Movement to Unite Nations.

76. Gautma Buddha's mother "Mahamaya" belongs to which tribe?

- (A) Pala (B) Gupta
(C) Kushan (D) Koliya

Ans: (D)

Exp: Queen Māyā of Sakya was the birth mother of Gautama Buddha, the sage on whose teachings Buddhism was founded. She was sister of Mahāpajāpatī Gotamī, the first Buddhist nun ordained by the Buddha. She was belongs to Koliya Kingdom. The Koliya were a clan of [Nepal] during the time of [Gautama Buddha]. The Koliya, were of the Adicca clan of the Solar Dynasty during the time of Gautama Buddha.

77. What will be the effect on the value of acceleration due to gravity at the poles if the rate of rotation of earth increases?
 (A) No effect (B) It will increase
 (C) It will decrease (D) It will be zero
Ans: (A)
Exp: If the rate of rotation of earth increases, then the value of acceleration due to gravity decreases at all the places on the surface of earth except at poles. If earth stops rotating, acceleration due to gravity at equator will increase by a factor of $R\omega^2 = 0.034m/s^2$. There will be no change in value of g at poles. If rate of rotation of earth decreases, then acceleration due to gravity will decrease at points on the surface of earth. But there will be no change in value of g at poles.
78. The 8th schedule of Constitution of India, originally have how many languages?
 (A) 12 (B) 14
 (C) 16 (D) 22
Ans: (D)
Exp: The Eighth Schedule to the Constitution consists of the following 22 languages: Assamese, Bengali, Gujarati, Hindi, Kannada, Kashmiri, Konkani, Malayalam, Manipuri, Marathi, Nepali, Oriya, Punjabi, Sanskrit, Sindhi, Tamil, Telugu, Urdu, Bodo, Santhali, Maithili and Dogri.
79. Which among following is also known as white gold?
 (A) Nickel (B) Rhodium
 (C) Platinum (D) Palladium
Ans: (C)
Exp: Platinum is a naturally white metal. It does not need to be alloyed for color. Due to its appearance as white, it is commonly known as White Gold.
80. Which of the following amendment of the Constitution provided for alternative scheme of devolution of revenue between the Centre and states?
 (A) Constitution (65th) Amendment Act
 (B) Constitution (80th) Amendment Act
 (C) Constitution (85th) Amendment Act
 (D) Constitution (89th) Amendment Act
Ans: (B)
Exp: The Constitution (80th Amendment) Act, 2000. It deals with an alternative scheme for sharing taxes between the Union and the States.
81. Which year is known for BOP crisis in Indian Economy?
 (A) 1990 (B) 1991
 (C) 1995 (D) 1999
Ans: (B)
Exp: Balance of Payment Crisis (1991), India. India faced the Balance of Payment crisis in 1991 due to huge macroeconomic imbalance. Balance of Payment (BoP) Crisis is also called currency crisis.
82. Which among the following is the major cause of acid rain?
 (A) Carbon monoxide
 (B) Carbon dioxide
 (C) Nitrogen dioxide
 (D) Dinitrogen Monoxide
Ans: (C)
Exp: Sulfur dioxide and nitrogen oxides can rise very high into the atmosphere, where they mix and react with water, oxygen, and other chemicals to form more acidic pollutants, known as acid rain.
83. National Institute of Mountaineering & Allied Sports (NIMAS) is located at?
 (A) Uttarakhand
 (B) Jammu & Kashmir
 (C) Himachal Pradesh
 (D) Arunachal Pradesh
Ans: (D)
Exp: The National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (NIMAS) is an autonomous institute under the Indian Ministry of Defence, which provides specialized training in mountain rescue, mountaineering and adventure sports. The institute was founded by the Government of Arunachal Pradesh and is located in Dirang of the West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh. NIMAS is the first National Institute of India mandated to conduct adventure courses in the field of land, air and aqua.
84. What is the phenomenon of bouncing back of light in the same medium on striking the surface of any object known as?
 (A) Refraction (B) Absorption
 (C) Reflection (D) Diffusion
Ans: (C)
Exp: Light is a form of energy that produces in us the sensation of sight. Reflection of light is the

phenomenon of bouncing back of light in the same medium on striking the surface of any object.

The two laws of reflection are:

(i) the incident ray, the reflected ray and the normal (at the point of incidence), all lie in the same plane.

(ii) the angle of reflection (r) is always equal to the angle of incidence (i) $\angle r = \angle i$

85. Which among the following first increases than decreases in a Period of a periodic table?

(A) Metallic property
(B) Valency
(C) Chemical Reactiveness
(D) Electron affinity

Ans: (B)

Exp: Valency in the periodic table across a period first increases and then decreases. There is no change going down a group. However, this periodic trend is sparsely followed for heavier elements (elements with atomic number greater than 20), especially for lanthanide and actinide series.

86. Which of the following deficiency causes the dietary deficiency of Xerophthalmia?

(A) Protein (B) Vitamin A
(C) Riboflavin (D) Fatty acids

Ans: (B)

Exp: Xerophthalmia is a progressive eye disease caused by vitamin A deficiency. Lack of vitamin A can dry out your tear ducts and eyes.

87. The employed catalyst in the production of ammonia through the Haber's process is:

(A) Nickel (B) Iron
(C) Platinum (D) Molybdenum

Ans: (D)

Exp: Iron is employed as the catalyst with a suitable promoter such as K_2O , CaO , SiO_2 , and Al_2O_3 as the major industrial technique for producing ammonia. In the Haber process, the atmospheric nitrogen (N_2) is converted to ammonia (NH_3) by reacting with hydrogen (H_2).

88. Who invented The Law of Refraction of Light?

(A) Willebrord Snell
(B) Einstein
(C) Pascal
(D) Alexander Volta

Ans: (A)

Exp: Snell's law, in optics, a relationship between the path taken by a ray of light in crossing the boundary or surface of separation between two contacting substances and the refractive index of each. This law was discovered in 1621 by the Dutch astronomer and mathematician Willebrord Snell (also called Snellius).

89. Fathometer is used to measure:

(A) Earthquakes (B) Rainfall
(C) Ocean depth (D) Sound intensity

Ans: (C)

Exp: An instrument used in measuring the depth of water by the time required for a sound wave to travel from surface to bottom and for its echo to be returned. The most common and fastest way of measuring ocean depth uses sound. Ships using technology called sonar, which stands for sound navigation and ranging, can map the topography of the ocean floor. The device sends sound waves to the bottom of the ocean and measures how long it takes for an echo to return.

90. Which of the following is not emitted by radioactive substance?

(A) Electrons
(B) Electromagnetic radiations
(C) Alpha particles
(D) Neutrons

Ans: (D)

Exp: During this decay there is release of positrons from the nucleus. The third type of decay is known as gamma decay. During this decay there is emission of gamma particles from the nucleus. After observing the options, we can say that Neutrons are neither emitted by the decay of radioactive substances.

91. Who is the first woman to head a public sector bank?

(A) Arundhati Bhattacharya
(B) Shikha Sharma
(C) Chanda Kochhar
(D) Usha Ananthasubramanyan

Ans: (A)

Exp: Arundhati Bhattacharya is a retired Indian banker and former Chairman of the State Bank of India. She was the first woman to be the Chairman of State Bank of India.

92. Where is Bose Institute located?

- (A) Dispur (B) Kolkata
(C) Mumbai (D) New Delhi

Ans: (B)

Exp: Bose Institute (Basu Bigyan Mandir) is a public research institute of India and also one of its oldest. The Institute was established in 1917 by Acharya Sir Jagdish Chandra Bose, the father of modern scientific research in the Indian subcontinent. Bose was its Director for the first twenty years till his demise. Debendra Mohan Bose, who succeeded Nobel Laureate Sir CV Raman as Palit Professor of Physics at the University of Calcutta, was the Director of Bose Institute for the next thirty years.

93. Which state of India is called the Sugar Bowl?

- (A) Punjab (B) Bihar
(C) Uttar Pradesh (D) Haryana

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Sugar Bowl is an annual American college football bowl game played in New Orleans, Louisiana. Played annually since January 1, 1935, it is tied with the Orange Bowl and Sun Bowl as the second-oldest bowl games in the country, surpassed only by the Rose Bowl Game.

94. In which year of First World War Germany declared war on Russia and France?

- (A) 1914 (B) 1915
(C) 1916 (D) 1917

Ans: (A)

Exp: World War I, also known as the Great War, began in 1914 after the assassination of Archduke Franz Ferdinand of Austria. His murder catapulted into a war across Europe that lasted until 1918.

95. Which of the following banks was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1919?

- (A) Bank of Maharashtra
(B) Bank of Baroda
(C) State Bank of Saurashtra
(D) Union Bank of India

Ans: (D)

Exp: Union Bank of India (UBI) was registered on 11 November 1919 as a limited company in Mumbai and was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi.

96. What is TPA?

- (A) Third Party Administrators
(B) Third Power Administrators
(C) The Party Accelerators

(D) The Power Administrators

Ans: (A)

Exp: Third Party Administrators or TPAs are a vital link between health insurance companies, policyholders and health care providers. A third-party administrator (TPA) is an organization that processes insurance claims or certain aspects of employee benefit plans for a separate entity. Often, in the case of insurance claims, a TPA handles the claims processing for an employer that self-insures its employees.

97. What percentage of land area should remain covered by forest to maintain Ecological balance?

- (A) 10% (B) 5%
(C) 33% (D) 49%

Ans: (C)

Exp: The National Forest Policy has proposed that to strengthen the ecological balance there should be 33 % area under the forest. The advantages of forests to the community and the mixture of life make it crucial that they are safeguarded from deforestation and other harmful impacts of civilization. The Amazon forests are the largest in the world and are regarded as the "lungs of the Earth".

98. Rate of change of momentum is called?

- (A) Force (B) Pressure
(C) Velocity (D) Speed

Ans: (A)

Exp: The rate of change of momentum of an object is directly proportional to the resultant force applied and is in the direction of the resultant force. The resultant force is equal to the rate of change of momentum.

99. Who was the first administrator-statesman to attempt planning as a means for economic development?

- (A) Sir CP Ramaswami Aiyyar
(B) M Viswesvarayya
(C) VT Krishnamachari
(D) C Rajagopalachari

Ans: (B)

Exp: M Viswesvarayya was the first administrator who attempts to implement planning as a means for economic development. Sir Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya KCIE FASc, more commonly known as Sir MV, was an Indian civil engineer,

statesman and the 19th Diwan of Mysore, serving from 1912 to 1919.

100. Which body framed the Constitution of Independent India?
 (A) Drafting Committee
 (B) Constituent Assembly
 (C) Union Constitution Committee
 (D) A Working Committee

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Constitution of India was Framed by Constituent Assembly. Its Chairperson was DR RAJENDRA PRASAD and the Chairperson of Drafting Committee was DR BHIMRAO AMBEDKAR. A constituent assembly (also known as a constitutional convention, constitutional congress, or constitutional assembly) is a body assembled for the purpose of drafting or revising a constitution.

101. Ceylon is the former name of what country?
 (A) India (B) Sri Lanka
 (C) Pakistan (D) Myanmar

Ans: (B)

Exp: Sri Lanka's government has decided to change the names of all state institutions still bearing the nation's former British colonial name, Ceylon. The government wants the country's modern name to be used instead. The decision comes 39 years after the country was renamed Sri Lanka.

102. The clouds float in the atmosphere because of their low:
 (A) Temperature (B) Velocity
 (C) Pressure (D) Density

Ans: (D)

Exp: Clouds are formed of water droplets. The condensed form of water in the atmosphere is due to the low temperature. As we move upwards from the sea level the temperature decreases. At low temperatures the water droplets undergo condensation.

103. Pedology is the science related to the study of -
 (A) Atmosphere (B) Soil
 (C) Pollutants (D) Seeds

Ans: (B)

Exp: Pedology is the study of soils in their natural setting (Figure 1) and has been equated with the study of soil genesis and soil classification. Pedologists examining a soil during the 2002

postmeeting field tour of the International Union of Soil Scientists, in Thailand.

104. Who was the first actor to get Oscar Award?
 (A) Montgomery (B) Fairbanks
 (C) Janet Gayner (D) Charlie Chaplin

Ans: (C)

Exp: Janet Gaynor was an American film, stage, and television actress and painter. Gaynor began her career as an extra in shorts and silent films. After signing with Fox Film Corporation in 1926, she rose to fame and became one of the biggest box office draws of the era.

105. In respect of Commercial Banks which entity monitors the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) Scheme?
 (A) RBI (B) NABARD
 (C) SIDBI (D) SBI TM

Ans: (B)

Exp: NABARD monitors the scheme in terms of the Cooperative Banks & RRBs and RBI in respect of Commercial Banks.

106. Which is correct listing of QUAD group nations?
 (A) India, Japan, China and Australia
 (B) India, Japan, UK and Australia
 (C) India, Japan, Canada and Australia
 (D) India, Japan, USA and Australia

Ans: (D)

Exp: The Quadrilateral Security Dialogue (QSD, also known as the Quad or QUAD) is a strategic dialogue between the United States, India, Japan and Australia that is maintained by talks between member countries.

107. The bilateral civil nuclear cooperation agreement between both countries was signed in which year?
 (A) 2008 (B) 2004
 (C) 2009 (D) 2010

Ans: (A)

Exp: The bilateral civil nuclear cooperation agreement was signed between India and USA in October 2008. Although with the Indo-US nuclear agreement, India got a special Nuclear Supplier Group (NSG) waiver, the progress of Greenfield projects is slow.

108. What is called the study of fossils?
 (A) Archaeology (B) Geology
 (C) Paleontology (D) Anthropology

Ans: (C)

Exp: Paleontology is the study of the history of life on Earth as based on fossils. Fossils are the remains of plants, animals, fungi, bacteria, and single-celled living things that have been replaced by rock material or impressions of organisms preserved in rock.

- 109.** Anamalai Tiger Reserve is located in which state?
 (A) Tamil Nadu (B) Maharashtra
 (C) Telangana (D) Odisha

Ans: (A)

Exp: Anamalai Tiger Reserve is one of the four Tiger Reserves in Tamil Nadu. It forms part of the Southern Western Ghats. It forms part of the Anamalai Parambikulam Elephant Reserve declared in 2003. It is surrounded by Parambikulam Tiger Reserve on the East, Chinnar Wildlife Sanctuary and Eravikulam National Park on the South Western side (all belong to Kerala).

- 110.** The index is released by which organization?
 (A) UNICEF (B) FAO
 (C) WFP (D) IFFA

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Food Price Index is released by Food and Agriculture organisation that measures monthly changes of a basket of food grains such as oil seeds, cereals, dairy products, sugar and meat. In April 2021, the Food Price Index was 120.9. It was 118.9 in March 2021. This basket of grains are subjected to changes and are not constant.

- 111.** Aurangzeb was a good player of which among the following instruments?
 (A) Tabla (B) Veena
 (C) Mridang (D) Pakhawaj

Ans: (B)

Exp: Aurangzeb is a great veena player. He is extremely religious bent. He was a connoisseur of music and a proficient Veena player. Aurangzeb is commonly known as regnal title Alangir and sixth Mughal Emperor.

- 112.** Moderates and the Extremists in the Indian National Congress split in 1907 at which city?
 (A) Surat (B) Calcutta
 (C) Nagpur (D) Madras

Ans: (A)

Exp: The growing differences between the Moderates and the Extremists came at Surat Session 1907, when against the wishes of Extremists who

preferred Lala Laj Pat rai to be the President ; Dr. Raj Bhirai Ghosh was elected as the Congress President. The Extremists left the Congress. After the surat Split, most of the extremist leaders including Lal, Bal, Pal were arrested and were given long term imprisonment.

- 113.** Which of the following is an example of Piedmont plateau?

(A) Tibetan Plateau (B) Bolivian Plateau
 (C) Ladakh Plateau (D) Malwa Plateau

Ans: (D)

Exp: Malwa plateau is a Piedmont plateau. Other examples of such plateaus are Patagonian plateau in Argentina, Piedmont plateau in America etc.

- 114.** Who among the following headed the Union powers Committee of the Constituent Assembly?

(A) Dr Rajendra Prasad
 (B) Jawahar Lal Nehru
 (C) H C Mookherjee
 (D) Dr B R Ambedkar

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Constituent Assembly constituted on November 1946 under Cabinet Mission Plan. The total strength of the Constituent Assembly was 389. It comprised of several Committees to deal with different tasks. One such Union Constitution Committee was headed by Jawahar Lal Nehru.

- 115.** The Varkari sect in Maharashtra was founded by whom?

(A) Tukaram (B) Namdev
 (C) Visoba Khechar (D) Dhyaneshwar

Ans: (D)

Exp: Founded by great Bhakti saints like Dnyaneshwar, Tukaram, Namdev, the Varkari movement responded to the dominant narrative of its times. In Maharashtra, as we know today, the movement took a cue from the Bhakti and Sufi saints who were reacting to the religious orthodoxies in their respective religions.

- 116.** Eritrea, which became the 182nd member of the UN in 1993, is in the continent of -

(A) Asia (B) Africa
 (C) Europe (D) USA

Ans: (B)

Exp: Eritrea is a northeast African country on the Red Sea coast. It shares borders with Ethiopia, Sudan and Djibouti. The capital city, Asmara, is known

for its Italian colonial buildings, like St. Joseph's Cathedral, as well as art deco structures. Italian, Egyptian and Turkish architecture in Massawa reflect the port city's colorful history. Notable buildings here include St. Mariam Cathedral and the Imperial Palace.

117. The Rashtrakutas kingdom was founded by whom?

- (A) Dandi Durga (B) Amoghvarsha
(C) Govinda III (D) Indra III

Ans: (A)

Exp: Dantidurga made the final assault on the Chalukya king in 753 CE & thus established the Rashtrakuta Empire. However, their rise began when Dantidurga (also known as Dantivarman, r. until 756 CE), who was a feudatory of the Badami Chalukyas, defeated their King Kirtivarman II in 753 CE.

118. Which is the world's second largest desert?

- (A) Australian (B) Sahara
(C) Gobi (D) Arabian

Ans: (A)

Exp: The named deserts of Australia cover 1,371,000 km², or 18% of the Australian mainland, but about 35% of the Australian continent receives so little rain, it is effectively desert. The deserts in Australia are primarily distributed throughout the Western Plateau and interior lowlands of the country.

119. Which of the following public sector banks has the largest number of branches in foreign countries?

- (A) Bank of India
(B) State Bank of India
(C) Punjab National Bank
(D) Corporation Bank

Ans: (B)

Exp: State Bank of India (SBI) has the largest number of overseas branches (52) followed by Bank of Baroda (50) and Bank of India (29).

120. Who among the following Viceroys wrote the book "Problems of the East"?

- (A) Lord Clive
(B) Lord Mayo
(C) Lord Mountbatten
(D) Lord Curzon

Ans: (D)

Exp: Lord Curzon wrote the book "Persia and the Persian Question". The book was published in the year 1892. He spent several months in Persia in 1889–90. Later he became the Viceroy of India from 1899 to 1905.

121. Which among the following site has given an evidence that the people of Indus Valley Civilization were aware of tides?

- (A) Suktagendor (B) Surkotda
(C) Lothal (D) Kalibangan

Ans: (C)

Exp: People of Lothal, which had a dockyard, were aware of tides. The trapezoidal, burnt brick, structure is located on the east of the town and away from the main river channel, to possibly avoid deposition of silt.

122. Which among the following shows a correct descending order of liquidity in M1, M2 and M3?

- (A) M1 > M2 > M3 (B) M2 > M1 > M3
(C) M3 > M2 > M1 (D) M1 > M3 > M2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Remember that M1 is most liquid. M2, M3 and M4 keep on degrading in liquidity terms. The various types of money in the money supply are generally classified as Ms, such as M0, M1, M2, and M3, according to the type and size of the account in which the instrument is kept.

123. Two Flat mirrors are placed at an angle of 60° from each other. How many images will be formed of a Candle placed in between?

- (A) Three (B) Four
(C) Five (D) Six

Ans: (C)

Exp: If two flat mirrors are placed at an angle θ . Then number of images of an object placed between mirrors are = $(360/\theta) - 1$. SO there will be 5 images.

124. Which of the following are Polar vectors?

- (A) Displacement (B) Both a and c
(C) Force (D) None

Ans: (B)

Exp: In elementary math, the term "polar vector" is used to refer to a representation of a vector as a vector magnitude (length) and angle, which is equivalent to specifying its endpoints in polar coordinates (illustrated above). The cross product of two polar vectors is a pseudovector.

125. Argon is the third most common gas in the Earth's atmosphere, at 0.93%. This gas is generated due to decay of which among the following isotopes in the Earth's crust?

- (A) K-40 (B) Ca-40
(C) Ca-48 (D) K-41

Ans: (A)

Exp: Argon (symbol Ar) is the third element in group 18, the noble gases. Argon is the third most common gas in the Earth's atmosphere, at 0.93%, making it more common than carbon dioxide. Nearly all of this argon is radiogenic argon-40 derived from the decay of potassium-40 in the Earth's crust. This gas is generated due to decay of K-40 isotopes in the Earth's crust.

126. What is the name of Indian-American Security Expert, who has been appointed for the post of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment?

- (A) Sheetal Sheth (B) Shamim Sarif
(C) Raja Kumari (D) Radha Iyengar

Ans: (D)

Exp: The President of the United States Joe Biden has nominated an Indian-American Security Expert Radha Iyengar Plumb to the post of Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment.

She has become the latest Indian-American to be named for a key position.

Radha Iyengar Plumb is currently serving as the Chief of Staff to the Deputy Secretary of Defense. She was nominated for the top Pentagon position by the US President on June 15, 2022.

Prior to her appointment as Chief of Staff, Radha Iyengar Plumb was the Director of Research and Insights for Trust and Safety at Google.

Key Points -

Radha Iyengar Plumb is not the only Indian-American who has been nominated for the top position in the US Government.

Joe Biden nominated Indian-American diplomat Rachna Sachdeva Korhonen as his envoy to Mali in April 2022.

It was a third such nomination of an Indian-American in over a month.

In March 2022, he nominated two Indian-Americans as US envoys.

Diplomat Puneet Talwar was nominated as the country's ambassador to Morocco and Political

Activist Shefali Razdan Duggal as his envoy to the Netherlands.

