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May 2024

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By Intakhab Sir

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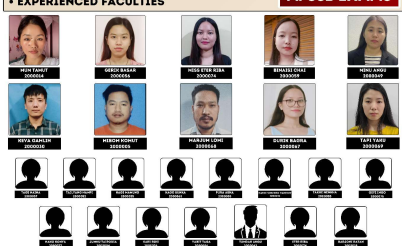
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Q1. Recently, which of the following organisation has received Navratna status from Ministry of Finance?

- (a) Airports Authority of India
- (b) BEML Limited
- (c) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA)
- (d) Bharat Coking Coal Limited

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Ans1. (c) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd (IREDA)

Category	Launch	Classification of CPSEs Criteria	Examples
Miniratna	Miniratna Scheme was introduced for CPSEs in May, 2016, to enable to empower mega CPSEs to expand their operations and emerge as global giants.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Having Navratna status. Listed on Indian stock exchange with minimum prescribed public shareholding under Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) regulations. An average annual turnover of more than Rs. 25,000 crore during the last 3 years. Average annual net profit after tax of more than Rs. 500 crore during the last 3 years. Should have significant global presence/international operations. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd Ltd., Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited, Coal India Limited, GAIL (India) Limited, etc.
Navratna	Navratna Scheme was introduced in 1997 to identify CPSEs that enjoy comparative advantages in their respective sectors and to support them in their drive to become global players.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Miniratna Category – I and Schedule 'A' CPSEs, which have obtained 'excellent' or 'very good' rating under the Meritumind or Understanding system in three of the last five years, and have composite score of 60 or above in the 48 selected performance parameters, namely: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Net profit to net worth Manpower cost to total cost of production services. Profit before depreciation, interest and taxes to capital employed. Profit before depreciation, interest and taxes to turnover. Earning per share Inter-sectoral performance. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Bharat Electronics Limited, Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, etc.
Miniratna	Miniratna scheme was introduced in 1997 in pursuance of the policy objective to make the public sector more efficient and competitive and to grant enhanced autonomy and delegation of powers to the profit-making public sector enterprises.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Miniratna Category-II: The CPSEs which have made profit in the last three years continuously, gross profit is Rs. 30 crores or more in at least one of the three years and have a positive net worth are eligible to be considered for grant of Miniratna-II status. Miniratna Category-III: The CPSEs, which have made profit for the last three years continuously and have a positive net worth are eligible to be considered for grant of Miniratna-II status. Miniratna CPSEs should have not defaulted in the repayment of loans/interest payment on any loans due to the Government. Miniratna CPSEs shall not depend upon budgetary support or Government guarantee. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Category-II: Airports Authority of India, Anix Corporation Limited, etc. Category-III: Artificial Limbs Manufacturing Corporation of India, Bharat Pumps & Compressors Limited, etc.

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Q2. Recently, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) Climate Resilience Fund has been launched to raise USD 100 million by which of the following years for protecting refugees and displaced communities from climate change impacts?

(a) 2025
(b) 2028
(c) 2030
(d) 2032

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Ans2. (a) 2025

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

- It protects refugees worldwide and facilitates their return home or resettlement.
- History: It was established by the General Assembly of the United Nations in 1950 in the aftermath of the Second World War to help the millions of people who had lost their homes.
- It is a global organization dedicated to saving lives, protecting rights and building a better future for people forced to flee their homes because of conflict and persecution.
- It was awarded Nobel Peace Prizes in 1954 and 1981.
- It started the Nansen Refugee Award in 1954 for recognition of outstanding service to the cause of refugees, displaced or stateless people.
- Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland

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Q3. Recently, 26th edition of World Energy Congress was held in Rotterdam, the Netherlands. It is co-hosted by which of the following organisations?

(a) World Economic Forum
(b) World Energy Council
(c) International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
(d) International Energy Agency (IEA)

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Ans3. (b) World Energy Council
26th World Energy Congress




- Theme- 'Redesigning Energy for People and Planet'.
- Co-hosted by – **World Energy Council** and the **Netherlands Ministry of Economic Affairs and Climate Policy**.
- Objective – To explore the role of connected energy societies in driving forward global energy transitions.
- Significance –
 - This edition celebrates **100 years since the Council's formation**
 - It is the **world's longest-established energy event**, having shaped the global energy agenda for a century.
 - Enables **government-to-government dialogue** and unites businesses and communities of all shapes and sizes.

World Energy Council

- UN-accredited global energy body established in **1923**
- Aim – Promoting **sustainable supply and use of energy**.
- Headquarters – **London**

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Q4. Recently, Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has unveiled **Bima Vistaar, an insurance product tailored for the rural communities of India. It is priced at how many rupees per policy?**

(a) Rs 2,100
 (b) Rs 1,020
 (c) Rs 1,500
 (d) Rs 2,420

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Ans4. (c) Rs 1,500
Bima Vistaar




- Bima Vistaar, which is part of the **Bima Trinity**. The first-of-its-kind all-in-one affordable insurance product, Bima Vistaar will offer **life, health and property cover**.
- The product has been designed to provide a basic social safety net cover with combined features of **life, health, personal accident and property insurance**.

Key Features

- The product includes Life cover premium of Rs 820, Health cover Rs 500, Personal accident cover at Rs 100, and Property cover at Rs 80.
- If taken for the entire family on a floater basis, the policy will cost Rs 2,420, with an additional Rs 900 charged for the rest of the family members.
- The sum assured for life, personal accident, and property covers is Rs 2 lakh each, while the health cover (hospital cash) offers a sum assured of Rs 500 for 10 days, with a maximum amount of Rs 5,000 available without producing bills or documents.
- Agents selling Bima Vistaar policies stand to earn a commission of 10%, incentivising wider distribution and adoption of the product.

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Q5. Recently, who among the following has been named the ambassador of ICC Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier 2024?

(a) Nida Dar
 (b) Sana Mir
 (c) Anam Amin
 (d) Sadia Yousuf

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Ans5. (b) Sana Mir

- The International Cricket Council (ICC) is pleased to announce Pakistan legend, Sana Mir, as ambassador for the ICC Women's T20 World Cup Qualifier, supported by Dream11.
- Sana, who represented her country in 226 internationals – 137 as captain – will be keeping a close eye on the 10 participating teams and their players in the two-week long tournament.



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Q6. Recently, which of the following countries is set to launch **Chang'e-6 mission; a robotic spacecraft aimed at collecting samples from the moon's far side?**

(a) Japan
(b) China
(c) South Korea
(d) Singapore

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Ans6. (b) China

Chang'e-6

- The Chang'e-6 craft successfully landed in the South Pole-Aitken Basin on the back of the moon.
- It is the **first human sampling and return mission** from the far side of the moon for the first time.
- It was launched by a Chinese **Long March-5 rocket from Wenchang Space Launch Center** on the southern island of Hainan before 53 days.
- Chang'e-6 consists of **an orbiter, a returner, a lander and an ascender**.
- The lander was equipped with **multiple sensors, including microwave, laser and optical imaging sensors** which can measure distance and speed, and identify obstacles on the lunar surface.

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Q7. Recently, **mRNA-4157 (V940) vaccine was in news. It is related to which of the following disease?**

(a) Leukemia
(b) Lymphoma
(c) Melanoma
(d) Carcinoma



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Ans7. (c) Melanoma

- Melanoma is the rarest and dangerous type of skin cancer.
- It develops in cells called melanocytes.
- Melanocytes produce melanin which is responsible for skin color.
- The exact reason for melanoma is not yet found.
- Younger women (under the age of 35- 40) are more prone to this disease.

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Q8. Recently, Sustainable Finance for Tiger Landscapes Conference has concluded in Bhutan with the adoption of _____.

(a) Thimphu Statement
(b) Paro Statement
(c) Gelephu Statement
(d) Punakha Statement

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Ans8. (b) Paro Statement

- The **Sustainable Finance for Tiger Landscapes Conference**, held in Paro, Bhutan, concluded with the **Paro Statement**, committing to mobilize an **additional \$1 billion over the next decade to conserve tigers and their landscapes**.
- Tiger Range Countries present **included Bangladesh, Bhutan, Cambodia, China, India, Kazakhstan, Malaysia, Nepal, Thailand, and Vietnam**.

The Tiger Count
Tiger numbers in India:

Year	Tiger Count
2018	2,967
2022	3,682

States with highest tiger numbers

State	2018	2022
Madhya Pradesh	526	785
Karnataka	354	563
Uttarakhand	462	500
Maharashtra	372	444
TamilNadu	264	306

Reserves with highest tiger population

- Jim Corbett, Uttarakhand
- Bandipur, Karnataka
- Nagarhole, Karnataka
- Bandhavgarh, MP
- Dudhwa, UP

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Q9. Recently, which of the following organisation has received Navratna status?

(a) Airports Authority of India
(b) Central Warehousing Corporation (CWC)
(c) Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO)
(d) Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL)

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Ans9. (c) Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO)

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Q10. Recently, Indian Army and Punit Balan Group have collaborated to inaugurate **India's first Constitution Park** in which of the following cities?

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(a) Nagpur
(b) Mumbai
(c) Nashik
(d) Pune

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Ans10. (b) Pune

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Q11. Recently, India has agreed to grant USD 61.5 million for **Kankesanthurai Port** project. This port is associated with which of the following countries?

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

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Ans11. (c) Sri Lanka

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Q12. Recently, which of the following companies has developed **TacticAI, an AI system that can provide experts with tactical insights, particularly on corner kicks (football), through predictive and generative Artificial Intelligence?**

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

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Ans12. (d) Google

TacticAI

- It is an AI system that can provide experts with tactical insights, particularly on corner kicks (football), through predictive and generative AI.
- This AI tool can be used by football team managers as an assistant for tactics.
- It has incorporated both a **predictive and generative component** to allow coaches to effectively sample and explore alternative player setups for each corner kick, and to select those with the highest predicted likelihood of success.
- It is developed by **Google's DeepMind**.

