

**120 MCQs**

These questions are sourced from GKToday's Current Affairs 2023 **Daily 20 MCQ Series** in [GKToday Academy Android Application](#).

1. Which country issued a notice to Pakistan seeking modification of the 1960 Indus Waters Treaty (IWT)?

- [A] USA
- [B] India
- [C] Russia
- [D] China

Answer: India

India has issued a notice to Pakistan for modification of the Indus Waters Treaty (IWT) of 1960 following Islamabad's inflexibility on its implementation. The notice was sent through respective commissioners for Indus waters. India and Pakistan signed the treaty in 1960 after nine years of negotiations, with the World Bank being a signatory of the pact.

2. Which city hosted the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Film Festival 2023?

- [A] Gandhinagar
- [B] Mumbai
- [C] Mysuru
- [D] Kochi

Answer: Mumbai

The Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) Film Festival began with a grand opening ceremony in Mumbai. Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting and Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur and Minister of State Meenakshi Lekhi inaugurated the SCO Film Festival. The SCO Film Festival organized to mark India's Presidency at SCO and to showcase the diversity of films from the SCO region.

3. Road Transport and Highway Ministry announced to scrap all government vehicles older than how many years?

- [A] 10
- [B] 15
- [C] 20
- [D] 25

Answer: 15

Union Road Transport and Highway Minister Nitin Gadkari announced from April 1, all government-owned vehicles that are older than 15 years will be scrapped. As part of this, more than nine lakh vehicles, owned by central and state governments, transport corporations and public sector undertakings, and new vehicles with alternative fuels will replace them.

4. 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat' is an outreach programme of which institution?

- [A] RBI
- [B] IRDAI
- [C] EPFO
- [D] SEBI

Answer: EPFO

Employees' Provident Fund Organisation, EPFO, launched a massive outreach programme in all the districts through a revamped 'Nidhi Aapke Nikat' programme. The aim of this programme is to reach all the districts on 27th of every month and strengthen the relationship between the organization and its stakeholders.

5. When is the 'International Customs Day 2023' observed?



- [A] January 25
- [B] January 26
- [C] January 27
- [D] January 30

Answer: January 26

India's Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) celebrates International Customs Day, 2023. The theme for this year, as given by the World Customs Organisation (WCO) was "Nurturing the Next Generation: Promoting a Culture of Knowledge-sharing and Professional Pride in Customs".

6. Which airline introduced a new software for real-time reporting of in-flight incidents?

- [A] IndiGo
- [B] Air India
- [C] Spice Jet
- [D] Vistara

Answer: Air India

Tata group-owned Air India said it will use a UK-headquartered Ideagen's enterprise cloud software application Coruson. The safety data software application will help enhance the safety management system and facilitate real-time reporting of in-flight incidents.

7. Which Union Ministry is set to launch the virtual facility for e-adjudication of company law violations?

- [A] Ministry of Finance
- [B] Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- [C] Ministry of External Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Answer: Ministry of Corporate Affairs

The Ministry of corporate affairs will roll out the facility for e-adjudication of company law violations entirely in the virtual mode before the end of this financial year. The process of revamping the corporate filing system will also be completed by end of March. The ministry is also setting up a new national centre, the Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit, to act as a single window facility for companies that wish to voluntarily exit from business.

8. Which company has launched the first Made-in-India helmet to meet Europe's ECE 22.06 standard

- [A] Vega
- [B] Steelbird
- [C] Studds
- [D] Royal Enfield

Answer: Steelbird

Steelbird has launched a new helmet named Ignyte IGN-7 to meet ECE 22.06 European certification for the first time. It is also the first helmet in India to receive triple homologation as it conforms to DOT FMVSS Noy, 218 for US market and India's BIS safety standards.

9. What is the theme of the 'International Holocaust Remembrance Day'?

- [A] 24 January
- [B] 27 January
- [C] 30 January
- [D] 2 February

Answer: 27 January

On 27 January, the international community comes together to commemorate the International Holocaust Remembrance Day. The theme of this year is "Home and Belonging", which highlights the humanity of the Holocaust victims and survivors. This Day was chosen by the United Nations General



Assembly to mark the liberation of the Auschwitz-Birkenau Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp in 1945.

10. Which country signed an agreement with the European Union to collaborate on responsible advancements in Artificial Intelligence?

- [A] United States
- [B] United Kingdom
- [C] Australia
- [D] Germany

Answer: United States

The United States and the European Union have signed an agreement to collaborate on "responsible advancements" in Artificial Intelligence (AI). The agreement aims to speed up and enhance the use of artificial intelligence to improve agriculture, healthcare, emergency response, climate forecasting and the electric grid.

11. What is the name of the ceremony which marks the end to the Republic Day celebrations?

- [A] Beating Retreat Ceremony
- [B] Martyrs' Day Ceremony
- [C] Presentation of Guard of Honour Ceremony
- [D] Vijay Diwas Ceremony

Answer: Beating Retreat Ceremony

The Beating Retreat Ceremony held in Vijay Chowk, Delhi, marks the end to the four-day-long Republic Day celebrations in India. It is also called 'Beating the Retreat'. This year 29 Indian tunes were played by the music bands of the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and the State Police and the Central Armed Police Force (CAPF). Last year, an English hymn and a favourite of Mahatma Gandhi called Abide With Me was dropped.

12. Mega International Container Transshipment Port (ICTP) is proposed to be constructed in which state/UT?

- [A] Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- [B] Lakshadweep
- [C] Arunachal Pradesh
- [D] Sikkim

Answer: Andaman and Nicobar Islands

Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways is working towards development of Mega International Container Transshipment Port (ICTP) at Galathea Bay of Great Nicobar Island of Andaman and Nicobar Islands. The 41,000 crore international transshipment port at Great Nicobar Island aims to match with the global top container transshipment terminals. Other projects include, Airport, Township and Power plant.

13. As per the latest 'All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE)', what is the trend of total enrolment in higher education in 2019-20 compared to the previous survey?

- [A] Increased
- [B] Decreased
- [C] Remained Same
- [D] No Change

Answer: Increased

The Ministry of Education has recently released All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2020-2021. The Ministry has been conducting AISHE since 2011, which collects detailed information on parameters such as student enrolment, teacher's data, infrastructural information, financial information. The total enrolment in higher education has increased to nearly 4.14 crore in 2020-21 from 3.85 crore in 2019-20. The Female enrolment has increased to 2.01 crore and the Gross Enrolment Ratio increased to



27.3 from 25.6 in 2019-20.

14. As per the recent RBI study, which state received the highest GST compensation from the centre?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Gujarat

Answer: Maharashtra

According to a study by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), Maharashtra, Karnataka and Gujarat received the top GST compensation, during the five-year transition period from July 2017 to June 2022. Tamil Nadu was the fourth highest compensation receiving State, which is followed by Punjab. At least 10 States may fall short of the expected 14% GST growth, says the study. Puducherry, Punjab, Delhi, Himachal Pradesh, Goa and Uttarakhand are likely to be most affected by the end of the compensation regime.

15. Who is the head of the Commission for the sub-categorisation of OBCs?

- [A] Justice G. Rohini
- [B] Justice DY Chandrachud
- [C] Justice Uday Umesh Lalit
- [D] Justice Sanjay Karol

Answer: Justice G. Rohini

The Justice G. Rohini-led commission for the sub-categorisation of other backward classes (OBCs) has now been given another extension in its tenure by the President. This was announced by the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment. This is the 14th extension in tenure that the commission has been given. The commission was formed in October 2017.