127. The country's first-ever girl Panchayat, "Balika Panchayat" has been started in which state?

- (A) Rajasthan (B) Gujarat
(C) Bihar (D) Assam

Ans: (B)

Exp: The country's first-ever girl Panchayat, "Balika Panchayat", which has been started in several villages of Gujarat's Kutch district.

It aims to promote the social and political development of the girls and ensure their active participation of girls in politics.

Key Points -

This is a unique initiative of the Women and Child Development Welfare department of the Gujarat Government under the "Beti Bachao Beti Padhao" campaign.

It started in Kunaria, Maska, Motagua, and Vadsar villages of the Kutch district.

20-year-old Urmi Ahir has been named the sarpanch of the Balika Panchayat.

Beti Bachao Beti Padhao Scheme -

BBBP is a national campaign and focussed multisectoral action in 100 selected districts low in Child Sex Ratio (CSR), covering all States and UTs.

This is a joint initiative of the Ministry of Women and Child Development, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Ministry of Human Resource Development.

Other Initiatives for Girl Children -

UJJAWALA

Kishore Health Card

Scheme for Adolescent Girls (SAG)

Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, etc.

128. Recently, the 24th ASEAN (Association of Southeast Asian Nations)-India Senior Official's Meeting (SOM) was hosted in which city?

- (A) Kolkata (B) Chandigarh
(C) Delhi (D) Gurugram

Ans: (C)

Exp: Recently, the 24th ASEAN-India Senior Official's Meeting (SOM) was hosted in Delhi.

India and ASEAN celebrated the 30th anniversary of their Dialogue Relations.

Earlier, the 2nd ASEAN Digital Ministers' (ADGMIN) Meeting with India held, where two

sides finalized India-ASEAN Digital work plan 2022 for future collaboration in the field.

ASEAN-India Relations -

ASEAN, a 10-nation grouping, is considered one of the most influential groupings in Southeast Asia.

India and several other countries, including the US, China, Japan and Australia, are its dialogue partners.

The ASEAN-India dialogue relations started with the establishment of a sectoral partnership in 1992. This graduated to full dialogue partnership in December 1995 and summit-level partnership in 2002.

ASEAN is India's 4th largest trading partner.

India signed FTA (Free Trade Agreement) in goods in 2009 and an FTA in services and investments in 2014 with ASEAN.

About Association of Southeast Asian Nations -

It is a regional grouping that promotes economic, political, and security cooperation.

It was established in August 1967 in Bangkok, Thailand with the signing of the ASEAN Declaration.

- 129.** As part of I2U2 initiatives, India, Israel, UAE, and the US will hold its first virtual summit in -
 (A) July 2022 (B) January 2023
 (C) October 2022 (D) February 2023

Ans: (A)

Exp: As part of I2U2 initiatives, India, Israel, UAE, and the US will hold its first virtual summit in July 2022.

I2U2 was initially formed in October, 2021 following the Abraham Accords between Israel and the UAE, to deal with issues concerning maritime security, infrastructure and transport in the region.

At that time, it was called the 'International Forum for Economic Cooperation'.

That was referred as the 'West Asian Quad'.

About I2U2 -

I2U2 initiative is a new grouping of India, Israel, USA and UAE.

In the grouping's name, 'I2' stands for India and Israel, whereas 'U2' stands for USA and the UAE. This is a great achievement which tells the geopolitical changes that happen in the region.

Significance -

This will help the countries in exploring security cooperation among the four nations within the framework of these new groupings.

This initiative offers an opportunity to discuss food security.

India will get advantage of the Abraham Accords to deepen engagement with Israel without risking its ties with the UAE and the other Arab states.

India is a massive consumer market. It's a massive producer of high-tech and highly sought-after goods as well. India will benefit from this grouping.

- 130.** What is the rank of India in the recently launched annual World Competitiveness Index by the Institute for Management Development?

(A) 43rd

(B) 37th

(C) 47th

(D) 33rd

Ans: (B)

Exp: Recently, the annual World Competitiveness Index was released by the Institute for Management Development (IMD).

IMD is a Swiss foundation, based in Switzerland, dedicated to the development of international business executives at each stage of their careers. India has witnessed the sharpest rise among the Asian economies, with a six-position jump from 43rd to 37th rank on the, largely due to gains in economic performance.

About World Competitiveness Index -

The IMD World Competitiveness Yearbook (WCY), first published in 1989, is a comprehensive annual report and worldwide reference point on the competitiveness of countries.

It analyzes and ranks countries according to how they manage their competencies to achieve long-term value creation.

Highlights of the Index -

Europe: Denmark has moved to the top of the 63-nation list from the third position last year, while Switzerland slipped from the top ranking to the second position and Singapore regained the third spot from fifth.

Asia: The top-performing Asian economies are Singapore (3th), Hong Kong (5th), Taiwan (7th), China (17th) and Australia (19th).

Others: Both Russia and Ukraine were not assessed in this year's edition due to the limited reliability of data collected.

131. Which state government has launched Ennum Ezhuthum scheme to bridge learning gap?

- (A) Tamil Nadu (B) Telangana
(C) Kerala (D) Maharashtra

Ans: (A)

Exp: Tamil Nadu Chief Minister, MK Stalin launched the Ennum Ezhuthum scheme to bridge the learning gap that was caused due to the COVID pandemic among students aged below eight.

The scheme aims to ensure foundational literacy and numeracy by 2025.

It was launched at an event in Azhinjivakkam panchayat union middle school, Tiruvallur.

Under the programme -

The education department will distribute workbooks to students from Classes 1 to 3 to assess and bridge the learning gap.

Last week, a special training programme was conducted for teachers and handbooks were distributed.

Teachers were advised to opt for interactive learning methods and encourage students to read newspapers and books in the school library.

The State government has announced a slew of programmes and schemes for the academic year 2022-23, with the motive to improve the quality of education in the State.

The children will be trained in 3 subjects – Tamil, English, and Mathematics in a classroom suitable for conducting lessons that are designed in the format of dance, songs, storytelling, and puppetry, and also videos.

132. Which International Airport has become India's first airport to launch a one-of-its-kind Vertical Axis Wind Turbine & Solar PV hybrid?

- (A) Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport
(B) Indira Gandhi International Airport
(C) Kempegowda International Airport
(D) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport

Ans: (D)

Exp: Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA), Mumbai has become India's first airport to launch a one-of-its-kind Vertical Axis Wind Turbine & Solar PV hybrid (Solar Mill) to explore the possibility of utilization of wind energy at the airport.

With this, Mumbai will become the first city in India to establish a one-of-its-kind hybrid power project at its airport.

About the Initiative -

This sustainable initiative undertaken by CSMIA reduces dependence on conventional electricity which propels its journey towards 'Net Zero' emissions.

This fully integrated, hybrid renewable energy product harnesses solar and wind energy merged to produce electricity.

The energy produced through this technology can be customised on a need-specific basis. It's easy to mount the technology on any mobile or static rooftop due to its modular and scalable size.

The hybrid project will be launched in partnership with WindStream Energy Technologies India Pvt Ltd. The plant will need minimal maintenance of installation, unlike any other machines for electrical supply, as per the reports.

133. The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority has organized a mango festival in which country to boost export of mangoes?

- (A) Qatar (B) Bahrain
(C) Kuwait (D) UAE

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) has organized an eight-day long mango festival in Bahrain to boost the export of Mangoes.

34 varieties of mangoes from eastern states of West Bengal, Bihar, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh and Odisha, are being displayed at eight different locations of Bahrain's Al Jazira group supermarket.

All the varieties of mangoes have been directly procured from farmers and two Farmer Producer Organizations.

The mango show in Bahrain is part of APEDA's new initiatives to explore international markets for Indian mangoes under the "Mango Festival 2022".

Mango Production in India -

India produced some 180 Lakh tonnes of Mango with major production in Uttar Pradesh, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka and Bihar. There are hundreds of varieties of Mango.

There are six varieties of Mango that have been protected under Geographical Indications registry in India. These are as follows:

Laxman Bhog Mango, Khirsapati (Himsagar) Mango and Fazli Mango of Malda district – West Bengal
Mango Malihabadi Dusseheri – Uttar Pradesh
Appemidi Mango – Karnataka
Gir Kesar Mango – Gujarat
Largest customer of Indian Mango is UAE, followed by UK, Saudi Arabia and Kuwait.

- 134.** Former Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai has been appointed as the next head of which organisation?
(A) Registrar of Newspapers for India
(B) Audit Bureau of Circulations
(D) Publications Division

Ans: (C)

Exp: Former Supreme Court judge Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai has been chosen as the next head of the Press Council of India (PCI). Justice Desai recently served as the chairman of the Delimitation Commission on Jammu and Kashmir.

It was established to redesign the Union Territory's assembly constituencies.

Key Points -

Since Justice Chandramauli Kumar Prasad (retd) completed his tenure as PCI chairperson and demitted office in November of last year, the position has been empty.

The appointment of Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai as PCI chairwoman was accepted by a committee that included Vice President M. Venkaiah Naidu, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, and PCI member Prakash Dubey.

Justice Desai, 72, has also served on the Bombay High Court as a judge.

The selection of Justice Desai as the PCI chief will be announced in the near future.

A suggestion for the recruitment of MPs to the panel is also awaited.

About Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai -

Justice Ranjana Prakash Desai is the current chairperson of India's Delimitation Commission and a former Supreme Court judge.

Before being appointed to the Supreme Court, she worked as a public prosecutor for the state of Maharashtra and as a judge on the Bombay High Court.

Desai was the Chairperson of the Indian Appellate Tribunal for Electricity after her retirement from the Supreme Court.

- 135.** Which country has signed an agreement to accept UPI payments and RuPay cards from India?

(A) Germany (B) Canada
(C) Russia (D) France

Ans: (D)

Exp: The National Payments Corporation of India International has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Lyra Network of France.

As per the signed MoU, Indians will soon be able to pay with their UPI or RuPay Cards in France which will prove to be beneficial for the Indian students or the travelers.

In France where there is a terminal or machine of Lyra Network, India will be able to pay with the UPI and RuPay Card.

UPI RuPay France -

The National Payments Corporation of India International (NPCI International), the International arm of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Lyra Network, a French Payment Solutions Company. With the launch of UPI, RuPay in France, Indians will be allowed to pay using the UPI and RuPay cards at terminals and machines offered by Lyra Networks.

It will further make it easier, particularly for the students and tourists from India to make payments.

Apart from France, the Indians are eligible to use UPI in countries such as Bhutan and Singapore.

The National Payments Corporation of India International (NPCI) is also in talks to enable UPI payments services in Nepal.

- 136.** India's first private train service has been flagged off between which two cities?

(A) Coimbatore and Shirdi
(B) Chennai and Bengaluru
(C) Bengaluru and Madurai
(D) Madurai and Coimbatore

Ans: (A)

Exp: India's first private train service, under the Bharat Gaurav Scheme, which began its service from Coimbatore in Tamil Nadu to Sainagar Shirdi of Maharashtra.

This private train being operated by a firm named South Star Rail, will be maintained by housekeeping service providers, who will clean the utility areas during frequent intervals and the

caterers are experienced in preparing a traditional vegetarian menu.

About Bharat Gaurav scheme -

The theme-based Bharat Gaurav scheme was launched by the Indian Railways in November 2021.

It aims to let the people from India and foreign countries explore India's rich cultural heritage and historical places.

As per the Bharat Gaurav scheme of the Union government, private players can lease trains for two years from the Indian Railways for a theme-based tourism circuit and the routes of the trains can be decided by the operators.

Railway has leased this train to a service provider for a period of two years.

A Coimbatore-based company, South Star Rail is the registered service provider that operates this Bharat Gaurav Train from Coimbatore to Shirdi and back.

At present, the IRCTC is already running several tourist-circuit trains.

With the introduction of the Bharat Gaurav scheme, all tourist-circuit trains with effect from first April will be operated as per the guidelines issued under this policy.

This will now help in roping in more tour operators with professional experience and revamping the tourism sector in the country, which came to a halt during the pandemic.

IRCTC -

Headquarters: New Delhi

Founder: Ministry of Railways

Founded: 27 September 1999

137. An 80-metre road in Gujarat's Gandhinagar will be renamed after whom?

- (A) Putilbai Gandhi (B) Heeraben Modi
(C) Kusumben Shah (D) Krishna Devi

Ans: (B)

Exp: An 80-metre road in Gujarat's Gandhinagar will be renamed after PM Narendra Modi's mother Hiraba, who is turning 100 years old on June 18. The road from Raysan Petrol pump will be called "Pujya Hiraba Marg".

Gandhinagar Mayor Hitesh Makwana said the decision was taken "keeping in account the demand and feelings of the people of the state capital".

It was decided to rename the 80-meter road for the purpose of keeping the name of Hiraba alive

forever and for future generations to learn the lessons of renunciation, penance, service and conscientiousness from it.

138. Recently, the Ministry of Textile inaugurated the "Lota Shop" at National Crafts Museum of which city?

- (A) Mumbai (B) Kolkata
(C) New Delhi (D) Bangalore

Ans: (C)

Exp: Recently, the Ministry of Textile inaugurated the 'Lota Shop' at National Crafts Museum, New Delhi.

The shop was opened by Central Cottage Industries Corporation of India Limited (CCIC), popularly known as the Central Cottage Industries Emporium.

The government also stated that it is working towards 'One District One Product' which will give impetus to the Handicraft sector as well as the Artisans.

One District One Product -

The "One District, One Product" was launched by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries.

It help districts to reach their full potential, foster economic and socio-cultural growth in rural areas.

It aims to identify, promote and brand a product from one district.

Status of Handicraft Sector in India -

The handloom and handicraft industry has been the backbone of India's rural economy for decades.

India is one of the largest handicraft exporting countries.

It is one of the largest employment generators after agriculture, providing a key means of livelihood to the country's rural and urban population.

Related Government Initiatives -

Ambedkar Hastshilp Vikas Yojana:

To support artisans with their infrastructure, technology and human resource development needs.

Mega Cluster Scheme:

The objective of this scheme includes employment generation and improvement in the standard of living of artisans.

Marketing Support and Services Scheme:

This scheme provides interventions for domestic marketing events to artisans in the form of financial assistance.

139. Which country has recently become India's second biggest oil supplier?

- (A) Saudi Arabia (B) Iraq
(C) Iran (D) Russia

Ans: (D)

Exp: Russia has overtaken Saudi Arabia to become India's second-biggest supplier of oil behind Iraq as refiners snap up Russian crude available at a deep discount following the war in Ukraine.

Indian refiners bought about 25 million barrels of Russian oil in May, or more than 16 per cent of all their oil imports.

Russian-origin crude hit 5 per cent of India's total seaborne imports in April for the first time, rising from under 1% throughout 2021 and Q1 2022.

Key points of the report -

After the US and China, India is the world's third-largest consumer of oil, over 85 per cent of which is imported.

India, the world's third-biggest oil-importing and consuming nation, has long defended purchases of crude oil from Russia following President Vladimir Putin ordering the invasion of Ukraine.

The Oil Ministry had last month stated that "energy purchases from Russia remain minuscule in comparison to India's total consumption."

Iraq remained the top supplier to India in May and Saudi Arabia is now the third biggest supplier.

India has taken advantage of discounted prices to ramp up oil imports from Russia at a time when global energy prices have been rising.

140. Recently, Prime Minister inaugurated the Sant Tukaram Shila Mandir in which city?

- (A) Nashik (B) Solapur
(C) Panvel (D) Pune

Ans: (D)

Exp: Recently, Prime Minister inaugurated the Sant Tukaram Shila Mandir in the temple town of Dehu in the Pune district.

Shila Mandir is a temple dedicated to a slab of stone (shila) on which Sant Tukaram meditated for 13 days.

Shila refers to a rock that is currently on the Dehu Sansthan temple premises, and that for centuries has been the starting point of Wari, the annual pilgrimage to Pandharpur.

About Sant Tukaram -

Sant Tukaram was a Warkari saint and poet.

The sect is spread across Maharashtra and Sant Tukaram and his works are central to it.

He was famously known for Abhanga devotional poetry and community-oriented worship through spiritual songs known as Kirtans.

Also, composed a Marathi genre of literature called Abhanga poetry which fused folk stories with spiritual themes.

His Philosophy -

Tukaram mentions four more people in his Abhangas work who had a major influence on his spiritual development: the previous Bhakti Sants Namdev, Dnyaneshwar, Kabir, and Eknath.

Tukaram's teachings were regarded as Vedanta-based.

Social Reform -

His message about a casteless society and his denial of rituals had led to a social movement.

His Abhangs became the strong weapon against the Brahmanical dominance of society.

141. Which tech company has announced a start-up accelerator program for women founders?

- (A) Google (B) Microsoft
(C) Apple (D) Sony

Ans: (A)

Exp: Google announced a startup accelerator program for women founders.

The program will help them address challenges such as fundraising and hiring.

Google for Startups Accelerator India – Women Founders will run from Jul-2022 to Sep-2022.

The program is part of a larger effort by Google towards improving the representation of women across different sections of India's digitally-trained workforce – be it entrepreneurship, professionals looking to upskill or young graduates seeking a headstart on their career.

Key points -

The inaugural batch of the "Google for Startups Accelerator – India Women Founders" will accept up to 20 women-founded / co-founded startups in the country, and support them through a three-month program.

The program will place special focus on areas like access to networks, capital, hiring challenges, mentorship, and other areas which, for a variety of social reasons and low representation, prove challenging for female founders.

The selected Startups will receive mentorship and support around AI/ML, Cloud, UX, Android, Web, Product Strategy and Growth. In addition to mentorship and technical project support, the

accelerator includes deep dives and workshops focused on product design, customer acquisition, and founders' leadership development.

142. Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated Jal Bhushan Building in which city?

- (A) Kolkata (B) Mumbai
(C) New Delhi (D) Chennai

Ans: (B)

Exp: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated Jal Bhushan Building at Raj Bhawan in Mumbai. Maharashtra Chief Minister Udhav Thackeray, Dy CM Ajit Pawar, Environment Minister Aaditya Thackeray and the State Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari were also present on the occasion.

The PM also inaugurated an underground "Gallery of Revolutionaries" museum dedicated to the luminaries of the freedom struggle, at the Raj Bhawan.

About the gallery -

The gallery has come up in the subterranean network of 13 pre-World War-I British era bunkers, discovered in the Raj Bhawan campus in August 2016 during the tenure of the then Governor C Vidyasagar Rao.

The gallery includes information on the freedom movement heroes, their role in the movement, sculptures, rare photographs, murals and details on tribal revolutionaries drawn by school-kids.

143. What is the name of the IIM Ahmedabad professor, who has been appointed non-official director on the central board of the Reserve Bank?

- (A) Pankaj R Patel
(B) Venu Srinivasan
(C) Ravindra H Dholakia
(D) Nirupam Bajpai

Ans: (C)

Exp: The government has appointed industrialists Anand Mahindra, Pankaj R Patel and Venu Srinivasan, and former IIM (Ahmedabad) professor Ravindra H Dholakia as non-official directors on the central board of the Reserve Bank. The nominations have been made for four years by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

Four new members of RBI central board:

Anand Mahindra is the chairman of the Mahindra Group, the non-executive chairman of Mahindra & Mahindra and Tech Mahindra. His tenure has seen the Group expand domestically and

internationally into a range of major industrial sectors from automobiles and agriculture to IT and aerospace.

TVS Motor Company Chairman Emeritus, Venu Srinivasan is an engineer and an MBA from Purdue University (USA) and took over as the CEO of Sundaram-Clayton, the holding company of TVS Motor, in 1979.

In a stock exchange filing, Zydus Lifesciences said its chairman Pankaj R Patel has been appointed as a part-time non-official director in the central board of the RBI.

Ravindra H Dholakia was the economics area faculty at IIM Ahmedabad from September 1985 to April 2018 when he superannuated. He received the Most Distinguished Faculty Award for the year 2017-18 at IIM-A. He was a regular visiting faculty at the European Management Institute (ESCP-EAP), Paris from 2002 to 2005.

About RBI's central board of directors:

RBI's affairs are governed by the central board of directors. The members of the board, chaired by RBI Governor, are appointed by the government of India as per the Reserve Bank of India Act.

The official directors (full-time) of board consists of the Governor and not more than four deputy governors.

The government nominates 10 non-official from various files and two government officials. Besides, there are also four non-official directors (one each from four local board of RBI).

144. The BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution has signed a memorandum of understanding with which International Bank?

- (A) European Central Bank
(B) Asian Development Bank
(C) World Bank
(D) National Development Bank

Ans: (D)

Exp: The BRICS Partnership on New Industrial Revolution (PartNIR) Innovation Center and the BRICS New Growth Bank (NDB) signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to enhance bilateral cooperation and boost BRICS countries' common development.

The name BRICS stands for Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa, a group of emerging markets.

It is home to more than 40% of the worldwide population and a quarter of the global economy.

Key Points -

The Memorandum of Understanding was signed via video link at the port city of Xiamen, Fujian Province, East China.

On behalf of the two parties, Huang Wenhui, executive vice chairman of the BRICS PartNIR Innovation Center council, and Marcos Troyjo, president of the NDB, signed the MoU.

The two sides will prioritise collaboration in areas such as artificial intelligence, the industrial internet, energy conservation, and environmental protection, according to the MoU, through cooperative research, staff training, and information sharing on infrastructure and sustainable programmes.

In December 2020, the BRICS PartNIR Innovation Center opened in Xiamen.

The NDB was founded by the BRICS countries and is headquartered in Shanghai.

The bank first opened its doors in July of 2015.

145. Which company has launched an industry-first credit line service using its AI-powered chat capability on WhatsApp?

(A) Enrich (B) Urmoney
(C) CASHe (D) Questis

Ans: (C)

Exp: Financial wellness platform, CASHe has launched an industry-first credit line service using its AI-powered chat capability on WhatsApp to provide customers with a fast, seamless and convenient way to access instant credit line by merely typing their name. The firm offers an instant credit limit without the need for any documents, app downloads or filling up tedious application forms. About the CASHe's WhatsApp chat service: CASHe's WhatsApp chat service is built on the WhatsApp Business Platform, an enterprise solution that allows businesses to communicate with new and existing customers on WhatsApp in a simple, secure, and reliable way. Underlying this facility is an AI-powered bot that matches the customer's inputs and automatically facilitates a formal application along with a KYC check, and once verified, sets up a credit line in a few clicks through a guided conversational flow. The borrower's details will be generated and displayed based on the name entered – the only key input that the borrower needs to enter at the start of the conversation.