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Q13. Recently, 'Ajrakh**' from which of the following states has received the geographical indication (GI) tag?**

(a) Rajasthan
(b) Maharashtra
(c) Gujarat
(d) Uttar Pradesh

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Ans13. (c) Gujarat

- Ajrakh, a centuries-old **block-printed textile art** from Kutch, Gujarat, uses natural dyes and intricate designs to tell stories on cotton fabric.
- Ajrakh textiles consisting of vibrant colours like indigo, red and white, are traditionally worn by **nomadic communities** like Rabaris, Maldharis, and Ahirs.

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Q14. Recently, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) has been rebranded as “UN Trade and Development”. Headquarters of UNCTAD is located at which of the following places?

(a) Mons, Belgium
(b) Washington D.C., United States
(c) Geneva, Switzerland
(d) Paris, France

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Ans14. (c) Geneva, Switzerland

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

- It is the UN's leading institution dealing with trade and development.
- It is a permanent intergovernmental body established by the United Nations General Assembly in 1964.
- Its objective is to assist developing countries, especially the least developed countries, and countries with economies in transition, to integrate beneficially into the global economy.
- It also seeks to help the international community promote a global partnership for development, increase coherence in global economic policy making, and assure development gains for all from trade.
- It provides economic and trade analysis, facilitates consensus-building, and offers technical assistance to help developing countries use trade, investment, finance, and technology for inclusive and sustainable development.
- **Headquarter:** Geneva, Switzerland.

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Q15. Recently, which of the following organisation has organised #PlayTrue Campaign aimed at fostering awareness about the importance of clean sport and anti-doping practices in India?

(a) National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)
(b) Indian Olympic Association
(c) NITI Aayog
(d) Sports Authority of India (SAI)

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Ans15. (a) National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)

- The National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA), India, recently concluded its #PlayTrue Campaign, commemorating WADA's Play True Day.
- The campaign aimed to raise awareness about clean sport and anti-doping practices across India.

National Anti-Doping Agency (NADA)

- Established in November 2005 by the Government of India with the objective of ensuring dope-free sports.
- Formed as a registered society under the Societies Registration Act of 1860.
- Functions as an autonomous body under the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.
- It follows the World Anti-Doping Code (WADC) and the Prohibited List published annually by the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA).

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Q16. As per recent information, India will host BWF World Junior Championships 2025 in which of the following cities?

(a) Aizawl, Mizoram
(b) Itanagar, Arunachal Pradesh
(c) Kohima, Nagaland
(d) Guwahati, Assam

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Ans16. (d) Guwahati, Assam



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Q17. Recently, which of the following organisation has unveiled Climate Promise 2025 – an initiative to support developing countries on their climate action?

(a) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
(b) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
(c) United Nations Development Programme (UND)
(d) World Bank

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Ans17. (c) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

UNDP's Climate Promise

- The Climate Promise is the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) initiative in response to climate change.
- It constitutes the world's largest offer of support to countries regarding their national climate pledges under the Paris Agreement.
- These pledges, known as **Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs)**, are vital for achieving net-zero emissions and fulfilling the objectives of the Paris Agreement.
- The initiative extends support to over 120 countries, with collaboration from more than 35 partners, making a significant contribution to the NDC Partnership.
- It focuses on five key technical areas to assist countries in taking decisive action: reducing emissions, enhancing resilience to climate impacts, and supporting sustainable development priorities.



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Q18. Recently, first of its kind **digital water distribution system has been launched for agricultural fields in Rajasthan. This system is evolved by which of the following organisation?**

(a) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
 (b) National Informatics Centre (NIC), Jaipur
 (c) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (CDAC)
 (d) Electronics Corporation of India Limited (ECIL)

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Ans18. (b) National Informatics Centre (NIC), Jaipur

The new system, evolved by the **National Informatics Centre (NIC)**, Jaipur, will enable the farmers to know of the **status of water** reaching their fields and **minimise the scope for human error** often reported in the manual system.

National Informatics Centre (NIC)

- NIC provides **network backbone and e-Governance** support to the Central Government, State Governments and UT Administrations.
- NIC has been closely associated with the Government in different aspects of Governance besides establishing a **Nationwide State-of-the-Art information and communication technology (ICT) Infrastructure**.
- It has also built a large number of digital solutions to support the government at various levels, making the **last-mile delivery of government services to the citizens a reality**.
- It is under the aegis of the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**.
- It was **established in 1976** and its headquarters is located in New Delhi.

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Q19. **World Press Freedom Index, India has been ranked at which of the following places?**

(a) 155th
 (b) 157th
 (c) 159th
 (d) 161st

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Ans19. (c) 159th

World Press Freedom Index

- It is an annual report released by the global media watchdog **Reporters Without Borders (RSF)**.

India's score in 2024:

- India's position has seen a slight improvement moving from **161 in 2023 to 159 among 180** countries in 2024.
- Despite this upward shift in ranking, India's score witnessed a decline, dropping from **36.62 to 31.28** and scores decreased across all categories **except the security indicator**.

RANK	COUNTRY	GLOBAL SCORE
1	Norway	91.89
2	Denmark	89.6
3	Sweden	88.52
4	Netherlands	87.73
5	Finland	86.55
6	Estonia	86.44
7	Portugal	85.9
8	Ireland	85.59
9	Switzerland	84.01
10	Germany	83.84

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Q20. Recently, who among the following has been officially bestowed with title of **GrandMaster by International Chess Federation (FIDE)?**

(a) L R Srihari
(b) Rao Sharan
(c) Vaishali Ramesh Babu
(d) Divya Deshmukh

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Ans20. (c) Vaishali Ramesh Babu



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Q21. Recently, who among the following has been conferred with **Whitley Gold Award 2024?**

(a) Dr. Purnima Devi Barman
(b) Gina Justus
(c) Meena Mishra
(d) Alok Shukla

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Ans21. (a) Dr. Purnima Devi Barman

Dr. Purnima Devi Barman from India has been awarded the **2024 Whitley Gold Award** (dubbed 'Green Oscar') by the UK charity **Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN)** for her efforts to save the **Greater Adjutant Stork (Hargila)**.




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Q22. Recently, Google has released a doodle on **Hamida Banu. She was associated with which of the following sports?**

(a) Badminton
(b) Boxing
(c) Hockey
(c) Wrestling



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Ans22. (d) Wrestling

- Hamida Banu, widely considered India's first professional woman wrestler, was born in the early 1900s near Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh.
- She rose to stardom in the 1940s and 50s, at a time when women's participation in athletics was strongly discouraged by prevalent social norms.
- Her spectacular feats and larger-than-life persona brought her global fame.
- She was a trailblazer of her time, and her fearlessness is remembered throughout India and across the world.





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Q23. Recently, Kareena Kapoor Khan has been appointed as National Ambassador of which of the following organisation?

(a) UNESCO
(b) UNICEF India
(c) International Organizations for Migration (IOM)
(d) Amnesty International



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Ans23. (b) UNICEF India

UNICEF

- UNICEF was created in 1946 as International Children's Emergency Fund (ICEF) by UN relief Rehabilitation Administration to help children affected by World War II.
- UNICEF became a permanent part of the [United Nations](#) in 1953.
- The name was shortened to **United Nations Children Fund** but it is still referred to as UNICEF.
- It is **mandated by the United Nations General Assembly** to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.
- UNICEF is guided by the **Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989**.
- Awarded the **Nobel Prize for Peace** in 1965 for "promotion of brotherhood among the nations".
- Headquarters:** New York City.

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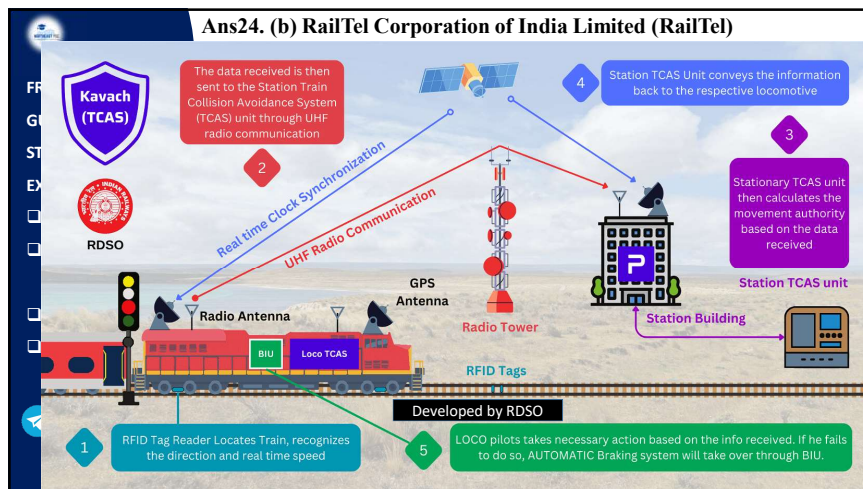
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Q24. Recently, which of the following companies has signed an MoU with **Quadrant Future Tek Limited to explore and deliver train collision avoidance system 'KAVACH' implementation projects in India and other countries?**

(a) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited
(b) RailTel Corporation of India Limited (RailTel)
(c) Iacon International
(d) RITES Ltd.

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Q25. Recently, who among the following has been named laureates of 2024 UNESCO/ Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize?

(a) Niloofer Hamedi, Elaheh Mohammadi and Narges Mohammadi (Iran)
(b) Palestinian Journalists
(c) Belarus Association of Journalists
(d) Maria Ressa (Philippines)

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Ans25. (b) Palestinian Journalists

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• Palestinian journalists covering Gaza have been named as laureates of the 2024 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize, following the recommendation of an International Jury of media professionals.