16. As per the 'Annual Death Penalty Report, 2022', which state accounted for the highest death row inmate population?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] Assam
- [D] Nagaland

Answer: Uttar Pradesh

Indian courts in 2022 awarded a 165 death sentences, the highest in over two decades, according to the Annual Death Penalty Report. It was published by Project 39A, an advocacy group with the National Law University. Uttar Pradesh accounted for the highest death row inmate population (100), followed by Gujarat (61) and Jharkhand (46).

17. Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership hosted India's first Model G-20 Summit in which state?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Sikkim

Answer: Maharashtra

India's G-20 Sherpa Mr Amitabh Kant inaugurated India's first Model G-20 Summit organised by Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini's Indian Institute of Democratic Leadership. The two-day Model G-20 Summit starting has been organised near Mumbai to take the idea of G-20 to the youth. Rambhau Mhalgi Prabodhini, the parent organisation of IIDL is also the Secretariat of the G-20 Civil Society engagement group - Civil-20.



18. Which Indian state/UT launched the 'Ladli Bahina Scheme'?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Odisha

Answer: Madhya Pradesh

Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan recently launched the Ladli Bahina Scheme, to provide Rs 1,000 per month to women from financially poor background in the state. A sum of Rs 60,000 crore will be spent on this scheme in five years. The Ladli Bahina Scheme will benefit poor women from lower and middle classes of all sections on the lines of the Ladli Lakshmi Scheme.

19. Which company has signed MoU to make Rolls-Royce marine engines?

- [A] HAL
- [B] GRSE
- [C] BEML
- [D] Mazagon Dock

Answer: GRSE

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Germany's Rolls Royce Solutions for manufacturing high-quality marine diesel engines. Under the agreement, GRSE and Rolls Royce Solutions will cooperate in the licence production and localisation of the technologically advanced MTU S4000 governmental marine engines.

20. Which is the first district to register 10,000 new MSMEs?

- [A] Coimbatore
- [B] Ernakulam
- [C] Lucknow
- [D] Surat

Answer: Ernakulam

Ernakulam in Kerala has been named as the first district to achieve registration of 10,000 new MSMEs. This will help boost the contribution of MSMEs by generating new jobs and diversifying India's GDP. The availability of highly skilled Human Resources and the good industrial infrastructure are among the key reasons for its excellent communication and networking systems.

21. A rare low-altitude basalt plateau in the Western Ghats has been discovered in which state?

- [A] Goa
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Maharashtra

Answer: Maharashtra

Scientists at the Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) in Pune have found a rare low-altitude basalt plateau in the Western Ghats. This new plateau found by ARI team in Thane, Maharashtra could hold clues to how plant species globally survive climate change.

22. Which city is the host of the first G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group meeting?

- [A] Mysuru
- [B] Chennai
- [C] Chandigarh
- [D] Guwahati

Answer: Chandigarh

The first G20 International Financial Architecture Working Group meeting under the G20 Indian



Presidency was hosted in Chandigarh. International Financial Architecture Working Group focuses on strengthening the international financial architecture. It also aims to address multiple challenges faced by vulnerable countries.

23. On January 30, India paid homage to Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi on his which death anniversary?

- [A] 70
- [B] 75
- [C] 80
- [D] 85

Answer: 75

Martyrs' Day, also known as Shaheed Diwas, is observed in India on January 30 to commemorate the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi. The nation paid homage to Father of the Nation Mahatma Gandhi on his 75th death anniversary. Mahatma Gandhi was assassinated on this day in 1948.

24. Which Indian conglomerate is setting up endowment funding entities?

- [A] Reliance Industries
- [B] Tata Trusts
- [C] Adani Group
- [D] Aditya Birla Group

Answer: Tata Trusts

Tata Trusts are setting up endowment funding entities on the lines of the US-based Burroughs Wellcome Fund. This is aimed at reducing dependence on dividend income earned from Tata Sons. The Burroughs Wellcome Fund is an independent foundation dedicated to advance medical sciences by supporting research.

25. Which neighbouring country of India recently hiked its prices of petrol and diesel by 35 rupees?

- [A] Nepal
- [B] Afghanistan
- [C] Pakistan
- [D] Nepal

Answer: Pakistan

In Pakistan, the federal government has announced an increase in prices of petrol and diesel by 35 rupees. With this, petrol has reached 249.80 rupees per litre, while diesel prices have been raised to 262.80 rupees per litre. The Kerosene oil and light diesel oil prices also hiked by 18 rupees per litre. Last week, the Pakistani rupee lost close to 12 per cent of its value.

26. Which country won the Men's Hockey World Cup 2023 in Bhubaneswar?

- [A] France
- [B] Australia
- [C] Belgium
- [D] Germany

Answer: Germany

Germany beat Belgium 5-4 in penalty shootout to win the FIH Men's Hockey World Cup in Bhubaneswar. Jean-Paul Danneberg, the German goalkeeper made three saves in the penalty shootout. Germany became the fourth team to have won three or more hockey World Cup titles. Pakistan has won the title four times and is the most successful team at the hockey World Cup. Earlier, the Netherlands beat Australia 3-1 to claim the bronze medal.

27. 'World Economic Outlook' is the flagship publication of which institution?

- [A] International Monetary Fund
- [B] World Bank



[C] Asian Development Bank

[D] World Economic Forum

Answer: International Monetary Fund

According to the World Economic Outlook update released by the IMF, about 84 percent of countries are expected to have lower headline (CPI) inflation in 2023 than in 2022. Inflation in India is expected to come down from 6.8 percent in the current fiscal year to 5 percent the next fiscal, and then drop further to 4 percent in 2024.

28. Which Department of the Finance Ministry prepares the Economic Survey?

[A] Department of Economic Affairs

[B] Department of Financial Services

[C] Department of Expenditure

[D] Department of Revenue

Answer: Department of Economic Affairs

The Economic Division of the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) under the guidance of the Chief Economic Adviser (CEA) prepares the Economic Survey. The Chief Economic Adviser released the Economic Survey for the current financial year (2022-23). The survey is always presented a day before the presentation of the Union Budgets. Economic Survey is a detailed report of state of national economy in the financial year.

29. Which country is the partner country for Telangana's flagship event, BioAsia 2023?

[A] USA

[B] UK

[C] UAE

[D] Australia

Answer: UK

The United Kingdom will be the partner country for Telangana's flagship pharma - biotech event, BioAsia 2023. With the theme of 'Advancing for ONE: Shaping the next generation of humanized healthcare', BioAsia is set to be held in February 2023 in Hyderabad.

30. Which is the first Asian country to receive financing under Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF) of the IMF?

[A] India

[B] Bangladesh

[C] Pakistan

[D] Nepal

Answer: Bangladesh

The International Monetary Fund (IMF) Executive Board approved a total of USD 4.7 billion loan for Bangladesh. It includes USD 3.3 billion under the Extended Credit Facility (ECF) and Extended Fund Facility (EFF) and USD 1.4 billion under the Resilience and Sustainability Facility (RSF). Bangladesh is the first country in Asia to receive financing under the RSF.

31. India launched the 'Initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies' with which country?

[A] Australia

[B] France

[C] USA

[D] UK

Answer: USA

National Security Advisor Ajit Doval launched the US-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET) laong with his American counterpart Jake Sullivan. In May 2022, US President Joe Biden and Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced iCET to expand their strategic technology



partnership and defense industrial cooperation between the governments, businesses, and academic institutions.

32. What is the sanctioned judicial strength of the Supreme Court of India?

- [A] 25
- [B] 28
- [C] 30
- [D] 34

Answer: 34

The five-member Supreme Court collegium led by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachud recommended to the government two High Court Chief Justices for appointment as apex court judges. The Supreme Court has seven vacancies now while it has a sanctioned judicial strength of 34. The central government is expected to clear the names of three high court chief justices and two HC judges. With this, the working strength of the Supreme Court will go up to 32. Currently, it is 27.

