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April 2024

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By Intakhab Sir

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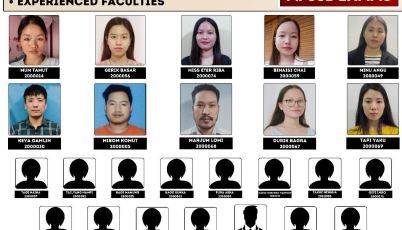
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Q1. Recently, who among the following has won 'Hockey India Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award 2023'?

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(a) Dilip Tirkey
 (b) Ashok Kumar
 (c) Mukesh Kumar
 (d) Baljit Singh Saini

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Ans1. (b) Ashok Kumar

Hockey India Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award

New Delhi, 11th April 2024: Life came full circle for Shri Ashok Kumar as he was awarded the Hockey India Major Dhyan Chand Lifetime Achievement Award, named after world-renowned hockey magician and his father, Major Dhyan Chand, at the Hockey India 6th Annual Awards 2023 in March this year. 11 Apr 2024



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Q2. Recently, which of the following countries has partially joined Schengen travel zone?

- (a) Cyprus
- (b) Bulgaria
- (c) Ireland
- (d) Ukraine

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Ans2. (b) Bulgaria

Schengen Zone

- The Schengen Agreement is a treaty signed in 1985 by five member states (Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, and the Netherlands) of the European Economic Community.
- The agreement aims to create a border-free area in Europe that allows the free movement of people, goods, services, and capital called the Schengen Area, where internal border checks are largely abolished.



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Q3. Recently, which of the following organisations/ministries has launched 'SCORES 2.0' to strengthen investor complaint redressal mechanism?

- (a) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (b) Ministry of Finance
- (c) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
- (d) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

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Ans3. (c) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
SCORES 2.0

- SCORES 2.0 refers to the upgraded version of the SEBI Complaint Redress System (SCORES) launched by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- SCORES is an online platform designed to facilitate the lodging and resolution of complaints by investors in the securities market.
- Complaints can be lodged for any issues covered under the:
 1. SEBI Act, 1992
 2. Securities Contract Regulation Act, 1956
 3. Depositories Act, 1966
 4. Companies Act, 2013

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Q4. Recently, 'Matabari Peda' has received geographical indication (GI) tag. It is associated with which of the following states?

(a) Telangana
 (b) Chhattisgarh
 (c) Tripura
 (d) Nagaland

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Ans4. (c) Tripura
Geographical Indication (GI) Tag

- A GI tag is a name or sign used on certain products that correspond to a specific geographical location or origin.
- The GI tag ensures that only the **authorised users or those residing in the geographical territory** are allowed to use the popular product name.
- A registered GI is valid for 10 years.
- GI registration is overseen by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- The Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999 seeks to provide for the registration and better protection of geographical indications relating to goods in India.



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Q5. Recently, India has commemorated the centenary of Vaikom Satyagraha. This movement was associated with which of the following states?

(a) Andhra Pradesh
 (b) Odisha
 (c) Tamil Nadu
 (d) Kerala

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Ans5. (d) Kerala

Vaikom Satyagraha

- Vaikom Satyagraha, a **nonviolent agitation**, unfolded in **Vaikom** within the princely state of **Travancore, Kerala** precisely a century ago spanning from 30th March 1924 to 23rd November 1925.
- The movement was triggered by the **prohibition of people from oppressed classes, especially Ezhavas**, from walking on the roads surrounding the Vaikom Mahadeva temple.
- Efforts were made to negotiate with authorities, including **Maharani Regent of Travancore, to open temple roads**.
- It was the **first among the temple entry movements in India**, setting the stage for similar movements across the country.
- It was led by visionary leaders like **Ezhava leader T K Madhavan, K.P. Kesava Menon, and K. Kelappan**.
- **Erode Venkatappa Ramasamy**, revered as **Periyar or Thanthai Periyar**, played a crucial role, mobilising volunteers, delivering speeches, and enduring imprisonment, earning the title '**Vaikom Veerar**'.
- The movement gained more power when **Mahatma Gandhi** reached Vaikom in March 1925 and held discussions with leaders of various caste groups.





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Q6. Recently, world's first emotionally intelligent voice AI has been introduced. It is developed by which of the following companies?

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(a) Deep Mind
(b) Hume
(c) Nvidia
(d) Argo





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Ans6. (b) Hume

- EVI (Empathic Voice Interface), developed by Hume AI, is considered the world's first emotionally intelligent voice AI.
- EVI can understand and respond to human emotions through voice cues and language, and aims to create a more natural and empathetic human-computer interaction.

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Q7. Recently, who among the following has won Men's Singles title at Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) Miami Open 2024?

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(a) Grigor Dimitro
(b) Matthew Ebden
(c) Jannik Sinner
(d) Simone Bolelli

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Ans7. (c) Jannik Sinner



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Q8. Recently, which of the following ports has emerged as **largest Indian major port in cargo throughput in FY24?**

(a) Paradip Port
(b) Mundra Port
(c) Haldia Port
(d) Cochin Port

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Ans8. (a) Paradip Port

- State-owned Paradip Port in Odisha emerges as the largest Indian major port in cargo throughput in FY24.
- Paradip Port clocked a cargo volume of 145.38 million tonne cargo throughput in FY24, surpassing Deendayal Port Authority in Gujarat.



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Q9. Who among the following has topped the recently released "Forbes World's Billionaires List 2024: The Top 200**"?**

(a) Bill Gates
(b) Elon Musk
(c) Bernard Arnault and family
(d) Jeff Bezos

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Ans9. (c) Bernard Arnault and family

- Bernard Jean Étienne Arnault is a French businessman, investor and art collector.
- He is the founder, chairman and CEO of LVMH, the world's largest luxury goods company.
- Arnault is the third richest person in the world, with an estimated net worth of US\$199.5 billion as of 12 June 2024, according to Forbes.



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Q10. As per recent information, India will stop importing urea by end of which of the following years?

(a) 2024
(b) 2025
(c) 2026
(d) 2027

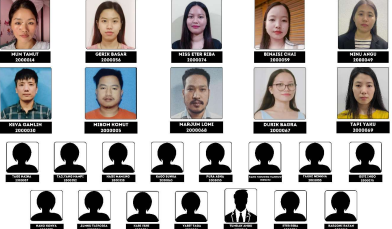
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Ans10. (b) 2025



- India will by the end of 2025 stop importing urea as a massive push for domestic manufacturing has helped bridge the gap between supply and demand, Chemicals and Fertilisers Minister Mansukh Mandaviya has said.
- In an interaction with PTI, the minister noted that the availability of fertilisers is very important for Indian agriculture.
- He said the country has been using chemical fertilisers for the last 60-65 years to enhance crop production.
- Now, Mandaviya said, the government is making efforts to promote alternate fertilisers like nano liquid urea and nano liquid di-ammonium phosphate (DAP).

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Q11. Recently, 'Juice Jacking' was in news. It is a type of:



(a) Artificial Intelligence Technology
(b) Digital Wallet
(c) Cyber-attack
(d) Robot

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Ans11. (c) Cyber-attack



- The term "juice jacking" was first coined in 2011 by investigative journalist Brian Krebs.
- It is a form of cyberattack where hackers manipulate public USB charging ports to steal data from connected devices by infecting them with malware or altering hardware.
- Hackers utilize this attack to steal users' passwords, credit card details, addresses, and other sensitive data stored on the targeted device.
- This form of attack has become increasingly concerning, with reported incidents occurring in various public spaces including airports, hotels, and shopping centers.
- RBI stressed the need to safeguard personal and financial data when using mobile devices.

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Q12. As per recent information, India aims to construct its first privately managed crude oil storage facility in partnership with a private company by which of the following years?

(a) 2028-29
(b) 2029-30
(c) 2031-32
(d) 2034-35

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Ans12. (b) 2029-30

- India's Strategic Petroleum Reserve (SPR) is a stockpile of crude oil that can be used in emergencies, such as disruptions to the global supply chain.
- The SPR is maintained by the Indian Strategic Petroleum Reserves Limited (ISPRL), a subsidiary of the Oil Industry Development Board, which is under the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas.
- The SPR is stored in underground rock caverns at three locations:
 - Visakhapatnam: 1.33 million metric tons (MMT) in Andhra Pradesh
 - Mangalore: 1.5 MMT in Karnataka
 - Padur: 2.5 MMT in Karnataka


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Q13. Recently, 'Kathiya Gehu' has received geographical indication (GI) tag. It is associated with which of the following states?

(a) Telangana
(b) Bihar
(c) Uttar Pradesh
(d) Madhya Pradesh

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Ans13. (c) Uttar Pradesh

Kathiya Gehu

- This recognition is expected to **boost the promotion** of Kathiya Gehu, an indigenous wheat variety known for its **high protein content** and **minimal water requirements**.
- Notably, Kathiya Gehu is **gluten-free**, making it a **healthier option** for consumers.
- Kathiya Gehu's **adaptability to harsh climatic conditions** and **low irrigation needs** make it a **resilient crop**, particularly suitable for the **arid landscape** of the Bundelkhand region.

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Q14. Recently, President of India has launched country's first indigenously developed gene therapy "CAR-T cell therapy" for cancer. This therapy is developed through collaboration between Tata Memorial Hospital, ImmunoACT and which of the following institutes?

(a) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
(b) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay
(c) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras
(d) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru

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Ans14. (b) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay

How CAR T-cell therapy is used to treat cancer

Healthcare providers collect blood to obtain T-cells.