• The Award Ceremony will take place on 2 May in the margins of the World Press Freedom Conference in Santiago, Chile.

• Created in 1997, the annual UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize honours a person, organization or institution that has made an outstanding contribution to the defence and, or promotion of press freedom anywhere in the world, and especially when this has been achieved in the face of danger.

• The Prize was established on the initiative of UNESCO's Executive Board and is formally conferred by UNESCO, on the occasion of **World Press Freedom Day**, on 3 May.


• It is named in honour of **Guillermo Cano Isaza**, a Colombian journalist who was assassinated in front of the offices of his newspaper El Espectador in Bogotá, Colombia on 17 December 1986.




Q26. Recently, which of the following companies has unveiled **FWD-200B, India's first indigenous bomber unmanned aircraft?**

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(a) Idea Forge Technologies
 (b) Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies
 (c) Paras Defence and Space
 (d) Mahindra Aerospace

Ans26. (b) Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies

FWD-200B

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- Tripura
- Sikkim



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• It is an **indigenous military grade bomber** unmanned aerial vehicle (UAV).

• It is India's **first indigenous unmanned bomber aircraft**.

• It is designed and **manufactured by Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies**, an Indian defence and aerospace company.


• It has a payload capacity of 100 kg and is **classified as a MALE (medium-altitude, long-endurance)** Unmanned Combat Aerial Vehicle.




Q27. Recently, International Cricket Council (ICC) has released ICC Men's T20 World Cup 2024 Official Anthem, 'Out of this World'. Who among the following has sung this song?

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(a) Zakir Hussain & Partho Sarothy
 (b) Theron Thomas
 (c) Billy Childs
 (d) Sean Paul and Soca superstar Kes

Ans27. (d) Sean Paul and Soca superstar Kes



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Q28. As per recent information, 'FLiRT', a new variant of which of the following disease is rapidly spreading in United States?

(a) Japanese Encephalitis
(b) COVID-19
(c) Measles
(d) Ebola



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Ans28. (b) COVID-19


FLiRT Variants

- **KP.2 and KP1.1**, dubbed 'FLiRT' variants, are descendants of the **Omicron JN.1** which spread globally over the winter last year.

Features:

- The variants appear to outstrip their ancestor and other Omicron variants. KP.2 is the **more dominant strain** of the two and it is believed to leap past immunity built up from vaccines and previous infections.
- The FLiRT variants are descendants of the JN.1 variant of the SARS-CoV-2 virus with two new added **spike mutations**.



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Q29. Recently, which of the following companies has unveiled **Sesame, India's first Large Language Model (LLM) specifically designed for banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI) sector?**

(a) Paytm
(b) CRED
(c) Setu
(d) Groww



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Ans29. (c) Setu

- **Setu**, a leading Indian **fintech** company and part of the **Pine Labs Group**, has unveiled **Sesame**, India's first **Large Language Model (LLM)** specifically designed for the **banking, financial services, and insurance (BFSI)** sector.
- Developed in collaboration with indigenous AI research firm **Sarvam AI**, this groundbreaking initiative marks a significant milestone in the adoption of advanced AI technologies in the financial services industry.

A large language model (LLM) is a type of artificial intelligence (AI) program that can perform a variety of natural language processing (NLP) tasks using large amounts of data

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Q30. As per recent information, which of the following organisation will be honoured with Pulitzer Prize 2024 for Public Service?

- (a) New York Times
- (b) Pro Publica
- (c) Reuters
- (d) The Associated Press

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Ans30. (b) ProPublica

Pulitzer Prize

- The Pulitzer Prize was established by Joseph Pulitzer, a newspaper owner who, in 1904, provided funds for the foundation of the Pulitzer Prize as an incentive for excellence in journalism, arts, and culture.

Category	Winner
Public Service	Pro Publica (Joshua Kaplan, Justin Elliott, Brett Murphy, Alex Mierjeski, and Kirsten Berg)
Investigative Reporting	Hannah Dreier (The New York Times)
International Reporting	Staff of The New York Times
Editorial Writing	David E. Hoffman (The Washington Post)
Breaking News Photography	Photography Staff of Reuters
Feature Photography	Photography Staff of Associated Press
Audio Reporting	Staff of the Invisible Institute and USG Audio

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Q31. As per recent information, Tripura Cricket Association (TCA) is set to inaugurate the state's first international cricket stadium in Narsingarh. It is a collaboration between TCA and which of the following organisation?

- (a) NITI Aayog
- (b) International Cricket Council (ICC)
- (c) Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)
- (d) Sports Authority of India (SAI)

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Ans31. (c) Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI)

- The Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) is the governing body for all cricket-related activities in India.
- Headquartered** at the Cricket Centre near Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai, it is the richest cricket governing body in the world, forming a part of the "Big Three" of international cricket – Cricket Australia and the England and Wales Cricket Board.

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Q32. Recently, 33rd edition of **Badminton World Federation (BWF) Thomas Cup 2024 has won by men's team of which of the following countries?**

(a) South Korea
(b) India
(c) Indonesia
(d) China

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Ans32. (d) China



The People's Republic of China has reclaimed its throne as the top badminton nation, clinching both the men's and women's titles at the prestigious **2024 BWF Thomas & Uber Cup Finals** in Chengdu.

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Q33. Recently, a successful flight test of **Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) system was conducted. Which of the following organisation has developed SMART 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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Ans33. (d) Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) System

- It has been designed and developed by the [Defence Research and Development Organisation](#).
- It was launched from a ground mobile launcher from the [Dr APJ Abdul Kalam](#) Island off the Odisha coast.

Features

- This missile-based mechanism to launch **lightweight torpedoes** can target submarines hundreds of kilometres away — far beyond the conventional range of lightweight torpedoes.
- It will be particularly employed in the absence of other assets for immediate action when an enemy submarine is detected.
- It is the **canister-based missile system** comprises several advanced subsystems including **two-stage solid propulsion and precision inertial navigation**.



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Q34. Recently, which of the following organisation has become the sole authority for issuing manufacturing licences for new drugs meant for exports?

- (a) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- (b) National Medical Commission
- (c) Pharmacy Council of India
- (d) Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)

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Ans34. (d) Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO)
Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)

- It is the **National Regulatory Authority (NRA) of India for the medical devices industry** under the provisions of the **Drugs & Cosmetics Rules**.
- It works under the **Ministry of Health & Family Welfare**.
- **Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI)** is the head of the CDSCO.
- **Headquarters:** New Delhi.
- Under the **Drugs and Cosmetics Act**, CDSCO is responsible for,
 - **Approval of New Drugs;**
 - **Conduct of Clinical Trials;**
 - **Laying down the standards for Drugs;**
 - **Control over the quality of imported Drugs** in the country;
 - **Coordination of the activities of State Drug Control Organizations;**

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Q35. Recently, who among the following has become the first Indian bowler to take 350 wickets in T20 cricket history?

- (a) Ravindra Jadeja
- (b) Ravichandran Ashwin
- (c) Yuzvendra Chahal
- (d) Jasprit Bumrah

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Ans35. (c) Yuzvendra Chahal



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Q36. As per recently released 'World Migration Report 2024', which of the following countries has become the first country to receive over \$100 billion in remittances in 2022?

(a) Mexico
(b) United States of America (USA)
(c) India
(d) China

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Ans36. (c) India

- The World Migration Report 2024 was launched by the [International Organization for Migration \(IOM\)](#), revealing significant shifts in global migration patterns. World Migration Report is IOM's flagship report released biennially.
- The report highlighted that **Mexico, China, the Philippines, and France** were the other four nations in the top five remittance recipient countries, with India being the top country receiving remittances in 2010, 2015, 2020, and 2022.


International Organization of Migration (IOM)

- The IOM is an intergovernmental organization that provides services and advice concerning migration to governments and migrants, including internally displaced persons, refugees, and migrant workers.
- Establishment:** IOM was established in 1951.
- Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland.

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Q37. Recently, Kerala government has reported West Nile fever cases in three districts. This virus is spread by _____.

(a) Aedes Mosquito
(b) Culex mosquitoes
(c) Anopheles Mosquito
(d) Salmonella Typhi Bacteria

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Ans37. (b) Culex mosquitoes

West Nile Fever

- It is caused by the **West Nile virus (WNV)**, a single-stranded RNA virus that is transmitted to humans through the bite of an infected mosquito (*Mosquitoes of the genus Culex* are generally considered the principal vectors of WNV) and Birds serve as reservoir hosts.
 - The virus is a member of the **Flaviviridae family and the flavivirus genus**.
- The virus is commonly found in Africa, Europe, the Middle East, North America, and West Asia.
- It was first isolated in a woman in the West Nile district of Uganda in 1937. It was identified in birds in the **Nile Delta region in 1953**, according to the [World Health Organization](#).

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Q38. Recently, which of the following state government has taken steps to denotify the boundaries of **Pulicat Bird Sanctuary, which includes 13 revenue villages?**

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

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Ans38. (d) Tamil Nadu

- The Tamil Nadu government has taken steps to denotify the boundaries of the Pulicat bird sanctuary, which includes 13 revenue villages.
- This will exclude the villages and thereby reduce the sanctuary's eco-sensitive zone. A port expansion plan and an industrial park within the present default eco-sensitive zone threaten its future.
- Encompassing 720 square kilometres, most of the lake falls in Andhra Pradesh and less than 20% in Tiruvallur district of Tamil Nadu.
- In 1980, the bird sanctuary was notified under Section 18 of the **Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972**.
- However, a final notification specifying the limits of the area within the sanctuary must be declared under **Section 26A**.