33. *Hibbertopterus lamsdelli*, which was discovered, belongs to which species?

- [A] Scorpion
- [B] Turtle
- [C] Spider
- [D] Snake

Answer: Scorpion

Hibbertopterus lamsdelli is a new species of Giant Sea Scorpion. It belongs to Hibbertopteridae, an extinct group of aquatic arthropods in the Order Eurypterida. Eurypterids are better known as sea scorpions. The species existed during the Kasimovian age, between 307 and 303 million years ago. Its diet included small crustaceans, ostracodes, conchostracans, invertebrate larvae and gastropod eggs.

34. National Commission for Women was founded in which year?

- [A] 1952
- [B] 1975
- [C] 1992
- [D] 1998

Answer: 1992

The President of India Droupadi Murmu addressed the 31st Foundation Day of the National Commission for Women in Delhi. The theme of the programme is 'Sashakt Nari Sashakt Bharat' aimed at acknowledging and celebrating the stories of women who have excelled and paved their journey to leave a mark. NCW was founded in January 1992 as a statutory body under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990.

35. Which city is the host of the first G20 Energy Transition Working Group Meeting?

- [A] Hyderabad
- [B] Bengaluru
- [C] Chennai
- [D] Amritsar

Answer: Bengaluru

The first G20 Energy Transition Working Group meeting under India's Presidency will be held in Bengaluru from February 5th to 7th. Technology gaps in energy transition, low-cost financing for energy transition, energy security and diversified supply chain, industrial low carbon transition and fuel for future are the priority areas of the Working group discussion.

36. Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan said the State capital would be shifted to which city?

- [A] Kurnool



- [B] Visakhapatnam
- [C] Vijayawada
- [D] Guntur

Answer: Visakhapatnam

Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister YS Jagan Mohan said the State capital would be shifted to Visakhapatnam. He was addressing the preparatory meeting for Global Investors Summit to be held in Visakhapatnam. The State government had proposed three capitals, Visakhapatnam (Executive capital), Amaravati (Legislative capital) and Kurnool (Judicial capital). Amaravati is the present capital of Andhra Pradesh.

37. 'VAYAM RAKSHAMAH (We Protect) is the motto of which armed force?

- [A] Indian Army
- [B] Indian Navy
- [C] Indian Air Force
- [D] Indian Coast Guard

Answer: Indian Coast Guard

The Indian Coast Guard celebrated its 47th anniversary of its distinguished service to the nation. Its motto is 'VAYAM RAKSHAMAH' meaning 'We Protect'. The Indian Coast Guard over these four and half decades has been patrolling the country's maritime border. It stands tall as the fourth largest Coast Guard in the world.

38. What is the GST collection in India in January 2023?

- [A] Rs 0.97 Lakh crore
- [B] Rs 1.21 Lakh crore
- [C] Rs 1.55 Lakh crore
- [D] Rs 2.01 Lakh crore

Answer: Rs 1.55 Lakh crore

The GST collection in January surged to over ₹ 1.55 lakh crore, second highest-ever collection recorded. This is for the third time, in the current financial year that the GST collection has crossed ₹ 1.50 lakh crore mark. The highest collection so far is the ₹ 1.68 lakh crore gross mop-up reported in April 2022.

39. WAPCOS, an engineering consultancy and construction services firm under which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Rural Development
- [B] Ministry of Jal Shakti
- [C] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- [D] Ministry of MSME

Answer: Ministry of Jal Shakti

WAPCOS is an engineering consultancy and construction services firm under the Jal Shakti Ministry. In September 2022, it filed draft papers with market regulator SEBI for launching an IPO by selling 3.25 crore shares held by the Government. Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM) announced recently that the Government is targeting to launch the initial public offering (IPO) of IREDA, and WAPCOS, in the next fiscal.

40. Which country's Chief Justice is the chief guest of the 73rd foundation day of the Supreme Court of India?

- [A] Bangladesh
- [B] Singapore
- [C] USA
- [D] France

Answer: Singapore



Singapore Chief Justice Sunadresh Menon attends as chief guest of the 73rd foundation day of the Supreme Court of India. The Singapore chief justice delivered a lecture on the “Role of judiciary in a changing world” as this year’s event was aired on social media platforms. On January 28, 1950, two days after India became the Sovereign Democratic Republic, the Supreme Court of India was established.

41. Which Indian armed force unveiled a revised doctrine to lay out its role in “no war, no peace scenario” (NWNP)?

- [A] Indian Army
- [B] Indian Navy
- [C] Indian Air Force
- [D] Indian Coast Guard

Answer: Indian Air Force

The Indian Air Force (IAF) launched a revised doctrine in which it laid out the role of air power in the “no war, no peace scenario” (NWNP) that India typically faces. The doctrine, which refers to air power as aerospace power, highlighted the use of air power as part of a joint military strategy involving the two other forces. The doctrine also emphasised that defensive and offensive counter-operations are linked.

42. Which neighbouring country of India marked its 75th independence anniversary on 4th February 2023?

- [A] Bangladesh
- [B] Afghanistan
- [C] Sri Lanka
- [D] Nepal

Answer: Sri Lanka

Sri Lanka marked its 75th independence anniversary on 4th February 2023. Several activists, Buddhists and Christian clergy announced a boycott of the celebration in the capital. A group of activists began a silent protest in the capital, condemning government’s independence celebration and failure to ease the economic burden. University students also attempted a protest march.

43. What is the disinvestment target of the Finance ministry for the year 2023-24?

- [A] Rs 98000 crore
- [B] Rs 82000 crore
- [C] Rs 65000 crore
- [D] Rs 51000 crore

Answer: Rs 51000 crore

For the next fiscal year 2023-24, the Union Budget has pegged disinvestment revenue at Rs 51,000 crore. The government has also scaled down the disinvestment target for the current fiscal to Rs 50,000 crore, from Rs 65,000 crore budgeted last year. The Government expects divestment processes initiated in the current fiscal to be closed by the next fiscal year, including IDBI, Shipping Corporation of India and NMDC Steel.

44. India agreed to establish a ‘Defence and Energy Bloc’ with which other countries, recently?

- [A] USA, Israel
- [B] France, UAE
- [C] Germany, UAE
- [D] Sri Lanka, UAE

Answer: France, UAE

The foreign ministers of France, India and the UAE have agreed to establish a formal trilateral cooperation initiative. The ‘Defence and Energy Bloc’ aims to promote international stability and prosperity, and expand their defence ties with a focus on the Rafale fighter jets.



45. 'Doly Jahur and Ilias Kanchan' who were seen in the news, are the eminent artists from which country?

- [A] India
- [B] Pakistan
- [C] Bangladesh
- [D] Afghanistan

Answer: Bangladesh

Eminent artists Doly Jahur and Ilias Kanchan will be honoured with the 'Lifetime Achievement Award' for their contribution to the film Industry in Bangladesh. This was announced in the National Film Awards 2021 recently announced in the country. Lal Moroger Jhuti (Call of the Red Rooster) and Nona Joler Kabbo (The Salt in our waters) will be jointly awarded in the Best Film Category.

46. The US Defence officials have shot down a surveillance balloon of which country?

- [A] India
- [B] China
- [C] Russia
- [D] Afghanistan

Answer: China

After floating over the US for days, a suspected Chinese surveillance balloon has been shot down by the US Defence officials. The balloon is said to have a payload the size of several buses. China's foreign ministry denied that the balloon was used for surveillance, and it said that it was a civilian airship used for meteorological and other scientific research

47. As per the Union Budget 2023, what is the per capita income in India, as of date?

- [A] Rs 4.15 lakh per annum
- [B] Rs 3.75 lakh per annum
- [C] Rs 2.55 lakh per annum
- [D] Rs 1.97 lakh per annum

Answer: Rs 1.97 lakh per annum

Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said in her Budget speech that the per capita income in India has more than doubled to ₹ 1.97 lakh over the past nine years. The EPFO membership has more than doubled to 27 crore. She also announced that the government made cash transfer of ₹2.2 lakh crore under the PM-KISAN scheme.