T-cells are separated and removed.

Providers return remaining blood.

T-cells are genetically altered to have special receptors called chimeric antigen receptors (CAR).

Chemotherapy is given before CAR T-cell therapy.

New CAR T-cells introduced into bloodstream.

Receptor CAR T-cells

Millions of CAR T-cells are grown.

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Q15. As per recent information, a **tissue culture laboratory is being setup at Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary. This sanctuary is located at which of the following states/UT?**

(a) Punjab
(b) Delhi
(c) Rajasthan
(d) Uttar Pradesh

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Ans15. (b) Delhi

Tissue Culture Laboratory:

- The lab will be able to extract plant tissue from an in-vitro fully grown plant, generating **multiple trees** from the same tree.
- The forest department will take assistance from botanists and scientists from the [Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education \(ICFRE\)](#) and the [Forest Research Institute \(FRI\)](#).

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Q16. Recently, Kerala University researchers has discovered a 5200 year old Harappan settlement at which of the following places in Gujarat?

(a) Nanavada
(b) Kamand
(c) Padta Bet
(d) Dumra

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Ans16. (c) Padta Bet

- Archaeologists from Kerala University have recently discovered a **5,200-year-old Harappan settlement at Padta Bet**.
- It is located approximately 1.5 km from **Juna Khatiya, an Early Harappan necropolis**, in the Kutch district of Gujarat.

Juna Khatiya:



- It is **one of the biggest Harappan burial sites** with the possibility of 500 graves.
- The burials discovered at this site date **from 3,200 BCE to 2,600 BCE**, predating Dholavira and several other Harappan sites in Gujarat.
- The site is important because others like **Dholavira** have a cemetery in and around the town, but no major habitation has been discovered near Juna Khatiya.

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Q17. As per recent information, who among the following is set to create history as the first woman from India to serve as a jury member at Paris Olympics 2024?



(a) Prachi Yadav
(b) Neha Devi Leichonbam
(c) Bilquis Mir
(d) Binita Chanu Oinam

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Ans17. (c) Bilquis Mir

Bilquis Mir from J&K makes history as India's first female jury member. Bilquis Mir from Jammu and Kashmir is set to create history as the first woman from India to serve as a jury member at this year's Summer Olympics in Paris, scheduled from July 26 to August 11.





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Q18. Recently, Sagar Kavach, a coastal security exercise was conducted in which of the following state/UT?



(a) Puducherry
(b) Kerala
(c) Andaman and Nicobar Island
(d) Lakshadweep

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Ans18. (d) Lakshadweep

Sagar Kavach

- The exercise, conducted semi-annually, is a collaborative effort with active participation from various central and state agencies, showcasing a unified approach to fortifying India's coastal defences.
- Coordinated by the Indian Coast Guard, 'Sagar Kavach' brings together an amalgamation of forces, including the Indian Navy, Coastal Police/State Police, Intelligence Bureau, Customs, CISF, Department of Port, Department of Fisheries, Directorate General of Lighthouse and Lightships (DGLL), and Kadalora Jagiratha Samithi.

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Q19. As per recently released 'Business Environment Rankings (BER) 2024' by Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), which of the following countries has secured first rank?

(a) Denmark (b) Singapore
(c) United States (d) Germany

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Ans19. (b) Singapore

- The Business Environment Rankings (BER) for 2024, released by the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU), ranks Singapore, Denmark, and the U.S. as the top three places in the world to conduct business.
- Other notable countries that scored well in the index include Greece, Qatar, and India. India, in particular, has shown significant improvement, moving up to the 10th place.

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Q20. As per recent information, India has achieved its target to eliminate which of the following disease?

(a) Lymphatic filariasis
(b) Malaria
(c) Polio
(d) Kala-azar



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Ans20. (d) Kala-azar

Kala-azar:

- Kala-azar, also known as visceral leishmaniasis (VL), is a severe form of leishmaniasis caused by the protozoan parasite *Leishmania donovani*.
- It is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected female sandfly, primarily *Phlebotomus argentipes* in India.
- **Symptoms:** The disease is characterized by irregular bouts of fever, substantial weight loss, swelling of the spleen and liver, and severe anaemia if left untreated, which can lead to death within two years.


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Q21. Recently, Sannati Buddhist site was in news. It is located at which of the following places?

(a) Mandya
(b) Bidar
(c) Kalaburagi
(d) Vijayanagara

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Ans21. (c) Kalaburagi

Sannati Buddhist site

- It is the ancient **Buddhist site** on the bank of **Bhima river** near Kanaganahalli (forming part of Sannati site) in Kalaburagi district, Karnataka. It is also popular among tourists for the **Chandrala Parameshwari Temple**.
- It is believed to have been developed in three constructional phases – **Maurya, Early Satavahana and Later Satavahana** periods stretching from 3rd Century B.C. to 3rd Century A.D.


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- Tripura
- Sikkim



Q22. As per a report released by World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA), which of the following countries has recorded highest number of drug cheats in the world in 2022?

(a) Kazakhstan (b) South Africa
(c) India (d) Norway

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Ans22. (c) India

World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA)

- WADA was established in 1999 as an **international independent agency** to lead a collaborative worldwide movement for **doping-free sport**.
- WADA's **governance and funding** are based on an **equal partnership between the sport movement and governments** of the world.
- WADA's primary role is to develop, harmonize, and coordinate anti-doping rules and policies **across all sports and countries**.
- Its key activities include **scientific research**, education, the development of anti-doping capacities, and **monitoring of the World Anti-Doping Code (Code)**, the document harmonizing anti-doping policies in all sports and all countries.
- WADA is a Swiss private law, not-for-profit foundation. Its seat is in Lausanne, Switzerland, and its **headquarters are in Montreal, Canada**.



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Q23. Recently, which of the following companies has unveiled its latest innovation known as **Voice Engine?**

(a) OpenAI
(b) Google Deepmind
(c) xAI
(d) Anthropic



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Ans23. (a) OpenAI

- OpenAI introduced a new AI model called Voice Engine.
- This model can replicate any voice in any language using a brief audio sample, allowing users to generate audio content in the same voice and manner of speaking as the original sample.
- Voice Engine is a text-to-audio tool that generates new audio using a voice sample and a user's written prompt.
- Users can upload a 15-second audio sample, and the model will analyze it to create an output in the same voice based on the provided text.
- The model can even produce audio clips of the same speaker in another language, showcasing its multilingual capabilities.



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Q24. Recently, which of the following countries has endorsed Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) Charter?

(a) Bangladesh
(b) Nepal
(c) Bhutan
(d) Myanmar

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Ans24. (b) Nepal

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

- BIMSTEC is an economic bloc that came into being in June 1997 through the **Bangkok Declaration**.
- BIMSTEC was initially formed with four member states- Bangladesh, India, Sri Lanka and Thailand on June 6, 1997.
- Nepal became an observer state in 1998 and became full-time member of the bloc along with Bhutan in February 2004.
- **Members** - Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Nepal and Bhutan.
- **Permanent Secretariat** - Dhaka, Bangladesh



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Q25. Recently, who among the following has been appointed as 8th Executive Secretary of Secretariat of **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)?**

(a) Miguel Berger
(b) Andreas Michaelis
(c) Astrid Schomaker
(d) Dr Philipp Ackermann

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Ans25. (c) Astrid Schomaker

Convention on Biological Diversity

- CBD is a legally binding treaty to conserve biodiversity that **has been in force since 1993** and has been ratified by 196 nations.
- It sets out **guidelines for countries to protect biodiversity**, ensure sustainable use, and promote fair and equitable benefit sharing.
- It aims at achieving a **historic deal to halt and reverse biodiversity loss on par with the 2015 Paris Agreement** on climate change.
- The **CBD Secretariat is based in Montreal, Canada**.
- The Parties (Countries) under CBD, meet at regular intervals and these meetings are called **Conference of Parties (COP)**.

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Q26. Recently, who among the following has authored a new book titled 'The Idea of Democracy**'?**

(a) Ajay Bisaria
(b) S.D. Muni
(c) Geetika Srivastava
(d) Sam Pitroda

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Ans26. (d) Sam Pitroda

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The Idea of DEMOCRACY
SAM PITRODA

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Q27. **Phanigiri Buddhist site** was in news recently. It is located at which of the following places?

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a) Srikakulam, Andhra Pradesh
b) Suryapet, Telangana
c) East Godavari, Andhra Pradesh
d) Medak, Telangana

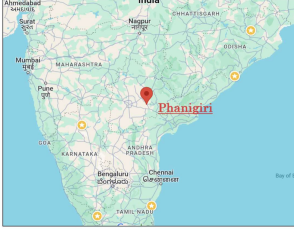
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Ans27. (b) Suryapet, Telangana

Phanigiri

- It is a famous **Buddhist site** located 110 km away from Hyderabad.
- This site derived its name from the shape of the hillock, which appears to be like a **snake hood**. The word Phani in Sanskrit means snake and Giri means hillock.
- It is believed to be one of the important Buddhist monasteries strategically located on the **ancient trade route** (Dakshinapatha) connecting the west and the east coast of the Deccan.



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Q28. Recently, who among the following has been named as the recipient of 2023 **ACM A.M. Turing Award**, which is often called the “Nobel Prize of Computing”?