146. Global Wind Day that is also known as World Wind Day has recently observed on which day of June?

(A) 12 June (B) 13 June
(C) 14 June (D) 15 June

Ans: (D)

Exp: Global Wind Day which is also known as World Wind Day is observed every year on June 15 to realize, address and execute the wind energy and the possibilities that it brings along for the future. Global Wind Day 2022 is dedicated to exploring the power of wind energy as it decarbonizes the economies of the countries and boosts growth.

Theme -

The theme of the World Wind Day 2022 is "We are #InWithWind, are you?".

The theme of Global Wind Day revolves around raising awareness among people about the power and the prospect of wind energy.

History -

European Wind Energy Association (EWEA) announced the first Global Wind Day in 2007.

The Association had joined hands with the Global Wind Energy Council in 2009 and since then it has been celebrated as a global event.

Wind Energy -

Wind Energy is basically the use of wind to produce mechanical or electrical power.

Wind power is also one of the fastest-growing technologies that come under the umbrella of renewable energy.

The kinetic motion produced by the wind is converted to electrical energy by the use of a generator or a motor shaft.

Policies related to Wind Energy in India -

National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy: The main objective of the National Wind-Solar Hybrid Policy, 2018 is to provide a framework for promotion of large grid connected wind-solar PV hybrid systems for optimal and efficient utilization of wind and solar resources, transmission infrastructure and land.

National Offshore Wind Energy Policy: The National Offshore wind energy policy was notified in October 2015 with an objective to develop the offshore wind energy in the Indian Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) along the Indian coastline of 7600 km.

147. Who has bagged a silver medal in Paavo Nurmi Games 2022 by made a new National world record?

- (A) Shivpal Singh (B) Neeraj Chopra
(C) Jagdish Bishnoi (D) Gurtej Singh

Ans: (B)

Exp: Neeraj Chopra achieved a new National world record at Paavo Nurmi Games 2022 in Finland with his career's best throw of 89.30 meters.

He bagged a silver medal in the tournament. Neeraj Chopra shattered his own National Record of 88.07m from March 2021. It was also the fifth-best throw of the season in the world so far.

Key Points -

In Paavo Nurmi Games 2022, Finland's 25-year-old Oliver Helander won the gold medal with his second throw of 89.83 meters.

Reigning world champion Anderson Peters of Grenada and 2020 Tokyo Olympics Silver Medalist Jakub Vadlejch of the Czech Republic also participated in the 10-athlete men's javelin throw competition which was held in Finland's Turku.

About Paavo Nurmi Games 2022 -

The Paavo Nurmi Games 2022, a gold event in the World Athletics Continental Tour, is one of the biggest track and field tournaments outside the Diamond League.

Neeraj Chopra will next compete at the Kuortane Games in Finland before he heads to the Stockholm leg of the Diamond League on June 30. Chopra will then head to the Athletic World Championships from July 15 to 24 in Oregon before the Commonwealth Games starting on July 28.

148. Which country has launched Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative which aims at bringing together 20 emerging young civic leaders?

- (A) India (B) Russia
(C) USA (D) Canada

Ans: (C)

Exp: The United States Department of State on June 14, 2022, launched Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative.

The two great luminaries Mahatma Gandhi and Dr Martin Luther King Jr were known as the patrons of civil rights and social justice.

Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative announced by the Department of State's Bureau of

Educational and Cultural Affairs aims at bringing together 20 emerging young civic leaders from India and the United States.

As per the US State Department, the exchange was championed by the late honorable John Lewis.

Gandhi-King Scholarly Exchange Initiative -

The Indian and US participants in January 2023 will reconvene in India to visit the important sites, organization and communities that build upon their academic curriculum.

This is centered around the academic themes of peace, nonviolence, and conflict resolution and build their leadership capacities.

About Mahatma Gandhi -

The International Day of Non-Violence is observed on 2nd October, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi.

Gandhi Peace Prize is given for social, economic and political transformation through non-violence and other Gandhian methods.

He returned to India from South Africa on 9th January 1915.

Books Written: Hind Swaraj, My Experiments with Truth (Autobiography)

He founded the Hindustani Prachar Sabha in 1942 at Wardha in Maharashtra.

In September 1932, B.R. Ambedkar negotiated the Poona Pact with Mahatma Gandhi.

About Martin Luther King -

Martin Luther King, Jr. was born on January 15, 1929, in Atlanta, Georgia.

In 1955, King founded the Montgomery Improvement Association (MIA) in conjunction with other executive members and officers of the NAACP's Montgomery chapter.

In 1955, as President of the MIA, King led the nonviolent Montgomery Bus Boycott, which ultimately led to the desegregation of city buses. The bus boycott resulted from the Rosa Parks bus incident.

149. Which Indian footballer has become the joint fifth highest goalscorer in international football history?

- (A) Sunil Chhetri (B) Gurpreet Singh
(C) Udanta Singh (D) Pronay Halder

Ans: (A)

Exp: Indian men's football team captain Sunil Chhetri became the joint fifth highest goalscorer in international football history.

Chhetri achieved this feat during their AFC Asian Cup Qualifier clash against Hong Kong.

India completed their AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers 2023 campaign in style at the VYBK Stadium in Kolkata as they bagged a massive 4-0 win over Hong Kong in the final game of Group D.

It was the third consecutive win for Team India in the AFC Asian Cup Qualifiers.

Earlier, they had defeated Cambodia and Afghanistan.

Key Points -

He has now equalled legendary Real Madrid and Hungarian player Ferenc Puskas goals scoring exploits on the international level.

Earlier in October 2021, Chhetri also surpassed legendary football player Pele's record of 77 goals.

He is now third on the list of active international goalscorers, just behind Portugal's Cristiano Ronaldo and Argentina's Lionel Messi.

Currently, Ronaldo is the highest goalscorer in international football with 117 goals, while Messi is in the fourth spot with a total of 86 goals.

150. What was the name of two-time Olympian and a double Asian Games gold medallist, who has passed away recently?

(A) Dharambir Singh (B) Surendra Singh
(C) Bahadur Prasad (D) Hari Chand

Ans: (E)

Exp: Long distance great runner Hari Chand, a two-time Olympian and a double Asian Games gold medallist, passed away in Jalandhar.

He was 69.

Chand won the 5000 and 10,000m gold at the 1978 Bangkok Asiad and also the 10,000m title at the 1975 Asian Championships in Seoul.

Chand, who hailed from Ghorewaha village in Punjab's Hoshiarpur District, made waves with his barefoot running and broke the 10,000m National record at the 1976 Montreal Olympics which stood for 32 years before falling to Surendra Singh.

He was eighth in his heats in Montreal, clocking 28:48.72s.

And in the next Olympics, in Moscow 1980, he was 10th in the 10,000m heats and finished 31st in the marathon which had 74 runners.

700 / 5,000

Translation results

151. Which ruler's period is known as the golden age of Kannada literature?

(A) Pulakeshin
(B) Krishna Deva Raya
(C) Vikramaditya
(D) Kirtivarman

Ans: (B)

Exp: The rule of Krishna Deva Raya was an age of prolific literature in many languages, although it is also known as a golden age of Kannada literature. Many Telugu, Kannada, Sanskrit, and Tamil poets the patronage of the emperor. Emperor Krishna Deva Raya was fluent in many languages.

152. Harshavardhana (ruler of the Pushyabhuti dynasty) was a contemporary of the ruler of which Chalukya dynasty?

(A) Pulakeshin I (B) Vikramaditya I
(C) Kirtivarman I (D) Pulakeshin II

Ans: (D)

Exp: Kirtivarman's son Pulakeshin II was the most famous ruler of the Chalukya dynasty. He was a contemporary of Harshavardhana.

153. Which governor made the 'Sunset Law' in 1794 AD.

(A) Cornwallis
(B) Lord Clive
(C) Lord William Bentick
(D) Thomas Monroe

Ans: (A)

Exp: Based on the Bengal Regulation of 1793 AD, 'Sunset Law' was brought in 1794 AD, according to which if the zamindar does not deposit the amount of land revenue with the District Collector till sunset on a certain date, then his entire Zamindari used to be auctioned. Cornwallis made the 'Sunset Law' in 1794 AD.

154. Ryotwari was the second system of land revenue management after the permanent settlement implemented in British India, was introduced by whom?

(A) Thomas Monroe (B) Captain Reid
(C) Lord Clive (D) Both A and B

Ans: (D)

Exp: Ryotwari System was introduced by Thomas Munro and Captain Reid in 1820. Major areas of introduction include Madras, Bombay, parts of Assam and Coorgh

provinces of British India. In Ryotwari System the ownership rights were handed over to the peasants.

155. Second Buddhist Council was conducted under the patronage of Which King?

- (A) Ajatasatru (B) Kanishka
(C) Kalasoka (D) Ashoka

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Second Buddhist Council was held at Vaisali (or Vaishali), an ancient city in what is now the state of Bihar in northern India, bordering Nepal under the patronage of King Kalasoka while it was presided by Sabakami. This Council probably was held about a century after the first one, or about 383 BCE.

156. Who is known as the 'Father of Modern India' or 'Father of the Bengal Renaissance'?

- (A) Dayananda Saraswati
(B) Dhondo Keshav Karve
(C) Raja Ram Mohan
(D) Dadabhai Naoroji

Ans: (C)

Exp: Raja Ram Mohan roy is known as the 'Father of Modern India' or 'Father of the Bengal Renaissance'. Widely known for his role in the abolition of the practice of Sati.

157. Who has founded the East India Association in 1857 with the purpose of putting across Indian viewpoints across to the British public?

- (A) Dadabhai Naoroji
(B) Jyotiba Phule
(C) Swami Vivekananda
(D) None of these

Ans: (A)

Exp: Dadabhai Naoroji formed the London India Society in 1865 to put forth views on Indian political, social and literary subjects. He also founded the East India Association in 1867.

158. Which of the following statements about the Ilbert Bill is correct?

- (A) To establish High Court in each province
(B) For promotion of Indian judges
(C) Indian judges also have powers to consider cases of British accused
(D) To improve education

Ans: (C)

Exp: The purpose of the Ilbert bill was to remove ethnic discrimination between government officials and the Indian subjects. The bill also proposed to empower Indian judges and magistrates to consider the cases of the British Accused.

159. Who has repealed the Vernacular Press Act passed by Lord Lytton?

- (A) Lord Ripon (B) Lord Mayo
(C) Lord Dalhousie (D) Lord Wellesley

Ans: (A)

Exp: Lord Ripon repeal the Vernacular Press Act passed by Lord Lytton, in order to provide freedom to the newspapers published in vernacular languages.

160. Who had invited all the Muslim leaders to Shimla for establishment of the Muslim league in 1906?

- (A) Lord Minto (B) Lord Curzon
(C) Lord Hardinge II (D) Lord Wellesley

Ans: (A)

Exp: Lord Minto invited all the Muslim leaders to Shimla and proposed the establishment of the Muslim league. Nawab Salimullah who played a very important role in the partition of Bengal. He also played an important role in the establishment of Muslim league.

161. Who composed the famous song 'Amar Sonar Bangla' which later became the national anthem of Bangladesh?

- (A) Rabindranath Tagore
(B) Bankim Chandra Chatterjee
(C) Bhikaiji Cama
(D) Rash Behari Bose

Ans: (A)

Exp: In the Bengal division, Rabindranath Tagore composed the famous song 'Amar Sonar Bangla', which later became the national anthem of Bangladesh.

162. In 1610, the first company factory of East India Company in south India was set up in __.

- (A) Machilipatnam (B) Surat
(C) Mumbai (D) Kozhikode

Ans: (A)

Exp: The first company factory in south India was set up in Machilipatnam (in modern-day

Andhra Pradesh) along the Coromandel Coast.

163. Poona Pact was an agreement between Dr. Bhimrao Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi signed on _____ .
 (A) Sep 24, 1931 (B) Oct 24, 1930
 (C) Sep 24, 1932 (D) Oct 24, 1932

Ans: (C)

Exp: Poona pact Babasaheb Ambedkar and Mahatma Gandhi was signed on September 24, 1932. The agreement was signed by Pt Madan Mohan Malviya and Dr. B. R. Ambedkar and some Dalit leaders at Yerwada Central Jail in Pune, to break Mahatma Gandhi's fast unto death.

164. Which of these books did not written by Mahatma Gandhi?
 (A) Hind Swaraj (B) Indian Opinion
 (C) Young India (D) None of these

Ans: (D)

Exp: Gandhi ji edited several newspapers which included Harijan in Gujarati, in Hindi and in the English language, Indian Opinion, Young India, in English, and Navajivan, a Gujarati monthly. Hind Swaraj was published in Gujarati in 1909.

165. The Quit India Movement was a movement launched at the which session of the All-India Congress Committee on 8 August 1942?
 (A) Kolkata (B) Bombay
 (C) Allahabad (D) Surat

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Quit India Movement, or the August Movement, was a movement launched at the Bombay session of the All-India Congress Committee by Mahatma Gandhi on 8 August 1942, during World War II, demanding an end to British Rule of India.

166. Where did Mahatma Gandhiji die on 30 January 1948?
 (A) Birla House (B) Tata House
 (C) Gujarat (D) Kolkata

Ans: (A)

Exp: Mahatma Gandhi die At 5:17 pm on 30 January 1948, Gandhi was with his grandnieces in the garden of Birla House (now Gandhi Smriti), on his way to address a prayer meeting, when

Nathuram Godse, a Hindu nationalist, fired three bullets into his chest from a pistol .

167. Who has established the All India Home Rule League, a political association aimed at self-government or "Home Rule" on 1 August 1916?
 (A) Annie Besant
 (B) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 (C) Mahatma Gandhi
 (D) Lala Lajpat Rai

Ans: (A)

Exp: On 1 August 1916, Annie Besant launched the Home Rule League. Annie Besant was a British theosophist; he was women's right's activist, writer and orator who supported Indian and Irish home rule.

168. In which year the 'Deliverance Day' was celebrated by the Muslim League?
 (A) 22 Dec 1940 (B) 22 Dec 1939
 (C) 22 Oct 1939 (D) 22 Sep 1940

Ans: (B)

Exp: Day of Deliverance was a celebration day marked by the All-India Muslim League and others on 22 December 1939 during the Indian independence movement.

169. Which of these Nanda dynasty's rulers was highly unpopular due to his oppressive tax regime?
 (A) Dhana Nanda
 (B) Shaishu naga
 (C) Kalashoka
 (D) Mahapadma Nanda

Ans: (A)

Exp: The last of the Nanda rulers, Dhana Nanda was highly unpopular due to his oppressive tax regime.

170. The Mudrarakshasa, a Sanskrit play that narrates the ascent of the king Chandragupta Maurya to power in India, is written by whom?
 (A) Kalidasa (B) Harishena
 (C) Vishakhadatta (D) Bharavi

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Mudrarakshasa is a Sanskrit-language play by Vishakhadatta that narrates the ascent of the king Chandragupta Maurya to power in India.

- 171.** In 1888, who became the first English President of Indian National Congress?
 (A) Sir John Shore
 (B) Annie Besant
 (C) Sir William Wedderburn
 (D) George Yule
Ans: (D)
Exp: George Yule was a Scottish merchant in England and India who served as the fourth President of the Indian National Congress in 1888 at Allahabad, the first non-Indian to hold that office.
- 172.** Who authored the book 'The Indian Struggle' which covers the Indian independence movement from 1920 to 1942?
 (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 (B) Lala Lajpat Rai
 (C) Subhas Chandra Bose
 (D) Rajendra Prasad
Ans: (C)
Exp: Bose authored the book 'The Indian Struggle' which covers the Indian independence movement from 1920 to 1942. The book was banned by the British government
- 173.** In which year, Non-cooperation movement was endorsed at the Nagpur session of the Indian National Congress?
 (A) 1918 (B) 1919
 (C) 1921 (D) 1920
Ans: (D)
Exp: In December 1920 at the Nagpur session of the Indian National Congress took significant decisions like endorsing the programme of non-cooperation.
- 174.** In whose reign was the dam built on the Sudarshan lake near Girnar in Kathiawar?
 (A) Pushya gupta
 (B) Chandragupta Maurya
 (C) Skandgupta
 (D) Chandragupta-II
Ans: (B)
Exp: Junagarh Rock inscription mentions that one of Chandragupta Maurya's governors, Pushyagupta, was responsible for building a dam on Sudarshana Lake near Girnar in Kathiawar.
- 175.** Allahabad Pillar Inscription (Prayag Prasasti) was issued by Samudragupta and was composed by _____.
 (A) Harisena (B) Kalidasa
 (C) Bharavi (D) Vishnugupta
Ans: (A)
Exp: Samudragupta court poet and minister Harisena composed the Allahabad pillar Inscription or Prayag Prasasti. The Pillar was an Asokan Pillar erected by Asoka six century before him.
- 176.**A warm northeasterly ocean current of the coast of Japan. This current is also called the gulf stream of the Pacific ocean
 (A) kuroshio (B) Irminger
 (C) El Nino (D) California
Ans: (A)
Exp: THE kuroshio is A warm northeasterly ocean current of the coast of Japan. This current is also called the gulf stream of the Pacific or Japan Current. Kuroshio means "the black stream" in Japanese, named after the deep ultramarine color of the high salinity water, which is found flowing north of the current's axis.
- 177.** The Farakka Barrage issue is between India and Bangladesh, related to distribution of water of which among the following rivers?
 (A) Bramhaputra (B) Ganga
 (C) Hooghly (D) Damodar
Ans: (B)
Exp: The Farakka Barrage was created by India in 1975 to divert water from the Ganges River to the Bhagirathi-Hoogly river system. The barrage diverts water from one of the most populated basins in the world. There are 54 transboundary rivers between India and Bangladesh.
- 178.** Tungabhadra Multipurpose project is an interstate project between which among the following states?
 (A) Tamilnadu - Karnataka
 (B) Kerala - Andhra Pradesh
 (C) Andhra Pradesh - Karnataka
 (D) Tamilnadu - Goa
Ans: (C)
Exp: The Tungabhadra River is a river in India that starts and flows through the state of Karnataka during most of its course, before flowing along the border between Telangana, Andhra Pradesh

and ultimately joining the Krishna River near Sangameswaram village in Kurnool district of Andhra Pradesh.

179. Which types of crop is mainly grown in Laterite soils?

- (A) Tobacco (B) Sugarcane
(C) Cotton (D) tea

Ans: (D)

Exp: Laterite soils lack fertility due to intensive leaching. When manured and irrigated, some laterites are suitable for growing plantation crops like tea, coffee, rubber, cinchona, coconut, arecanut, etc. In some areas, these soils support grazing grounds and scrub forests.

180. The Naga Hills are the watershed between India and which country.

- (A) China (B) Bhutan
(C) Nepal (D) Myanmar

Ans: (D)

Exp: The Naga Hills, reaching a height of around 3,825 metres, lie on the border of India and Myanmar. They are part of a complex mountain system, and the parts of the mountain ranges inside the Indian state of Nagaland and the Myanmar region of Sagaing are called the Naga Hills.

181. Hussain Sagar Lake is Asia's largest artificial lake in which state it's located?

- (A) Tamil Nadu (B) Telangana
(C) Karnataka (D) Meghalaya

Ans: (B)

Exp: Hussain Sagar is a heart-shaped lake in Hyderabad, Telangana, built by Ibrahim Quli Qutb Shah in 1563. It is spread across an area of 5.7 square kilometers and is fed by the River Musi. A large monolithic statue of the Gautama Buddha, erected in 1992, stands on Gibraltar Rock in the middle of the lake.

182. Which of the following mountain is a part of UNESCO World Heritage Sites?

- (A) Aravalli Range (B) Himalaya
(C) Western Ghats (D) Eastern ghats

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Western Ghats, also known as the Sahyadri Mountains, a mountain range along the western side of India and one of the world's ten "Hottest biodiversity hotspots" A total of thirty nine

properties (including national parks, wildlife sanctuaries and reserve forests) were designated as World Heritage Sites – twenty in the state of Kerala, ten in Karnataka, five in Tamil Nadu and four in Maharashtra.

183. The Brahmaputra, also called Tsangpo in Tibet, is one of the main rivers in Asia. in which country does not flows

- (A) India (B) China
(C) Bhutan (D) Bangladesh

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Brahmaputra is a trans-boundary river which flows through China, India and Bangladesh. It is the ninth largest river in the world by discharge, and the 15th longest

184. Which of the following peninsular rivers does not flow into the Arabian Sea?

- (A) Tapi and kavery
(B) Narmada and kavery
(C) Godavari and Krishna
(D) Narmada and Tapi

Ans: (C)

Exp: East flowing rivers such as Godavari, Krishna, Kaveri, Mahanadi drained into Bay of Bengal and West flowing rivers such as the Narmada, the Tapi drained into the Arabian Sea.

185. On the coastal area of which state is Varkala, Chavara, Chavakkad and Natika etc. beaches are situated.

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

Ans: (B)

Exp: There are many beaches on the Kerala coastline. Some popular tourist destinations are beaches such as Kovalam, Varkala, Chavara, Chavakkad, Natika, Cherai, Kizhuna, Poovar etc.

186. Which river passes through maximum number of countries?

- (A) Nile (B) Denube
(C) Amazon (D) Missouri

Ans: (B)

Exp: The Danube is Europe's second longest river, after the Volga. It is located in Central and Eastern Europe. it is passes through the maximum number of countries. like Germany, Austria, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Serbia, Slovakia. etc.

187. The Nagarjunasagar Project is an multipurpose project on the river _____ in the _____ district of Andhra Pradesh.

- (A) Mahanadi, Guntur
(B) Tungabhadra, Anantapur
(C) Krishna, Visakhapatnam.
(D) Krishna, Nalgonda

Ans: (D)

Exp: Nagarjuna Sagar Dam is a masonry dam on the Krishna River near Nalgonda district.

188. Maximum length of border of which of the following states is adjacent to that of other States ?

- (A) Rajasthan (B) Uttar Pradesh
(C) Tamil Nadu (D) Andhra Pradesh

Ans: (B)

Exp: Uttar Pradesh comes at the fourth place in terms of area, the state shares its borders Maximum with as many as 9 states/Union Territories, apart from sharing International border with Nepal.

189. 'Shifting cultivation' is also known as _____ in north-east India.