48. Which state/UT recently notified directions to charge groundwater extraction by industries and other establishments?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Punjab
- [C] Bihar
- [D] West Bengal

Answer: Punjab

The state government of Punjab notify a policy to meter and charge groundwater extraction by industries and other establishments. Anyone with an existing bore-well or digging afresh will have to take permission from Punjab Water Regulation and Development Authority (PWRDA). There will be exemptions including farmers using water for agriculture purposes, places of worship, drinking and domestic Water Supply Scheme of Government, among others.

49. Which state/UT Child Rights body launched its WhatsApp chatbot for more effective interaction?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Telangana
- [C] New Delhi



[D] Goa

Answer: New Delhi

The Delhi Commission for Protection of Child Rights (DCPCR) launched its WhatsApp chatbot for more effective interaction. The chatbot will be used for complaint registration, searching information, and tracking complaint status. It will be used by the commission for nudge-based awareness communications to children, women, Anganwadi workers, etc.

50. The Union Budget announced a Mission to eliminate Sickle Cell Anaemia by which year?

[A] 2025

[B] 2030

[C] 2035

[D] 2047

Answer: 2047

Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman said while presenting the Union Budget 2023-24 that the Centre will work in mission mode to eliminate sickle cell anaemia by 2047. This programme will include awareness creation and universal screening of 7 crore people in 0 - 40 years age group in affected tribal areas and counselling through collaboration of central ministries and state governments.

51. Which institution released the 'Prospects for children in the polycrisis' Report?

[A] NITI Aayog

[B] World Bank

[C] UNICEF

[D] World Economic Forum

Answer: UNICEF

The UNICEF recently released the 'Prospects for Children in the Polycrisis: A 2023 Global Outlook', report. It explains 'polycrisis' as multiple, simultaneous crises that are strongly interdependent. As per the report some effects of the crises include higher food and energy prices leading to global hunger and malnourishment, limited access to healthcare, slow recovery from learning losses etc.

52. Which Union Ministry released the 'E-Waste (Management) Amendment Rules, 2023'?

[A] Ministry of Electronics and IT

[B] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

[C] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

[D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC), issued the E-Waste (Management) Amendment Rules, 2023. It seeks to amend the E-Waste (Management) Rules, 2022, by adding Cadmium and lead in Solar panels, solar Photovoltaic panels among others. They will come into force from April 01, 2023.

53. What is the expansion of PVTG, with respect to Government schemes?

[A] particularly vulnerable tribal groups

[B] primarily vulnerable tribal groups

[C] particularly valuable tribal groups

[D] primarily valuable tribal groups

Answer: particularly vulnerable tribal groups

Finance Minister stated that the Pradhan Mantri PVTG Development Mission will be launched, to improve socio-economic conditions of the particularly vulnerable tribal groups (PVTGs). Rs.15,000 crore will be made available to implement the Mission in the next three years under the Development Action Plan for the Scheduled Tribes.

54. Scientists from which institution sequenced the draft genome of four native Indian cow breeds?



- [A] IIT Madras
- [B] IISc Bengaluru
- [C] IISER Bhopal
- [D] NIV Pune

Answer: IISER Bhopal

Scientists from the Indian Institute of Science Education and Research, Bhopal, have sequenced the draft genome of four native Indian cow breeds. For the first time, the genetic makeup of four native Indian cow breeds – Kasaragod Dwarf, Kasaragod Kapila, Vechur, and Ongole has been unravelled.

55. India agreed to constitute task force to boost cooperation in semiconductor industry with which country?

- [A] USA
- [B] Israel
- [C] Australia
- [D] Finland

Answer: USA

India and the USA have agreed to constitute task force to boost cooperation in semiconductor industry. The task force will involve India's Semiconductor Mission, India Electronics Semiconductor Association and the US Semiconductor Industry Association. This was announced during the inaugural meeting of the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).

56. Which city is the host of the First G20 Sustainable Financial Working Group meeting?

- [A] Mysuru
- [B] Guwahati
- [C] Shimla
- [D] Puducherry

Answer: Guwahati

First G20 Sustainable Financial Working Group meeting was recently inaugurated in Guwahati, Assam. Guest delegates visited several places of importance like Kaziranga National Park, Pobitora Wildlife Sanctuary, Gorbhanga Reserve Forest, Brahmaputra's River Island and Brahmaputra Heritage Centre.

57. What is the total budget outlay announced for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana?

- [A] Rs 49000 crore
- [B] Rs 59000 crore
- [C] Rs 69000 crore
- [D] Rs 79000 crore

Answer: Rs 79000 crore

In the Union Budget 2023, the Government enhanced the outlay for Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana by 66 per cent to 79000 crore. Pradhan Mantri Awas Yojana is an initiative by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs. The Finance Minister also proposed to use Permanent Account Number (PAN) card as a common identifier for all digital systems of government agencies.

58. Which institution releases the 'Digital Payments Index'?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] Ministry of Finance
- [C] RBI
- [D] NPCI

Answer: RBI

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) releases the Digital Payments Index (RBI-DPI) twice a year, to measure the adoption of online transactions, digital payments across India. As per the recent data, the digital payments registered a growth of 24.13% in a year through September 2022. RBI-DPI stood at 377.46 in



September 2022 against 349.30 in March 2022 and 304.06 in September 2021.

59. Which country has found the radioactive capsule that went missing in January?

- [A] USA
- [B] Australia
- [C] Russia
- [D] Ukraine

Answer: Australia

Authorities in Western Australia announced that they have found a tiny radioactive capsule which went missing last month. The capsule was found when a vehicle equipped with specialist equipment detected radiation. The object was lost while being transported along a 1,400 km route across the state. It contains a small quantity of Caesium-137, which could cause skin damage, burns or radiation sickness.

60. Which Union Ministry along with the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment implements the NAMASTE scheme?

- [A] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Rural Development
- [C] Ministry of MSME
- [D] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Answer: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

NAMASTE is a Central Sector Scheme of the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) as a joint initiative of the MoSJE and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). NAMASTE stands for National Action Plan for Mechanised Sanitation Ecosystem). This year's Union Budget has allotted Rs 100 crore to the scheme. Finance Minister announced that the government is looking to enable 100% mechanical de-sludging of septic tanks and sewers in all cities and towns.

61. Which state inaugurated the 'MV Ganga Vihar floating restaurant'?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] Uttar Pradesh
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Uttarakhand

Answer: Bihar

Bihar Deputy Chief minister Tejashwi Prasad Yadav inaugurated the MV Ganga Vihar at NIT Ghat in Bihar. The floating restaurant operated by the Bihar State Tourism Development Corporation (BSTDC). The two-storied floating restaurant has a restaurant on the ground floor with a seating capacity of 48 people along with a VIP lounge and a private lounge on the top floor.

62. Which state/UT is the host of the 'Surajkund International Crafts Mela'?

- [A] Jammu and Kashmir
- [B] Haryana
- [C] Bihar
- [D] Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: Haryana

The 36th Surajkund International Crafts Mela was inaugurated by Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar in Faridabad, Haryana. For this year, the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation is the participating international entity while eight northeast states, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Sikkim, Assam, Manipur, Meghalaya, Mizoram, and Tripura, are the theme states. The artists of these states will come together to showcase their art, handicrafts, and cuisines on a single platform.