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(a) Richard Lipton (b) Dennis Sullivan
(c) Dorit Aharonov (d) Avi Wigderson

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Ans28. (d) Avi Wigderson

- Turing Award (A.M. Turing Award) is an annual award given by the Association for Computing Machinery (ACM) to one or more individuals "selected for contributions of a technical nature made to the computing community."

Dr. A.M. Turing




- Alan Mathison Turing (1912-1954) was a **British mathematician and logician, who made major contributions to mathematics, cryptanalysis, logic, philosophy, and mathematical biology** and also to the new areas later named computer science, cognitive science, artificial intelligence, and artificial life.

Often considered the father of modern computer science, Alan Turing was famous for his work developing the first modern computers, decoding the encryption of German Enigma machines during the second world war, and detailing a procedure known as the Turing Test, forming the basis for artificial intelligence.

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Q29. As per recently notified Rules for Citizenship Amendment Act (CAA), citizenship will be provided to those migrants who have entered India __.

(a) Before January 31, 2015
(b) Before December 31, 2014
(c) Before March 31, 2016
(d) Before December 31, 2015

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Ans29. (b) Before December 31, 2014

- Under the amendment, migrants who entered India on **31st December 2014**, and had suffered "**religious persecution or fear or religious persecution**" in their country of origin would be made eligible for accelerated citizenship.
- It exempts the members of the six communities from any criminal case under **Foreigners Act, 1946** and **Passport Act, 1920** which specify punishment for entering the country illegally and staying on expired visas and permits.
- Relaxations:** Under the Citizenship Act, 1935, one of the requirements for citizenship by naturalization is that the applicant must have resided in India during the last 12 months, as well as for 11 of the previous 14 years.
- The 2019 amendment relaxes the second requirement from **11 years to 6 years** as a specific condition for applicants belonging to these six religions, and the aforementioned three countries.
- Exemptions:** CAA will not apply to regions mentioned under the **Sixth Schedule** of the Indian Constitution, which include Tribal Areas in the States of **Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram**.
- Additionally, areas covered by the **Inner Line Permit system (ILP)** are also exempt from the CAA.

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Q30. In a recent outbreak, **parrot fever has claimed the lives of five individuals across Europe. This fever is caused by which of the following bacteria?**

(a) Legionella pneumophila
(b) Chlamydomphila psittaci
(c) Listeria monocytogenes
(d) Rickettsia tsutsugamushi

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Ans30. (b) Chlamydomphila psittaci
Parrot Fever

- It is also known as psittacosis.
- It is caused by the bacterium Chlamydomphila psittaci (C. psittaci).
- The bacteria can infect many mammals — including dogs, cats and horses — but most often infects birds.
- It primarily affects birds but can be transmitted to humans through inhalation of contaminated particles from feathers or droppings.
- The disease is more common in people who come into close contact with birds — such as poultry workers, veterinarians and pet-bird owners.
- Humans can catch psittacosis by inhaling airborne particles containing C. psittaci, but human-to-human transmission of the disease is very rare, with only a handful of cases ever reported.


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Q31. As per recent information shared by Airports Council International (ACI) World, which of the following airport is world's busiest airport?

(a) Dubai International Airport
 (b) Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, USA
 (c) Dallas Forth Worth International Airport, USA
 (d) Heathrow Airport, London

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Ans31. (b) Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport, USA

Here are the top 10 busiest airports in the world, as per ACI:

PASSENGERS*						
2023	2022	2019	AIRPORT	2023	% CHANGE VS 2022	% CHANGE VS 2019
1	1	1	ATLANTA, USA (ATL)	104 653 451	11.7	-5.3
2	5	4	DUBAI, UAE (DXB)	86 994 365	31.7	0.7
3	2	10	DALLAS/FORT WORTH, USA (DFW)	81 755 538	11.4	8.9
4	8	7	LONDON, UK (LHR)	79 183 364	28.5	-2.1
5	16	5	TOKYO, JAPAN (HND)	78 719 302	55.1	-7.9
6	3	16	DENVER, USA (DEN)	77 837 917	12.3	12.8
7	7	28	ISTANBUL, TURKEY (IST)	76 027 321	18.3	45.7
8	6	3	LOS ANGELES, USA (LAX)	75 050 875	13.8	-14.8
9	4	6	CHICAGO, USA (ORD)	73 894 226	8.1	-12.7
10	9	17	NEW DELHI, INDIA (DEL)	72 214 841	21.4	5.4

* Total passengers enplaned and deplaned, passengers in transit counted once

Top 10 Busiest Airports Worldwide (Source: Airports Council International World)

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Q32. Recently, who among the following has become the first English woman to be honoured as Wisden's leading cricketer in the world in 2024?

(a) Emma Lamb
 (b) Nat Sciver-Brunt
 (c) Heather Knight
 (d) Kate Cross

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Ans32. (b) Nat Sciver-Brunt

- Nat Sciver-Brunt has become the first English woman to be honoured as Wisden's leading cricketer in the world in 2024.
- She was recognized for her outstanding performance in 2023, including hitting three ODI centuries in five innings and setting a new English record with a 66-ball hundred against Sri Lanka.
- Nat Sciver-Brunt is an accomplished all-rounder for the England women's cricket team. A right-handed batter and right-arm medium pace bowler, she debuted for England in 2013.



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Q33. PRATUSH, a radio telescope to be sited on moon's far side was in news recently. It is being built by which of the following institutes?

(a) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras
 (b) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru
 (c) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research, Mumbai
 (d) Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru

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Ans33. (d) Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru

PRATUSH

- PRATUSH is a **radio telescope** designed to be placed on the far side of the moon.
- It is built by Raman Research Institute (RRI), Bengaluru and [Indian Space Research Organisation \(ISRO\)](#).



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Q34. Recently, who among the following has been appointed as Managing Director (MD) of International Monetary Fund (IMF)?

(a) Kristalina Georgieva
 (b) Anshula Kant
 (c) Alfonso Guerra
 (d) Elizabeth Shortino

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Ans34. (a) Kristalina Georgieva

History of IMF

- The IMF, also known as the Fund, was conceived at a UN conference in **Bretton Woods**, New Hampshire, United States, in July **1944**.
- The 44 countries at that conference sought to build a framework for economic cooperation to avoid a repetition of the competitive devaluations that had contributed to the Great Depression of the 1930s.
- **Countries were not eligible for membership** in the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD) **unless they were members of the IMF**.
- IMF, as per **Bretton Woods agreement** to encourage international financial cooperation, introduced a system of convertible currencies at fixed exchange rates, and replaced gold with the U.S. dollar (gold at \$35 per ounce) for official reserve.
 - After the **Bretton Woods system** (system of fixed exchange rates) **collapsed in the 1971**, the IMF has promoted the **system of floating exchange rates**. Countries are free to choose their exchange arrangement, meaning that market forces determine the value of currencies relative to one another. **This system continues to be in place today.**

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Q35. Recently, who among the following has authored a book titled 'Knife'?

(a) Amitav Ghosh
(b) Anita Desai
(c) Jhumpa Lahiri
(d) Salman Rushdie

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Ans35. (d) Salman Rushdie

On the morning of 12 August 2022, Salman Rushdie was standing onstage at the Chautauqua Institution in upstate New York, preparing to give a lecture on the importance of keeping writers safe from harm, when a man in black – black clothes, black mask – rushed down the aisle towards him, wielding a knife. His first thought: *So it's you. Here you are.*

What followed was a horrific act of violence that shook the literary world and beyond. Now, for the first time, Rushdie relives the traumatic events of that day and its aftermath, as well as his journey towards physical recovery and the healing that was made possible by the love and support of his wife, Eliza, his family, his army of doctors and physical therapists, and his community of readers worldwide.




KNIFE

Meditations After an Attempted Murder

SALMAN RUSHDIE

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Q36. Recently, which of the following organisation has voted to adopt first of its kind resolution designed to protect the rights of intersex people?

(a) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
(b) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)
(c) United Nations Human Rights Council
(d) United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

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Ans36. (c) United Nations Human Rights Council

Intersex persons

- Intersex persons are born with a wide range of natural variations in their sex characteristics that don't fit the typical definition of male or female, including sexual anatomy, reproductive organs or chromosome patterns.
- Experts estimate that up to 1.7 per cent of the population is born with intersex traits.

UN Human Rights Council

- The Human Rights Council is an inter-governmental body within the 'United Nations' system.
- The UNHRC replaced the former United Nations Commission on Human Rights.
- The Council was created by the United Nations General Assembly in 2006 by a resolution.
- **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.
- It is responsible for strengthening the promotion and protection of human rights around the globe.
- The Council is made of 47 Member States, elected by the General Assembly of the UN through direct and secret ballot.

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Q37. Recently, who among the following has become the first Indian cricketer to smash 500 sixes in T20 format?

(a) MS Dhoni
(b) Virat Kohli
(c) Rishabh Pant
(d) Rohit Sharma

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Ans37. (d) Rohit Sharma



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Q38. As per recent information shared at 42nd Inter-Agency Space Debris Coordination Committee (IADC) annual meet, India aims to achieve debris-free space missions by which of the following year?

(a) 2028
(b) 2030
(c) 2035
(d) 2040

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Ans38. (b) 2030

Space Debris

- Space debris refers to **man-made objects in Earth's orbit** that no longer serve a useful purpose.
- This includes **defunct satellites, spent rocket stages**, and fragments of debris from collisions or other events.

Threats from Space Debris:

Threat to Marine Life:

- Even when falling into the oceans, which is more likely since 70% of the earth's surface is ocean, **large objects can be a threat to marine life**, and a source of pollution.