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Q39. Recently, which of the following countries and Nagaland government has joined hands in construction of **Kohima Peace Memorial commemorating World War II?**

(a) France
(b) United Kingdom
(c) Japan
(d) United States

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Ans39. (c) Japan

Battle of Kohima

- F • One of the fiercest battles of the Second World War, the Battle of Kohima started on 4 April 1944, in which British and Indian troops fought against the Japanese offensive in the northeast of India.
- G • The Japanese were defeated which marked the beginning of the Allied push into Burma.
- S • In 1944, during the height of the [Second World War](#), the Japanese planned an incursion into India via Burma. The plan was codenamed **Operation U Go**.
- E • The plan was to attack the northeast of India through Burma.
- • There was a British garrison at Kohima, today the capital of the state of Nagaland.
- • The Japanese forces wished to attack the garrison and take Kohima after which they would take Assam and then march on to Delhi.
- The battle is often referred to as the **Stalingrad of the East**.
- • The British National Army Museum voted this battle as "**Britain's Greatest Battle**".
- • Today, in the place where the tennis court of the Deputy Commissioner was, there is a war cemetery for the Allied dead. It has the famous Kohima Epitaph which reads,
- • "*When you go home, tell them of us and say,
For your tomorrow, we gave our today*"

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Q40. Recently, which of the following institutes has unveiled a comprehensive set of 17 dietary recommendations?

- (a) ICMR - National Centre for Diseases Informatics and Research
- (b) ICMR - National Institute of Epidemiology
- (c) ICMR - National Institute of Nutrition
- (d) D. ICMR - Centre for Ageing & Mental Health

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Ans40. (c) ICMR - National Institute of Nutrition

Dietary Guidelines

- Eat a **variety of foods** to ensure a balanced diet
- F **Pregnant women and new mothers** should have access to **extra food and healthcare**
- C Ensure **exclusive breastfeeding for the first six months**; continue breastfeeding till two years and beyond
- S After six months of age, the **infant should be fed homemade semi-solid complementary foods**
- E Ensure **adequate and appropriate diets for children and adolescents** in health and sickness
- Eat **plenty of vegetables** and legumes
- **Use oil/fats in moderation**: choose a variety of oil seeds, nuts etc. to meet daily needs of fats and essential fatty acids
- **Obtain good quality proteins and essential amino acids**: avoid protein supplements to build muscle mass
- **Adopt a healthy lifestyle** to prevent abdominal obesity, overweight and overall obesity
- Be **physically active**, exercise regularly
- **Restrict salt intake**
- Consume **safe and clean foods**
- Ensure **appropriate pre-cooking and cooking methods** are used
- Drink plenty of water
- **Minimize the consumption of ultra-processed foods** and high-fat, sugar, salt
- Prioritize nutrient-rich foods in the diets of elderly people
- Read information on food labels

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Q41. Recently, Dileep Sanghani has been elected as Chairman of which of the following organisation?

- (a) Krishak Bharati Cooperative Limited (KRIBHCO)
- (b) Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)
- (c) Rashtriya Chemicals & Fertilizers Ltd
- (d) Indian Potash Limited

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Ans41. (b) Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (IFFCO)

Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited

- It is **one of India's biggest cooperative societies** which is wholly owned by **Indian Cooperatives**.
- **Founded in 1967** with just 57 cooperatives, today it is an amalgamation of over 36,000 Indian Cooperatives with **diversified business interests ranging from General Insurance to Rural Telecom** apart from its core business of manufacturing and selling fertilisers.

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Q42. Recently, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has introduced 'HD 3386'. It is a new high-yielding seed variety of which of the following crops?

(a) Cotton
(b) Rice
(c) Wheat
(d) Mustard

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Ans42. (c) Wheat

- To improve wheat output, the **Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)** has introduced a new high-yielding variety of wheat seed – HD 3386.
- Approved by the central seed committee, **this variant is resistant to yellow and leaf rust diseases prevalent in key wheat-growing regions like Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh, and Rajasthan.**

Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI)

- The Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI), **also known as the Pusa Institute**, is a renowned national institution dedicated to agricultural research, education, and extension.
- **Established in 1905 in Pusa, Bihar**, with the **philanthropic support of Henry Phipps, Jr.**, it was initially named the **Agricultural Research Institute (ARI)**.
- **Post-independence, it was renamed the Indian Agricultural Research Institute** and has made significant contributions to agricultural innovation, including the development of wheat varieties resistant to rust.

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Q43. Recently, who among the following has become 85th Grand Master of Indian chess?

(a) Aaditya Dhingra
(b) P. Shyam Nikhil
(c) Harshit Raja
(d) Neelash Saha

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Ans43. (b) P. Shyam Nikhil

P Shyaamnikhil became India's 85th Grandmaster by completing his third and final GM norm in the just-concluded Dubai Police Masters chess tournament, ending a 12-year-wait for the player who took to the sport as an eight-year-old.



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Q44. Recently, Indian Air Force has inducted **Rampage missile for enhanced combat capabilities. 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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Ans44. (b) Air to surface missile

Rampage Missile



- It is a **long-range, supersonic, air-to-ground, seekerless, precision strike missile.**
- It was developed by **Israel Aerospace Industries** and **Israeli Military Industries Systems.**
- It has been developed for use in missions **aimed at destroying high-quality, well-protected targets**, such as communication and command centers, air force bases, maintenance centers, and infrastructure.

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Q45. Recently, who among the following has set a new world record by summiting the world's highest peak, Mount Everest, for the 29th time?

(a) Ngima Nuru Sherpa
 (b) Kami Rita Sherpa
 (c) Phurba Tashi Sherpa
 (d) Ang Dorje Sherpa

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Ans45. (b) Kami Rita Sherpa



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Q46. Recently, **Idashisha Nongrang** has been named first woman Director General of Police (DGP) of which of the following states?

- (a) Manipur
- (b) Nagaland
- (c) Mizoram
- (d) Meghalaya

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Ans46. (d) Meghalaya



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Q47. Recently, which of the following items from India has not been included in 2024 cycle of 'UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register'?

- (a) Ramcharitmanas
- (b) Panchatantra
- (c) Mahabharata
- (d) Sahrdayāloka-Locana

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Ans47. (c) Mahabharata

- Recently, the **Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra, and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana** have been included in '**UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register**'.
- '**Sahṛdayaloka-Locana**', '**Panchatantra**', and '**Ramcharitmanas**' were authored by Acharya Anandvardhan, Pt. Vishnu Sharma, and Goswami Tulsidas, respectively.
- The **Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA)** played a vital role in securing the historic moment during the **10th meeting of the Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP)**.
- The **Memory of the World (MoW) Program** is a **global initiative** launched by **UNESCO in 1992** to safeguard important documentary heritage.
- In the **Asia Pacific region**, a specific branch called the **Memory of the World Committee for Asia and the Pacific (MOWCAP)** was established in **1998**.

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Q48. Recently, India and Iran have signed a long-term contract for operating the **Shahid-Beheshti Port Terminal at **Chabahar Port**. This contract has been signed for how many years?**


(a) 5 year
(b) 7 year
(c) 10 year
(d) 15 year

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Ans48. (c) 10 year

- Recently, **India and Iran** signed a **10-year** contract for operating the **Chabahar port** in Iran.
- This long-term agreement was signed between **Indian Ports Global Ltd. (IPGL)** and **Port and Maritime Organisation (PMO)** of Iran, enabling operation of the **Shahid-Beheshti terminal**.
- Signing of a long-term contract with Iran is part of India's strategic and economic vision for **Central Asia** and beyond.



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Q49. Recently, which of the following ministries has sanctioned 113 roads under the **Vibrant Village Programme in Arunachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand and Sikkim?**

(a) Ministry of Home Affairs
(b) Ministry of External Affairs
(c) Ministry of Defence
(d) Ministry of Rural Development

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Ans49. (a) Ministry of Home Affairs

Vibrant Villages Programme

- It is a **Centrally sponsored scheme**, announced in the **Union Budget 2022-23** (to 2025-26) for development of villages on the **northern border**, thus improving the quality of life of people living in identified border villages.
- It will cover the border areas of **Himachal Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Arunachal Pradesh, Sikkim and Ladakh**.
- It will cover 2,963 villages with 663 of them to be covered in the first phase.
- Vibrant Village Action Plans will be created by the district administration with the help of Gram Panchayats.
- There will **not be overlap with Border Area Development Programme**.

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Q50. Recently, archaeologists have uncovered evidence of **Sahul that facilitated human migration from Asia to Australia about 70,000 years ago. Sahul is a _____.**

(a) Ocean
(b) Supercontinent
(c) Mountain
(d) Craton

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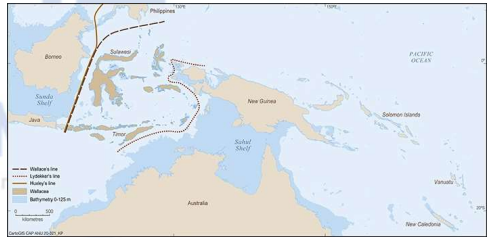
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Ans50. (b) Supercontinent

Sahul

- Sahul was a supercontinent exposed during the last ice age due to glaciation, which lowered global sea levels.
- This landmass connected present-day Australia with Papua New Guinea to the north and Tasmania to the south.



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Q51. Recently, Indian javelin thrower Neeraj Chopra has secured a second-place finish at the **Doha Diamond League 2024. Who among the following has secured first position in the event?**

(a) Anderson Peters
(b) Oliver Helander
(c) Jakub Vadlejch
(d) Julius Yego

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Ans51. (c) Jakub Vadlejch



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Q52. Recently, men's hockey team of which of the following countries has won its first **Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy in 2024**?