63. Which country's Prime Minister has been named as the most popular leader in Global Leader Approval survey?

- [A] China



- [B] Japan
- [C] India
- [D] Australia

Answer: India

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi named as the world's most popular leader with an approval rating of 78 per cent. The Global Leader Approval survey, carried out by the US-based Morning Consult, featured 22 global leaders. PM Modi stood on top of the list with 78% approval rating. The second most popular leader as per the survey is Andres Manuel Lopez Obrador (Mexico), while Alain Berset (Switzerland) stood third. US President Joe Biden came seventh while UK Prime Minister Rishi Sunak was placed 12th.

64. Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) recently found 1,200-year-old idols in Nalanda, in which state?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Punjab
- [D] Rajasthan

Answer: Bihar

Archaeological Survey of India (ASI) recently found 1,200-year-old idols in Nalanda in Bihar. They were found from a waterbody close to the ancient Nalanda University during desilting of a pond. Nalanda Mahavihara is a world heritage site about 88 km from this place. The idols were found during desilting under Bihar government's 'Jal-Jeevan-Hariyali' project launched to protect and conserve water and the environment.

65. Which institution releases 'Food Price Index' which tracks the most globally traded food commodities?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] FAO
- [C] World Economic Forum
- [D] NITI Aayog

Answer: FAO

The United Nations food agency, the Food and Agriculture Organization's (FAO) price index tracks the most globally traded food commodities. As per the recent FAO Food Price Index (FFPI), World food prices decline for 10th month as recorded in January- FAO Food Price Index (FFPI). The index averaged 131.2 points in January against 132.4 for December.

66. Which tech major has invested nearly USD 400 million in artificial intelligence start-up Anthropic AI?

- [A] Samsung
- [B] Microsoft
- [C] Meta
- [D] Google

Answer: Google

Google has invested nearly USD 400 million in artificial intelligence start-up Anthropic AI. The two companies announced a partnership that will see the AI start-up use Google's cloud computing services. Anthropic CEO Dario Amodei announced that they would use Google Cloud to build reliable, interpretable, and steerable AI systems and to create a robust AI platform.

67. Which Union Ministry implements the 'FAME (faster adoption and manufacturing of electric vehicles) scheme'?

- [A] Ministry of Electronics and IT
- [B] Ministry of Heavy Industries



[C] Ministry of Science and Technology

[D] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Answer: Ministry of Heavy Industries

Ministry of Heavy Industries implements the 'FAME (faster adoption and manufacturing of electric vehicles) scheme'. The government has nearly doubled its budgetary allocation for the FAME scheme to subsidise the purchase of electric vehicles. As per the budget, the subsidy under FAME scheme for fiscal 2024 is projected at Rs 5,172 crore, compared to the revised estimate of Rs 2,897 crore in the current fiscal year. This is the highest allocation under the scheme since its launch in 2020.

68. Ministry of Cooperation signed MoU with which Ministry to enable Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) function as Common Service Centers?

[A] Ministry of Science and Technology

[B] Ministry of Electronics and IT

[C] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

[D] Ministry of Rural Development and Entrepreneurship

Answer: Ministry of Electronics and IT

A Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed between Ministry of Cooperation, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, NABARD and CSC e-Governance Services India Limited. It aims to enable Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) to provide services offered by Common Service Centers. Over 300 services will be made available to the rural population including 13 crore farmer members of PACS.

69. BIND Scheme, which was seen in the news, is associated with which Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Defence

[B] Ministry of MSME

[C] Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

[D] Ministry of Power

Answer: Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Of the Rs 1,100 crore estimated for the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, Rs 600 crore has been set aside for the recently announced Broadcasting Infrastructure and Network Development (BIND) Scheme. The scheme has a total outlay of over Rs 2,500 crore. The scheme aims to boost public sector broadcasting in the country and focuses on infrastructure development of Prasar Bharati, including All India Radio (AIR) and Doordarshan (DD).

70. Which country introduced new family laws called 'Federal Personal Status Laws'?

[A] USA

[B] UK

[C] UAE

[D] Australia

Answer: UAE

A set of new family laws, referred to as 'Federal Personal Status Laws', for non-Muslims residing in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) came into force. These laws will apply to non-Muslim expatriates or foreigners living in UAE and cover various aspects of family law like marriage, divorce, child custody, inheritance, wills, and paternity. The new reforms to UAE's judicial systems originate from Abu Dhabi's Civil Family Court System, which allows non-Muslim couples to divorce or marry without following the Sharia laws.

71. Which Southeast Asian country partnered with the US to grant more access to its bases?

[A] Taiwan

[B] Philippines

[C] Singapore



[D] Malaysia

Answer: Philippines

The United States and the Philippines announced plans to expand America's military presence in the Southeast Asian nation. The countries decided to accelerate full implementation of their 'Enhanced Defense Cooperation Agreement (EDCA)'. As part of the agreement, the U.S. has allocated \$82 million toward infrastructure improvements at five current EDCA sites. This will provide access to four more bases to the US.

72. Which country announced India as the theme country at its 2025 International Book Fair?

[A] Sweden

[B] Spain

[C] Germany

[D] Italy

Answer: Spain

India will be invited as the theme country at the Madrid International Book Fair in 2025, the Ambassador of Spain to the country Jose Maria Ridao. Spain is the theme country at the 46th International Kolkata Book Fair, which began recently. As part of the cultural exchange between the two countries, Spain has donated books to five universities in Bengal.

73. 'VIHANGAM' Web portal, which was seen in the news, is associated with which field?

[A] Digital Currency

[B] Drone technology

[C] E-Sports

[D] Defence

Answer: Drone technology

Coal India arm, Mahanadi Coal Fields (MCL) MCL has introduced drone technology in coal mines for environmental monitoring, volume measurement and digital mapping of mines. The technology has been introduced through the launch of a web-based portal 'VIHANGAM' along with a drone and ground control system. The portal allows an authorised person to access real time drone video from the mine through a dedicated internet lease line near the mines.

74. Which is the first Indian retailer to introduce Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC)?

[A] Reliance Retail

[B] Titan

[C] Big Bazaar

[D] Aditya Birla Fashion and Retail

Answer: Reliance Retail

Reliance Retail has become the first Indian retailer to introduce Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), also known as digital rupee. The company has piloted the use of Digital Rupee in one store in Mumbai, and is planning to make this facility available in all its stores in Mumbai within the next three to four months, in accordance with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) norms.

75. Which country is India's top destination for goods exports during April-Dec 2022?

[A] Sri Lanka

[B] USA

[C] UAE

[D] Singapore

Answer: USA

Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal said that the US has emerged as India's top destination for merchandise exports during April-December this fiscal at USD 59.7 billion. The US was followed by UAE (USD 23.31 billion); Netherlands (USD 14.1 billion); China (USD 11 billion); Singapore and



Bangladesh (about USD 9 billion each).

76. National Research Foundation is an autonomous agency that comes under the aegis of which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [B] Ministry of Electronics and IT
- [C] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Education

Answer: Ministry of Science and Technology

National Research Foundation is an autonomous agency that comes under the aegis of Ministry of Science and Technology (DST). The Union Budget 2023-24 has earmarked Rs.2,000 crore as an outlay for the National Research Foundation to boost research and innovation within India.

77. When is the 'International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation' observed?

- [A] February 1
- [B] February 2
- [C] February 4
- [D] February 6

Answer: February 6

International Day of Zero Tolerance for Female Genital Mutilation is observed on February 6 each year to raise global awareness about the issue concerning the female genital mutilation (FGM). This day was established in 2003 after the Campaign against Female Genital Mutilation officially declared "Zero Tolerance to FGM" in Africa on February 6.