Threat for Operational Satellites:

- The floating space debris is a potential hazard for operational satellites and colliding with them can leave the satellites dysfunctional.
- This overpopulation of space with objects and debris is referred to as **Kessler Syndrome**.

Reduction of Orbital Slots:

- The accumulation of space debris in specific orbital regions can limit the availability of desirable orbital slots for future missions.

Space Situational Awareness:

- The increasing amount of space debris makes it more challenging for satellite operators and space agencies to accurately track and predict the orbits of objects in space.

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Q39. As per recent information, India has begun development of an indigenous bullet train. The design process is being done by which of the following companies?

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(a) Integral Coach Factory, Chennai
 (b) Rail Coach Factory (RCF), Kapurthala
 (c) Modern Coach Factory (MCF), Raebareli
 (d) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL)

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Ans39. (a) Integral Coach Factory, Chennai

- Integral Coach Factory (ICF) is a manufacturer of rail coaches located in the neighbourhood of Perambur, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- It was established in 1952 and was inaugurated by Jawaharlal Nehru in 1955.
- It is owned and operated by the Indian Railways.
- The ICF is one of the three rake production units of the Indian Railways, the other two being the Modern Coach Factory at Raebareli and the Rail Coach Factory at Kapurthala.

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Q40. Recently, astronomers have found the most massive stellar-mass black hole ever detected in our galaxy, located approximately 2,000 light-years away from Earth in the constellation Aquila. What is the name of this black hole?

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(a) Sagittarius A (b) Gaia BH3
 (c) Messier 61 (d) Markarian 335

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Ans40. (b) Gaia BH3

- As of April 2024, Gaia BH3 is the most massive stellar-mass black hole ever found in the Milky Way galaxy:
- **Mass:** 33 times the mass of the sun
- **Distance:** 2,000 light years away from Earth in the constellation Aquila
- **Discovery:** European astronomers using data from the European Space Agency's Gaia mission and the European Southern Observatory's Very Large Telescope in Chile

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Q41. Recently, who among the following has bagged the men's singles title at **Badminton Asia Championships 2024?**

(a) Wang Chang
(b) Liang Wei Keng
(c) Feng Yan Zhe
(d) Jonatan Christie

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Ans41. (d) Jonatan Christie




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Q42. As per recent information, who among the following will be honoured with **Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award for his remarkable dedication to the nation, its people and society?**



(a) Nana Patekar
(b) Nitin Gadkari
(c) Amitabh Bachchan
(d) Uddhav Thackeray

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Ans42. (c) Amitabh Bachchan

- **Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award** has been instituted by Master Deenanath Mangeshkar Smriti Pratishthan.
- This award is given every year to an individual who has made a path-breaking contribution towards the nation, its people, and society.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi was its first recipient, followed by Lata Mangeshkar's sister Asha Bhosle in 2023.
- This award is given every year to individuals who make outstanding contributions to music, art, culture, and social work.

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Q43. Recently, world's largest 4,000-hectare 'tent city' was in news. It is underway in which of the following states?


- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Uttar Pradesh
- (c) Maharashtra
- (d) Uttarakhand

Ans43. (b) Uttar Pradesh

Tent City at Varanasi

- **About:** Tent City has been conceptualised on the banks of River Ganga to tap the potential of tourism in the region.
- **Location:** The project has been developed opposite to city ghats which will provide accommodation facilities and cater to the increased tourists influx in Varanasi, especially since the inauguration of Kashi Vishwanath Dham.
- **Developing Authority:** Tent City has been developed by Varanasi Development Authority in PPP mode.


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Q44. Recently, who among the following has authored a book titled ‘India - the Road to Renaissance: A Vision and an Agenda’?

(a) Hardeep Puri
(b) Nirupam Sen
(c) Bhimeswara Challa
(d) Prakash Shah


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Ans44. (c) Bhimeswara Challa

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Bhimeswara Challa

Q45. Recently, ‘Tirangi Barfi’ from which of the following states has received the geographical indication (GI) tag?

(a) West Bengal
(b) Maharashtra
(c) Punjab
(d) Uttar Pradesh

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Ans45. (d) Uttar Pradesh

- Uttar Pradesh retains its position as the state with the most [GI-tagged products](#) in India, reaching a total of 75.
- This comprises the renowned 'Tirangi Barfi' from Kashi, a tri coloured sweet that was traded to make a statement by freedom fighters in the [Quit India Movement](#).
- The other products that received the certification in Uttar Pradesh include Banaras Metal Casting Craft, Lakhimpur Kheri Tharu Embroidery, Bareilly Cane and Bamboo Craft, Bareilly Zardozi Craft, and Pilkhuwa Hand Block Print Textile.
- With the inclusion of these six new items, Uttar Pradesh remains the leading state in India with the highest number of GI-tagged products.
- Tamil Nadu comes next with 58 GI products.

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Q46. Recently, United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) has released its State of the World Population report, titled "Interwoven Lives, Threads of Hope: Ending Inequalities in Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights". As per the report, India's population is estimated to double in how many years?

(a) 70 years
(b) 74 years
(c) 77 years
(d) 85 years

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Ans46. (c) 77 years

Key findings

- India leads globally in population size, estimated at 4417 billion, followed closely by China with 1.425 billion.
- India's population is projected to double in 77 years, with 68% of the population belonging to the age group of 15-64 years and 26% in the 10-24 years age group.
- The Total Fertility Rate (TFR) in India stands at 2.0 births per woman in the reproductive age group.
- Life expectancy at birth in India is estimated at 71 years for men and 74 years for women.
- Child marriage rates in India were reported at 23% between 2006-2023.
- Women with disabilities experience up to 10 times more gender-based violence compared to women without disabilities.
- Despite 30 years of progress in **Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH)**, the report highlights that marginalized communities have often been overlooked.



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Q47. Recently, Ministry of Law and Justice has constituted a 6-member committee to examine issues relating to queer community. Who among the following will head this committee?

(a) Ajay Kumar Bhalla
(b) Saurabh Garg
(c) Rajiv Gauba
(d) B.V.R. Subrahmanyam



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Ans47. (c) Rajiv Gauba

Queer:

- An adjective used by some people whose sexual orientation is not exclusively heterosexual or straight.
- This umbrella term includes people who have nonbinary, gender-fluid, or gender-nonconforming identities.
- Once considered a pejorative term, queer has been reclaimed by some LGBTQIA+ people to describe themselves; however, it is not a universally accepted term even within the LGBTQIA+ community.

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Q48. Recently, Meta Platforms has announced the launch of its new artificial intelligence (AI) assistant, Meta AI. Meta AI will be powered by _____.

(a) Claude
(b) Llama 3
(c) LaMDA
(d) PaLM

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Ans48. (b) Llama 3

- At the core of Meta AI is the company's most advanced AI model, [Llama 3](#).
- Developed using vast amounts of data, Llama 3 is capable of understanding and generating human-like responses to a wide range of queries and prompts.
- The model runs on powerful chips designed by Nvidia, enabling it to process and analyze large volumes of data efficiently.

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Q49. Recently, India has delivered first batch of BrahMos supersonic cruise missiles to which of the following countries?

(a) Armenia
(b) Malaysia
(c) Philippines
(d) Indonesia

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Ans49. (c) Philippines

Brahmos Missiles

- The **BrahMos missile**, an Indo-Russian joint venture, has a range of 290 km and is the fastest cruise missile in the world with a top speed of Mach 2.8 (nearly three times the speed of sound).
- BrahMos is named for the rivers **Brahmaputra (India)** and **Moskva (Russia)**.
- It is a **two-stage missile** (solid propellant engine in the first stage and liquid ramjet in the second stage).
- It is a **multiplatform missile** i.e., it can be launched from **land, air, and sea** and **multi-capability missile** with pinpoint accuracy that works **both day and night** irrespective of the weather conditions.
- It operates on the "**Fire and Forgets**" principle i.e. it does not require further guidance after launch.

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Q50. Mount Ruang has initiated its eruption recently. It is located in which of the following countries?

(a) Italy
 (b) Indonesia
 (c) Tokyo
 (d) Ethiopia

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Ans50. (b) Indonesia



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Q51. Recently, who among the following has been appointed as next Chief of the Naval Staff?


(a) Vice Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi
 (b) Vice Admiral Deepak Kapoor
 (c) Vice Admiral B Sivakumar
 (d) Vice Admiral Lochan Singh Pathania

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Ans51. (a) Vice Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi

Serial Number	Ranks of Indian Navy
1	Fleet Admiral
2	Admiral
3	Vice Admiral
4	Rear Admiral
5	Commodore
6	Captain
7	Commander
8	Lieutenant Commander
9	Lieutenant
10	Sub Lieutenant
11	Midshipman

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Q52. Recently, fossil vertebrae of one of the largest snakes that ever lived has been unearthed in Panandhro area of Kutch, Gujarat. This snake has been named as _____.

(a) Adishesha indicus
(b) Vasukiindicus
(c) Takshaka indicus
(d) Karkotaka indicus

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Ans52. (b) Vasuki indicus

Vasuki Indicus

- The newly identified species, *Vasuki indicus*, belongs to the now-extinct **Madtsoiidae snake family**.
- It is a **Gondwanan terrestrial snake**, that lived during the warm Middle Eocene period, spanning from the **Upper Cretaceous** (100.5 to 66 mya (million years ago)) to the Late Pleistocene epochs (0.126 to 0.012 mya).