- (a) Pakistan
- (b) South Korea
- (c) Japan
- (d) New Zealand

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Ans52. (c) Japan

Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy

- The Sultan Azlan Shah Trophy is organized by the Malaysia Hockey Confederation and invites six countries to participate.
- Initiated as a biennial tournament in 1983, its popularity led to it becoming an annual event in 1999.
- The trophy is named after the former Sultan of the state of Perak, Malaysia, Sultan Azlan Shah, who was a pioneer of hockey in Asia and served as the president of the Asian Hockey Federation from 1990 until his passing in 2014.



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Q53. Recently, United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed which of the following days as **World Football Day**?

- (a) 23rd May
- (b) 24th May
- (c) 25th May
- (d) 26th May

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Ans53. (c) 25th May



- In 2024, the world marks the **100th anniversary** of the first international football tournament involving teams from all regions, held on **May 25, 1924**, during the Summer Olympic Games in Paris.
- To honour this milestone, the United Nations General Assembly passed Resolution A/RES/78/281 on May 7, 2024, proclaiming **May 25 as World Football Day**.

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Q54. Recently, 2024 World Wildlife Crime Report has been released by which of the following organisation?



(a) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
(b) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
(c) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)
(d) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

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Ans54. (b) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has recently released the 3rd edition of a report titled the **World Wildlife Crime Report 2024**.

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



- It was established in 1997 and was named as a United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in 2002.
- It acts as the Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention by combining the United Nations International Drug Control Program (UNDCP) and the Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Division of the United Nations Office at Vienna, Austria.

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Q55. Recently, India has set up its own pavilion for the first time at **World Hydrogen Summit 2024. This summit is being organised at which of the following places?**

(a) Marseille, France
(b) Antwerp, Belgium
(c) Hamburg, Germany
(d) Rotterdam, Netherlands

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Ans55. (d) Rotterdam, Netherlands

National Green Hydrogen Mission

It is a program to incentivise the commercial production of green hydrogen and make India a net exporter of the fuel.

The Mission will facilitate demand creation, production, utilization and export of Green Hydrogen.

Sub Schemes:

- **Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition Programme (SIGHT):**
 - It will fund the domestic manufacturing of electrolyzers and produce green hydrogen.
- **Green Hydrogen Hubs:**
 - States and regions capable of supporting large scale production and/or utilization of hydrogen will be identified and developed as Green Hydrogen Hubs.

Objective:

- Developing green hydrogen production capacity of at least 5 MMT (Million Metric Tonne) per annum, alongside adding renewable energy capacity of about 125 GW (gigawatt) in India by 2030.
- It aims to entail over Rs 8 lakh crore of total investments and is expected to generate six lakh jobs.
- It will also lead to a cumulative reduction in fossil fuel imports by over Rs 1 lakh crore and an abatement of nearly 50 MT of annual greenhouse gas emissions.

Nodal Ministry: Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

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Q56. Recently, India has joined \$134-million Global Initiative aimed at eliminating which of the following chemical from medical devices?

- Acetone
- Mercury
- Benzyl Chloride
- Diethyl Ether

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Ans56. (b) Mercury

- The governments of Albania, Burkina Faso, India, Montenegro, and Uganda have united to combat **chemical pollution** by launching a USD 134-million project to eliminate the use of mercury in medical devices.
- The initiative is led by **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**, funded by **Global Environment Facility (GEF)**, and executed by **World Health Organisation (WHO)**, aiming to reduce the impact of healthcare on the environment and human health.

Mercury

Mercury is a naturally occurring element found in the Earth's crust. It is considered by the **WHO** as one of the top ten chemicals or groups of chemicals of major public health concern.

Applications:

- Mercury's high coefficient of thermal expansion and easy visibility make it suitable for use in traditional thermometers and barometers.
- It has been used in various chemical and mining processes, including the production of chlorine and mining of gold.
- Mercury-wetted switches are used in various electrical applications because of its conductivity and low resistance.

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Q57. Recently, which of the following companies has introduced a new multimodal AI agent called 'Project Astra', which is capable of answering user's queries in real time via text, audio or video inputs?

- Meta
- IBM
- Microsoft
- Google

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Ans57. (d) Google




Project Astra

- It is a new **multimodal AI agent** developed by **Google**.
- It is capable of answering **real-time questions** fed to it through text, video, images, and speech by pulling up the relevant information.
- It can see the world, remember where one has left a thing and even answer if a computer code is correct by looking at it through the phone's camera.
- It even answers if a **computer code** is correct by looking at it through the phone's camera.
- It is more straight-forward, there is no range of emotional diversity in its voice.
- It is **not limited to smartphones**. Google also showed it being used with a pair of smart glasses.
- Project Astra can learn about the world, making it as close as possible to a human-assistant-like experience.

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Q58. Recently, which of the following mango variety has made history by registering for the first time under the 'Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority' (PPVFRA), New Delhi?

(a) Totapuri
(b) Himsagar
(c) Chinta Mango
(d) Mulgoa

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Ans58. (c) Chinta Mango

Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights (PPV&FR) Act, 2001

- Enacted by India in 2001 **adopting sui generis system**.
- It is in conformity with **International Union for the Protection of New Varieties of Plants (UPOV), 1978**.
- The aim of the act is the establishment of an effective system for the **protection of plant varieties, the rights of farmers and plant breeders** and to encourage the development of new varieties of plant.
- The act also establishes **Protection of Plant Varieties and Farmers' Rights Authority** under the **Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare**.
- The major function of Authority includes
 - Registration of new plant varieties;
 - Documentation of varieties registered;
 - Preservation of plant genetic resource;
 - Maintenance of the National Register of Plant Varieties and
 - Maintenance of National Gene Bank (for conserving seeds of registered varieties).

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Q59. Recently, who among the following has become the first Indian woman paddler to break into the top 25 of world Women's singles rankings?

(a) Sreeja Akula
(b) Manika Batra
(c) Mouma Das
(d) Sutirtha Mukherjee

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Ans59. (b) Manika Batra

- India's ace women's table tennis player Manika Batra became the first Indian woman paddler to break into the top 25 of the world Women's singles rankings.
- She rose to her career-best ranking of 24, following her success in the Saudi Smash.
- She also equalled G. Sathyan's five year old record for the highest rank achieved by an Indian in singles table tennis.



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Q60. Recently, World Health Organization (WHO) has prequalified a new vaccine 'TAK-003' to fight against a mosquito-borne disease. This vaccine is associated with which disease?



(a) Malaria
(b) Dengue
(c) West Nile virus
(d) Chikungunya

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Ans60. (b) Dengue

- TAK-003 is a **live-attenuated vaccine** that contains weakened versions of the four serotypes of the dengue virus.
- It is the **second** dengue vaccine to receive WHO prequalification, with the first being the CYD-TDV vaccine.
- WHO recommends the use of TAK-003 for children aged **6-16 years** in areas with a high burden of dengue and high transmission intensity.



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Q61 Recently, 7th edition of India-United States joint counter-terrorism exercise 'Tarkash' has been held between National Security Guard (NSG) and United States Special Operations Forces (SOF) in which of the following cities?

(a) Ahmedabad
(b) Mumbai
(c) Kolkata
(d) Chennai

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Ans61. (c) Kolkata

Exercise Tarkash

- It is the **seventh edition** of the Indo-U.S. joint **counter terrorism exercise**.
- It is held between the elite **National Security Guard (NSG)** and the U.S. Special Operations Forces (SOF) commenced on April 22, 2024.



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Q62. As per recently released **Global Report on Internal Displacement 2024 (GRID-2024), number of internally displaced people has increased to ___ in 2023.**

(a) 71.1 million
(b) 73.5 million
(c) 75.9 million
(d) 77.1 million

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Ans62. (c) 75.9 million

Global Report on Internal Displacement 2024

- It is an **annual report** published by the Geneva-based **Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC)**.
- It records internal displacements due to **conflict and violence and disasters**.

Highlights of GRID-2024

- In 2023, the number of internally displaced people (IDP) increased to **75.9 million**, from 71.1 million in the preceding year.
- Report says **7.7 million** displaced by **disasters** (one-fourth of it was caused by earthquakes) and **68.3 million** by **conflict and violence**.
- Sudan, Syria, the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Colombia, and Yemen** host nearly half of the world's IDPs.
- At **9.1 million**, **Sudan** has the **highest number** of IDPs recorded for a single country.
- Most of the new displacement** this year happened in **Sudan, the Palestinian territories, and the Democratic Republic of Congo**, accounting for almost **two-thirds** of all new displacement.

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Q63. Recently, which of the following countries has announced 'Blue Residency Visa**' program offering long-term residency to individuals who significantly contribute to environmental protection and sustainability efforts?**

(a) Oman
(b) Saudi Arabia
(c) United Arab Emirates
(d) Israel

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Ans63. (c) United Arab Emirates

The Blue Residency visa is for people who work in several environmental fields, such as protecting sea and land life, improving air quality, using sustainable technologies, and promoting the circular economy.



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Q64. Recently, which of the following countries has added a nuclear-capable missile known as 'Bulava' into its military arsenal?

(a) Russia
(b) Israel
(c) Japan
(d) China

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Ans64. (a) Russia

Bulava Missile

- RSM-56 Bulava (NATO reporting name: SS-N-32) is a Russian submarine-launched intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM).
- Designed by the Moscow Institute of Thermal Technology, development of the missile was launched in the late 1990s, and is designed to be deployed on Russia's Borei-class submarines.
- Bulava represents a core component of Russia's future strategic nuclear force.



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Q65. Recently, Indian Army has launched 'Operation Sadbhavana' in which of the following states, following a devastating glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF)?

(a) Manipur
(b) Assam
(c) Arunachal Pradesh
(d) Sikkim

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Ans65. (d) Sikkim

- Under Operation Sadbhavana, Trishakti Corps of the Indian Army supported remote communities in Naga and Rangrang villages of North Sikkim.
- After a devastating glacial lake outburst flood (GLOF), relief materials were distributed, symbolizing solidarity.