78. Medium-density Amorphous Ice, which was seen in the news, was created in a container filled with which material?

- [A] Plastic
- [B] Stainless Steel
- [C] Water
- [D] Paper

Answer: Stainless Steel

Medium-density Amorphous (MDA) Ice is a new form of ice that was recently discovered by scientists. This ice has same density and structure as water. The ice was created by scientists in a container with stainless steel balls at a -200°C. The MDA ice does not have any ordered structure. It will provide the opportunity to improve the understanding of the properties of water.

79. Who is the only living Indian to win the Grammy Award thrice?

- [A] A R Rahman
- [B] Ricky Kej
- [C] Resul Pookutty
- [D] Babbu Mann

Answer: Ricky Kej

Ricky Kej is an Indian musician and environmental activist. The Indian music composer recently won his third Grammy Award for the album 'Divine Tides'. He is the youngest person to win this award and only the fourth Indian to achieve this feat. He recently made another history by becoming the only living Indian to win the Grammy Award thrice.

80. 'Ukaguru spiny-throated reed frog', which was seen in the news, has been discovered in which country?

- [A] Colombia
- [B] Tanzania
- [C] Greece



[D] China

Answer: Tanzania

A new species of frog known as the Ukaguru spiny-throated reed frog has been discovered in African country Tanzania. The frog has an uncommon characteristic of being completely silent, unlike other frogs that croak, sing, or ribbit. This frog belongs to the 'spiny-throated' group. They are only found in small populations, making them vulnerable to extinction.

81. Kiruna, which was seen in the news, is a small town located in which country?

[A] Switzerland

[B] Sweden

[C] Argentina

[D] Ukraine

Answer: Sweden

Kiruna is a town in northern Sweden that houses over 18,000 individuals and a tonne wooden church. This town is currently under threat of being consumed by the world's largest iron ore mine that is under the control of the Swedish state-owned company LKAB. This entire town is currently being relocated and it is considered as one of the significant relocations happened in the world.

82. India established a 'Trade and Technology Council (TTC)' along with which bloc?

[A] SAARC

[B] ASEAN

[C] EU

[D] G-20

Answer: EU

The India-EU Trade and Technology Council was jointly established by the European Union and India. Under this new council, three working groups have been set up with the focus on strategic technologies, digital governance, and digital connectivity; green and clean energy technologies; and trade, investment, and resilient value chains. The working groups will be responsible for preparing for the TTC meeting, which is set to take place before the next bilateral India-EU summit.

83. The eXperiential Technology Innovation Centre (XTIC) is a newly established research institute in which institution?

[A] IISc Bengaluru

[B] IISER Bhopal

[C] IIT Madras

[D] NIT Warangal

Answer: IIT Madras

The eXperiential Technology Innovation Centre (XTIC) is a newly established research institute in IIT Madras. It is India's research and product innovation centre focusing on extended reality and haptics technology. An MoU was signed recently between ISRO and the IIT Madras to develop a training module for the Indian spaceflight programme at the XTIC. It will be developed using the augmented reality, virtual reality and mixed reality.

84. Which state budget announced a road map for setting up green hydrogen hubs with outlay of Rs 200 crores?

[A] Telangana

[B] Kerala

[C] Assam

[D] Odisha

Answer: Kerala

The Budget presented by Kerala announced a road map for setting up green hydrogen hubs in Kochi and



Thiruvananthapuram in the next two years. A scheme of ₹200 crore has been announced for viability gap funding/grant/equity support to set up the green hydrogen hubs. An amount of ₹20 crore is earmarked additionally for the purpose in the Budget.

85. Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*) is prevalently found in which Indian state?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Andhra Pradesh
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Goa

Answer: Andhra Pradesh

As per the CITES (the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora) trade database, 28 incidents of Red Sanders confiscation, seizure, and specimen were exported from India. These consignments were exported to China (53.5%), Hong Kong (25.0%), Singapore (17.8%) and the United States of America (3.5%) from 2016 to 2020. Red Sanders (*Pterocarpus santalinus*) or red sandalwood, is an endemic tree species with distribution restricted to the Eastern Ghats of India and is found in Andhra Pradesh.

86. The Union Budget 2023-24 has allocated Rs. 2,516 crore for the computerization of which unit, over the next 5 years?

- [A] State Cooperative Banks
- [B] District central cooperative banks
- [C] Primary Agricultural Credit Societies
- [D] Multi-state Cooperative Banks

Answer: Primary Agricultural Credit Societies

The Union Budget 2023-24 has allocated Rs. 2,516 crore for the computerization of 63,000 PACS over the next 5 years. Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS) are village-level cooperative credit societies that act as the last link to the 3-tier cooperative credit structure, which is headed by the State Cooperative Bank or SCB. Credit from the SCB is transferred to the district central cooperative banks (DCCBs), which will then transfer the credit to the PACS.

87. Bard is an AI chatbot that is being developed by which tech major?

- [A] Microsoft
- [B] Google
- [C] Meta
- [D] Twitter

Answer: Google

Bard is an AI chatbot that is being developed by Google as a competitor for the popular Microsoft-backed ChatGPT. Bard will use AI to generate answers in text when queries are typed by the users. This chatbot will function based on the AI model called LaMDA, which was introduced by Google in 2021 as a generative language model for dialogue applications.

88. 'TReDS' is an electronic platform that facilitates the transactions for which entities?

- [A] Pharma companies
- [B] Exporters
- [C] MSMEs
- [D] Banks

Answer: MSMEs

The Trade Receivable Discounting System (TReDS) is an electronic platform that facilitates the financing or discounting, trading and settling invoices of the MSMEs. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has decided to expand the scope of the TReDS to allow the use of insurance facilities. This will facilitate secondary market operations on the TReDS.



89. 'Eagle 44 (Oghab 44)' is the first underground air force base of which country?

- [A] Iran
- [B] North Korea
- [C] Israel
- [D] France

Answer: Iran

The Eagle 44 (Oghab 44) is the first underground air force base of Iran. It is capable of housing fighter jets equipped with cruise missiles. The unveiling of the Oghab 44 is seen as a display of Iran's aerial military strength in response to a joint drill conducted by the US and Israel. It will host jets and drones equipped with long-range cruise missiles to destroy adversary targets in case of attack.

90. Which Indian state/UT proposed the Wetland Ex-Situ Conservation Establishment (WESCE)?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Uttarakhand
- [C] Sikkim
- [D] Gujarat

Answer: Rajasthan

The Wetland Ex-Situ Conservation Establishment (WESCE) is a zoo that is being proposed by the state government of Rajasthan. It is set to be established within the Keoladeo National Park, a World Heritage Site also known as the Bharatpur bird sanctuary. The WESCE will display a range of wetland species like water buffaloes, dolphins, crocodiles, and others.

91. The Indian Armed Forces are set to procure armed Predator MQ 9A drones from which country?

- [A] France
- [B] Israel
- [C] USA
- [D] Russia

Answer: USA

The Indian Armed Forces are looking to procure 18 armed Predator MQ 9A drones from the United States. Of these 18 drones, six will be provided for each of the three armed forces. These unmanned aerial vehicles are capable of flying up to 50,000 feet for a maximum duration of 24 hours. It is capable of carrying air-to-ground missiles to target high-value ground targets or air-to-air missiles.

92. 'High Mobility Artillery Rocket System' (HIMARS) is manufactured by which country?

- [A] France
- [B] Israel
- [C] USA
- [D] Russia

Answer: USA

The US State Department gave the nod for the sale of M142 High Mobility Artillery Rocket System (HIMARS) launchers to Poland. The HIMARS and the related equipment will be sold to Poland at a cost of around USD 10 billion. HIMARS (High Mobility Artillery Rocket System) is a type of artillery system that can fire long-range rockets with pinpoint accuracy. It has been used in the conflict between Ukraine and Russia.