Size Estimates:

- The fossilised remains suggest lengths between **10.9 and 15.2 metres**, surpassing even the largest modern snakes.
- Vasuki indicus* thrived during this period, adapting to the tropical conditions.

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Q53. Recently, which of the following organisation has prequalified a new oral cholera vaccine called **Euvichol-S?**

(a) World Health Organization (WHO)
(b) Gavi, The Vaccine Alliance
(c) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
(d) Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)

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Ans53. (a) World Health Organization (WHO)

Cholera

- It is a **life-threatening infectious disease** and a public health hazard.
- Cholera is an **acute, diarrheal illness caused by infection of the intestine with the bacterium *Vibrio cholerae***.
- The infection is often mild or without symptoms, but sometimes can be severe.

How cholera affects the body

Cholera is an acute intestinal infection that causes severe diarrhea, dehydration and, if not treated promptly, death.

How it spreads

- People ingest water or food contaminated with cholera bacteria
- In epidemic, feces of diseased person is source of contamination

Treatment

- Salt solution, intravenous fluids, antibiotics
- In unprepared communities, death rates can be as high as 50 percent

In the large intestine

- Bacteria multiply rapidly
- Toxin from bacteria penetrates cells of intestinal wall
- Toxin prevents intestine from absorbing water from digested food; diarrhea, dehydration result



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Q54. Recently, which of the following space organisation has confirmed a **Dragonfly rotorcraft mission to Saturn's moon Titan?**

(a) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
(b) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)
(c) China National Space Administration (CNSA)
(d) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)

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Ans54. (a) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

Dragonfly Mission

- It is a "dual quadcopter" designed to fly across the **surface of Titan**, Saturn's largest moon.
- It will explore a variety of locations on **Saturn's moon Titan**.
- It will spend most of its time on the **moon's surface** making science measurements.
- It will use a **radioisotope power system** like the Curiosity rover on Mars.
- Its flights, data transmission and most science operations will happen **during the day**, and it will have a lot of time to recharge during night on Titan.



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Q55. Recently, RuPay has collaborated with which of the following organisation to introduce 'Link it, Forget it**' campaign?**

(a) RazorPay
(b) PhonePe
(c) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
(d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

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Ans55. (c) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)




- RuPay, in collaboration with the **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**, introduces the 'Link it, Forget it' campaign during the Indian Premier League (IPL) 2024.
- This initiative aims to showcase the seamless integration of RuPay credit cards with UPI, emphasizing the convenience of leaving physical wallets behind.

NPCI

- The National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) serves as an umbrella body for the operation of retail payment in India.
- This organization was established by the [Reserve Bank of India](#) along with the Indian Bank's Association.
- NPCI was incorporated in December 2008 and was centrally promoted by the Reserve Bank of India.
- The Certificate of Commencement of Business was issued in April 2009.

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Q56. Recently, who among the following has been appointed as an ambassador for ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024?


(a) Sourav Ganguly
(b) Anil Kumble
(c) Zaheer Khan
(d) Yuvraj Singh

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Ans56. (d) Yuvraj Singh



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Q57. Recently, Indian Navy has conducted an exercise on East Coast to check its preparedness to meet any maritime security challenges. What is the name of this exercise?

(a) Samundari Lehar
(b) Poorvi Lehar
(c) Tri-Shakti Prahar
(d) Samudra Shakti

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Ans57. (b) Poorvi Lehar

- The [Indian Navy](#) conducted a [Military Exercise](#) named "Poorvi Lehar" on the Eastern Coast of India.
- The exercise aimed to assess the Indian Navy's preparedness to meet [Maritime Security challenges](#) in the region.
- Ships, submarines, aircraft and special forces from [Indian Air Force \(IAF\)](#), [Andaman & Nicobar Command](#) and [Coast Guard](#) participated in the exercise, indicating a very high degree of [interoperability](#) amongst the Services.

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Q58. As per recent information, which of the following organisation is testing a prototype of its **DURGA-2 (Directionally Unrestricted Ray Gun Array) system?**

(a) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
(b) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
(c) BEML Ltd.
(d) Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

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Ans58. (d) Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)

- The [Defence Research and Development Organisation \(DRDO\)](#) has sought USD 100 million from the Ministry of Defence to develop a high-power laser weapon, named [Directionally Unrestricted Ray-Gun Array \(DURGA\) II](#), a lightweight directed energy weapon (DEW).
- It is a 100-kilowatt lightweight DEW and can be used by armed forces.
- It aims to provide the Indian armed forces with [cutting-edge technology](#) capable of neutralising various threats, including drones, missiles, and artillery shells.



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Q59. Recently, who among the following has scripted history by becoming the youngest player ever to win **FIDE Candidates tournament?**

(a) Rameshbabu Pragganandhaa
(b) Parimarjan Negi
(c) Arjun Kumar Erigaisi
(d) Dommaraju Gukesh

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Ans59. (d) Dommaraju Gukesh



International Chess Federation
Fédération Internationale des Échecs



Abbreviation	FIDE
Formation	July 20, 1924; 99 years ago in Paris
Type	International organization
Headquarters	Lausanne, Switzerland ^[1]
Membership	201 national associations
President	Arkady Dvorkovich
Deputy President	Viswanathan Anand
Budget	€12.84 million (2022)
Website	fide.com

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Q60. Recently, which of the following organisation has lifted age cap on purchasing health insurance policies, effective from April 1, 2024?

(a) Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)
(b) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
(c) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)
(d) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

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Ans60. (b) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)

IRDAI

- It is a **statutory body** formed under an Act of Parliament, i.e., the **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority Act, 1999** (IRDAI Act 1999), for the overall supervision and development of the insurance sector in India.
- **Objectives:**
 - To **protect the interests** and fair treatment of the **policyholder**.
 - To **regulate the insurance industry** in fairness and ensure the financial soundness of the industry.
 - To regularly **frame regulations** to ensure the industry operates without any ambiguity.
- **Head Office:** Hyderabad
- It is **responsible for registering and/or licensing insurance, reinsurance companies, and intermediaries** according to the regulations.
- It **sets the eligibility criteria, qualifications, and capital requirements for obtaining licenses** in the insurance business.

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Q61. Recently, which of the following companies has received “Navratna” status?

(a) Airports Authority of India
(b) BEML Limited
(c) National Fertilizers Ltd.
(d) Bharat Coking Coal Limited

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Ans61. (c) National Fertilizers Ltd.

- On April 18, 2024, the Department of Public Enterprise (DPE) of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India granted Navratna status to National Fertilizers Limited (NFL).
- This status is given to top-tier public sector undertakings (PSUs).
- Navratna companies have the authority to make significant investments without central approval, including up to ₹1,000 crore without approval and up to 30% of their net worth within a year, as long as it's under ₹1,000 crore.
- They can also form alliances, joint ventures, and establish subsidiaries abroad.
- NFL is India's largest government-owned producer of urea fertilizer.

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Q62. Recently, which of the following companies has built world's largest neuromorphic system code named 'Hala Point' to enable more sustainable Artificial Intelligence?



(a) Nvidia
(b) Intel Corporation
(c) Micron Technology
(d) AMD

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Ans62. (b) Intel Corporation

- Neuromorphic computing is a method of computer engineering in which elements of a computer are modeled after systems in the human brain and nervous system.
- The term refers to the design of both hardware and software computing elements.

Example of a Neuromorphic Computer



- Self-driving cars must make instant decisions to properly navigate and avoid collisions, which can require extensive computing power.
- By employing neuromorphic hardware and software, self-driving cars could be able to carry out tasks faster than if they used traditional computing, all with lower energy consumption.

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Q63. Recently, which of the following cities has been selected by World Crafts Council International (WCCI) for mapping its craft clusters?



(a) Srinagar
(b) Mumbai
(c) Jaipur
(d) Hyderabad

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Ans63. (a) Srinagar

- The World Crafts Council International (WCCI) has picked Srinagar to map its craft clusters before its final nomination as the WCC.
- Local crafts include Pashmina shawls, walnut wood carving, hand-knotted carpet, Kani shawl, Khatamband (ceiling design), Sozni craft (needle embroidery), Jalakdozi (chain stitch rugs), Namdha (handmade rug), Basholi Painting (depicting Vaishnavism), papier mâché etc.




WCCI

- WCCI works on the recognition and preservation of traditional crafts across the globe.
- The current headquarters for the term (2021-2024) of WCCI is located in Kuwait. However, the Headquarters of WCCI changes according to different terms.

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Q64. As per recent information, which of the following ministries has granted **Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) status to India's Gem and Jewellery (GJ) industry?**

(a) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
(b) Ministry of Commerce and Industries
(c) Ministry of Finance
(d) Ministry of Mines

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Ans64. (c) Ministry of Finance

- Authorized Economic Operator (AEO) status is an internationally recognized standard that shows a business's role in the international supply chain is secure and has customs control procedures that meet certain standards.
- AEO status is based on a partnership between customs and business, and is used to determine an economic operator's reliability and trustworthiness.