- (A) Jhuming (B) Logan
(C) Chalak (D) Sarkana

Ans: (A)

Exp: Shifting cultivation in the north eastern region of India is called Jhuming. Jhumia adopt mixed crops. The mixture of crops varies from one tribe to another within a region.

190. Which of the following Himalaya's peak is not located in India?

- (A) Kanchenjunga (B) Nanda Devi
(C) Annapurna (D) Kamet

Ans: (C)

Exp: Annapurna is the tenth tallest mountain in the world, but it ranks as one of the most dangerous. The mountain is located in Nepal along a 55-kilometer (34-mile) ridge just east of the Gandaki River, The gorge separates Annapurna from Dhaulagiri, the seventh tallest mountain in the world.

191. Which one of the following states is the largest producer of black pepper in india?

- (A) Kerala (B) Assam
(C) Tamil Nadu (D) Andhra Pradesh

Ans: (A)

Exp: Kerala and Karnataka are the major pepper producing states in India. Kerala is the largest producer of pepper, accounting over 50 per cent of India's total output followed by Karnataka and Tamilnadu.

192. Daringbadi hill station is located in which state of India?

- (A) Sikkim (B) Assam
(C) Medhalaya (D) Tamil Nadu

Ans: (A)

Exp: Daringbadi is a hill station in Kandhmal district of Odisha state in eastern India. Widely known as "Kashmir of Odisha", (for its climatic similarity), it is situated at a height of 3000 ft and is a popular tourist destination.

193. Which one of the following indian states is the largest producer of natural rubber?

- (A) Sikkim (B) Kerala
(C) Assam (D) Tamil Nadu

Ans: (B)

Exp: Kerala accounts for more than 90 percent of the total rubber production in the country. The total area under rubber cultivation in the state is 5.45 lakh hectares. Rest of the natural rubber is produced in Tamil Nadu and North East states. Kerala is the highest producer of Natural Rubber in India.

194. Which one of the following statements in not correct?

- (A) Godavari River rises in Maharashtra
(B) Tapi River rises in Madhya Pradesh
(C) Cauvery River rises in Andhra Pradesh
(D) Mahanadi River rises in Chattisgarh

Ans: (C)

Exp: Kaveri (also known as Cauvery), is an Indian river flowing through the states of Karnataka and Tamil Nadu. It is the third largest river – after Godavari and Krishna in South India and the largest in Tamil Nadu which, on its course, bisects the state into North and South.

195. The second-highest waterfall of India, Jog Falls is a major tourist attraction in Karnataka Which river is it on.

- (A) Amaravathi (B) Penna
(C) Krishna (D) Sharavathi

Ans: (D)

- Exp:** Jog Falls is formed by the Sharavathi River, gushing down from a height of 253 meters. The river originates at Ambuthirtha in Thirthahalli taluk, flows north-west through the Western Ghats forming the Jog Falls before joining the Arabian Sea at Honavar.
- 196.** The element present in the largest amount in rocks and minerals is-
 (A) Corbon (B) Silicon
 (C) Hydrozen (D) Iron
Ans: (B)
Exp: Silicon is the most easily available semiconductor metal which is present in large amount in rocks and minerals. Silicon is also the basic component of sand, and sand is the basic component of almost every rocks and impure minerals.
- 197.** Which among the sea ports is the largest exporter of iron ore from India?
 (A) Kandla Port
 (B) Jawaharlal Nehru Port
 (C) Visakhapatnam Port
 (D) Port Blair Port
Ans: (C)
Exp: Visakhapatnam Port is one of 13 major ports in India and the only major port of Andhra Pradesh. It is India's second largest port by volume of cargo handled, and it is largest exporter of iron ore from India.
- 198.** The equator does not pass through which country?
 (A) Colombia (B) Brazil
 (C) Gabon (D) Malaysia
Ans: (D)
Exp: The equator passes through 13 countries: Ecuador, Colombia, Brazil, Sao Tome & Principe, Gabon, Republic of the Congo, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Uganda, Kenya, Somalia, Maldives, Indonesia and Kiribati.
- 199.** The iron and steel industries of which of the following countries are almost fully dependent on imported raw materials?
 (A) Japan (B) Brazil
 (C) America (D) Malaysia
Ans: (A)
- Exp:** Japan iron and steel industries almost fully dependent on imported raw materials
- 200.** Which State of India has the largest reserves of monazite, with a high thorium content?
 (A) Jharkhand (B) Rajasthan
 (C) Kerala (D) Odisha
Ans: (C)
Exp: Kerala has the largest reserves of monazite, with a high thorium content. Monazite is a reddish-brown phosphate mineral. It occurs usually in small isolated crystals.
- 201.** The provisions of Emergency are contained in which part of the Constitution?
 (A) XVII (B) XVIII
 (C) XV (D) XX
Ans: (B)
Exp: Emergency Provisions are contained in Part Eighteen of the Constitution of India. The President of India has the power to impose emergency rule in any or all the Indian states if the security of part or all of India is threatened by "war or external aggression or armed rebellion".
- 202.** Konkani, Manipuri and Nepali were added in 1992 by which amendment in constitution of India?
 (A) 71st (B) 92nd
 (C) 21st (D) 72nd
Ans: (A)
Exp: 71st constitution amendment, in which the eighth schedule of the constitution was amended to include Konkani, Mithi (Manipuri) and Nepali languages.
- 203.** The prime minister who called father of economic reforms in India?
 (A) Manmohan Singh (B) Indira Gandhi
 (C) I. K. Gujral (D) Narasimha Rao
Ans: (D)
Exp: Rao, who held the Industries portfolio, was personally responsible for the dismantling of the Licence Raj, as this came under the purview of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. He is often referred to as the "Father of Indian Economic Reforms".
- 204.** With which constitutional amendment were the members of the legislative assemblies of

the Union Territories of Delhi and Puducherry included in the Electoral College for the President?

- (A) 84th Amendment (2001)
 (B) 55th Amendment (1986)
 (C) 70th Amendment (1992)
 (D) 91st Amendment (2003)

Ans: (C)

Exp: With the 70th Amendment (1992), the National Capital Territory of Delhi and Union Territory of Pondicherry were included in the electoral college for the presidential election.

205. Under which Article has the State been directed to secure for the citizens a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India?

- (A) Art 45 (B) Art 44
 (C) Art 40 (D) Art 48

Ans: (B)

Exp: Uniform Civil Code (UCC) is defined in our Constitution under Article 44 of Directive Principles of State Policy. It states that it is the duty of the state to secure for the citizens a Uniform Civil Code throughout the territory of India.

206. Which Committee recommended for the inclusion of The Fundamental Duties into the Constitution?

- (A) Hanumant Rao Committee
 (B) Goiporia Committee
 (C) Bimal Jalan committee
 (D) Sardar Swaran Singh

Ans: (D)

Exp: Fundamental duties of citizens were added to the Constitution by the 42nd Amendment in 1976 on the recommendations of the Swarn Singh Committee.

207. The Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and the other Ministers shall be appointed by the Governor on the advice of the _____.

- (A) President
 (B) Prime Minister
 (C) Chief justice of High Court
 (D) Chief Minister

Ans: (D)

Exp: The Chief Minister shall be appointed by the Governor and the other Ministers shall be

appointed by the Governor on the advice of the Chief Minister.

208. To whom will the State Council of Ministers collectively be responsible?

- (A) Legislative Assembly of the State
 (B) Vidhan Parishad
 (C) Governor
 (D) Chief Minister

Ans: (A)

Exp: The state Council of Ministers is collectively responsible to Legislative Assembly of the State. Every State has a Legislative Assembly and certain States have an upper House also called State Legislative Council.

209. To whom can the Governor address his resignation?

- (A) Chief Minister
 (B) Prime Minister
 (C) President
 (D) Chief justice of High Court

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Governor shall hold office during the President's Offering. The Governor may relinquish his post by writing with his signature addressed to the President. Subject to the foregoing provisions of this article, the Governor shall hold office for a period of five years from the date of his accession.

210. The maximum gap between two sessions of Parliament cannot be more than _____.

- (A) Four months (B) Six months
 (C) Three months (D) Five months

Ans: (B)

Exp: Maximum gap cannot more than six months between two parliamentary sessions.

211. President inaugurates Parliament by addressing it after the general elections and also at the beginning of the first session every year according to which article?

- (A) Art 82(2) (B) Art 90(2)
 (C) Art 87(1) (D) Art 85(1)

Ans: (C)

Exp: Article 87(1) in The Constitution of India 1949: At the commencement of the first session after each general election to the House of the People and at the commencement of the first session of each year the President shall

address both Houses of Parliament assembled together and inform Parliament of the causes of its summons. The presidential address on these occasions is generally meant to outline the new policies of the government.

212. Right to Information was passed by Parliament on _____.
 (A) 12 June 2005 (B) 15 Sep 2005
 (C) 12 Oct 2005 (D) 15 June 2005

Ans: (D)

Exp: Right to Information was passed by Parliament on 15 June 2005 and came fully into force on 12 October 2005. Every day, over 4800 RTI applications are filed.

213. Which of these are not appointed by President of India?
 (A) Solicitor General
 (B) Advocate General
 (C) Chairman of Rajya Sabha
 (D) Chief Justice of High court

Ans: (C)

Exp: The Vice President of India is the ex-officio Chairman of the Rajya Sabha, who presides over its sessions. It is elected indirectly by members of an electoral college consisting of the members of both Houses of Parliament in accordance with the system of Proportional Representation by means of the Single transferable vote and the voting is by secret ballot conducted by the election commission.

214. Which Fundamental Right in the Indian Constitution states that every person has the right to practice, profess and propagate the religion of their choice?
 (A) Right to Equality
 (B) Right to Freedom
 (C) Right against Exploitation
 (D) Right to Freedom of Religion

Ans: (D)

Exp: Article 12 to 35 contained in Part III of the Constitution deal with Fundamental Rights. These are guaranteed in the Constitution in the form of six broad categories of Fundamental Rights.

1. Right to equality, including equality before law, prohibition of discrimination on grounds of religion, race, caste, sex or place of birth, and

equality of opportunity in matters of employment.

2. Right to freedom of speech and expression, assembly, association or union, movement, residence, and right to practice any profession or occupation (some of these rights are subject to security of the State, friendly relations with foreign countries, public order, decency or morality).

3. Right against exploitation, prohibiting all forms of forced labour, child labour and traffic in human beings.

4. Right to freedom of conscience and free profession, practice, and propagation of religion.

5. Right of any section of citizens to conserve their culture, language or script, and right of minorities to establish and administer educational institutions of their choice; and

6. Right to constitutional remedies for enforcement of Fundamental Rights.

215. Whose recommendation is mandatory for impeachment of the President of India before his term is over?

- (A) The Prime Minister
 (B) The Speaker of the Lok Sabha
 (C) The Chief Justice of India
 (D) Two houses of the parliament

Ans: (D)

Exp: Although the Article 53 of the Constitution of India states that the president can exercise his powers directly or by subordinate authority, with few exceptions, all of the executive powers vested in the president are, in practice, exercised by the prime minister (a subordinate authority) with the help of the Council of Ministers.

The president may also be removed before the expiry of the term through impeachment for violating the Constitution of India by the Parliament of India. The process may start in either of the two houses of the parliament. The house initiates the process by levelling the charges against the president. The charges are contained in a notice that has to be signed by at least one-quarter of the total members of that house. The notice is sent up to the president and 14 days later, it is taken up for consideration.

A resolution to impeach the president has to be passed by a two-thirds majority of the total

number of members of the originating house. It is then sent to the other house. The other house investigates the charges that have been made. During this process, the president has the right to defend oneself through an authorised counsel. If the second house also approves the charges made by special majority again, the president stands impeached and is deemed to have vacated their office from the date when such a resolution stands passed. No president has faced impeachment proceedings so the above provisions have never been used.

216. The Constitution of India is the supreme law of India. How many types of writ are there in the Indian Constitution?

- (A) 5 (B) 4
(C) 3 (D) 2

Ans: (A)

Exp: Fundamentally, a writ is a formal written order issued by anybody, executive or judicial, authorised to do so. In modern times, this body is generally judicial. Therefore, a writ can be understood as a formal written order issued by a Court having authority to issue such an order. Orders, warrants, directions, summons etc. are all essentially writs. Articles 32 and 226 specifically provide for five kinds of writs.

1. 'Habeas Corpus' literally means "to have a body of". This writ is used to release a person who has been unlawfully detained or imprisoned.

2. 'Mandamus' means 'we command'. It is issued by the Court to direct a public authority to perform the legal duties which it has not or refused to perform.

3. 'Quo Warranto' means 'by what warrant'. Through this writ, the Court calls upon a person holding a public office to show under what authority he holds that office.

4. 'Certiorari' means to 'certify'. Certiorari is a curative writ. When the Court is of the opinion that a lower court or a tribunal has passed an order which is beyond its powers or committed an error of law then, through the writ of certiorari, it may transfer the case to itself or quash the order passed by the lower court or tribunal.

5. A writ of prohibition is issued by a Court to prohibit the lower courts, tribunals and other

quasi-judicial authorities from doing something beyond their authority.

217. Who was the first Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha?
(A) G. V. Mavalankar
(B) Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
(C) M. Ananthasayanam Ayyangar
(D) Dr P V Cherian

Ans: (C)

Exp: Madabhushi Ananthasayana Ayyangar was the first Deputy Speaker and then Speaker of Lok Sabha in the Indian Parliament. He was Governor of Bihar also. He was elected as member of Central Legislative Assembly in 1934. He was elected to the first Lok Sabha from Tirupathi and to the second Lok Sabha from Chittoor constituencies in 1952 and 1956 respectively. TM

218. In the presence of which of the following, does the Vice President take Oath?

- (A) President
(B) Lok Sabha Speaker
(C) Chief Justice of India
(D) Attorney General

Ans: (A)

Exp: The President administers the oath of office and secrecy to the Vice-President. The Vice-President holds office for five years. The Vice-President of India is the second-highest constitutional office in India after the President. Article 63 of Indian Constitution states that "There shall be a Vice-President of India." The Vice-President acts as President in the absence of the president due to death, resignation, impeachment, or other situations. The Vice-President of India is also ex officio Chairperson of the Rajya Sabha. When a bill is introduced in Rajya Sabha, the vice president decides whether it is a financial bill or not.

219. Indian Citizenship is granted by _____.

- (A) The President of India
(B) The Prime Minister
(C) The Ministry of Home Affairs
(D) The Ministry of External Affairs

Ans: (C)

Exp: According to the Ministry of Home Affairs, there are four ways in which Indian citizenship can be acquired birth, descent, registration and naturalisation.

1. Any person born in India on or after 26 January 1950, but prior to the commencement of the 1986 Act on 1 July 1987, is a citizen of India by birth.
2. Persons born outside India on or after 26 January 1950 but before 10 December 1992 are citizens of India by descent if their father was a citizen of India at the time of their birth.
3. The Central Government may, on an application, register as a citizen of India under section 5 of the Citizenship Act 1955 any person (not being an illegal migrant) if s/he belongs to any of the following categories:
a person of Indian origin who is ordinarily resident in India for seven years before making application under Section 5(1)(A) (throughout the period of twelve months immediately before making application and for six years in the aggregate in the eight years preceding the 12 months).
4. Citizenship of India by naturalization can be acquired by a foreigner who is ordinarily resident in India for 12 years (throughout the period of 12 months immediately preceding the date of application and for 11 years in the aggregate of 14 years preceding the 12 months) and other qualifications as specified in Section 6 (1) of the Citizen Act, 1955.

220. Who among the following is the Chairman of the National Integration Council?

- (A) The President
(B) The Vice President
(C) The Prime Minister
(D) The Chief Justice of India

Ans: (C)

Exp: National Integration Council set up in June 1962 by the then Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru to address the problems of communalism and regionalism in India. It is chaired by Prime Minister of India. The members of the NIC include union ministers, leaders of the opposition in the Lok Sabha and the Rajya Sabha, chief ministers of all states and Union Territories, leaders of national and regional political parties, chairpersons of national commissions eminent journalists and other public figures India.

221. Within what period, the Parliament has to approve Financial emergency declared by the President?

- (A) Six Months (B) Two Months
(C) Three Months (D) Four Months

Ans: (B)

Exp: The proclamation of Emergency must be approved by both the Houses of Parliament within one month from the date of its issue. Initially, the period allowed for approval by the Parliament was two months, but was reduced by the 44th Amendment Act of 1978.

222. To become a member of the Legislative Assembly, a person must be a citizen of India, how many years has he completed his age?

- (A) 21 (B) 30 TM
(C) 25 (D) 35

Ans: (C)

Exp: To become a member of the Legislative Assembly, a person must be a citizen of India, must have completed 25 years of age. He should not be mentally sound and bankrupt. He also has to give a certificate of not having any criminal case against him.

223. The Governors and Lieutenant Governors/ Administrators of the states and union territories of India have similar powers and functions at the state level as that of the President of India at Union level. The salary and allowances of the Governor are charged to

- (A) the Consolidated Fund of India
(B) the Consolidated Fund of the State
(C) the Contingency Fund of India
(D) none of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: He is entitled to such emoluments, allowances and privileges as may be determined by Parliament by the consolidated fund of state. When the same person is appointed as the governor of two or more states, the emoluments and allowances payable to him are shared by the states in such proportion as determined by the president.

224. Can a person act as Governor of more than one state?

- (A) yes
(B) no

(C) only for a period of six months

(D) only for a period of one year

Ans: (A)

Exp: The Governor is the head of a state just like the President is the head of the republic. The Governor is the nominal head of a state, while the Chief Minister is the executive head. According to an amendment in the Constitution of India, brought about in 1956, the same person can be the Governor of two or more states. Apart from the governors in the states, Lieutenant governors are appointed in Union Territories of Delhi, Andaman Nicobar Island and Pudducherry. The only exception is Chandigarh. The governor of Punjab is also the lieutenant governor of Chandigarh.

225. What makes the Judiciary the guardian of the Constitution?

(A) Independence

(B) Service conditions

(C) Salary

(D) Judicial Review

Ans: (D)

Exp: Judicial review is a process under which executive or legislative actions are subject to review by the judiciary. A court with authority for judicial review may invalidate laws, acts and governmental actions that are incompatible with a higher authority: an executive decision may be invalidated for being unlawful or a statute may be invalidated for violating the terms of a constitution. Judicial review is one of the checks and balances in the separation of powers: the power of the judiciary to supervise the legislative and executive branches when the latter exceed their authority. The doctrine varies between jurisdictions, so the procedure and scope of judicial review may differ between and within countries.

226. When the productive capacity of the economic system of a State is inadequate to create sufficient number of jobs, it is called?

(A) Seasonal unemployment

(B) Structural unemployment

(C) Disguised unemployment

(D) Cyclical unemployment

Ans: (B)

Exp: Structural unemployment is a form of involuntary unemployment caused by a mismatch between the skills that workers in the economy can offer, and the skills demanded of workers by employers. Structural unemployment is often brought about by technological changes that make the job skills of many workers obsolete.

227. Which one among the following is not a clause of World Trade Organization?

(A) Lowering trade barriers with negotiations.

(B) Providing financial support to the countries having deficit balance of payments.

(C) Discouraging unfair trade practices such as anti-dumping and export subsidies.

(D) None of these.

Ans: (B)

Exp: Providing financial support to the countries having deficit balance of payments its clause of World Trade Organization.

228. Special Drawings Rights (SDRs) relate to-

(A) The World Bank

(B) The Reserve Bank of India

(C) The World Trade Organization

(D) The International Monetary Fund

Ans: (D)

Exp: Special drawing rights. Special drawing rights (abbreviated SDR, ISO 4217 currency code XDR (numeric: 960)) are supplementary foreign exchange reserve assets defined and maintained by the International Monetary Fund (IMF).

229. The TEAM-9 initiative is a techno economic cooperation venture between India and eight countries of _____.

(A) West Africa (B) East Africa

(C) North Africa (D) Central Africa

Ans: (A)

Exp: In a bid to expand its economic reach, India launched an initiative in 2004 called Techno-Economic Approach for Africa-India Movement (TEAM-9), together with eight energy- and resource-rich West African countries viz.

230. The present Indian monetary system is based on which system?

(A) Gold Reserve System

(B) Proportional Reserve System

- (C) Convertible Currency System
(D) Minimum Reserve System

Ans: (D)

Exp: RBI as Currency Issuing Authority of India! The Reserve Bank has the sole right to issue currency notes, except one-rupee notes which are issued by the Ministry of Finance. ... The RBI follows a minimum reserve system in the note issue.

231. Full convertibility of a rupee means _____.
(A) Purchase of foreign exchange for rupees freely.
(B) Payment for imports in terms of rupees.
(C) Repayment of loans in terms of rupees.
(D) Determination of rate of exchange between rupee and foreign currencies freely by the market forces of demand and supply.

Ans: (D)

Exp: Currency convertibility means “the freedom to convert one currency into other internationally accepted currencies. Full convertibility of rupees means unified market determined exchange rate regime, converting rupees into foreign currencies on both sides i.e. from “current account” and from “capital account” side.

232. India is called a mixed economy because of the existence of?
(1) Public Sector (2) Private Sector
(3) Joint Sector (4) Cooperative Sector
(A) 1, 4 (B) 1, 2
(C) 3, 4 (D) 2, 4

Ans: (B)

Exp: Indian economy is called a mixed economy because it is neither completely socialist nor capitalist. In India private & public sector both operate in the market. Private sector has boosted the Indian economy and this capitalist approach has worked much better.

233. The term stagflation refers to a situation where?
(A) Growth has no relation with the change in prices.
(B) Rate of growth and prices both are decreasing.
(C) Rate of growth is faster than the rate of price increase.
(D) Rate of growth is slower than the rate of price increase.

Ans: (D)

Exp: Stagflation is a condition of slow economic growth and relatively high unemployment, or economic stagnation, accompanied by rising prices, or inflation. It can also be defined as inflation and a decline in gross domestic product (GDP). Stagflation refers to a situation where the rate of growth is slower than the rate of price increase.

234. In Economics the terms ‘Utility’ and ‘Usefulness’ have _____.
(A) Same meaning
(B) Different meaning
(C) Opposite meaning
(D) None of the above

Ans: (B)

Exp: Utility: It is one of the most important concepts in economics and it forms the basis for demand. It is the satisfaction derived from the consumption of a good, a consumer always tries to increase utility. Usefulness: It is used to describe if a resource is practical and cost effective in nature and if it can be used in productive activity.