93. Which country is the host of the 'International Marine Protected Areas Congress' in 2023?

- [A] Canada
- [B] Australia
- [C] Chile
- [D] Argentina

Answer: Canada



Experts at the 5th International Marine Protected Areas Congress in Canada have recommended the setting up of Marine Protected Areas. Marine protected areas are regions in the ocean where human activities are regulated by the government. These protected areas are set up to address issues such as pollution, litter, overfishing, and climate change.

94. National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT) functions under which Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [B] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- [C] Ministry of Rural Development and Entrepreneurship
- [D] Ministry of Defence

Answer: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

National Industrial Corridor Development and Implementation Trust (NICDIT) is an apex government body that comes under the aegis of the Department of Industrial Policy and Promotion (DIPP). It is responsible for development of industrial corridors like Chennai-Bengaluru Industrial Corridor, Bengaluru – Mumbai Industrial Corridor and others. The Indian Government has sanctioned and approved 8 projects under NICDIT.

95. Which country is being hit by devastating forest fires following a blistering heat wave?

- [A] Argentina
- [B] Chile
- [C] Brazil
- [D] Uganda

Answer: Chile

In Chile, at least 23 people were killed in devastating forest fires which occurred after a blistering heat wave in the central part of the country. The state of emergency has been extended in the South American country. According to an official briefing on Saturday at least 979 people have been affected following the calamity.

96. Visva-Bharati University, which was seen in the news recently, is located in which state?

- [A] Uttar Pradesh
- [B] Bihar
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Odisha

Answer: West Bengal

UNESCO is set to announce Visva-Bharati University as a heritage university and it is set to become the world's first living heritage university. It was founded by Rabindranath Tagore in 1921, as a center for culture, promoting the arts, language, humanities, music, and culture studies. Rabindranath Tagore's philosophy of open-air education is followed at the university.

97. Which institution launched the 'Zero-Draft' of the Pandemic Treaty?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] World Health Organisation
- [C] World Economic Forum
- [D] International Monetary Fund

Answer: World Health Organisation

The 'zero-draft' of the pandemic treaty was launched recently by the World Health Organization's Intergovernmental Negotiating Body (INB). The international treaty is expected to be presented at the World Health Assembly in 2024. The aim of the pandemic treaty is to strengthen national and international-level preparedness against future pandemics.

98. 'Paris Club' an informal group of creditor nations, are the members of which organisation?



- [A] OPEC
- [B] OECD
- [C] G-20
- [D] G-7

Answer: OECD

The Paris Club is an informal group of creditor nations that functions as a platform for official creditors that resolves payment issues faced by debtor countries. All of its 22 member states belong to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The Paris Club has recently decided to offer financial support to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) for Sri Lanka's debt.

99. Who is the chairperson of the special committee to examine the need for a separate competition law for digital companies?

- [A] Manoj Govil
- [B] Ashwini Vaishnaw
- [C] Nirmala Sitharaman
- [D] Ramesh Chand

Answer: Manoj Govil

The government has set up a special committee to examine the need for a separate competition law for digital companies. Chaired by Corporate Affairs Secretary Manoj Govil, the committee will review whether existing antitrust laws in the country are equipped to deal with the challenges that have emerged from the digital economy, and submit to the government a draft Digital Competition Act within three months.

100. Which institution has released operational guidelines on green bonds?

- [A] RBI
- [B] SEBI
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] IRDAI

Answer: SEBI

Capital market regulator SEBI has launched operational guidelines on green bonds asking issuers to make additional disclosures along with its annual report and financial results. The disclosures are pertaining to environmental sustainability objectives of such debt securities in the offer document. In addition, issuers of green bonds will have to disclose brief details of decision-making process followed for determining the eligibility of projects.

101. Aaron Finch, who announces retirement from International Cricket, is from which country?

- [A] England
- [B] South Africa
- [C] Australia
- [D] West Indies

Answer: Australia

Australian men's T20 captain Aaron Finch announced his retirement from international cricket. The 36-year-old led Australia to its maiden T20 World Cup victory in 2021. Aaron Finch has captained the team in 76 of the 103 T20 internationals he has played since debuting against England in 2011. He retired as Australia's one-day skipper last September.

102. 'Operation Ag' is associated with which state Police?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Karnataka



Answer: Kerala

Kerala Police have recently arrested 113 people who were accused in various criminal cases, under 'Operation Aag'. The raids are being held to arrest those who were placed under the Kerala Anti-Social Activities (Prevention) Act. Other initiatives of the state police include 'Pink patrol' which is specifically for women's safety, 'Prasanthi' for senior citizens among others.

103. Everglades wetland restoration project is associated with which country?

- [A] Australia
- [B] USA
- [C] France
- [D] Russia

Answer: USA

The Everglades is a wetland ecosystem in the southern part of the US state of Florida. It spans across the southern half of a large drainage basin in the tropical region. This wetland ecosystem experiences fluctuating weather changes, habitat loss and environmental degradation. A 35-year plan with an outlay of 10 billion USD is being implemented to restore this wetland. This is the world's largest and most expensive ecological restoration project.

104. PK Rosy, who was honoured in the Google Doodle, was the first actress in which language?

- [A] Tamil
- [B] Malayalam
- [C] Kannada
- [D] Telugu

Answer: Malayalam

PK Rosy, was the first actress in Malayalam cinema. She is famed for defying gender and social norms by acting in a film. On her 120th birth anniversary, she was honored with a Google Doodle. PK Rosy belonged to a Dalit subcaste and learnt the traditional Kakkariissi Nattakam. Her debut film was Vigathakumaran (The Lost Child, 1928).

105. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Digital Payments Utsav'?

- [A] Ministry of Finance
- [B] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- [C] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Answer: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Ashwini Vaishnaw, Minister of Electronics and Information Technology, launched a comprehensive campaign plan, 'Digital Payments Utsav, in New Delhi. Digital Payments Utsav, has been planned this year to promote Digital Payments across the country and to celebrate the 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav' and G20 Presidency. Digital Payment Sandesh Yatra was also flagged off to make citizens aware of digital payment solutions. DigiDhan awards were presented to banks that perform well in digital payments.

106. Which Indian state topped the medal tally in the 5th Khelo India Youth Games?

- [A] Haryana
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Madhya Pradesh

Answer: Maharashtra

In the fifth Khelo India Youth Games recently concluded in Madhya Pradesh, Maharashtra ranks first in the medal table with 161 medals including 56 gold medals. Maharashtra had already won the titles in 2019 and 2020. Haryana claimed the first runners-up trophy with 128 medals, followed by the hosts Madhya Pradesh in the third place.



107. After the RBI Monetary Policy Statement announced in February 2023, what is the repo rate?

- [A] 5.50 %
- [B] 5.75 %
- [C] 6.25 %
- [D] 6.50 %

Answer: 6.50 %

The Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) of the Reserve Bank of India hiked the key policy rate, the Repo rate by 25 basis points to 6.50 per cent in a bid to control the retail inflation. The RBI has increased the repo rate by a cumulative 250 basis points to 6.50 per cent since May this year. The RBI has projected GDP growth for the next fiscal (FY2024) at 6.4 per cent.

108. Which country launched 'Operation Dost' to extend assistance to Turkey and Syria after the massive earthquake?

- [A] Pakistan
- [B] China
- [C] India
- [D] Russia

Answer: India

India launched 'Operation Dost' to extend assistance to Turkey and Syria after the devastating earthquake. The seventh 'Operation Dost' flight reached earthquake-hit Syria with over 23 tons of relief material. According to the Ministry of External Affairs, the flight is carrying more than 35 tons of relief material, of which over 23 tons is headed for relief efforts in Syria, and around 12 tons to Turkey.