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Q66. Recently, Centre For Development Of Telematics (C-DOT) has launched “NIDHI” to encourage the entrepreneurship and innovation. Under this, each selected startup will be provided initial grant of what amount?

(a) Rs 5 lakh
(b) Rs 6 lakh
(c) Rs 8 lakh
(d) Rs 10 lakh

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Ans66. (d) Rs 10 lakh

- The **Department of Telecommunications (DoT)**, celebrated World Telecommunication and Information Society Day on **17th May 2024**, with the theme “**Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development**”.
- The day marks the anniversary of the founding of the **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)** on **17th May 1865**, when the first **International Telegraph Convention** was signed in **Paris**.
- **Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**, the premier Telecom R&D Centre of DoT announced special Initiatives “**NIDHI**” & “**STAR Program**” for the development of **indigenous telecom solutions & technologies**.
- **STAR Program** provides scholarship and mentorship support from C-DOT research leaders to PhD students.
- The **Telecom industry in India** is the **2nd largest** in the world with a subscriber base of **1.179 Billion** as of August 2023 (wireless + wireline subscribers).
- It is integral to the **digital economy** and is projected to reach around **USD 1.5 billion** by **2025-26**, making up approximately **15%** of the **GDP**.

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Q67. Recently, which of the following tunnels has been officially recognised as the highest tunnel in the country by International Book of Honour, England?

(a) Sungal Tunnel
(b) Kandi Tunnel
(c) Sela Tunnel
(d) Naushera Tunnel

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Ans67. (c) Sela Tunnel



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Q68. Recently, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has unveiled Mangalyaan-2. With this, India is poised to become which nation to land on Mars?

(a) First
(b) Third
(c) Fifth
(d) Second

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- Sikkim

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Ans68. (b) Third

- The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** is gearing up for a landmark mission that aims to land a **rover and helicopter on Mars**.
- This historic endeavor, named **Mangalyaan-2**, seeks to place India alongside the US and China as a significant player in interplanetary exploration.
- The project was unveiled during a presentation at the Space Application Centre on National Technology Day.

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Q69. Recently, 'Marble mined in Ambaji' has received geographical indication (GI) tag. It is associated with which of the following states?

(a) Rajasthan
(b) Madhya Pradesh
(c) Gujarat
(d) Kerala

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Ans69. (c) Gujarat



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.
 - It also protects the product from being copied or imitated by others.
- 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.



Legal Framework and Obligations

- 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.
- It is governed and directed by the **WTO Agreement on Trade-Related Aspects of Intellectual Property Rights (TRIPS)**.
 - Furthermore, the significance of protecting industrial property and geographical indications as **integral components of intellectual property** is acknowledged and emphasised in Articles 1(2) and 10 of the Paris Convention.




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Q70. Recently, first Summit on **Clean Cooking has been organised in Paris, France. This summit was hosted by which of the following organisation?**

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(a) World Economic Forum
(b) World Energy Council
(c) International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA)
(d) International Energy Agency (IEA)

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Ans70. (d) International Energy Agency (IEA)

The first Summit on Clean Cooking, held in Paris on May 14, 2024, marked a watershed moment in the fight against major health and environmental issues in Africa caused by traditional cooking methods.

International Energy Agency

- It is an autonomous **inter-governmental organisation** within the OECD framework.
- It works with governments and industry to **shape a secure and sustainable energy future for all**.
- It was founded in 1974 to ensure the **security of oil supplies**.
- It was created in response to the 1973-1974 oil crisis when an oil embargo by major producers pushed prices to historic levels and exposed the vulnerability of industrialised countries to dependency on oil imports.
- It consists of **31 member countries and eleven association countries**.
- A candidate country to the IEA **must be a member country of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)**.
- Headquarters:** Paris, France

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Q71. Recently, which of the following countries has been declared as the host of **2027 Women's World Cup?**

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- Tripura
- Sikkim

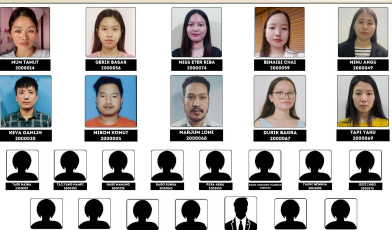
(a) Belgium
(b) Spain
(c) Brazil
(d) Netherlands

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Ans71. (c) Brazil



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Q72. Recently, who among the following has authored a book titled “At The Wheel of Research: An Exclusive Biography of Dr. Soumya Swaminathan”?

(a) Shayan Acharya
 (b) Anuradha Mascarenhas
 (c) Puneet Wadhwa
 (d) Anindita Sen




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Ans72. (b) Anuradha Mascarenhas

- In this exclusive biography of Dr Soumya Swaminathan, the inaugural chief scientist at the World Health Organization who served during the COVID-19 pandemic, Anuradha Mascarenhas tells the remarkable story of a career encompassing medicine, research, decision-making and philanthropy.
- She provides insights into the life of the globally acclaimed researcher drawing upon interviews with her family members, particularly her illustrious father, Dr M.S. Swaminathan, close friends and eminent scientists and researchers.
- She includes little-known anecdotes and stories from Swaminathan's days at school, college, universities and institutions in India and abroad.

Tripura
 Sikkim


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ANURADHA MASCARENHAS
AT THE WHEEL OF RESEARCH
 AN EXCLUSIVE BIOGRAPHY OF
 DR SOUMYA SWAMINATHAN



Q73. Recently, which of the following countries has announced the implementation date for the **Mobility Arrangement for Talented Early-professionals Scheme (MATES) for Indian Nationals?**

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 Arunachal Pradesh
 Tripura
 Sikkim

(a) Australia
 (b) New Zealand
 (c) Canada
 (d) England





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Ans73. (a) Australia

- The Mobility Arrangement for Talented Early-professionals Scheme (MATES) is a pilot program that allows Indian graduates and early career professionals to live and work in Australia for up to two years.
- The program was established in May 2023 as part of the Australia-India Migration and Mobility Partnership Arrangement (MMPA), a bilateral framework that aims to promote two-way migration and cooperation between the two countries.

Assam
 Arunachal Pradesh
 Tripura
 Sikkim





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Q74. Recently, Assam has launched **Disaster Reporting and Information Management System (DRIMS), a digital platform for accurate reporting and assessment of damages caused by disasters. It is developed in collaboration with which of the following organisation?**

Assam
 Arunachal Pradesh
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 Sikkim

(a) World Bank
 (b) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
 (c) United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
 (d) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)


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Ans74. (d) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

UNICEF

- UNICEF was created in 1946 as International Children's Emergency Fund (ICEF) by UN relief Rehabilitation Administration to help children affected by World War II.
- UNICEF became a permanent part of the [United Nations](#) in 1953.
- The name was shortened to **United Nations Children Fund** but it is still referred to as UNICEF.
- It is **mandated by the United Nations General Assembly** to advocate for the protection of children's rights, to help meet their basic needs and to expand their opportunities to reach their full potential.
- UNICEF is guided by the **Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989**.
- It strives to establish **children's rights** as enduring ethical principles and **international standards** of behaviour towards children.
- Awarded the **Nobel Prize for Peace** in 1965 for "promotion of brotherhood among the nations".
- **Headquarters:** New York City.

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Q75. Recently, Indo-Bangla Baul music festival has been organised to celebrate 250th birth anniversary of who among the following?

(a) Raja Ram Mohan Roy
(b) Fakir Lalan Shah
(c) Abdul Halim Bukhari
(d) Kazi Nazrul Islam

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Ans75. (b) Fakir Lalan Shah

- Baul Music is a form of **folk music, unique to Bangladesh and West Bengal** of India.
- The word Baul means "afflicted with the wind disease" and the Baul singers are traditionally wandering minstrels singing their particular form of folk music.
- The lyrics and music are soul searching, quite comparable to the genre of Sufi music. The lyrics in Baul music urge man to search for God within himself and decry the role of mosques and temples in the quest of God.
- Lalon Shah is regarded as the most celebrated Baul saint in history.
- Baul singers usually traveled alone and had their characteristic musical accompaniments.

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Q76. Recently, Indian para-athlete Deepthi Jeevanji has set a world record of 55.06 seconds in women's 400m T20 category, at ongoing Para Athletics World Championship 2024. This championship is being held at which of the following places?

(a) Paris
(b) Dubai
(c) Kobe, Japan
(d) Rio De Janeiro

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Ans76. (c) Kobe, Japan

**World Para Athletics C'ships 2024:
India finish campaign with 17
medals, including six gold**

India finished sixth in the overall medal tally at the 2024 World Para Athletics Championships.



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Q77. Recently, which of the following organisation has issued a stringent warning to traders, fruit handlers, and Food Business Operators (FBOs) regarding the use of calcium carbide for artificial ripening of fruits?

(a) Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)
(b) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)
(c) Quality Council of India (QCI)
(d) Food Corporation of India (FCI)

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Ans77. (b) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

Beware of Artificially Ripened Fruits



Calcium Carbide commonly known as "Masala" is one of the most commonly used chemicals for artificial ripening of fruits.

How Calcium Carbide is harmful?
Calcium Carbide is very harmful chemical for health. It contains traces of Arsenic and Phosphorus, and when it reacts with water, it produces Acetylene Gas (popularly referred to as Carbide Gas).
Consumption of Carbide ripened fruits may cause several harmful effects to health as Calcium Carbide has carcinogenic properties. It may affect the neurological system by inducing prolonged hypoxia which causes headache, dizziness, mood disturbances, sleepiness, mental confusion, memory loss, cerebral oedema and seizure.