235. Which of the following public sector banks has the largest number of branches in foreign countries?

- (A) Bank of India
(B) Bank of Baroda
(C) Punjab National Bank
(D) Corporation Bank

Ans: (B)
Exp: Bank of Baroda has the largest number of branches in foreign countries.

236. Which of the following banks was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi in 1919?

- (A) Bank of Maharashtra
(B) Bank of Baroda
(C) State Bank of Saurashtra
(D) Union Bank of India

Ans: (D)
Exp: Union Bank of India (Union Bank) was registered on 11 November 1919 as a limited company in Mumbai and was inaugurated by Mahatma Gandhi.

237. Expand the term LIBOR as used in financial banking sectors?

- (A) Local Indian Bank Offered Rate.
(B) London-India Bureau of Regulations.

- (C) Liberal International Bank Official Ratio.
(D) London Inter-Bank Offered Rate.
- Ans:** (D)
Exp: LIBOR, the acronym for London Interbank Offer Rate, is the global reference rate for unsecured short-term borrowing in the interbank market. It acts as a benchmark for short-term interest rates. It is used for pricing of interest rate swaps, currency rate swaps as well as mortgages.
- 238.** Bringing Green Revolution to eastern India is a sub scheme of?
(A) It is not a sub scheme.
(B) Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana.
(C) National Mission for sustainable agriculture.
(D) National Mission on Agriculture Extension and Technology.
- Ans:** (B)
Exp: Bringing Green Revolution to Eastern India, or commonly referred to as BGREI, is a sub-scheme of the Rashtriya Krishi Vikas Yojana (RKVY) and is implemented in the states of Assam, Chhattisgarh, Bihar, Odisha, Jharkhand, West Bengal and the eastern part of Uttar Pradesh.
- 239.** Name the scheme which aims to free the country from slums in the next five years.
(A) Rajiv Awas Yojana
(B) Indira Awas Yojana
(C) Jawahar Awas Yojana
(D) Mahatma Awas Yojana
- Ans:** (A)
Exp: Prime Minister Manmohan Singh on said the government's endeavour is to make the country slum-free through the Rajiv Awas Yojana (RAY) scheme and empowering slum dwellers with house ownership.
- 240.** Integrated Child Protection Scheme was launched in which year?
(A) 2005-2006 (B) 2008-2009
(C) 2009-2010 (D) 2012-2013
- Ans:** (C)
Exp: The Integrated Child Protection Scheme (ICPS) was launched by the India's national Ministry of Women and Child Development in 2009-2010.
- 241.** Which is the base financial year for calculating All India Index of Industrial Production (IIP):
(A) 2008-2009 (B) 2006-2007
(C) 2011-2012 (D) 2005-2006
- Ans:** (C)
Exp: The Central Statistics Office (CSO) revised the base year of the all-India Index of Industrial Production (IIP) from 2004-05 to 2011-12. Revisions in the IIP are necessitated to maintain representativeness of the items and producing entities and also address issues relating to continuous flow of production data. Founded: 2 May 1951
Headquarters location: New Delhi
- 242.** Which year Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act was passed.
(A) 1948 (B) 1956
(C) 1965 (D) 1964
- Ans:** (B)
Exp: The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body formed in April 1957 (as per an RTI) by the Government of India, under the Act of Parliament, 'Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956'.
Headquarters: Mumbai
- 243.** National income means the value of goods and services produced by a country during a financial year. Thus, it is the net result of all economic activities of any country during a period of one year and is valued in terms of money. So, according to this how many Methods of Measuring National Income?
(A) Product Method
(B) Income Method
(C) Expenditure Method
(D) All of above
- Ans:** (D)
Exp: There are three ways of measuring the National Income of a country. They are from the income side, the output side and the expenditure side. Product Method: Under this method, we add the values of output produced or services rendered by the different sectors of the economy during the year in order to calculate the National Income. In this method, we include only the value added by each firm in the production process in the output figure.

Income Method: we add all the incomes from employment and ownership of assets before taxation received from all the production activities in an economy.

Thus, it is also the Factor Income method. We also need to add the undistributed profits of the private sector and the trading surplus of the public sector corporations.

244. Which of the following is incorrect.
 (A) Radha Krishnan Commission - (1948)
 (B) Narismhan Committee - (1988)
 (C) Mahajan Committee - (1997)
 (D) Dave Committee - (2000)

Ans: (B)

Exp: They submitted their recommendations in the 1990s in reports widely known as the Narasimham Committee- I (1991) report and the Narasimham Committee-II (1998) Report These recommendations not only helped unleash the potential of banking in India,

245. For calculation of GNP, we need to collect and assess the data from all productive activities, such as agricultural produce, wood, minerals, commodities, the contributions to production by transport, communications, insurance companies, professions such (as lawyers, doctors, teachers, etc). at market prices. It also includes net income arising in a country from abroad. So, what are the four main constituents of GNP?

- (A) Goods produced or services rendered.
 (B) Consumer goods and services & Gross private domestic income.
 (C) Income arising from abroad.
 (D) All of above.

Ans: (D)

Exp: GNP measures the output of a country's residents regardless of the location of the actual underlying economic activity.

Income from overseas investments by a country's residents counts in GNP, and foreign investment within a country's borders does not count. This is in contrast to GDP which measures economic output and income based on the location rather than nationality. GNP and GDP can have different values, and a large difference between a country's GNP and GDP can suggest a great deal of integration into the global economy.

246. What is the "Golden Handshake Scheme" related to?

- (A) Inviting foreign companies
 (B) Private investment in public enterprises
 (C) Establishing Joint Enterprises
 (D) Voluntary retirement

Ans: (D)

Exp: A Golden Handshake Scheme is associated with voluntary retirement. It is a clause in an executive employment contract that provides the executive with a significant severance package in the case the executive loses his job through job restructuring or even scheduled retirement.

247. What are the effects of depreciation of the rupee?

- (A) Capital in flow slows down.
 (B) Trade deficit decreases.
 (C) Forex reserves increase.
 (D) Spending on discretionary goods decrease.

Ans: (A)

Exp: When the rupee depreciates, it loses value with respect to the dollar. This means it takes more rupees to exchange with a dollar. Most of the international trade happens in US dollars. Therefore, as rupee depreciates, exports become more profitable, because the exporter earns more rupees for exchanging dollar.

248. The words 'Micro Economics' and "Macro Economics" By whom was it coined.

- (A) Alfred Marshall (B) Ragner Nurkse
 (C) Ragner Frisch (D) J.M. Keynes

Ans: (C)

Exp: The branch of economics is divided in to the micro economics and macroeconomics. The term was first coined by economist Ragner Frish in 1933.

249. What is the best source of economic development of India?

- (A) agriculture
 (B) transport
 (C) gross production
 (D) per capita income

Ans: (A)

Exp: Agriculture and allied sectors like forestry, logging and fishing accounted for 18.6% of the GDP in 2005, employed 60% of the

total workforce and despite a steady decline of its share in the GDP, is still the largest economic sector and plays a significant role in the overall socio-economic development of India.

250. What are factors effecting Inflation?

- (A) Demand-Pull Effect
- (B) Cost-Push Effect
- (C) Built-In Inflation
- (D) All of above

Ans: (D)

Exp: Demand-pull inflation occurs when the overall demand for goods and services in an economy increases more rapidly than the economy's production capacity. It creates a demand-supply gap with higher demand and lower supply, which results in higher prices. For instance, when the oil producing nations decide to cut down on oil production, the supply diminishes. It leads to higher demand, which results in price rises and contributes to inflation.

Cost-push inflation is a result of the increase in the prices of production process inputs. Examples include an increase in labor costs to manufacture a good or offer a service or increase in the cost of raw material. These developments lead to higher cost for the finished product or service and contribute to inflation.

Built-in inflation is the third because that links to adaptive expectations. As the price of goods and services rises, labor expects and demands more costs/wages to maintain their cost of living. Their increased wages result in higher cost of goods and services, and this wage-price spiral continues as one factor induces the other and vice-versa.

251. A falling drop of rain water acquires the spherical shape due to which force?

- (A) Viscosity
- (B) Gravitational force
- (C) Surface tension
- (D) Atmospheric pressure

Ans: (C)

Exp: A falling drop of rain water acquires the spherical shape due to Surface tension force.

252. The principle of Dynamo was discovered by

- (A) Max Planck
- (B) Michael Faraday
- (C) Albert Einstein
- (D) Sir Humphrey Davy

Ans: (B)

Exp: The operating principle of electromagnetic generators was discovered in the years 1831–1832 by Michael Faraday.

253. In a sitar wire which one of the following types of vibration is produced?

- (A) Progressive longitudinal
- (B) Stationary longitudinal
- (C) Progressive transverse
- (D) Stationary transverse

Ans: (D)

Exp: Vibration occurs due to static transverse.

254. Recoil of a gun is an example of-

- (A) Conservation of mass
- (B) Conservation of energy
- (C) Conservation into Kinetic Energy
- (D) Conservation of linear momentum

Ans: (D)

Exp: The recoiling of gun is an example of the Law of Conservation of Linear Momentum.

255. Who of the following recognized that large quantity of energy is released as a result of the fusion of hydrogen nuclei to form deuterium?

- (A) Enrico Fermi
- (B) Glenn Seaborg
- (C) Hans Bethe
- (D) Werner Heisenberg

Ans: (C)

Exp: In the late 1930s Hans Bethe first recognized that the fusion of hydrogen nuclei to form deuterium is exoergic (i.e., there is a net release of energy) and, together with subsequent nuclear reactions, leads to the synthesis of helium.

256. Aviation fuel for Jet aero planes consists of purified

- (A) Petrol
- (B) Kerosene
- (C) Gasoline
- (D) Diesel

Ans: (B)

Exp: Kerosene purifies aviation fuel for jet aero aircraft.

257. The period of revolution of an earth's satellite close to the surface of the earth is _____.

- (A) 50 minute (B) 65 minute
(C) 55 minute (D) 60 minute

Ans: (D)

Exp: The period of revolution of an earth's satellite close to the surface of the earth is 60 minutes.

258. Which one of the following common devices works on the basis of the principle of mutual induction?

- (A) Tube light (B) Transformer
(C) Photodiode (D) Led

Ans: (B)

Exp: The transformer is based on the principle of mutual induction.

259. Intensity of sound at a point is _____ its distance from the source.

- (A) Directly proportional to
(B) Inversely proportional to
(C) Directly proportional to square of
(D) Inversely proportional to square of

Ans: (D)

Exp: Intensity of sound at a point is inversely proportional to square of its distance from the source.

260. What is the name of the nuclear reactor at Trombay?

- (A) Bhaba (B) Venus
(C) Aryabhata (D) Apsara

Ans: (D)

Exp: Trombay was the nymph name of nuclear reactor.

261. Light from the star, Alpha Centauri, which is nearest to the earth after the sun, reaches the earth in _____.

- (A) 4.2 seconds (B) 42 seconds
(C) 4.2 years (D) 42 years

Ans: (C)

Exp: Light from the star, Alpha Centauri, which is nearest to the earth after the sun, reaches the earth in 4.2 years.

262. Mirage is due to-

- (A) Unequal heating of different parts of the atmosphere.
(B) Magnetic disturbances in the atmosphere.
(C) Depletion of ozone layer in the atmosphere.
(D) Equal heating of different parts of the atmosphere.

Ans: (A)

Exp: Mirage is an optical illusion caused by atmospheric conditions, especially the appearance of a sheet of water in a desert or on a hot road caused by the refraction of light from the sky by heated air.

263. Metals are good conductors of electricity because-

- (A) They contain free electrons
(B) The atoms are lightly packed
(C) They have high melting point
(D) All of the above

Ans: (A)

Exp: Metals are good conductors of electricity because They contain free electrons.

264. Magnetism at the Centre of a bar magnet is _____.

- (A) Maximum (B) Minimum
(C) Zero (D) All The above

Ans: (C)

Exp: Magnetism at the Centre of a bar magnet is zero.

265. out of the following, which is not emitted by radioactive substance?

- (A) Electrons
(B) Electromagnetic radiations
(C) Alpha particles
(D) Neutrons

Ans: (D)

Exp: Neutrons Out of the which is not emitted by radioactive substance.

266. Lux is the SI unit of-

- (A) Intensity of illumination
(B) luminous efficiency
(C) luminous flux
(D) luminous intensity

Ans: (A)

Exp: The SI unit of intensity of illumination (illuminance) is the lux.

267. Point A is at a lower electrical potential than point B. An electron between them on the line joining them will

- (A) Move towards A
(B) Move towards B
(C) Move at right angles to the line joining A and B

- (D) Remain at rest
Ans: (B)
Exp: Point A is at a lower electrical potential than point B. An electron between them on the line joining them will Move towards B.
268. What is the unit of measure of a magnetic field?
 (A) Tesla (B) Mole
 (C) Henry (D) siemens
Ans: (A)
Exp: The SI unit for magnetic field is the Tesla, which can be seen from the magnetic part of the Lorentz force law $F_{\text{magnetic}} = qvB$ to be composed of (Newton x second)/ (Coulomb x meter). A smaller magnetic field unit is the Gauss (1 Tesla = 10,000 Gauss).
269. Who was the first person to create a vacuum and to discover the principle of the barometer?
 (A) Lord Kelvin
 (B) Evangelista Torricelli
 (C) Benjamin Franklin
 (D) Alessandro Volta
Ans: (B)
Exp: Evangelista Torricelli is the first scientist to make vacuum and discover the principle of barometer.
270. The energy derived from the heat of Earth is called _____.
 (A) Biomass Energy
 (B) Tidal Energy
 (C) Hydrogen Energy
 (D) Geothermal Energy
Ans: (D)
Exp: Geothermal energy is heat derived within the sub-surface of the earth. Water and/or steam carry the geothermal energy to the Earth's surface.
271. What is that celestial object that is of very small radius and very high density?
 (A) White Dwarf Star
 (B) Neutron Star
 (C) Supergiant Star
 (D) Red Giant Star
Ans: (D)
Exp: A neutron star is a celestial object with very small radius (typically 18 miles/30 km) and very high density, composed mostly of closely packed neutrons.
272. Who received the very first Nobel Prize in Physics in 1901 for his discovery of X-rays?
 (A) Luis Alvarez
 (B) Pierre Curie
 (C) Wilhelm Röntgen
 (D) Henry Moseley
Ans: (C)
Exp: Wilhelm Conrad Röntgen, referred to as the father of diagnostic radiography, was a German physicist who first discovered the X-ray in 1895 and received the very first Noble Prize in physics in 1901.
273. The working of quartz crystal in the watch is based on which effect?
 (A) Eliza effect
 (B) Piezoelectric effect
 (C) Electrocaloric effect
 (D) Electro-optic effect
Ans: (B)
Exp: Inside a quartz clock or watch, the battery sends electricity to the quartz crystal through an electronic circuit. The quartz crystal oscillates (vibrates back and forth) at a precise frequency: exactly 32768 times each second. This is due to Piezoelectric Effect.
274. The force applied towards the center of the path in the vertical direction of the instantaneous velocity of a body is called _____.
 (A) Centripetal force
 (B) Magnetic Force
 (C) Gravitational Force
 (D) Centrifugal force
Ans: (A)
Exp: Any net force causing uniform circular motion is called a centripetal force. The direction of a centripetal force is toward the center of curvature, the same as the direction of centripetal acceleration. According to Newton's second law of motion, net force is mass times acceleration.
275. If the temperature of a place Increases suddenly the relative humidity _____.
 (A) Increases (B) Decreases
 (C) Remains constant (D) Fluctuates
Ans: (B)
Exp: Hot air has the capacity to hold more water than cooler air. So, if the temperature rises and there's

no extra moisture added to the air, the relative humidity will go down.

276. A positively and negatively charged atom or group of atoms is called:

(A) Nucleus (B) Ion
(C) Compound (D) Molecule

Ans: (B)

Exp: An electrically charged atom or group of atoms formed by the loss or gain of one or more electrons is called an Ion.

An ion is an atom or molecule that has a net electrical charge. Since the charge of the electron is equal and opposite to that of the proton, the net charge of an ion is non-zero due to its total number of electrons being unequal to its total number of protons.

277. Which nonmetal is commonly used in firecrackers?

(A) Hydrogen (B) Sulphur
(C) Neon (D) Fluorine

Ans: (B)

Exp: The nonmetal used in fire crackers → sulphur and phosphorous.

Metal salts commonly used in firework displays include: strontium carbonate (red fireworks), calcium chloride (orange fireworks), sodium nitrate (yellow fireworks), barium chloride (green fireworks) and copper chloride (blue fireworks)

278. Which is the polymer to amino acids?

(A) Starch (B) Proteins
(C) Cellulose (D) Rubber

Ans: (B)

Exp: An amino acid is a subunit of protein, a polymer found throughout nature. An amino acid is therefore the monomer of protein. A basic amino acid is made from a glucose molecule with an amine group (NH₃), a carboxyl group (COOH), and an R-group (side chain).

279. Which metal is found in the most abundant form in the Earth's crust?

(A) Iron (B) Silicon
(C) Copper (D) Aluminium

Ans: (D)

Exp: Aluminum is the most abundant metal in the Earth's crust, and the third most abundant

element therein, after oxygen and silicon. It makes up about 8% by weight of the Earth's solid surface. Earth's crust occupies less than 1% of Earth's volume. Oxygen is 46.6%, Silicon 27.77%, Aluminum is 8.09% and Iron is 5%.

280. Which tool was invented by Sir Jagdish Chandra Bose to measure growth in plants?

(A) Crescograph (B) Auxanometer
(C) Barometer (D) Hydrometer

Ans: (A)

Exp: A crescograph is a device for measuring the growth in plants. It was invented in the early 20th century by Sir Jagdish Chandra Bose. The Bose crescograph uses a series of clockwork gears and a smoked glass plate to record the movement of the tip of a plant (or its roots) at magnifications of up to 10,000

281. Which chemical substance is present in bones and teeth.

(A) calcium sulphate (B) calcium chloride
(C) calcium phosphate (D) calcium borate

Ans: (C)

Exp: Seventy percent of bone consists of hydroxyapatite, a calcium phosphate mineral known as bone mineral. Tooth enamel is composed of almost ninety percent hydroxylapatite.

282. Which metal is used as a catalyst in hydrogenation of oils?

(A) Pb (B) Ni
(C) Cu (D) He

Ans: (B)

Exp: Nickel is used as a catalyst in the hydrogenation of oils. Hydrogenation is a process of treatment with hydrogen in which a chemical reaction happens between hydrogen and other element or compound in the presence of Nickel. It is carried out to saturate or reduce organic compounds in the oil.

283. How can a mixture of iodine and potassium chloride be separated by iodine?

(A) Filtration (B) Distillation
(C) Sublimation (D) Sedimentation

Ans: (C)

Exp: When heat a mixture of Iodine and Potassium Chloride then iodine readily vaporizes and gets

deposited over a cool surface. Thus, iodine can be separated from a mixture of Iodine and Potassium Chloride by sublimation.

284. Which gas is produced when water is added to bleaching powder?

- (A) Oxygen (B) Hydrogen
(C) Carbon dioxide (D) Chlorine

Ans: (A)

Exp: Chlorine gas is released when Bleaching powder reacts with water. Chemical name of Bleaching powder is Calcium hypochlorite.

285. Have similar same atomic number but different atomic masses. What are they called?

- (A) Isomers (B) Isotopes
(C) Actinides (D) Isobars

Ans: (B)

Exp: Isotopes of the same element have the same atomic number. Isotopes have different mass numbers, though, because they have different numbers of neutrons.

286. Have similar same atomic number but different atomic masses. What are they called.

- (A) Isomers (B) Isotopes
(C) Actinides (D) Isobars

Ans: (D)

Exp: Isobars are substances having same atomic mass and different atomic number.

287. Which gas is also called Stranger gas?

- (A) Neon (B) Argon
(C) Xenon (D) Nitrous oxide

Ans: (C)

Exp: Sir William Ramsay and M W Travers discovered this element in 1898. The element's name came from the Greek word xenos, which means 'stranger'. Xenon belongs to the group of the noble gases.

288. Which of the following is an organic acid?

- (A) Citric (B) Nitric
(C) Sulphuric (D) Phosphoric

Ans: (A)

Exp: Citric acid (C₆H₈O₇), malic acid (C₄H₆O₅), tartaric acid (C₄H₆O₆), oxalic acid (C₂H₂O₄) and lactic acid (C₃H₆O₆) etc. are some examples of organic acids. Some organic acids are found in: citric acid-lemon malic acid-apple.

289. Which of the following is the main chemical component of clay?

- (A) aluminium silicate
(B) zeolites
(C) aluminium borosilicate
(D) silicon oxide

Ans: (A)

Exp: aluminium silicate is the main Chemical constituent of clay.

Formula ::Al₂SiO₅

Molar mass :162.05 g/mol

290. Which of the following is used to protect the ice from melting?

- (A) Methane (B) Any acid
(C) Gelatine (D) Butane

Ans: (C)

Exp: Gelatine has a physical property of heat insulation that's why it is often used to prevent the melting of ice.

291. Which acid is also known as "oil of vitriol"?

- (A) Sulphuric acid (B) Nitric Acid
(C) Carbonic Acid (D) Boric Acid

Ans: (A)

Exp: Sulphuric acid, also called oil of vitriol or hydrogen sulfate dense, colourless, oily, corrosive liquid; one of the most important of all chemicals, prepared industrially by the reaction of water with sulfur trioxide (see sulfur oxide).

292. What is known as Artificial Silk.

- (A) Rayon (B) Nylon
(C) PVC (D) None of these

Ans: (A)

Exp: Artificial silk or art silk is any synthetic fiber resembles silk, but typically costs less to produce. Frequently, "artificial silk" is just a synonym for rayon. When made out of bamboo viscose it is also sometimes called bamboo silk.

293. Hydrogen bomb is based on which principle?

- (A) Nuclear Fusion
(B) Conservation of mass
(C) Nuclear fission
(D) None of these

Ans: (A)

Exp: Hydrogen Bomb is based on the principle of Nuclear Fusion. Nuclear fusion is a reaction in

which two or more atomic nuclei are combined to form one or more different atomic nuclei and subatomic particles.