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Q65. Recently, which of the following ministries has released National Curriculum for Early Childhood Care and Education 2024 titled 'Aadharshila**' for learning in the age group of 3 to 6-year-olds in anganwadis?**

(a) Ministry of Women and Child Development
(b) Ministry of Minority Affairs
(c) Ministry of Education
(d) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

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Ans65. (a) Ministry of Women and Child Development

Features:

- The curriculum includes a **weekly based play calendar** with four weeks of initiation that include academic activities which help children transition from home to anganwadi centre by engaging them in fun and free play.
- The **next 36 weeks** are spent **exploring, free play, conversation, creation and appreciation**, reflection that involves various activities, including storytelling, singing rhymes, art and craft, and so on.
- Storytelling themes revolve around conflict resolution, taking responsibility, and working with and helping others.
- Children **learn about colours, shapes, numbers**, the use of senses, body parts, family and friends, listening and responding to instructions, basic counting, imitating and recognizing sounds, themes like seasons, festivals, food and so on.
- The last eight weeks are spent in recap and reinforcing the learnings of previous weeks with worksheets and observation of kid's performance.
- **Activities and time table are segregated age-wise**, with **detailed requirement** of materials needed, **age-appropriate specifications**, variation, notes for teachers, targeted curricular goals and competency that children achieve, and observing children's interests.
- Children from the age three to six attend anganwadi in what is a mixed crowd. The curriculum targets at least 48 weeks of learning in the duration of three years.
- The curriculum helps in developing listening skill, vocabulary building, boosting imagination, narration, following instructions, creativity, social development, developing self-expression and self-esteem, which will **help a child to easily transition into Grade 1**.
- A **special focus** has been given for the screening, inclusion, and referrals of **Divyang children in every activity**.
- The national framework for three to six years will **serve as a base for States** to develop their own culturally appropriate curriculum seen as a solution to tackle later school challenges of children.

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Q66. Recently, which of the following countries has hosted Sustainable Finance for Tiger Landscapes Conference to mobilize \$1 billion in new funding over 10 years for the preservation of tiger landscapes across Asia?

- (a) Bhutan (b) Myanmar
(c) Thailand (d) Nepal

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Ans66. (a) Bhutan

The Bhutanese government hosted the Sustainable Finance for Tiger Landscapes Conference on **Earth Day 2024** to mobilise USD 1 billion over the next decade for conserving tigers and their habitats across Asia.

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Q67. Recently, which of the following airports has been named as World's Best Airport in 2024 in 2024 Skytrax World Airport Awards?

- (a) Tokyo Haneda Airport
(b) Incheon Airport, Seoul
(c) Singapore Changi Airport
(d) Hamad International Airport, Qatar

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Ans67. (d) Hamad International Airport, Qatar

- Hamad International Airport (HIA) in Doha, Qatar was named the best airport in the world for 2024 by Skytrax in April 2024.
- The airport was praised for its architectural significance, luxurious amenities, and exceptional services and facilities.
- HIA took the top spot from Singapore Changi Airport, which had held the title for 12 consecutive years.
- Seoul Incheon Airport came in third place and was recognized as the most family-friendly airport.

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Q68. Recently, who among the following has been conferred with **Aryabhata Award by Astronautical Society of India?**


(a) Anil Bhardwaj
(b) Pavuluri Subba Rao
(c) George Joseph
(d) M. Sankaran

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Ans68. (b) Pavuluri Subba Rao

- **Pavuluri Subba Rao**, the Founder, CEO, and Chairman of **Ananth Technologies**, has been conferred with the prestigious '**Aryabhata Award**' by the **Aeronautical Society of India (ASI)**.
- This honour recognizes Rao's "**tremendous lifetime contribution to the promotion of astronautics in India.**"



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Q69. Recently, **Asian Wrestling Championships (Seniors) 2024 has been organised at which of the following places?**

(a) Tokmok, Kyrgyzstan
(b) Astana, Kazakhstan
(c) Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan
(d) Aktau, Kazakhstan


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Ans69. (c) Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan



- The senior Indian wrestling team finished their campaign at the 20th Asian Wrestling Championship by winning **nine medals - four silvers and five bronzes**.
- A total of 30 Indian men and women wrestlers competed in the championship.
- The men's wrestlers participated in the freestyle and Greco-Roman events while the women's team participated only in the freestyle events.
- The 20th Asian Wrestling Championship 2024 was held in the Kyrgyzstan capital, **Bishkek**, from 11 -16 April 2024.

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Q70. Recently, which of the following ports has received approval from the government to operate as **India's first transshipment port?**

(a) Mormugao Port
(b) Vizhinjam Port
(c) Jawaharlal Nehru Port
(d) Kandla Port

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Ans70. (b) Vizhinjam Port



The Centre has given sanction to Adani's Vizhinjam Port in Kerala to operate as a transshipment port -- a first for the country.

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Direct shipping

Origin port → Direct route → Destination port

Transshipment

Origin port → Intermediate port → Destination port

Loading containers → Unloading containers and loading to another vessel → unloading containers from different vessel

Ennilogistics.com

Q71. Recently, which of the following companies has introduced **VASA-1 AI model which can produce hyper-realistic talking faces from just a single portrait photo?**

(a) Meta (b) Amazon
(c) Microsoft (d) Google

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Ans71. (c) Microsoft



- Microsoft's newly introduced VASA-1 [AI](#) model represents a significant advancement in the field of generative artificial intelligence.
- This AI model has the capability to produce hyper-realistic talking faces from just a single portrait photo and a corresponding speech audio track.
- The name "VASA" stands for Visual Affective Skill, which highlights the model's focus on generating lifelike, expressive facial animations that are synchronized with audio inputs.

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Q72. Recently, 2024 Ocean Decade Conference was organised at which of the following places?

(a) London, United Kingdom
(b) Barcelona, Spain
(c) Paris, France
(d) New Delhi, India

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Ans72. (b) Barcelona, Spain

2024 Ocean Decade Conference in Barcelona

- The first in-person Ocean Decade Conference was held in Barcelona, Spain, from 10 to 12 April 2024.
- It was organised by the government of Spain with UNESCO's Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission.
- The theme of the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference in Barcelona was: **Delivering the science we need for the ocean we want.**
- The main aim of the Ocean Decade Conference was to review the progress made in achieving the goals of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development (2021-2030) and to further cooperation amongst the stakeholders.

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Q73. As per recently released 'Patenting Trends in India Report 2024' by NASSCOM, which of the following states has filed the maximum number of patents during FY23?

(a) Karnataka (b) Maharashtra
(c) Gujarat (d) Tamil Nadu

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Ans73. (d) Tamil Nadu

Patenting Trends in India Report

- It was released by **Nasscom** on World Intellectual Property Day.
- Mirroring global trends, in **FY2023, India witnessed 83,000 patents** being filed, marking an annual growth rate of 24.6%, the highest in the last two decades.
- The **number of patents granted** also witnessed significant growth, **rising over 2X** between FY2019 and FY2023.
- The **share of patents filed by residents** of India has **doubled over the last decade**, from 33.6 percent of the total filings in the fiscal year 2019 to over 50 percent by the fiscal year 2023.
- **Maximum patent applications** were in the **field of healthcare**, essentially around medical imaging, diagnosing, report generation and testing.

World Intellectual Property Day (WIPO) is celebrated annually on April 26.

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Q74. Recently, Project Nimbus was in news. It is associated with which of the following companies?

(a) Microsoft
(b) Google
(c) Meta
(d) X (Formerly Twitter)

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Ans74. (b) Google

Project Nimbus

- Project Nimbus, involves a \$1.2 billion agreement where Google, alongside Amazon, provides advanced cloud services and AI capabilities to Israel.
- The controversy particularly spirals around accusations that these technologies might be supporting military actions during the ongoing conflict in Gaza. Despite Google's assurances that these technologies are not being used for weaponry or intelligence missions directly supporting military operations, there is a sense of skepticism among employees and activists.

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Q75. Recently, members of Shompen tribe have exercised their democratic right for the first time by casting votes. Shompen tribe is associated with which of the following states/UTs?

(a) Ladakh
(b) Lakshadweep
(c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
(d) Kerala

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Ans75. (c) Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Shompen Tribe

- The Shompen are one of the most isolated tribes on Earth.
- They reside in the dense tropical rain forest of the Great Nicobar Island of Andaman and Nicobar group of Islands.
- They are one of the least studied Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs) in India.
- Though according to the Census (2011), the estimated population of Shompen is 229, the exact population of Shompen is unknown till today.
- Most of them are uncontacted, refusing all interactions with outsiders.



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Q76. Recently, Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG) has signed an MoU with which of the following countries to enhance collaboration and exchange of expertise in the field of auditing?

(a) Romania (b) Bulgaria
(c) Greece (d) Kosovo

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Ans76. (b) Bulgaria



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Constitutional Provisions regarding the CAG

- **Article 148** broadly deals with the CAG appointment, oath and conditions of service.
- **Article 149** deals with Duties and Powers of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India.
- **Article 150** says that the accounts of the Union and of the States shall be kept in such form as the President may, on the advice of the CAG, prescribe.
- **Article 151** says that the reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of the Union shall be submitted to the president, who shall cause them to be laid before each House of Parliament.
 - The reports of the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India relating to the accounts of a State shall be submitted to the Governor of the State, who shall cause them to be laid before the Legislature of the State.
- **Article 279** – Calculation of "net proceeds" is ascertained and certified by the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India, whose certificate is final.
- **Third Schedule** – Section IV of the Third Schedule of the Constitution of India prescribes the form of oath or affirmation to be made by the Judges of the Supreme Court and the Comptroller and Auditor-General of India at the time of assumption of office.
- **Sixth Schedule** – According to this schedule, the District Council or Regional Council should be kept in such form as the CAG prescribes with the approval of the President. In addition these bodies account are audited in such manner as CAG may think fit, and the reports relating to such accounts shall be submitted to the Governor who shall cause them to be laid before the Council.