How to identify artificially ripened fruit?
Colour: An artificially ripened fruit will have patches and unnatural bright colour unlike naturally ripened fruits.
Taste: Sometimes tastes also differ, and one can feel a burning sensation within the mouth due to the traces of the Calcium Carbide. People may even experience severe reactions like a stomachache, diarrhoea and burning throat.
Texture and colour of the pulp: The artificially ripened fruit will look completely ripe from outside but it will not be so inside.
Juice: In naturally ripened fruit, there will be enough juice and natural sweetness but in the case of artificially ripened fruits, there will be little or no juice.

Legal Provisions related to the use of Carbide Gas:
The use of Carbide Gas in ripening of fruits is prohibited under the Sub-Regulations 2.3.5 of the Food Safety and Standards (Prohibition and Restriction on Sales) Regulation, 2011.
There is provision of Penalty or Imprisonment with Penalty for the persons who stores or sells or distributes or imports any article of food for human consumption which is unripe and any food which is not in compliance with the provisions of Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006 or the Regulations made thereunder.

सुरक्षित आहार, स्वास्थ्य का आधार
Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
Department of Consumer Affairs, Government of India
Bhuli Bhulai, New Delhi-110 001. Website: consumeraffairs.nic.in
National Consumer Helpline No. 1800-11-4000 Toll Free
You can also register complaints through email: nch@nic.nic.in or 1800-11-4000 (Toll Free)
For registering complaints about misleading advertisements please log on: www.cpaa.gov.in

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C/O Bhilai, Kailash Road, New Delhi-110002
FAX: 011-23220994 PORTAL: fssai.gov.in FSSAI HELPLINE: 1800-11-2100

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Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)

- It is an autonomous body established under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
- The FSSAI has been established under the Food Safety and Standards Act, 2006, which is a consolidating statute related to food safety and regulation in India.
- **Vision:** Build a new India by enabling citizens to have safe and nutritious food, prevent diseases, and lead a healthy and happy life.
- **Mission:** Set globally benchmarked standards for food, encourage and ensure that food businesses adhere to these standards, adopt good manufacturing and hygiene practices, and ultimately enable citizens to access safe and right food.

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Q78. Recently, which of the following organisation has received King Hassan II of Morocco Great World Water Prize at 10th World Water Forum in Bali, Indonesia?

(a) World Meteorological Organization (WMO)
 (b) International Rice Research Institute (IRRI)
 (c) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
 (d) United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

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Ans78. (c) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)

- It is a specialized agency of the United Nations that leads international efforts to defeat hunger and improve nutrition and food security.
- Its goal is to achieve food security for all and make sure that people have regular access to enough high-quality food to lead active, healthy lives.
- **Head Quarter:** Rome (Italy).
- **Member countries:** With 195 members - 194 countries and the European Union, FAO works in over 130 countries worldwide.
- Its sister bodies are the **World Food Programme (WFP)** and the **International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)**.
- **Reports published by the FAO:** The State of the World's Forests (SOFO), The State of World Fisheries and Aquaculture (SOFA), The State of Agricultural Commodity Markets (SOCO), The State of Food Security and Nutrition in the World (SOFI)

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Q79. Recently, which of the following state government has allotted 30 acres of grassland to conserve the endangered 'polo ponies'?

(a) Manipur
 (b) Assam
 (c) Arunachal Pradesh
 (d) Sikkim

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Ans79. (a) Manipur

The Manipuri pony is a recognized equine breed, indigenous to the Indian state of Manipur. It is known for its significant role in the origin of the modern game of polo, called Sagol Kangjei locally. The breed is admired for its intelligence, stamina, and surefootedness.

Why is the Manipuri pony important?

Beyond its sporting significance, the Manipuri pony is deeply embedded in the cultural and ritual life of Manipur. It is considered a symbol of tradition and plays a vital role in local festivals like Lai Haraoba. Historically, it is revered as a reincarnation of the mythological flying horse, Samadon Ayangba.



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Q80. Recently, **Defence Cyber Agency has conducted an exercise to further develop **Cyber Defence Capability of all Cyber security organisations and promote synergy amongst all stakeholders. What is the name of this exercise?****

(a) Exercise Cyber Health
 (b) Exercise Cyber Suraksha
 (c) Exercise Cyber Sharan
 (d) Exercise Cyber Bachav



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Ans80. (b) Exercise Cyber Suraksha

- The Defence Cyber Agency (DCyA) is a tri-service command of the Indian Armed Forces that is responsible for handling cyber security threats.
- The agency is headquartered in New Delhi and draws personnel from all three branches of the Armed Forces. The DCyA's responsibilities include:
 - Coordinating and controlling joint cyber operations
 - Formulating cyber doctrine, strategy, and policy
 - Conducting cyber operations such as hacking, surveillance, data recovery, encryption, and countermeasures
 - Coordinating with other agencies such as the National Cyber Security Coordinator and National Technical Research Organisation

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Q81. India has been ranked at which of the following position in recently released **World Economic Forum's Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024?**

(a) 38th
 (b) 39th
 (c) 40th
 (d) 42nd

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Ans81. (b) 39th

Travel & Tourism Development Index

- It is the **second edition** of an index that evolved from the series, a flagship index of the World Economic Forum that has been in production since 2007.
- It is created in collaboration with the University of Surrey and with input from leading Travel & Tourism (T&T) stakeholder organizations, thought leaders and data partners.
- It measures the set of factors and policies that enable the **sustainable and resilient development of T&T.**
- India is **ranked 39th**, the highest in South Asia and among other lower-middle-income economies.

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Q82. Recently, who among the following has received the **United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award 2023?**

(a) Major Suman Gawani
 (b) Major Radhika Sen
 (c) Shakti Devi
 (d) Colonel Shuchita Shekhar

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Ans82. (b) Major Radhika Sen

- Major Radhika Sen, an Indian military peacekeeper serving with the United Nations Organization Stabilization Mission in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (MONUSCO), has been awarded the prestigious **2023 United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year Award**.
- This award recognizes her dedication and efforts in promoting the principles of UN Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace, and security.



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Q83. Recently, which of the following countries has become 99th member of the **International Solar Alliance?**

(a) Belgium
 (b) Spain
 (c) Brazil
 (d) Netherlands

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- Sikkim

Ans83. (b) Spain

International Solar Alliance (ISA)

- The **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** is an action-oriented, member-driven, collaborative platform for increased deployment of **solar energy** technologies.
- Its basic motive is to facilitate **energy access, ensure energy security, and drive energy transition** in its member countries.
- The ISA was conceived as a joint effort by **India and France** to mobilize efforts against **climate change** through deployment of **solar energy solutions**.
- **Vision:** Let us together make the sun brighter.
- **Mission:** Every home, no matter how far away, will have a light at home.
- **Headquarters:** The Headquarters is in India with its Interim Secretariat being set up in **Gurugram**.

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Q84. According to recently released “Global Land Outlook Thematic Report on Rangelands and Pastoralists” up to 50% of world’s vast rangelands are degraded. Which of the following organisation has released this report?

a) UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
 b) Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)
 c) United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
 d) Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)

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Ans84. (a) UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)
Global Land Outlook Thematic Report on Rangelands and Pastoralists Report Key Highlights

Degradation of rangelands

- Almost half of the world’s rangelands are degraded due to climate change, population growth, land-use change and growing farmlands.

Conversion of rangelands generates little public reaction

- When we cut down a forest, when we see a 100-year-old tree fall, it rightly evokes an emotional response in many of us.
- The conversion of ancient rangelands, on the other hand, happens in silence and generates little public reaction.

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Q85. Recently, which of the following companies has achieved a significant milestone by successfully demonstrating the co-firing of 20% torrefied biomass at Unit Number – 4 in Tanda in Uttar Pradesh?

(a) NHPC Limited
 (b) NTPC Limited
 (c) REC Limited
 (d) SJVN Limited

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Ans85. (b) NTPC Limited

- Torrefied biomass is a coal-like material produced by heating biomass in a low-oxygen environment at temperatures between 200°C and 300°C.
- This process, called torrefaction, is also known as mild pyrolysis and is a type of thermochemical pretreatment that increases the energy density of raw biomass.

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Q86. Recently, for the first time, market capitalisation of companies listed on Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) has reached a historic \$5 trillion. With this, India has become which country in terms of market cap?

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

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Ans86. (d) 5th

Market cap of BSE firms hits \$5 trillion for first time

India has now become the fifth largest country in terms of market cap after the USA (\$55 trillion), China (\$9 trillion), Japan (\$6.1 trillion) and Hong Kong (\$5.5 trillion), market analysts said.

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- Tripura
- Sikkim

Q87. Recently, 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States (SIDS-4) has been held in which of the following countries?

(a) Barbados
 (b) Saint Lucia
 (c) Antigua and Barbuda
 (d) Dominica

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Ans87. (c) Antigua and Barbuda

Small Island Developing States

- These are a distinct group of **39 States and 18 Associate Members** of United Nations regional commissions that face unique social, economic and environmental vulnerabilities.
- The **three geographical regions** in which SIDS are located are: **the Caribbean, the Pacific, and the Atlantic, Indian Ocean and South China Sea (AIS).**
- SIDS were recognized as a special case both for their environment and development at the 1992 **United Nations** Conference on Environment and Development **held in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.**
- For SIDS, the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ)—the ocean under their control—is, on average, 28 times the country's land mass.
- **Issues:** They are highly vulnerable developing countries as they **suffer from low economic diversification**, often characterised by high dependence on tourism and remittances, volatility due to fluctuations in private income flows and the prices of raw materials, and debt stress situations.

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Q88. As per recent information, Cyclone Remal is likely to cross between Bangladesh and West Bengal coasts. This cyclone is named by which of the following countries?