294. Which of the following fuels has a highest caloric value?

- (A) Petrol (B) Diesel
(C) Hydrogen (D) Kerosene

Ans: (C)

Exp: Hydrogen gas has the highest calorific value of 150 KJ/g among all the fuels.

Symbol :H

Atomic number :1

Isotopes: Deuterium, Tritium, Protium

Discoverer :Henry Cavendish

295. Which is the chemical name of Litharge?

- (A) Calcium Oxide
(B) Chromium Oxide
(C) Lead Oxide
(D) Manganese Oxide

Ans: (C)

Exp: Lead (II) oxide, or litharge, is a yellow oxide of lead of formula PbO, created by heating lead in air. It can also be formed by heating lead (II) nitrate(V) (Pb(NO₃)₂).

296. How does a battery demonstrate energy conversion?

- (A) Physical, Electrical
(B) Chemical, Electrical
(C) Electrical, Electrical
(D) Mechanical, Electrical

Ans: (B)

Exp: When you press the button on an electric torch or flashlight, the first energy conversion comes from the battery itself. Batteries use metal electrodes set into a chemical paste to store electricity; as the electrode oxidizes it releases electrons. In some batteries, this process is one-way.

297. Which gas is used in fire extinguishers?

- (A) Carbon dioxide
(B) Nitrogen oxide
(C) Carbon monoxide
(D) Sulphur dioxide

Ans: (A)

Exp: Carbon Dioxide (CO₂) is the liquified gas most commonly found in fire extinguishers. CO₂ is especially useful for electrical fires, as it does

not conduct very effective at fires.

electricity. CO₂ is also putting out oil / grease fires.

298. Which gas is used in cigarette lighters?

- (A) Butane (B) Propane
(C) Methane (D) Ethane

Ans: (A)

Exp: Butane, a highly flammable, colorless, easily liquefied gas used in gas lighters and butane torches. Naphtha, a flammable liquid hydrocarbon mixture used in wick-type lighters and burners.

Formula :C₄H₁₀

299. Which is used to generate artificial rainfall?

- (A) copper oxide
(B) carbon monoxide
(C) silver iodide
(D) silver nitrate

Ans: (C)

Exp: The most common chemicals used for cloud seeding include silver iodide potassium iodide and dry ice (solid carbon dioxide). Liquid propane which expands into a gas has also been used. This can produce ice crystals at higher temperatures than silver iodide

300. Which element is commonly used in the nucleus to produce electricity by nuclear fission?

- (A) Radium (B) Plutonium
(C) Uranium (D) Deuterium

Ans: (C)

Exp: Presently, the vast majority of electricity from nuclear power is produced by nuclear fission of uranium and plutonium. Nuclear decay processes are used in niche applications such as radioisotope thermoelectric generators.

Symbol :U

Atomic number :92

Discoverer : Martin Heinrich Klaproth

301. Which one of the following types of tissues has contractile proteins?

- (A) Epithelial tissue (B) Muscle tissue
(C) Connective tissue (D) Nervous tissue

Ans: (B)

Exp: Muscle tissue is composed of cells that have the special ability to shorten or contract in order to produce movement of the body parts. The tissue

is highly cellular and is well supplied with blood vessels. The cells are long and slender so they are sometimes called muscle fibers, and these are usually arranged in bundles or layers that are surrounded by connective tissue. Actin and myosin are contractile proteins in muscle tissue.

302. Which animal husbandry diseases are contagious?

- (A) Mastitis (B) Foot rot
(C) Milk fever (D) Cowpox

Ans: (D)

Exp: Cowpox is a viral disease of cattle, It may be contracted by milkers, who develop a pustular eruption on the hands, forearms or face, accompanied by slight fever and lymphadenitis. Crusted lesions resembling.

303. Which one of the disease is not transmitted by tiger mosquitoes?

- (A) Japanese Encephalitis
(B) Yellow fever
(C) Chikungunya
(D) Dengue

Ans: (A)

Exp: Japanese encephalitis is caused by a flavivirus, which can affect both humans and animals. The virus is passed from animals to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito. Pigs and wading birds are the main carriers of the Japanese encephalitis virus.

304. The plant which emits ozone during photosynthesis?

- (A) Mahagony (B) Amla Plant
(C) Tulsi Plant (D) Banyan Tree

Ans: (C)

Exp: Tulsi gives out oxygen for 20 hours and Ozone for four hours a day along with the formation of nascent oxygen which absorbs harmful gases like carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide and sulfur dioxide from the environment.

305. The plant hormone that is useful for the formation of roots?

- (A) Cytokinins (B) Gibberellins
(C) Ethylene (D) Auxin

Ans: (D)

Exp: Auxin is a plant hormone produced in the stem tip that promotes cell elongation. Auxin moves to the darker side of the plant, causing the cells

there to grow larger than corresponding cells on the lighter side of the plant.

306. Which Is the Mammal That Can Differentiate Between Different Colours?

- (A) Koala (B) Deer
(C) Ape (D) Goat

Ans: (C)

Exp: Old world monkeys and apes mainly see as humans do – they are trichomats, so they pick up red, green, and blue. But many new world monkeys do not. There is no real pattern among species.

307. Which helps in circulation of blood?

- (A) Neutrophils (B) Lymphocytes
(C) Basophils (D) Monocytes

Ans: (B)

Exp: The movement of lymphocytes in the body takes place between the blood and lymphatic system, lymph nodes, spleen and tissues. Approximately 70% of circulating lymphocytes have the capability to re-circulate, i.e. they move in a certain cycle during which they leave the systemic circulation and return back to lymph nodes, lymphoid follicles and the spleen, from where the cycle may recommence. These cells are mostly long-life mature T lymphocytes, but also memory B lymphocytes. Approximately 30% of lymphocytes in the vascular space are not subject to re-circulation.

308. Which is the branch of zoology concerned with the study of amphibians?

- (A) Entomology (B) Ichthyology
(C) Anatomy (D) Herpetology

Ans: (D)

Exp: Herpetology is the branch of zoology concerned with the study of amphibians (including frogs, toads, salamanders, newts, and caecilians (gymnophiona)) and reptiles (including snakes, lizards, amphisbaenids, turtles, terrapins, tortoises, crocodilians, and the tuataras). Birds, which are cladistically included within Reptilia, are traditionally excluded here; the scientific study of birds is the subject of ornithology.

309. The production of secondary metabolites requires the use of _____.

- (A) Meristem (B) Protoplast
(C) Axillary buds (D) Cell suspension

Ans: (D)

Exp: The production of secondary metabolites requires the use of Cell suspension.

310. Which tissue transport food to various parts of a plant?

- (A) Phloem (B) Xylem
(C) Both (D) Mineralized tissue

Ans: (A)

Exp: phloem tissue transports food from the leaves to the other parts of the plant. Phloem is the vascular tissue responsible for the transport of sugars from source tissues (ex. photosynthetic leaf cells) to sink tissues (ex. non-photosynthetic root cells or developing flowers). Other molecules such as proteins and mRNAs are also transported throughout the plant via phloem.

311. Both, haemoglobin and myoglobin require _____ for formation.

- (A) Manganese (B) Iron
(C) Aluminium (D) Bromine

Ans: (B)

Exp: Myoglobin and hemoglobin are hemoproteins whose physiological importance is principally related to their ability to bind molecular oxygen. The oxygen carried by hemoproteins such as hemoglobin and myoglobin is bound directly to the ferrous iron (Fe²⁺) atom of the heme prosthetic group.

312. Which part of the human body can be called a "chemical factory"?

- (A) Kidney (B) Pancreas
(C) Liver (D) Intestine

Ans: (C)

Exp: The liver is an organ only found in vertebrates which detoxifies various metabolites, synthesizes proteins and produces biochemicals necessary for digestion and growth. In humans, it is located in the right upper quadrant of the abdomen, below the diaphragm. The liver is called the chemical factory of the human body. The basic reason for this is that just like a factory is the main point of production, a liver also is the prime source which breaks down substances into the substances needed by the body.

313. Which of the following is responsible for giving colour to human skin?

- (A) Insulin (B) Keratin

(C) Melanin (D) none of these

Ans: (C)

Exp: The actual skin color of different humans is affected by many substances, although the single most important substance is the pigment melanin. Melanin is produced within the skin in cells called melanocytes and it is the main determinant of the skin color of darker-skinned humans.

314. Which among the following carries impure blood from human heart to lungs?

- (A) Aorta
(B) Pulmonary arteries
(C) Torso arterie
(D) Abdomen arterie

Ans: (B)

Exp: The pulmonary artery carries deoxygenated blood from the right ventricle to the lungs. The blood here passes through capillaries adjacent to alveoli and becomes oxygenated as part of the process of respiration. The pulmonary artery carries impure blood to the right and left lungs. The blood from the lungs enters the heart from four veins called the Pulmonary Veins.

315. Snakes, turtle, lizards and crocodiles falls under which category of animals?

- (A) Amphibians (B) Reptiles
(C) Mammals (D) Fish

Ans: (B)

Exp: Reptiles are tetrapod animals in the class Reptilia, comprising today's turtles, crocodilians, snakes, amphisbaenians, lizards, tuatara, and their extinct relatives. The study of these traditional reptile orders, historically combined with that of modern amphibians, is called herpetology

316. Which fungus causes green disease in millet?

- (A) Blastomycosis
(B) Coccidioidomycosis
(C) Sclerospora graminicola
(D) Paracoccidioidomycosis

Ans: (C)

Exp: One of the most important diseases of pearl millet is downy mildew, also known as green ear, caused by the fungus Sclerospora graminicola J. Schröt that destroys much of the crop every year. The resting spores of the fungus

in the soil constitute the primary source of inoculum.

317. Who was the inventor of the stethoscope?
 (A) Robert Hooke (B) Laennec
 (C) Alessandro Volta (D) Lord Kelvin

Ans: (B)

Exp: Hyacinthe Laënnec (1781–1826) was a French physician who, in 1816, invented the stethoscope. Using this new instrument, he investigated the sounds made by the heart and lungs and determined that his diagnoses were supported by the observations made during autopsies.

318. Which part of the brain controls body temperature?

(A) Cerebrum (B) Cerebellum
 (C) Thalamus (D) Hypothalamus

Ans: (D)

Exp: Our internal body temperature is regulated by a part of our brain called the hypothalamus. The hypothalamus checks our current temperature and compares it with the normal temperature of about 37°C. If our temperature is too low, the hypothalamus makes sure that the body generates and maintains heat.

319. Which is the bacteria found in human intestine?
 (A) Escherichia coli (B) Staphylococcus
 (C) Klebsiella (D) Haemophilus

Ans: (A)

Exp: Escherichia coli also known as E. coli is a facultative anaerobic, rod-shaped, coliform bacterium of the genus Escherichia that is commonly found in the lower intestine of warm-blooded organisms (endotherms). Most E. coli strains are harmless, but some serotypes can cause serious food poisoning in their hosts, and are occasionally responsible for product recalls due to food contamination.

320. What is SARS (S.A.R.S.)?

(A) Skin disease
 (B) Viral disease
 (C) Bacterial diseases
 (D) Eye disease

Ans: (B)

Exp: Severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) is a serious form of pneumonia. Infection with the SARS virus causes acute respiratory distress

(severe breathing difficulty), and sometimes death. When someone with SARS coughs or sneezes, infected droplets spray into the air. You can catch the SARS virus if you breathe in or touch these particles. The SARS virus may live on hands, tissues, and other surfaces for up to several hours in these droplets. The virus may be able to live for months or years when the temperature is below freezing.

321. Which enzyme is in human tears, in which bacteria die?

(A) Lysozyme (B) Chymotrypsin
 (C) Enterokinase (D) Steapsin

Ans: (A)

Exp: Lysozyme is a special enzyme found in tears, saliva, sweat, and other body fluids. Other mucosal linings, such as the nasal cavity, also contain lysozyme. It destroys bacteria that attempt to enter our body through these passageways. In the case of tears, they protect our eyes from bacterial invaders.

322. Malaria parasites and amoeba are classified in which category?

(A) Fungus (B) Protozoa
 (C) Bacteria (D) Virus

Ans: (B)

Exp: Classification Malaria is a vector-borne disease caused by a protozoan parasite of the genus Plasmodium, transmitted by the bite of a female Anopheles mosquito. The Plasmodium parasites belong to the protozoan Order Apicomplexa, which includes other pathogens such as Babesia, Toxoplasma, and Cryptosporidium.

Amoeba, also spelled as Ameba, is a genus that belongs to protozoa, which are unicellular eukaryotes (organisms with membrane-bound cell organelles). The name Amoeba is derived from the Greek word amoibe, which means change, there are many species, of which the most extensively studied is Amoeba proteus.

323. The study of internal structure of plants is called?

(A) Acology (B) Chorology
 (C) Batology (D) Anatomy

Ans: (D)

Exp: Plant anatomy is the study of plant tissues and cells in order to learn more about the way these organisms are constructed and how they work.

These studies are very important because they lead to a better understanding of how to care for plants and fight plant diseases. Plant anatomy is also known as phytotomy.

324. What is the phenomenon where tumor cells spread through the circulatory system to different parts of the body.

- (A) Metabolism (B) Transpiration
- (C) Transpiration (D) metastasis

Ans: (D)

Exp: Metastasis means that cancer spreads to a different body part from where it started. When this happens, doctors say the cancer has "metastasized." Your doctor may also call it "metastatic cancer," "advanced cancer," or "stage 4 cancer." Metastases is the plural form of

metastasis. Metastases most commonly develop when cancer cells break away from the main tumor and enter the bloodstream or lymphatic system. These systems carry fluids around the body.

325. What is the structure responsible for asexual reproduction in sponges?

- (A) Gemmules (B) Calcarea
- (C) Hexactinellida (D) Demospongiae

Ans: (A)

Exp: Gemmules are internal buds found in sponges and are involved in asexual reproduction. It is an asexually reproduced mass of cells, that is capable of developing into a new organism i.e., an adult sponge.



INTERNATIONAL DAY OF INNOCENT CHILDREN VICTIMS OF AGGRESSION



●●● This day affirms the UN's commitment to protect the rights of children.

Inception: 19 August 1982

Edition: 40th

Motto: To make people aware about the protection of children rights and highlighting their suffering

Importance:

To pay tribute to the victims of Lebanon War in 1982.

The purpose of the day is to acknowledge the pain suffered by children throughout the world who are the victims of physical, mental and emotional abuse.

"There are two types of people who will tell you that you cannot make a difference in this world: those who are afraid to try and those who are afraid you will succeed."



●●● **2022 Theme:** Only One Earth

Motto: To encourage the awareness and action for the protection of our environment

Host Country: UN Environment Programme (UNEP) announced that Colombia will be hosting World Environment Day 2020 in partnership with Germany.

Importance:

To mark the proclamation of this day by the UN General Assembly in 1972

1st celebrated: 1974

Edition: 49th

Organisation Involved: United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

"The ones who are crazy enough to think they can change the world, are the ones that do."

Revision Corner

1. Jose Ramos-Horta has been sworn in as the president of which Asian country? **Timor-Leste**
2. Which IFS officer has been chosen as PM Modi's press secretary? **Vivek Kumar**
3. Salil S Parekh has been reappointed as Chief Executive Officer and Managing Director of the which company? **Infosys**
4. Digit Insurance has appointed whom as the company's new managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO)? **Jasleen Kohli**
5. Who has been re-appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm? **Vijay Shekhar Sharma**
6. Who has been sworn in as the Prime Minister of Australia? **Anthony Albanese**
7. Who will be the chairperson of the Standing Committee of the Inter-State Council comprised by the central government? **Amit Shah**
8. Who has been appointed as the first female Vice-Chancellor of University of Kashmir? **Nilofer Khan**
9. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a committee for advising on Environmental, Social and Governance. The committee will chaired by whom? **Navneet Munot**
10. Bharti Airtel board has reappointed whom as Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer for a further period of five years? **Gopal Vittal**
11. The fourth National Startup Advisory Council has been chaired by whom? **Piyush Goyal**
12. Leading stock exchange BSE Limited has appointed whom as the Chairman of the board of directors of the company? **SS Mundra**
13. Who will be the head of recently formed Cotton Council of India by central government? **Suresh Bhai Kotak**
14. Who has been elected to the US National Academy of Sciences? **Dr Kamal Bawa**
15. Eicher Motors has appointed whom as the Chief Executive Officer of Royal Enfield? **B Govindarajan**
16. Hassan Sheikh Mohamud has been elected as the president of which country? **Somalia**
17. Name the former chief election commissioner, who has been named as the new non-executive chairman of Gram Unnati's board? **Sunil Arora**
18. Who has been named as the managing director and chief executive officer of Larsen and Toubro? **S N Subrahmanyam**
19. Who have been named executive directors by the Reserve Bank of India? **Rajiv Ranjan and Sitikantha Pattanaik**
20. French President Emmanuel Macron has named whom as the country's new Prime Minister? **Elisabeth Borne**
21. Who has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of REC Ltd, Ministry of Power? **Vivek Kumar Dewangan**
22. Manik Saha has recently been named as new chief minister of which state? **Tripura**
23. Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)? **Nidhi Chhibber**
24. Sanjiv Bajaj, who has appointed as the president of Confederation of Indian Industry, is the chairman of which company? **Bajaj Finserv**
25. Which Bollywood actress has become the first-ever Indian brand ambassador of luxury brand Louis Vuitton? **Deepika Padukone**
26. Who has been appointed as the next chief election commissioner? **Rajiv Kumar**
27. Who has taken over as the first female President of Hungary? **Katalin Novak**
28. Recently, John Lee Ka-Chiu has been confirmed as the next chief executive of which country? **Taiwan**
29. Rodrigo Chaves has recently been sworn in as the president of which country? **Costa Rica**
30. Who has been appointed as Ministry of Electronics and IT's Secretary? **Alkesh Kumar Sharma**
31. Who has recently been took over as the interim chairman and managing director of Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Ltd? **Pushp Kumar Joshi**
32. Who has named Managing Director of TVS Motor Company? **Sudarshan Venu**
33. Who has been assumed the appointment of Director General (Inspection and Safety) of the Indian Air Force? **Sanjeev Kapoor**
34. Who will be the head of the committee constituted by the Supreme Court for the recovery of money from NSEL defaulters? **Pradeep Nandrajog**

35. Name the IBM Chairman who has been elected to the Board of Federal Reserve Bank of New York? **Arvind Krishna**
36. InterGlobe Aviation has named whom as the chairperson of the IndiGo board? **Venkataramani Sumantran**
37. Who has been appointed as the first-ever Chief Technology Officer (CTO) of the Central Intelligence Agency? **Nand Mulchandani**
38. Name the former petroleum secretary, who has recently appointed as an advisor to Prime Minister Narendra Modi? **Tarun Kapoor**
39. Who has been given additional charge of Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)? **Sangeeta Singh**
40. Who has been taken charge as India's new Foreign Secretary? **Vinay Mohan Kwatra**
41. Who has been appointed as the Vice Chief of the Army Staff? **Lieutenant General BS Raju**
42. Who has become the first Indian-origin person to be appointed as the first-ever Chief Technology Officer of the US Central Intelligence Agency? **Nand Mulchandani**
43. Online lending platform, Indifi Technologies has appointed which former chairman of State Bank of India as an advisor? **Rajnish Kumar**
44. Who has been named as the managing director and chief executive officer of Shivalik Small Finance Bank? **Anshul Swami**
45. Emmanuel Macron has been elected as the President of which country? **France**
46. Which Indian airline company has got approval from Directorate General of Civil Aviation to Start Commercial Flights? **Jet Airways**
47. Which state government will launch a state-owned over-the-top platform? **Kerala**
48. Which state/ UT government is planning to launch Urban Farming Policy? **Delhi**
49. Union Cabinet Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw has inaugurated the National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology Centre in which UT? **Ladakh**
50. Recently, the Ministry of Tribal Affairs has laid the foundation stone for the construction of Eklavya Model Residential School in which state? **Maharashtra**
51. Ramgarh Vishdhari forest which has notified as India's 52nd tiger reserve, is located in which state? **Rajasthan**
52. Which state government has launched the "e-Adhigam" scheme under which nearly three lakh students will be receiving tablet computers? **Haryana**
53. Which state government has announced to revert to the old pension scheme (OPS) for state employees? **Chhattisgarh**
54. In which state the Indian Army will open a coaching centre for poor pupils? **Manipur**
55. Which micro Ratna PSU has launched the "PM-WANI" scheme to provide access of Public WiFi services across 100 train stations in 22 states? **RailTel Corporation of India**
56. India's first Amrit Sarovar has been inaugurated in which city of Uttar Pradesh by the Union Minister for Minority Affairs Mukhtar Abbas Naqvi? **Rampur**
57. India's first Khadi Centre of Excellence will open in which city by Ministry of MSME? **Delhi**
58. Which state government has launched the second phase of the Ladli Laxmi scheme (Ladli Laxmi scheme-2.0)? **Madhya Pradesh**
59. The Lokpal of India will have a permanent office in which city? **Delhi**
60. Which state government has announced breakfast scheme for primary school students? **Tamil Nadu**
61. Which state government will provide free sewer connections under the "Mukhyamantri Muft Sewer Connection Yojana"? **Delhi**
62. Which State Government has launched the "e-Adhigam" scheme under which nearly 3 lakh students will be receiving tablet computers? **Haryana**
63. The Poumai tribe is associated with which state as their inhabited areas declared "drug Free Zone"? **Manipur**
64. A three-day Utkarsh Mahotsav is being organized by Central Sanskrit University in which city? **New Delhi**
65. Which state government will provide free Wi-Fi facilities at more than 58 thousand villages of the state? **Uttar Pradesh**
66. Which government organisation has celebrated its 62nd raising day on 7th May recently? **Border Roads Organisation**
67. The RailTel Corporation of India Ltd and World Health Organisation has inaugurated a Mobile Container Hospital named "Health Cloud" in which city? **Visakhapatnam**
68. Which state is planning to create India's "only" observatory, which will house data on the state's indigenous population's health? **Odisha**