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Q77. Recently, which of the following Indian Navy Ship has participated in Maritime Partnership Exercise with United Kingdom Littoral Response Group?

(a) INS Kalvari
 (b) INS Satpura
 (c) INS Sahyadri
 (d) INS Kamorta

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Ans77. (c) INS Sahyadri

Indian Navy Ships
 FRIGATES
 Shivalik Class

These are the multi-role frigates and are the first-of-its kind warships built in India incorporating stealth features. The ships of this class have been built by Mazagon Dock Limited, Mumbai. The category-classification is named after the Indian Mountain Ranges by the name of 'Shivalik Hills'.


Name	Pennant No	Date of Commission
Shivalik	F 47	29 Apr 2010
Satpura	F 48	20 Aug 2011
Sahyadri	F 49	21 Jul 2012

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Q78. Recently, 'ROCKS or Crystal Maze 2' was in news. It is a _____.

(a) Surface to Air missile
 (b) Air to Surface missile
 (c) Surface to Surface missile
 (d) Anti-Satellite Missile

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Ans78. (b) Air to Surface missile

- Crystal Maze 2, also known as ROCKS, is an Israeli-origin air-to-surface ballistic missile.
- It's designed to strike high-value stationary and relocatable targets, such as long-range radars and air defense systems, from a distance of over 250 kilometers.
- The missile is particularly effective in GPS-denied environments and can penetrate areas protected by air defense systems.



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Q79. Recently, which of the following organisation has developed **lightest Bullet Proof Jacket in the country for protection against 7.62 x 54 R API (Level 6 of BIS 17051) ammunition?**

(a) Armament Research & Development Establishment (ARDE)
 (b) Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE)
 (c) Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL)
 (d) Defence Electronics Application Laboratory (DEAL)

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Ans79. (b) Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE)

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)'s Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur has successfully developed the lightest Bullet Proof Jacket in the country for protection against Level 6 of BIS 17051 ammunition.

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Q80. Recently, which of the following organisation has celebrated its Silver Jubilee (25 years) on 19th April 2024?

(a) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
 (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)
 (c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)
 (d) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)

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Ans80. (c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)

IRDAI

- It is an **autonomous** and **statutory** body established under the IRDA Act 1999.
- It is the apex body that **supervises and regulates** the insurance sector in India.
- **Objective:** To **protect the interests of policyholders**, to **regulate**, promote and ensure orderly growth of the **insurance industry** in India.
- **Nodal Ministry:** Ministry of Finance
- **Head Office:** Hyderabad.
- **Composition:** IRDAI is a **10-member body**- a **Chairman**, **five full-time members**, and **four part-time members appointed by the Government of India**.
- **Functions:**
 - To have a fair **regulation of the insurance industry** while ensuring financial soundness of the applicable laws and regulations.
 - **Frame regulations** periodically so that there is no ambiguity in the insurance industry.
 - **Registering and regulating insurance companies;**
 - Protecting policyholders' interests;
 - **Licensing and establishing norms** for insurance intermediaries;
 - Promoting professional organizations in insurance;
 - Regulating and **overseeing premium rates** and terms of non-life insurance covers;
 - **Specifying financial reporting norms** of insurance companies;
 - **Regulating investment of policyholders' funds** by insurance companies;
 - Ensuring the **maintenance of solvency margin** by insurance companies;
 - Ensuring insurance coverage in rural areas and of vulnerable sections of society.

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Q81. Recently, which of the following organisation has installed and activated India's biggest Climate Clock on its Headquarters Building?

(a) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)
 (b) Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)
 (c) Food Corporation of India (FCI)
 (d) Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)



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Ans81. (a) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research (CSIR)

- Recently, the [Council of Scientific & Industrial Research \(CSIR\)](#), installed and activated India's biggest Climate Clock at the CSIR Headquarters in New Delhi as a part of the [Earth Day](#) Celebrations.
- The event signifies CSIR's aim to spread awareness about climate change and to make people energy literate.
- It was launched in 2015 to provide a measuring stick against which viewers can track [climate change](#) mitigation progress.
- It is a graphic to demonstrate how quickly the planet is approaching 1.5°C of global warming, given current emissions trends. It also shows the amount of CO₂ already emitted, and the global warming to date.
- The date shown when humanity reaches 1.5°C will move closer as emissions rise, and further away as emissions decrease.
- As of 4th April 2024, the current climate temperature is 1.295°C.



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Q82. Recently, which of the following football club has won their first Bundesliga title?

(a) Rasen Ballsport Leipzig
 (b) Bayern Munich
 (c) Bayer Leverkusen
 (d) Werder Bremen

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Ans82. (c) Bayer Leverkusen

- Bayer Leverkusen are the 13th club to be crowned champions of Germany since the Bundesliga began as the country's nationwide championship in 1963.
- Bayern Munich lead the way with their record 32 titles, while Borussia Dortmund, Werder Bremen, Hamburg, VfB Stuttgart, Cologne and Kaiserslautern have all lifted the Meisterschale multiple times.

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Q83. Recently, researchers at which of the following institutes have designed a **sustainable hydrogel** to remove microplastics from water?

(a) Banaras Hindu University (BHU), Varanasi
 (b) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Guwahati
 (c) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Madras
 (d) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru

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Ans83. (d) Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru

Hydrogel

- It is a three-dimensional network composed of **hydrophobic polymers** synthesized by crosslinking water-soluble polymers.
- Hydrogels can **retain a large quantity of water** within their network without disturbing their original structure. This imparts flexibility and swelling properties to the hydrogel structures.
- It is a "smart" material that can change its structure in response to its environment, such as the local temperature, pH, salt or water concentration.

It is designed by the researchers has a unique intertwined **polymer network** that can bind the contaminants and degrade them using **UV light irradiation**.

Pathways of microplastics contamination

Anthropogenic source of microplastics

Ingestion of microplastics

Microplastic ($5\mu\text{m}$)

Microplastic adsorption by IPN Hydrogel

Photocatalytic degradation of adsorbed microplastics

UV light

Aquatic biota consume microplastic

pGel@IPN Hydrogel

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Q84. Recently, which of the following ministries has collaborated with Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to launch V-SAT (very small aperture terminal) stations on a pilot basis?

(a) Ministry of Rural Development
 (b) Ministry of Science and Technology
 (c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs
 (d) Ministry of Education

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Ans84. (c) Ministry of Tribal Affairs

V-SAT (Very Small Aperture Terminal) stations

- It is a **two-way** satellite ground station enabling communication for voice, data, and video signals.
- VSATs handle both **narrowband data** and **broadband data**.
 - **Narrowband data:** Credit card transactions, polling, RFID data, or SCADA
 - **Broadband data:** Satellite Internet access, VoIP, or video.
- They find use in providing connectivity to remote locations, supporting transportable or on-the-move communications and enabling mobile maritime communication.

Satellite

VSAT Remote Sites

HUB Station

Host Computer

HUB Equipment

Outdoor Unit

Indoor Unit

User's Terminal

Send Receive

Send Receive

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Q85. Recently, who among the following has authored a book titled "Heavenly Islands of Goa"?

(a) Romila Thapar
(b) Sreedharan Pillai
(c) Prof. Raman Mittal
(d) Ramachandra Guha

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Ans85. (b) Sreedharan Pillai



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Q86. As per recently released report titled 'Trends in World Military Expenditure, 2023', India has been ranked at which of the following position in military expenditure globally?

(a) 3rd
(b) 4th
(c) 5th
(d) 6th

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Ans86. (b) 4th

- It was released by the [Stockholm International Peace Research Institute \(SIPRI\)](#)
- Key findings reveal that in 2023, **India ranked as the fourth-largest military spender** globally, following the United States, China, and Russia.
- **NATO member** states collectively spent \$1341 billion (55% of global military expenditure)
- Overall, **world military spending surged to a record high** of \$2443 billion, propelled by events like Russia's invasion of Ukraine and escalating geopolitical tensions.
- **Stockholm International Peace Research Institute is an international institute** based in Stockholm. It was founded in 1966 and provides data, analysis and recommendations for armed conflict, military expenditure and arms trade as well as disarmament and arms control

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Q87. Recently, who among the following has been honoured with Laureus World Sportsman of the Year 2024 award?

(a) Daniil Medvedev
(b) Jannik Sinner
(c) Novak Djokovic
(d) Carlos Alcaraz

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Ans87. (c) Novak Djokovic

Novak Djokovic, the world's top-ranked tennis player, etched his name in the annals of Laureus history by becoming the Laureus World Sportsman of the Year for the fifth time.



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Q88. Recently, which of the following organisation has launched Patient Safety Rights Charter?

(a) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
(b) World Health Organization (WHO)
(c) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
(d) World Bank

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Ans88. (b) World Health Organization (WHO)

- The Charter covers 10 patient safety rights crucial to mitigate risks and prevent unintentional harm, which includes the
 - Timely, effective and appropriate care
 - Safe health care processes and practices
 - Qualified and competent health workers
 - Safe medical products and their safe and rational use
 - Safe and secure health care facilities
 - Dignity, respect, non-discrimination, privacy and confidentiality
 - Information, education and supported decision making Access medical records
 - To be heard and fair resolution
 - Patient and family engagement.