(a) United Arab Emirates (UAE)
 (b) Iran
 (c) Qatar
 (d) Oman

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Ans88. (d) Oman

Cyclone

- Cyclone is a large air mass. It rotates around a central point of low atmospheric pressure.
- When viewed from above.
 - **In the Northern Hemisphere**, it rotates **Counterclockwise**.
 - **In the Southern Hemisphere**, it rotates **clockwise**.

Required condition for a Cyclone:

- Sea surface with high temperature (above 27°0).
- Presence of coriolis effect for the creation of a cyclonic vortex.
- Small variations in the vertical wind speed.
- Latent heat for driving storm's energy
- Upper level divergence above the Sea Level System.

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Q89. Recently, United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed May 24 as the International Day of the Markhor. Markhor is a national animal of which of the following countries?

(a) Pakistan
 (b) Iran
 (c) Saudi Arabia
 (d) Oman

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Ans89. (a) Pakistan

- The United Nations General Assembly has proclaimed **May 24** as the **International Day of the Markhor**.
- This resolution, sponsored by Pakistan and eight other countries, aims to raise awareness and promote the conservation of this iconic and ecologically significant species found across the mountainous regions of Central and South Asia.
- The **markhor** (*Capra falconeri*), also known as the "screw-horned goat," is the **national animal of Pakistan**.
- It is a majestic wild goat known for its striking spiral-shaped horns, which can grow up to 1.6 meters (5.2 feet) in length, making them the largest horns of any living caprid species.



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Q90. Recently, which of the following organisation has announced the launch of 'Let's Move India', an initiative to inspire people to celebrate the athletes participating in upcoming Olympic Games in Paris?

(a) Athletics Federation of India (AFI)
 (b) Indian Olympic Association
 (c) Sports Authority of India (SAI)
 (d) International Olympic Committee (IOC)

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Ans90. (d) International Olympic Committee (IOC)

- The **International Olympic Committee (IOC)** has launched the "Let's Move India" campaign in collaboration with the **Reliance Foundation** and the **Abhinav Bindra Foundation**.
- The initiative aims to celebrate the Olympians heading to the upcoming **Paris Olympics** and encourage everyone to participate in physical activity.

Olympics

- The Olympics are an international sporting event that takes place every four years.
- The goals of the Olympics are to cultivate human beings through sport and contribute to world peace
- The Olympics include: **Summer Games, Winter Games, Youth Olympics Games.**
- Olympics trace their roots back around **3,000 years to Ancient Greece's Peloponnese region.**
- While the precise starting date remains uncertain, **776 BC** is a commonly mentioned year in historical records.
- The first modern Olympics were held in **Athens, Greece in 1896** based on the plan of **Pierre de Coubertin.**

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Olympic Rings

- The Olympic symbol consists of **five interlocking rings of different colors (blue, yellow, black, green, and red)** on a white background.
- These rings represent the **five continents of the world** and symbolize the **unity and diversity of nations through sports.**



Upcoming Events

- **Summer Olympics 2024:** Paris, France
- **Winter Olympics 2026:** Milan-Cortina d'Ampezzo, Italy
- **Summer Olympics 2028:** Los Angeles, USA
- **Summer Olympics 2032:** Brisbane, Australia

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Q91. Recently, who among the following has scripted history by clinching India's first-ever gold medal at the Asian Championships in Tashkent, Uzbekistan?

(a) Shivane Paware
 (b) Pranati Nayak
 (c) Aruna Reddy
 (d) Dipa Karmakar

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Ans91. (d) Dipa Karmakar

- Dipa's already outstanding list of firsts for Indian gymnastics is enhanced by the vault gold.
- She is the **first female gymnast** from India to compete in the Olympics, and at Rio 2016, she put on the best performance of any gymnast competing in the Summer Games, placing **fourth** in the women's vault.
- She also became the **first Indian** to ever win a gold medal at an international gymnastics competition when she won the women's vault gold medal at the **2018 FIG World Cup** in Mersin, Turkey.



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Q92. Recently, which of the following organisation has acquired 'legal personality' after its first charter came into force?

- Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)
- South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)
- BRICS



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Ans92. (b) Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)

BIMSTEC

- The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) formed in 1997 is a **multilateral regional organization** comprising seven member states: Bangladesh, Bhutan, Sri Lanka, Nepal, Thailand, Myanmar, and India.
- Aim:** To promote technical and economic cooperation among its member countries, particularly in sectors such as security, connectivity, trade, agriculture, environment, science and technology, and people-to-people contact.



Stands for **The Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation**

Founded in 1997 through **Bangkok Declaration**

7 MEMBER COUNTRIES


Importance of BIMSTEC

- Accounts for **22%** of the world's population
- Combined GDP of **\$2.7 trillion**
- One-fourth of the world's traded goods cross the Bay every year
- Six focus areas-trade, technology, energy, transport, tourism and fisheries

First summit held in Thailand

Thailand is the current Chair



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Q93. Recently, Indian Agricultural Research Institute (IARI) has introduced India's first non- Genetically modified herbicide-tolerant Basmati rice varieties. What is the name of this variety?

- Pusa Basmati 1979
- Pusa Basmati 1986
- Pusa Basmati 1847
- Pusa Basmati 1728



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Ans93. (a) Pusa Basmati 1979

- Called 'RobiNOweed', these two varieties — Pusa Basmati 1979 and Pusa Basmati 1985 — developed by ICAR-IARI, will be beneficial for farmers opting for direct seeded rice (DSR) method of cultivation where weeds are a major problem.

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Q94. International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) has constituted an expert committee to position Gujarat International Finance Tec-City- International Financial Services Centre (GIFT-IFSC) as “Global Commodity Trading Hub.” Who among the following has been appointed as chairman of this committee?

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(a) Debasish Panda
(b) Rajeev Kher
(c) K. Rajaraman
(d) Madhabi Puri Buch

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Ans94. (b) Rajeev Kher

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Q95. Recently, who among the following has become India's youngest and world's second youngest to climb Mount Everest from Nepal side?

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(a) Diya Chitale
(b) Kaamya Karthikeyan
(c) Arjun Vajpai
(d) Sumit Kundu

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Ans95. (b) Kaamya Karthikeyan

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Q96. Recently, Indian Navy has renamed colonial era term 'Jackstaff' to _____.

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(a) National Flag Staff
(b) Indian Flag Staff
(c) National Flag Pole
(d) National Flag Mast

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Ans96. (a) National Flag Staff

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Q97. Recently, which of the following teams has won 2024 Indian Premier League (IPL) championship, beating Sunrisers Hyderabad in MA Chidambaram Stadium in Chennai?

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(a) Mumbai Indians (MI)
(b) Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)
(c) Delhi Capitals (DC)
(d) Chennai Super Kings (CSK)

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Ans97. (b) Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR)

IPL 2024 AWARDS

- Winner (Rs. 20 crore) – Kolkata Knight Riders
- Runner Up (Rs. 12.5 crore) – Sunrisers Hyderabad
- Emerging Player of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Nitish Kumar Reddy (SRH)
- Ultimate Fantasy Player of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Sunil Narine (KKR)
- Most Valuable Player (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Sunil Narine (KKR)
- Orange Cap (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Virat Kohli (RCB) – 741 runs
- Purple Cap (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Harshal Patel (PBKS) – 24 wickets
- Most Sixes Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Abhishek Sharma (SRH) – 42 sixes
- Most Fours Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Travis Head (SRH) – 64 fours
- Best Strike Rate Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Jake Fraser-McGurk (DC) – SR 234.05
- Catch of the Season (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Ramandeep Singh (KKR)
- Fair Play Award (Rs. 10 Lakh) – Sunrisers Hyderabad
- Pitch and Ground Award (Rs. 50 Lakh) – Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium, Hyderabad

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Q98. Recently, Border Roads Organisation (BRO) has successfully utilized the indigenous REJUPAVE road construction technology on Drass-Umbala-Sankoo Road. This technology is developed by which of the following institutes?

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(a) CSIR-Institute of Minerals and Materials Technology (IMMT)

(b) CSIR-Central Mechanical Engineering Research Institute (CMERI)

(c) CSIR-Central Building Research Institute (CBRI)

(d) CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI)

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Ans98. (d) CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI)

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Q99. Recently, 12 nations have signed the Zero Debris Charter, solidifying their commitment to the long-term sustainability of human activities in Earth orbit. Which of the following space agency has also signed this Charter as an International Organization?

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(a) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)

(b) ROSCOSMOS

(c) China National Space Administration (CNSA)

(d) European Space Agency (ESA)

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Ans99. (d) European Space Agency (ESA)

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Q100. Recently, who among the following has scripted history by becoming the first Indian filmmaker to win the Grand Prix award at Cannes Film Festival 2024?

(a) Radhika Apte
(b) Payal Kapadia
(c) Ekta Kapoor
(d) Anasuya Sengupta

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Ans100. (b) Payal Kapadia

Additional Information

- Cinematographer **Santosh Siyan**, known for his work in **Indian cinema** became the **first Asian** to be awarded the prestigious **Pierre Angénieux Tribute award** at the **2024 Cannes film festival** in recognition of his "career and exceptional quality of work".
- Anasuya Sengupta** became the **first ever Indian** to win the **Best Actress award** for her performance in 'The Shameless' in the 'Un Certain Regard' category.
- Another independent film maker who shines at Cannes was **Maisam Ali**, also a **FTII alumnus**. His film "**In Retreat**" was screened at the ACID Cannes sidebar programme.
- It was the **first time an Indian film was screened** in the section run by the Association for the **Diffusion of Independent Cinema**, since its inception in 1993.
- SUNFLOWERS WERE THE FIRST ONES TO KNOW**," a short film directed by **Chidanand Naik**, a student of the **Film and Television Institute of India (FTII)**, has won the prestigious **Cannes' La Cinef Award for Best Short** at the **77th Cannes Film Festival** in France

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