69. Which state government has launched "Mukhyamantri Mitaan Yojana"? **Chhattisgarh**
70. The Reserve Bank of India has approved an extension in the tenure of Murlu M Natarajan as the managing director and chief executive officer of DCB Bank for a period of how many years? **Two Years**
71. Aleksandar Vučić has been re-elected as the President of which Balkan country? **Serbia**
72. Recently, Home Minister Amit Shah has inaugurated the National Intelligence Grid (NATGRID) campus in which city? **Bengaluru**
73. "Miyana Bada", a railway station in Rajasthan has been renamed as - **Mahesh Nagar Halt**
74. Which city will host the three day Semicon India Conference-2022? **Bengaluru**
75. Which state government has approved a Gene Bank, to conserve genetic resources of state? **Rajasthan**
76. A district Samba, which has become first district in India to cover 100% households under ABPMJAY- SEHAT scheme, is located in which state/UT? **Jammu and Kashmir**
77. Which city of Uttar Pradesh has become the first in the country to have vacuum-based sewer systems? **Agra**
78. Which district of Jharkhand has become the only district in the country where all gram panchayats have community libraries? **Jamtara**
79. India's first "Amrit Sarovar" has been completed in which district of Uttar Pradesh? **Rampur**
80. India's first carbon-neutral panchayat village Palli is located in which state/UT? **Jammu & Kashmir**
81. Which state government has launched the "Social Awareness and Action to Neutralise Pneumonia Successfully" (SAANS) Campaign? **Karnataka**
82. Recently, India has created Guinness Book of World records by simultaneously waving how many national Flag at the "Veer Kunwar Singh Vijayotsav" programme at Bhojpur, Bihar? **78,220**
83. Which state has become first to launch a bus service with a totally digital ticketing system? **Maharashtra**
84. Which country has become second to launch Trade and Technology Council with European Union? **India**
85. Which city will host India's first International Cruise Conference? **Mumbai**
86. The three-day "Smart Cities, Smart Urbanization" conference kicked off in which city? **Surat**
87. Which state/UT has launched an app "Jan Nigrani" under the e-governance initiative? **Jammu and Kashmir**
88. Prime Minister Modi has laid the foundation stone for World Health Organisation's Global Center For Traditional Medicines in which state? **Gujarat**
89. According to the report released by Organisation Internationale des Constructeurs d'Automobiles which country has surpassed Germany and become 4th largest vehicle market in the world? **India**
90. Which country has hosted The Council of Regional Anti-Terrorist Structure of SCO meet, focused on the situation in Afghanistan? **India**
91. Which European country will apply for membership in North Atlantic Treaty Organization as a deterrent against Russia? **Sweden**
92. President Ram Nath Kovind inaugurates "India-Jamaica Friendship Garden" in which city of Jamaica? **Kingston**
93. Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi has laid the foundation stone for the India International Centre for Buddhist Culture and Heritage in which country? **Nepal**
94. World's-largest canal lock has unveiled in which country? **Netherlands**
95. Which country was on the top spot as India's trade partner in 2021? **United States**
96. Which country has replaced Russia on human rights council by United Nations General Assembly? **Czech Republic**
97. Which Asian country has joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization Cooperative Cyber Defence Centre of Excellence? **South Korea**
98. According to the Forbe's list of Highest paid Sportspersons, who is on top position with \$130 million earnings? **Lionel Messi**
99. Which country recently banned conversion therapy for minors after Canada, New Zealand and France already criminalized earlier this year? **Greece**
100. Name the world's biggest crude oil exporter, which has overtaken Apple as the world's most valuable company? **Saudi Aramco**

101. Which country has proposed a "European Political Community" for countries hopeful of joining the European Union? **France**
102. World's Largest Glass Bottom Bridge has been opened in which country? **Vietnam**
103. Adani Wilmar Limited has become the largest Fast Moving Consumer Goods Company in India by beating which company? **Hindustan Unilever Limited**
104. Which company has started mass production of lithium-ion battery packs in Gujarat? **Nexcharge**
105. The Sitio Burle Marx site, which has recently been added to UNESCO's list of World Heritage sites is located in which country? **Brazil**
106. According to the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India president, Debashis Mitra which country will host the 21st World Congress of Accountants? **India**
107. In a deviation from the conventional single host city approach, the Commonwealth Games will be held in which city in 2026? **Victoria**
108. Which South American Country has become the first in the world to give legal rights to wild animals? **Ecuador**
109. Which two cities of India have been recognised as the '2021 Tree City of the World by United Nations Food and Agriculture Organisation (FAO) and Arbor Day Foundation? **Mumbai and Hyderabad**
110. According to the UNEP Report, which city in the world is most noise polluted city? **Dhaka**
111. First wildlife bond has issued by World Bank to save which species? **African black rhino**
112. According to the International Finance Corporation, which country has topped in South Asia in terms of women on board of listed companies? **Bangladesh**
113. New Development Bank has opened a regional office in which state of India? **Gujarat**
114. Which international bank has approved USD 350 million as financial aid for the Systems Reform Endeavors for Transformed Health Achievement in Gujarat (SRESTHA-G) project? **World Bank**
115. Which insurance company has launched India's first dental health insurance plan? **PNB MetLife**
116. S&P Global Ratings cut India's growth projection for the current fiscal to what percent from 7.8 per cent earlier? **7.3 per cent**
117. The National Data & Analytics Platform has been launched by which government agency for free public use? **NITI Aayog**
118. Which bank has launched an online platform, "Trade nxt", which enables corporate, and MSMEs? **Union Bank of India**
119. Which public sector bank's CEO Lingam Venkat Prabhakar plans to invest about Rs 1,000 crore over the next three years for building a digital banking ecosystem, including a super-app? **Canara Bank**
120. Morgan Stanley lowered India's growth forecast for FY 2013 from 7.9 percent to what percent? **7.6%**
121. Which private sector lender has introduced 30-minute "Xpress Car Loans" which is an end-to-end digital car loan solution for both existing and non-customers? **HDFC Bank™**
122. The World Economic Forum has collaborated with which government agency to focus on how to better employ emerging technologies? **NITI Aayog**
123. Which company has become the first Indian company to record annual revenue of more than a whopping \$100 billion? **Reliance Industries**
124. How much amount has been allotted by the GoI for the world's largest film restoration project under the National Film Heritage Mission? **Rs 363 crore**
125. Which bank has launched India's first "open-for-all" comprehensive digital ecosystem for all Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises? **ICICI Bank**
126. Which bank has become the first public sector bank to go live on the Account Aggregator (AA) ecosystem? **Union Bank of India**
127. Which company has introduced a contactless RuPay card in the form of keychain? **Pencilton**
128. Which Indian company has become the first to hit the Rs 19 lakh crore market valuation mark in intra-day trade? **Reliance Industries**
129. Limit of public debt investment via UPI has been increased by SEBI upto how much from 2 lakhs? **Rs 5 Lakhs**
130. Who has acquired the micro blogging website "Twitter" for \$44 billion? **Elon Musk**
131. According to the World Bank Policy Research Working Paper, the extreme poverty rate in India fell from 22.5% in 2011 to how much percent in 2019? **10.2%**

132. Which payment company has been selected as the official digital payments partner for Pradhanmantri Sangrahalaya? **Paytm**
133. As per the World Bank's April update, what is India's GDP forecast for fiscal year 2022-23? **8.0 %**
134. The World Trade Organisation has downgraded the global GDP forecast for fiscal year 2022 to how much? **2.8 percent**
135. "Vikas Siri Sampat-1111" scheme has been introduced by which Bank? **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank**
136. Which Indian state will receive a loan worth Rs 7,500 crore from World Bank and the Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank to improve education quality in the state? **Gujarat**
137. India has signed a Memorandum of understanding with which country for cooperation in fertiliser sector? **Jordan**
138. Which state government has signed MoU with Indian Institute of Technology Guwahati to establish healthcare innovation institute with 350-bed hospital? **Assam**
139. Which broadcasting company has signed a MoU with Madagascar's official Office de la Radio et de la Television for broadcasting cooperation? **Prasar Bharati**
140. Which government-owned oil marketing companies (OMCs) have entered into a Tripartite-cum-Escrow Agreement (TPA) for upcoming dedicated ethanol plants across India? **BPCL, Indian Oil Corp and HPCL**
141. The Delhi Government has signed a unique Knowledge Sharing Agreement with which state government? **Punjab**
142. Which life insurance company has joined the United Nations as a signatory? **HDFC Life**
143. Which country signed security agreements with Sweden and Finland which aimed at boosting the two countries' defenses against Russia as they move toward NATO membership? **UK**
144. Which minister has signed a MoU with Indian Space Research Organisation with the goal of upskilling the technical workforce at the Department of Space of ISRO? **Ministry of Skill Development**
145. The Ministry of Railways has signed a memorandum of understanding with which company to upgrade railway telecommunication? **C-DOT**
146. Telangana government has signed a MoU with which company on Digital Economy for Young and Women entrepreneurs? **Google**
147. New Space India Limited has signed an agreement with which company for satellite launches? **OneWeb**
148. Which payment bank has partnered with IndusInd Bank to offer fixed deposit facilities to its customers? **Airtel Payments Bank**
149. A finance company SBI Card has tied-up with which company to boost digital transformation? **TCS**
150. State government of Kerala has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with which country for the "Cosmos Malabaricus" project? **Netherlands**
151. Prasar Bharati has signed an MoU with the Public Broadcaster of which country RTA for collaboration in the field of broadcasting? **Argentina**
152. Which state government has inked an MoU with the NIXI-CSC Data Services Centre to establish an international-standard data centre in the state? **Tripura**
153. Power System Operation Corporation Limited has signed a memorandum of understanding with which Indian Institute of Technology to encourage research on issues relating to India's power sector? **IIT Delhi**
154. With which organisation, NITI Aayog has signed a Statement of Intent on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) with a focus on children? **UNICEF India**
155. Which government agency has signed a MOU with the NIA with the goal of creating capacity and establishing a qualified talent pool in the insurance sector in IFSCs? **International Financial Services Centres Authority**
156. Cryptocurrency lender, Nexo has joined hands with which global payments company to launch the world's first "crypto-backed" payment card? **Mastercard**
157. Who has become first foreign climber, who has scaled the world's highest mountain for the 16th times? **Kenton Cool**
158. Who has become one of the youngest Indian mountaineers to summit the Everest Base Camp? **Rhythm Mamania**
159. Who has been awarded by the Committed Leader Award at CII EXCON 2022 in Bengaluru? **Anjali Pandey**

160. Which government programme has won the World Health Organisation (WHO) director general's "Global Health Leaders" awards? **Accredited Social Health Activist**
161. Who has won the first prize for the Amazon Smbhav Entrepreneurship Challenge 2022? **Subhash Ola**
162. Who has received an honorary Commander of the Order of the British Empire by Her Majesty The Queen? **Ajay Piramal**
163. Cécile Ndjebet who has won the 2022 Wangari Maathai Forest Champions Award, hails from which country? **Cameroon**
164. Who is the first Indian nonprofessional to be declared Saint by The Vatican? **Devasahayam Pillai**
165. Anna Qabale Duba, who has won the inaugural Aster Guardian Global Nursing Award, hails from which country? **Kenya**
166. Who has won the Billboard Music Awards 2022 in Top Artist category? **Drake**
167. Current Army Chief General Manoj Pande has been conferred with which award for his distinguished service of exceptional order? **Param Vishisht Seva Medal**
168. Who has received the Bangla Academy Award for her "relentless literary pursuit" by Sahitya Academy? **Mamata Banerjee**
169. A Pre-Eminent crossing in Ayodhya will be named after whom? **Lata Mangeshkar**
170. Romain Rolland Book Prize 2022 has been awarded to "Meursault, contre-enquête", the French novel is translated in which language? **Bengali**
171. Who has received the 2022 World Food Prize from the World Food Prize Foundation? **Cynthia Rosenzweig**
172. Which country will be the official Country of Honour at the upcoming Marche' Du Film, organized alongside the 75th edition of the Cannes Film Festival, in France? **India**
173. Who has become the first Indian woman climber to scale five peaks above 8,000 metres? **Priyanka Mohite**
174. Which country has won the "Thomas Cup title 2022" for the first time ever by defeating Indonesia? **India**
175. Which Indian Grandmaster has won "Reykjavik Open 2022" held in Iceland at the age of 16? **R Praggnanandha**
176. What is the name of "Formula One world champion" who has won the Spanish Grand Prix? **Max Verstappen**
177. Who has become first Asian to win the Premier League's Golden Boot? **Son Heung-min**
178. Which neighbouring country of India has hold its first international professional boxing tournament? **Bangladesh**
179. Which division of the diverse Adani Group has created history by gaining the rights to own and manage a franchise in the UAE's top T20 competition? **Adani Sportsline**
180. Who has won the Women's World Boxing Championships in Turkey and become the fifth Indian woman to be crowned world champion? **Nikhath Zareen**
181. Which country has won the Uber Cup 2022 by defeating China? **South Korea**
182. India's men's badminton team has won the Thomas Cup title for the first time ever by defeating which country? **Indonesia**
183. Who has won the gold medal in the Badminton at the 24th Brazil Deaflympics? **Shreya Singla**
184. Which football club has won the Italian Cup final by defeating Juventus by 4-2? **Inter Milan**
185. Who has topped the list of Forbes Highest-Paid Athletes 2022? **Lionel Messi**
186. Which Indian Architect has bestowed with the prestigious Royal Gold Medal 2022? **Balkrishna Vithaldas**
187. Name the Indian, who has smashed the national record to clinch a gold medal in the women's 100m hurdles in Cyprus International Athletics Meeting 2022? **Jyothi Yarraji**
188. What is the name of the climber who has climbed Mt Everest for the 26th time and set a new world record? **Kami Rita Sherpa**
189. Who has won gold in men's 10m air rifle competition in the 24th Deaflympics? **Dhanush Srikanth**
190. Kamalpreet Kaur, who has provisionally suspended from suspended by Athletics Integrity Unit, is associated with which sport? **Discus throw**
191. Who has won the 2022 World Snooker Championship by defeating Judd Trump (England) against 18-13 in the finals? **Ronnie O'Sullivan**
192. Which university has won the with 20 gold, 7 silver and 5 bronze medals has won the 2nd

- edition of the Khelo India University Games 2021? **JAIN University**
193. Who has become the first Indian weightlifter to win a Gold Medal at IWF Junior World Championship? **Harshada Sharad**
194. Which company has become the first gas producer to sell domestic gas on the Indian Gas Exchange? **Oil and Natural Gas Corporation**
195. The Indian Railways has collaborated with which Indian Institute of Technology for the development of a made-in-India Hyperloop system? **IIT Madras**
196. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, Union Minister for Education and Skill Development has launched the North East Research Conclave (NERC) 2022 at which Indian Institute of Technology? **IIT Guwahati**
197. Which aerospace private company has successfully tested its Kalam-100 rocket that will power the Vikram-1 rocket's third stage/engine? **Skyroot**
198. Which scientific and educational organization has installed the "world's highest weather station" on Mount Everest? **NatGeo Society**
199. Which company has launched "IBD NutriCare" app on World Inflammatory Bowel Disease Day? **Indian Council of Medical Research**
200. Which country has planned to launch world's first habitable planet search mission named "Closeby Habitable Exoplanet Survey" for Habitable Planets through Space Telescope? **China**
201. What is the name of battery-operated dual-mode locomotive developed by West Central Railway? **Navdoot**
202. What is the name of the fourth and last stealth Indian Navy Destroyer developed under the "Project 15B" programme? **INS Surat**
203. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla has launched one-of-its-kind literary initiative Kalam website of which foundation? **Prabha Khaitan Foundation**
204. Which Aerospace company has successfully tested an environmentally friendly satellite propulsion system that offers a 20 percent increase in fuel efficiency? **Bellatrix Aerospace**
205. Which armed force has planned to purchase the GISAT-2 satellite to increase its capacity? **Indian Navy**
206. Which state government has launched an Android App "Shaili" which aimed at diagnosing and controlling lifestyle diseases among the people in the state? **Kerala**
207. What is the name of India's first Venus Mission planned to launch by Indian Space Research Organisation by December 2024? **Shukrayaan-I**
208. Name the India's first indigenous aircraft carrier which will be handed over to the Indian navy? **INS Vikrant**
209. Which joint venture will receive India's first semi-high-speed train set for Regional Rapid Transit System at Alstom's Savli project in Gujarat? **National Capital Region Transport Corporation**
210. Which state government has launched a Vehicle Movement Tracking System (VMTS) mobile app to track the vehicles carrying sand and other mining material? **Haryana**
211. According to Mercom's India Solar Project Tracker, which state has become the first state in India to reach 10 GW of cumulative large-scale solar installations? **Rajasthan**
212. Which Indian Institute of Technology has collaborated with India Meteorological Department to develop climate solutions for stakeholders at the village, city, and district levels? **IIT Bombay**
213. Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways would develop and build India's first indigenous hydrogen-fueled electric vessels at which Shipbuilding company? **Cochin Shipyard**
214. Which state has become the first in India to develop a website-based Migration Tracking System (MTS) application? **Maharashtra**
215. Andrew Symonds, who has passed away recently, was associated with which sport? **Cricket**
216. Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan, who has passed away recently, was the President of which Middle Eastern country? **United Arab Emirates**
217. Pandit Shivkumar Sharma has passed away recently. He was awarded by the Padma Shri in which year? **1991**
218. Elvera Britto, who has passed away recently, was associated with which sport? **Hockey**
219. Mwai Kibaki, who has passed away recently, was the former president of which country? **Kenya**

220. Binapani Mohanty, who has passed away recently, was honoured by Sahitya Akademi Award in which year? **1990**
221. Stephen Wilhite, who has passed away recently, was the creator of which image format? **GIF**
222. Ramesh Deo, who has passed away recently, was associated with which field? **Cinema**
223. Shahabuddin Ahmed, who has passed away recently, was the former president of which country? **Bangladesh**
224. Ms Kumudben Joshi, who has passed away recently, was the former governor of which state? **Andhra Pradesh**
225. Rafiq Tarar, who has passed away recently, was the former president of which country? **Pakistan**
226. Sunith Francis Rodrigues, who has passed away recently, was the former Governor of which state? **Punjab**
227. What was the name of the first Australian wicketkeeper to score a Test century, who has died recently? **Rod Marsh**
228. Sonny Ramadhin, who has been passed away recently, was the former cricket player of which country? **West Indies**
229. Freedom fighter and Gandhian social worker Shakuntala Choudhary, who has passed away recently was awarded by Padma Shri in which year? **2022**
230. Surajit Sengupta, who has passed away recently, was associated with which sport? **Football**
231. Chennaveera Kanavi, who has passed away recently was an iconic poet and writer of which language? **Kannada**
232. What is the real name of legendary singer and music composer Bappi Lahiri, who has been passed away recently? **Alokesh Lahiri**
233. Padma Shri awardee and social worker Ibrahim Sutar, who has passed away recently hailed from which state? **Karnataka**
234. India's nightingale, Lata Mangeshkar has passed away on recently. In which year she was honoured with India's highest civilian award? **2001**
235. Rupinder Singh Suri who has been passed away recently, was appointed to the Additional Solicitor General in which year? **2020**
236. Chandrashekhar Patil, popularly known as "Champa", has been passed away recently. He was the famous writer of which language? **Kannada**
237. Ramesh Deo, who has passed away recently, was associated with which field? **Cinema**
238. Professional Mountaineer Major Hari Pal Singh Ahluwalia, who has passed away recently, was the winner of Arjuna Award in which year? **1965**
239. Toshiki Kaifu, who has been passed away recently, was the former president of which country? **Japan**
240. Saroj Pattnayak, who has been passed away recently, was a famous - **Music Composer**
241. An iconic statue of Raja Ram Mohan Roy has been inaugurated in which city on his 250th birth anniversary? **Kolkata**
242. With which country India has began the fourth edition of CORPAT exercises in the Bay of Bengal? **Bangladesh**
243. What is the objective of a newly proposed Malviya Mission? **Enabling ecosystem for Faculty Development**
244. What is the theme of World Metrology Day 2022? **Metrology in the Digital Era**
245. In which city will the Madame Tussauds wax museum be brought back to India? **Noida**
246. What is the name of the author of the book "The Hardest Place", who has won William E Colby award recently? **Wesley Morgan**
247. World Bee Day is observed annually on which day of May to raise awareness about the importance of bees? **May 20**
248. What is the name of Delhi's Lieutenant Governor who has resigned recently? **Anil Bajjal**
249. According to the World Bank, which country has surpassed Mexico as the top remittance receiving country in 2021? **India**
250. World Hypertension Day is observed every year on which day of May? **17 May**

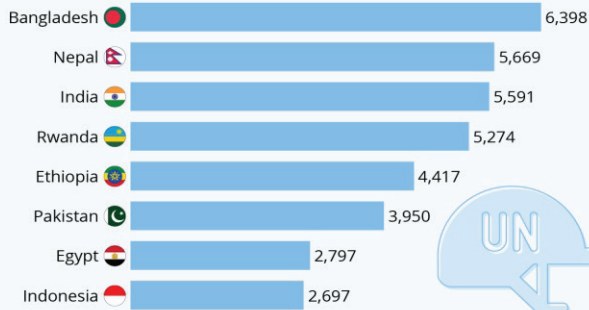
The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.

"There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure."

Infographics

The Biggest Contributors To UN Peacekeeping Operations

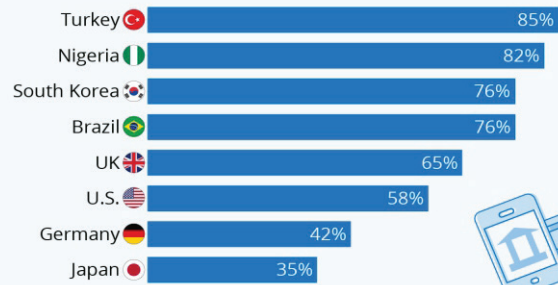
Main contributors of uniformed personnel to UN peacekeeping operations as of Feb 28, 2022*



* Uniformed personnel constitute mission experts, police units, staff officers and troops. Source: UN Peacekeeping

Turkey Takes the Lead for Mobile Banking Customers

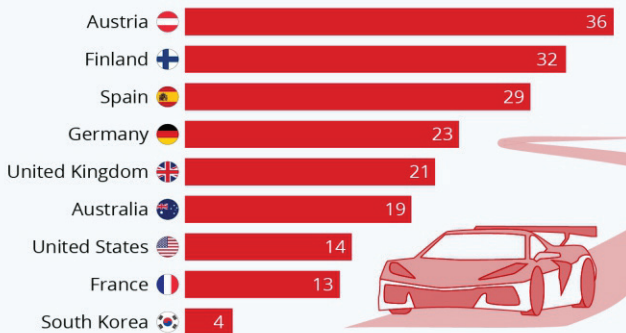
Share of respondents who conduct banking transactions on the move (smartphone/tablet)



Based on 1,000 - 4,500 bank customers (18-64 years) per country; surveyed in up to 4 waves Apr 2021 - Mar 2022. Source: Statista Global Consumer Survey

Which Country is on Pole Position with Motorsport Fans?