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Q89. Recently, which of the following organisation has released a report titled **‘Women, Business and the Law 2024’?**

(a) Asian Development Bank (ADB)
 (b) World Bank
 (c) World Economic Forum (WEF)
 (d) International Monetary Fund (IMF)

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Ans89. (b) World Bank

- Recently, the **World Bank (WB) Group** has released a report titled-**Women, Business and the Law 2024**, presenting in-depth analysis of the **challenges obstructing women’s entry into the global workforce**, hindering their ability to contribute to prosperity for themselves, their families and their communities.

Women Business and Law 2024 Report

- Its indexes align **areas of the law and public policy** instruments with the economic decisions that women make throughout their lives and careers, identifying where and in what areas women continue to face hurdles.
- **Indicators:** It has 10 indicators- Safety, Mobility, Workplace, Pay, Child Care, Marriage, Parenthood, Entrepreneurship, Assets, and Pension.

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Q90. As per recent information, **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is developing a **new spaceport** at which of the following places to efficiently launch payloads to polar orbits?

(a) Vembar, Tamil Nadu
 (b) Kovalam, Kerala
 (c) Kulasekharapatnam, Tamil Nadu
 (d) Poovar, Kerala

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Ans90. (c) Kulasekharapatnam, Tamil Nadu

ON A MORE DIRECT ROUTE

Second spaceport will be used for smaller rockets

WHAT'S THE DIFFERENCE

- Dogleg manoeuvre is a sharp turn that causes the rocket to deviate from a straight flight path
- This manoeuvre requires more fuel in the rocket, which eats into the payload capacity of the launcher

When rockets are launched from Kulasekharapatnam, this manoeuvre is not required as there is no landmass along the flight path in the southward direction

In polar orbits, a PSV from Sriharikota must perform a dogleg manoeuvre to avoid flying over Sri Lanka, to protect it from rocket debris

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Q91. Recently, first ever ‘World Cybercrime Index’ has been released. Which of the following countries has topped the list?

(a) Russia
(b) Ukraine
(c) China
(d) Nigeria

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Ans91. (a) Russia

World Cybercrime Index

- It identifies the globe’s major cybercrime hotspots by ranking the most significant sources of cybercrime at a national level.
- It has been developed as a joint partnership between the University of Oxford and UNSW Canberra.
- The data that underpins the index was gathered through a survey of 92 leading cybercrime experts from around the world who are involved in cybercrime intelligence gathering and investigations.
- It ranks roughly 100 countries and identifies key hotspots according to various categories of cybercrime, including ransomware, credit card theft, and scams.

Key Findings:

- It shows that the threat of cybercrime is not evenly distributed worldwide.
- A relatively small number of countries house the greatest cybercriminal threat.
- **Russia tops the list**, followed by Ukraine, China, the USA, Nigeria, and Romania.
- **97 countries were named** by at least one expert as being a hub for a particular category.
- **India captured the number 10 spot** in the rankings.
- The researchers also found that certain kinds of cybercrime were associated with particular countries. For example, the United States was associated with data and identity theft, while those related to technical products or services seemed to often originate from China.
- It is estimated that cybercrime costs the world around \$9.22 trillion in 2024, and this is expected to grow to \$13.82 trillion in 2028.

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Q92. As per recently released “Global Unicorn Index 2024” report, India has been ranked at which of the following position globally?

(a) 3rd
(b) 4th
(c) 5th
(d) 6th

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Ans92. (a) 3rd

Global Unicorn Index

- It is compiled by the Hurun Research Institute and includes **unlisted companies** founded in the 2000s with a current valuation of \$1 billion.
- It is **compiled using data** from the world’s leading investors, the entrepreneurs behind the entrepreneurs”, making this the **most comprehensive list of the world’s unicorns.**

NUMBER OF UNICORNS BY COUNTRIES

1.	United States	703
2.	China	340
3.	India	67
4.	United Kingdom	53
5.	Germany	36
6.	France	27
7.	Israel	26
8.	Canada	25
9.	Brazil	18
	South Korea	18

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Q93. As per recent information, 5th edition of Joint Military Exercise “DUSTLIK” will be commenced between India and which of the following countries?

(a) Mauritius
(b) Morocco
(c) Kazakhstan
(d) Uzbekistan

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Ans93. (d) Uzbekistan



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Q94. Recently, who among the following has won **Global Energy Transition Impact Award for his leadership in advancing energy transition?**

(a) Sameh Shoukry
(b) Alok Sharma
(c) Carolina Schmidt
(d) Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber

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Ans94. (d) Dr Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber

COP28 President Dr. Sultan Al Jaber was recognized with an award by the World Energy Council for his leadership in advancing the energy transition through the delivery of the historic UAE Consensus.



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Q95. Recently, 6th edition of International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure has been organised in which of the following cities?

(a) Bengaluru (b) Ahmedabad
(c) New Delhi (d) Hyderabad

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- Sikkim

Ans95. (c) New Delhi



International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure

- ICDRI is the flagship annual conference of the Coalition for Disaster Resilient Infrastructure (CDRI).
- **Objective:** Its primary aim is to enhance global dialogue and collaboration on disaster and climate resilient infrastructure.

Highlights of ICDRI 2024

- **Theme of 2024:** 'Investing today for a more resilient tomorrow.'
- He said that **Disasters and their effects do not recognize borders** and in today's interconnected world, disasters and disruptions have far-reaching consequences.
- He highlighted the **significance of Investing in resilient infrastructure** for a better future.

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CDRI

- **CDRI** is an Independent International Organization consisting of global partnership of national governments, [United Nations](#) agencies and programs, multilateral development banks and financing mechanisms, the private sector, and academic and research institutions.
- It aims to increase the resilience of infrastructure systems to climate and disaster risks, thereby ensuring [sustainable development](#).
- It was launched in 2019, at the [United Nations Climate Action Summit](#) in New York.
- CDRI is India's second major global initiative after the [International Solar Alliance \(ISA\)](#).
- The CDRI Secretariat is based in New Delhi, India.

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Q96. Recently, India has gained operational control over Sittwe Port. This port is located in which of the following countries?


(a) Bangladesh
(b) Myanmar
(c) Sri Lanka
(d) Iran

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Ans96. (b) Myanmar

- Recently, the **Ministry of External Affairs (MEA)** has approved a proposal for **India Ports Global Ltd (IPGL)** to take over the operations of the entire **Sittwe port** located on the **Kaladan River, Myanmar**.
- It will be **India's 2nd overseas port** after **Chabahar Port**.
- IPGL** is a company **100% owned** by the **Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways**.



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Q97. Recently, which of the following companies has inaugurated **India's first Multi-purpose (Combined Heat & Power) Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at its **Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS)** in **Jhakri, Himachal Pradesh**?**

(a) NTPC Limited
(b) REC Limited
(c) GAIL (India) Limited
(d) SJVN Limited

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Ans97. (d) SJVN Limited

- India's first multi-purpose (combined heat and power) green hydrogen pilot project was inaugurated in April 2024 at the 1,500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) in Jhakri, Himachal Pradesh by Satluj Jal Vidyut Nigam (SJVN).
- Besides generating power, the green hydrogen will also be used for High Velocity Oxygen Fuel Coating of turbine underwater parts.

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Q98. Recently, who among the following has been appointed as full-time member of **16th Finance Commission?**

(a) Arvind Mehta
(b) Dr. Ashok Lahiri
(c) Manoj Panda
(d) Prof. Anoop Singh

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Ans98. (c) Manoj Panda

Finance Commission

- The Finance Commission in India is a constitutional body established under Article 280 of the Indian Constitution.
- Its primary function is to recommend the distribution of financial resources between the central government and the state governments.

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Q99. Recently, 'Suvidha platform' was in news. It is developed by which of the following bodies?

(a) Comptroller and Auditor-General of India (CAG)
(b) Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)
(c) Election Commission of India (ECI)
(d) NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India)

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Ans99. (c) Election Commission of India (ECI)

- The Suvidha portal is a technological solution developed by the [Election Commission of India \(ECI\)](#) to ensure a level playing field upholding the democratic principles of free, fair, and transparent elections.
- The Suvidha Portal aims to streamline requests for permissions and facilities from [political parties](#) and candidates during [elections](#), transparently prioritising requests based on the First in First Out principle.

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Q100. Recently, which of the following companies has been conferred with Outstanding Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of the Year award?

(a) NTPC Ltd
(b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
(c) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)
(d) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)

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Ans100. (b) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) received the Outstanding Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of the Year award at the All India Management Association (AIMA) Managing India Awards.
- Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar presented the award in Delhi on April 23. HAL achieved record revenue of over ₹29,810 crore in the fiscal year ending March 31, 2024, marking an impressive 11% growth. AIMA, established in 1957, promotes management excellence across India, collaborating with various sectors to advance the profession.

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Q101. Recently, Reserve Bank of India has released guidelines for voluntary conversion of small finance banks (SFBs) into universal banks. As per the guidelines, those intending to convert must have a minimum net worth of how many rupees?

(a) Rs 300 crore
(b) Rs 500 crore
(c) Rs 1,000 crore
(d) Rs 1,500 crore

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Ans101. (c) Rs 1,000 crore

- Small finance banks (SFBs) and commercial banks differ in a few ways, including their target customers, services offered, and reach:
- Target customers:** SFBs focus on underserved populations, such as small businesses, farmers, and unorganized employees, while commercial banks serve all segments of society.
- Services offered:** SFBs offer a range of basic banking products and services, including microloans, small-scale loans, and fixed deposits. Commercial banks offer a wider range of services, including credit and financing, investment banking, and commercial real estate.
- Reach:** SFBs have a wider reach in remote areas of the country.

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