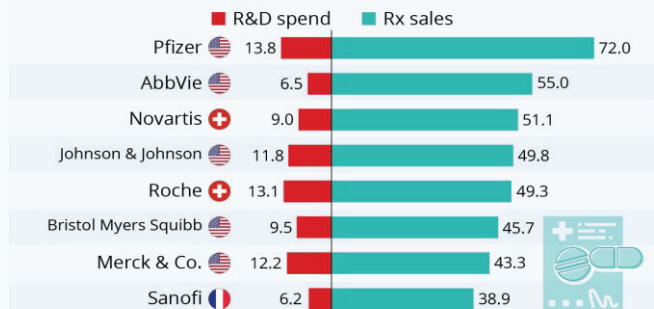
Share of sport fans that say they follow motorsports



500 - 4,000 sport fans (18 - 64 y/o) per country surveyed online Apr '21 - Mar '22. Source: Statista Global Consumer Survey

The World's Biggest Players in Pharma

World's biggest biopharma companies ranked by Rx sales and R&D spend in 2021* (in billion U.S. dollars)



* Rx sales = prescription drug sales, R&D = research and development. Source: Pharmaceutical Executive

Europeans Spend the Most on Public Transport

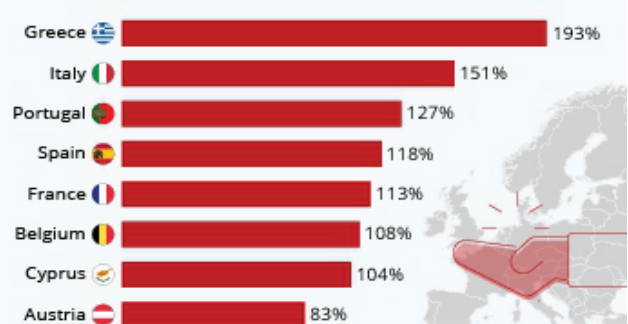
Countries with highest estimated average monthly revenue per public transport user in 2022*



Based on analysis of 45 countries across Europe, Africa, Asia and the Americas. * Regional and local transportation only. Source: Statista Mobility Market Outlook

Who Has the Highest Debt in the EU?

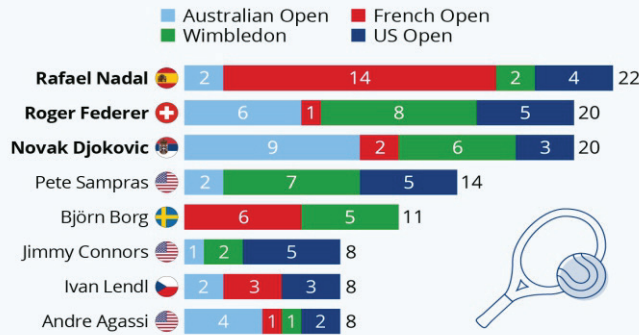
EU countries with the highest gross government debt as share of GDP in 2021



Source: Eurostat

The Road to GOAT

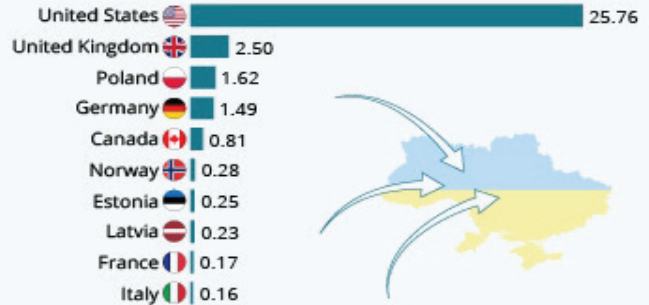
Number of Grand Slam singles titles won by male tennis players in the Open Era (since 1968)



Bold players still active. As of June 6, 2022. Source: ATP

Where Military Aid to Ukraine Comes From

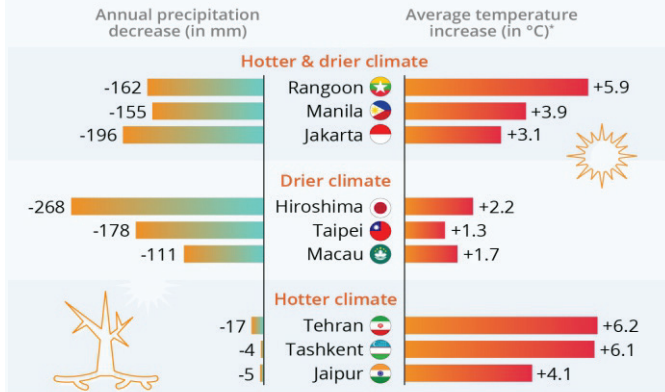
Countries committing the most military aid to Ukraine from Jan 24 to May 10, 2022* (in billion U.S. dollars)



* Including weapon and equipment deliveries and financial aid with military purpose (e.g. to finance future weapon purchase). Converted from €, June 2, 2022. Source: IFW Kiel

Asian Cities to Experience Climates Extremes

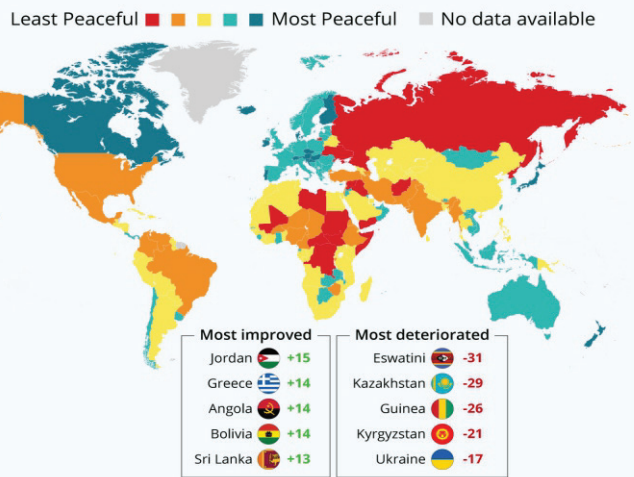
Projected average temperature increase/precipitation decrease in selected Asian cities until 2050



* in warmest month of the year. Source: Jean-Francois Bastin et al. Understanding climate change from a global analysis of city analogues, Plos One journals

The State of Global Peace

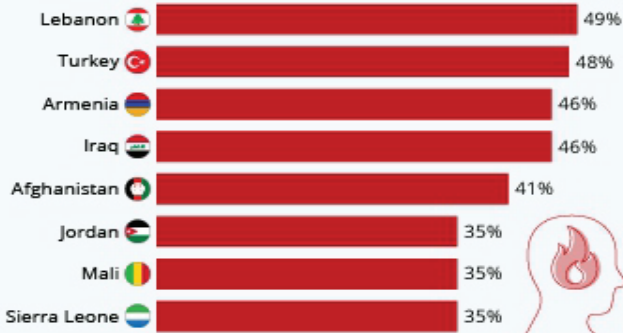
Countries and territories by peace level in 2022



Improvement/deterioration in ranks. Source: Global Peace Index/Institute for Economics and Peace

The World's Angriest Countries

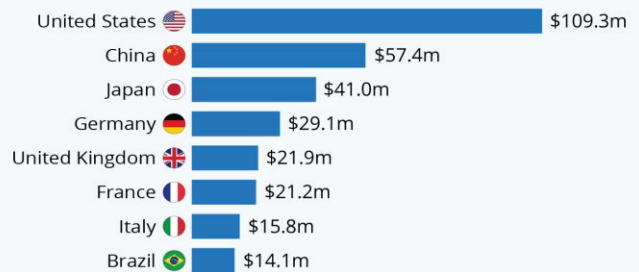
Countries where the highest share of respondents experienced anger on the day previous to the survey (2021 - 22)



1,000 respondents (15+ y/o) per country surveyed in 2021 and early 2022 in 100+ countries. Source: Gallup Global Emotions Report

The Biggest Financial Contributors to the WHO

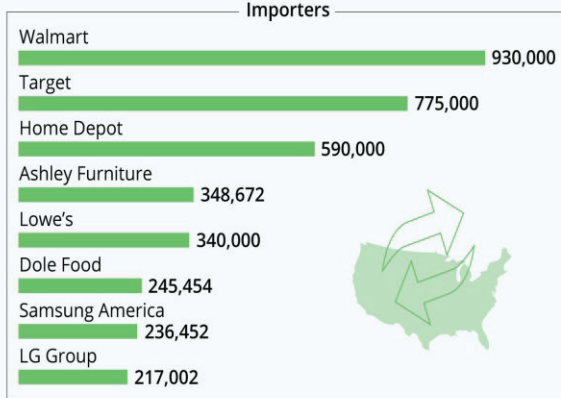
Assessed contributions to the World Health Organization for 2022*



CHF conversion rate at time of billing. * Calculated relative to a country's wealth and population. Excludes voluntary contributions. Source: World Health Organization

The Biggest U.S. Importers and Exporters

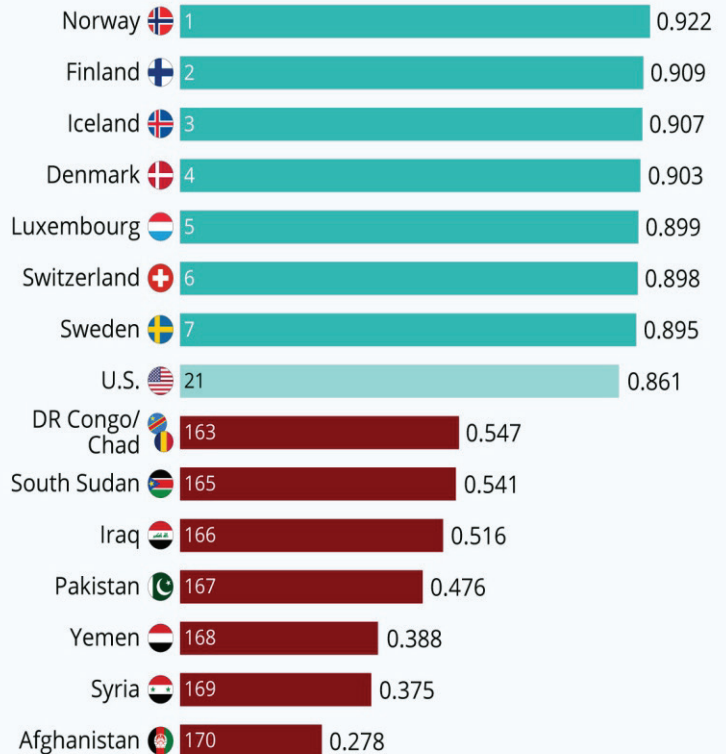
Companies shipping most volume from and to the U.S. in 2021 (in TEU*)



* 1 TEU (twenty-foot equivalent unit) equals one standard 20 foot long shipping container (8 feet wide and 8 feet high)
Source: JOC

The Best and Worst Countries for Women Worldwide

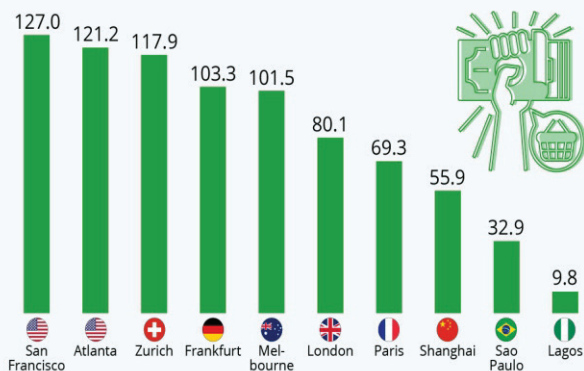
Countries ranked by quality of women's lives in 2021 (0 = worst, 1 = best)*



* 170 countries ranked through 11 indicators
Source: Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security

Which Cities Have the Highest & Lowest Purchasing Power?

Purchasing power index for selected cities worldwide in 2021



Based on cost of living and average net salary, indexed for purchasing power in New York City (=100)
Source: Numbeo

The real test is not whether you avoid this failure, because you won't. It's whether you let it harden or shame you into inaction, or whether you learn from it; whether you choose to persevere.

Landmark Judgements

Case number 1

DISQUALIFICATION OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT AND LEGISLATURES OF STATE
(POLITICAL DEFECTION CASE)

Kihota Hallohon v. Mr. Zachilhuetup

AIR 1993 SC 412: 1992 AIR SCW 3497dnes

JUDGES: L.M. Sharma, M.N. Venkatachaliah, J.S. Verma, sham, K. Jayachandra Reddy and S.C. Agrawal,

Date of Decision: 8-2-1992

FACTS

The writ petitions, Transfer Petitions, Civil Appeals and special leave petitions arose common questions as to the constitutional validity of the Constitution (52nd Amendment) Act, 1985 insofar as it seeks to introduce the Tenth Schedule in the Constitution of India, were heard together. Some of these matters involved investigation and determination of factual controversies and of the extent of applicability to them of the conclusions reached on the various constitutional issues.

Issue:

Whether disqualification of members of Parliament and legislature of state is valid or not.

HELD

It was held that the paragraph 2 of the Tenth Schedule to the Constitution is valid. Its provisions do not suffer from the vice or subverting democratic rights of elected members of Parliament and the legislatures of the States. It does not violate their freedom of speech, freedom of vote and conscience. The provisions of paragraph 2 do not violate any rights or freedom under articles 105 and 194 of the Constitution. It was further held that the freedom of speech of a member is not an absolute freedom.

MAHINDRA LAW ACADEMY
An edge above others...

Case number 2

COMPENSATION FOR CUSTODIAL DEATH. CONTRAVENTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS BY STATE AND ITS AGENCIES

Nilabati Behera v. State of Orissa

AIR 1993 SC 1960

JUDGES: JS. Verma, A.S. Anand and M.N. Venkatachala, JJ.

Date of Decision: 24-3-1993

FACTS:

A letter dated 14-9-1988 sent to the Supreme Court by Smt. Nilabati Behera alias Lalita Behera, was treated as a Writ Petition under article 32 of the Constitution for determining the claim of compensation made therein consequent upon the death of petitioner's son Suman Behera, aged about 22 years, in police custody. The said Suman Behera was taken from his home in police custody at about 8 a.m. on 1-12-1987 by respondent No. 6, Sarat Chandra Barik, Sub-Inspector of Police of Jaraikela Police Outpost under Police Station Bisra, Distt. in Orissa, in connection

with the i Outpost. At about 2 p.m. the next day on 2-12-1987, the petitioner came to know that Police investigation of an offence of theft and detained at the dead body of her son Suman Behera was found on the railway track near a bridge at some distance from the Jaraikela railway station. There were multiple injuries on the body of Suman Rehera when it was found and obviously his death was unnatural, caused by those injuries. The allegation made is that it is a case of custodial death since Suman Behera died as a result of the multiple injuries inflicted to him while he was in police custody; and thereafter his dead body was thrown on the railway track. The prayer made in the petition is for award of compensation In the petitioner, the mother of Suman Behera, for contravention of the fundamental right to life guaranteed under article 21 of the Constitution.

The State of Orissa and its police officers, including Sarat Chandra Barik, Assistant Sub Inspector of Police and Constable No. 127, Chhabil Kujur of Police Outpost Jaraikela, Police Station Bisra, are impleaded as respondents in this petition. The defence of the respondents is that Suman Behera managed to escape from police custody at about 3 a.m. on the night between the 1st and 2nd December, 1987 from the Police Outpost Jeraikela where he was detained and guarded by Police Constable Chhabil Kujur; he could not be apprehended thereafter in spite of search; and the dead body of Suman Behera was found on the railway track the next day with multiple injuries which indicated that he was run over by a passing train after he had escaped om police custody. In short, on this basis the allegation of custodial death was denied and onsequently the respondents' responsibility for the unnatural death of Suman Behera

In view of the controversy relating to the cause of death of Suman Behera, a direction was given by this Court on 4-3-1991 to the District Judge, Sundergarh in Orissa, to hold an inquiry into the matter and submit a report. The parties were directed to appear before the District Judge and lead the evidence on which they rely. Accordingly, evidence was led by the parties and the District Judge has submitted the Inquiry Report dated 4-9-1991 containing his finding based in that evidence that Suman Behera had died on account of multiple injuries inflicted on him while he was in police custody at the Police Outpost Jeraikela. The correctness of this finding and report of the District Judge, being disputed by the respondents, the matter was examined afresh by us in the light of the objections raised to the Inquiry Report.

The admitted facts are that Suman Behera was taken in police custody on 1-12-1987 at 8 a.m. and he was found dead the next day on the railway track near the Police Outpost Jeraikela, without being released from custody, and his death was unnatural, caused by multiple injuries sustained by him. The burden is, therefore, clearly on the respondents to explain how Suman Behera sustained those injuries which caused his death. Unless a plausible explanation is given by the respondents which is consistent with their innocence, the obvious inference is that the fatal injuries were inflicted to Suman Behera in police custody resulting in his death, for which the respondents are responsible and liable.

To avoid this obvious and logical inference of custodial death, the learned Additional Solicitor-General relied on the respondents defence that Suman Behera had managed to escape it was likely that he was run over by a passing train when he sustained the fatal injuries. The from police custody at about 3 a.m. on the night between the 1st and 2nd December, 1987 and evidence adduced by the respondents is relied on by the learned Additional-Solicitor-General to support this defence to contend that the responsibility of the respondents for the safety Suman Behera came to an end the moment Suman Behera escaped from police custody. The learned Additional-Solicitor-General, however, rightly does not dispute the liability of the Stat for payment of compensation in this proceeding for violation of the fundamental right to under article 21, in case it is found to be a custodial death. The argument is that the factul foundation for such a liability of the State is absent. Shri M.S. Ganesh, who appeared, curiae for the petitioner, however, contended that the evidence adduced during the in does not support the defence of respondents and there is no reason to reject the finding of t learned district Judge that Suman Behera died in police custody as a result of injuries inflicted on him.

The first question is: Whether it is a case of custodial death as alleged by the petitione The admitted facts are: Suman Behera was taken in police custody at about 8 a.m. on 1-12-190 by Sarat Chandra Barik, Asstt. Sub-Inspector of Police, during investigation of an offence theft in the village and was detained at Police Outpost Jeraikela; Suman

Behera and Mahi Se another accused, were handcuffed, tied together and kept in custody at the police station; Sum Behera's mother, the petitioner, and grandmother went to the Police Outpost at about 8 with food for Suman Behera which he ate and thereafter these women came away while Su Police Constable Chhabil Kujur and some other Behera continued to remain in police cus that night; and the dead body of Suman Behera wi custody; at the Police Outpost that were present at the res persons wer a handcuff and multiple injuries was found lying on the railway track at Kilometre No. 385/% between Jeraikela and Bhalulata railway stations on the morning of 2-12-1987. It is signifi that there is no cogent independent evidence of any search made by the police to apprehend Suman Behera, if the defence of his escape from police custody be true. On the contrary, a discovery of the dead body on the railway track in the morning by some railwaymen, it w much later in the day that the police reached the spot to take charge of the dead body. The conduct of the concerned police officers is also a significant circumstance to assess credibilit of the defence version.

The doctor deposed that all the injuries were caused by hard and blunt object; the injuries on the face and left temporal region were post-mortem while the rest were ante-mortem. The doctor excluded the possibility of the injuries resulting from dragging of the body by a running train and stated that all the ante-mortem injuries could be caused by lathi blows.

ISSUE :

Whether compensation for custodial death can be available through Writ Petition.

JUDGMENT

The public law proceedings serve a different purpose than the private law proceedings. The relief of monetary compensation, as exemplary damages, in proceedings under article by this Court or under article 226 by the High Courts, for established infringement of the indefeasible right guaranteed under article 21 of the Constitution is a remedy available in pubic law and is based on the strict liability for contravention of the guaranteed basic and indefeasible rights of the citizen. The purpose of public law is not only to civilize public power but also assure the citizen that they live under a legal system which aims to protect their interests preserve their rights. Therefore, when the court moulds the relief by granting "compensation in proceedings under article 32 or 226 of the Constitution seeking enforcement or protect of fundamental rights, it does so under the public law by way of penalizing the wrongdoer and fixing the liability for the public wrong on the State which has failed in its public duty to protect the fundamental rights of the citizen. The payment of compensation in such cases is not to be understood, as it is generally understood in a civil action for damages under the private law but in the broader sense of providing relief by an order of making monetary amends under the public law for the wrong done due to breach of public duty of not protecting the fundamental rights of the citizen. The compensation is in the nature of 'exemplary damages awarded against the wrongdoer for the breach of its public law duty and is independent of the rights available to the aggrieved party to claim compensation under the private law in an action based on tort, through a suit instituted in a court of competent jurisdiction or/and prosecute the offender under the penal law.

It was further held that this Court and the High Courts, being the protectors of the civil liberties of the citizen, have not only the power and jurisdiction but also an obligation to grant relief in exercise of its jurisdiction under articles 32 and 226 of the Constitution to the victim or the heir of the victim whose fundamental rights under article 21 of the Constitution of India are established to have been flagrantly infringed by calling upon the State to repair the damage done by its officers to the fundamental rights of the citizen, notwithstanding the right of the citizen to the remedy by way of a civil suit or criminal proceedings. The State, of course, has the right to be indemnified by and take such action as may be available to it against the wrongdoer in accordance with law through appropriate proceedings. Of course, relief in exercise of the power under article 32 or 226 would be granted only once it is established that there has been an infringement of the fundamental rights of the citizen and no other form of appropriate redressal by the court in the facts and circumstances of the case is possible.

In the facts of the present case on the findings already recorded, the mode of redress which commends appropriate is to make an order of monetary amend in favour of the petitioner for the custodial death of her son by ordering payment of compensation by way of exemplary damages. For the reasons recorded by Brother Verma, J., I agree that the State of Orissa should pay a sum of Rupees 1,50,000 to the petitioner and a sum of Rs. 1,000 by way of costs to the Supreme Court Legal Aid Committee.



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