109. 'Gaziantep Castle', which was seen in the news, is a historical site located in which country?

- [A] Russia
- [B] Ukraine
- [C] Turkey
- [D] USA

Answer: Turkey

The earthquake that struck Turkey and Syria has badly damaged Gaziantep Castle, a historic site and tourist attraction in south-eastern Turkey. The castle collapsed during the 7.8 magnitude earthquake which hit Turkey. According to archaeological excavations, the castle was first built as a watchtower in the Roman period in the second and third centuries C.E. and expanded over time. Most recently, it served as 'Gaziantep Defense and Heroism Panoramic Museum'.

110. Which Union Ministry signed an MoU with Digital Green to build a national-level digital extension platform?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- [C] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- [D] Ministry of Finance

Answer: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare signed an MoU with Digital Green under a public-private partnership framework to build a 'National-level digital extension platform'. The platform will host a digital library of multi-format multi-lingual content and upskill extension workers for agriculture, horticulture, fisheries, livestock and rural livelihood missions through certified online courses.

111. Which country introduced new bank stress-test scenarios to examine the ability of the 23 biggest lenders?

- [A] India
- [B] USA



[C] UK

[D] China

Answer: USA

US Federal Reserve, the country's central bank recently introduced Wall Street bank stress-test scenarios. The central bank will examine the ability of the 23 biggest US lenders to withstand crisis conditions without degrading their capital. For the first time, the so-called stress test will feature an 'exploratory market shock' to the trading books of the largest and most complex banks.

112. Which city is the host of the third edition of Khelo India Winter Games?

[A] Guwahati

[B] Shimla

[C] Gulmarg

[D] Leh

Answer: Gulmarg

The third edition of Khelo India Winter Games recently kicked off at Gulmarg, in the UT of Jammu and Kashmir. Over 1500 sportspersons from across the country will participate in nine different winter sports disciplines. Jammu and Kashmir holds the distinction to have topped in both the previous editions of the Khelo India Winter Games held so far.

113. Which is the first Fintech company to launch cross-border transaction facility through UPI?

[A] BharatPe

[B] Razorpay

[C] PhonePe

[D] PayTm

Answer: PhonePe

PhonePe recently became the first Indian fintech company to enable payments abroad. It allows international transactions through Unified Payments Interface (UPI). With this, Indian travellers can make UPI transactions to foreign merchants using PhonePe platform. Cross-border transaction facility by PhonePe will support all international outlets in UAE, Singapore, Nepal, Bhutan and Mauritius having local QR Code.

114. Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy, which was seen in the news, is used to treat which disease?

[A] Polio

[B] Cancer

[C] Tuberculosis

[D] Diabetes

Answer: Cancer

Chimeric antigen receptor (CAR) T-cell therapy is the latest innovation in the field of medicine, to treat cancer. Rather than relying on drugs, like chemotherapy or immunotherapy, the CAR T cell therapy treatments utilise a patient's own cells that have been altered in a lab to stimulate T-cells and attack tumour cells. Currently, CAR T-cell therapy has received clearance for treating leukemia and lymphoma types of cancer.

115. Nebraska's Sand Hills, where a new type of quasi-crystal was discovered, is located in which country?

[A] China

[B] Turkey

[C] USA

[D] Ukraine

Answer: USA



Quasicrystal is a substance that has atoms orderly arranged like a crystal but its atomic structure is more complex and does not repeat periodically in all directions. This unique complex pattern makes it different from a normal crystal. Recently, a new type of quasicrystal was discovered in the north central Nebraska's Sand Hills in the USA. It had 12-fold symmetry. It may have been created during an accidental electrical discharge because of a downed power line or a lightning strike.

116. Which state/UT is the host of 'India's First Frozen Lake Marathon'?

- [A] Sikkim
- [B] Arunachal Pradesh
- [C] Ladakh
- [D] Uttarakhand

Answer: Ladakh

India's first "frozen-lake marathon" is going to be organised at Pangong Tso lake in the union territory of Ladakh. This event will be held at an altitude of 13,862 feet and cover a distance of 21 kilometers. The marathon will start at Lukung and end at Maan village. The Indian Army and the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) will oversee the event. This marathon is called the 'Last Run' to highlight the issue of climate change.

117. Which African country recently announced demonetization to address corruption and bring down inflation?

- [A] Egypt
- [B] Nigeria
- [C] South Africa
- [D] Tanzania

Answer: Nigeria

Nigeria has recently announced demonetization to address corruption and bring down inflation. Its purpose is to bring back most of the money that is in circulation outside the banking system and to minimize money laundering. Nigerians are required to turn in their old 1,000, 500 and 200 naira banknotes as part of this initiative in return for new naira notes. With the African country being largely dependent on cash, the shortage of new naira notes is causing chaos in Nigeria.

118. Which country has planned to launch Millet International Initiative for Research and Awareness (MIIRA)?

- [A] USA
- [B] India
- [C] Indonesia
- [D] Sri Lanka

Answer: India

India has planned to launch a global initiative called the Millet International Initiative for Research and Awareness (MIIRA) to promote the consumption and production of millets. MIIRA will coordinate international millet research programs and support research on millet crops. This global initiative will also raise awareness and promote millet consumption. India will provide the initial funding, while other G20 countries will contribute to the budget.

119. What is the name of the exercise between National Security Guard (NSG) and US Special Operations Forces (SOF)?

- [A] VIKAS
- [B] TARKASH
- [C] BHIM
- [D] VIRAT

Answer: TARKASH



The TARKASH exercise is a joint bilateral exercise between India's National Security Guard (NSG) and US Special Operations Forces (SOF). The sixth edition of this exercise is being held in Chennai from January 16 to February 14. This is the first time that the 'Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) terror response' is included in TARKASH.

120. What is the name used to describe a group of synthetic chemicals called per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS)?

- [A] Forever Chemicals
- [B] Ultra-Synthetic Chemicals
- [C] Eco Chemicals
- [D] Ice Chemicals

Answer: Forever Chemicals

'Forever chemicals' is a term used to describe a group of synthetic chemicals called per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) that are highly persistent in the environment and resist degradation. They are called 'forever' chemicals because they do not break down naturally and can persist for decades or even centuries. A new study led by Oxford University found high levels of forever chemicals in the ice around Norway's Svalbard.

The above 120 questions are part of Daily Current Affairs 20 MCQs Series in GKToday Android Application. This series with daily 20 MCQs, Answers and Explanations can be subscribed in the app only for Rs. 799/- for entire year. [Download Now](#).

**120 MCQs**

These questions are sourced from GKToday's Current Affairs 2023 **Daily 20 MCQ Series** in [GKToday Academy Android Application](#).

1. Which planet has the highest number of moons, as of 2023?

- [A] Saturn
- [B] Jupiter
- [C] Mars
- [D] Venus

Answer: Jupiter

Jupiter recently became the planet with the most moons, after a dozen new moons were discovered around it. The planet has surpassed Saturn with its list of 92 moons in all. The spacecraft, dubbed Jupiter Icy Moons Explorer or Juice, has arrived at Europe's Spaceport in French Guiana. It is a new mission from Earth is ready to explore the planet's biggest moons and will be launched in April this year.

2. Which Telescope has been selected for the '2023 John L. Jack Swigert, Jr.' Award for Space Exploration?

- [A] James Webb Telescope
- [B] Hubble Space Telescope
- [C] Chandra X-ray Observatory
- [D] Spitzer Space Telescope

Answer: James Webb Telescope

NASA's James Webb Space Telescope team has been selected to receive the '2023 John L. Jack Swigert, Jr.' Award for Space Exploration. It is a prestigious award from the Space Foundation. This annual award honors a space agency, company, or consortium of organizations in the realm of space exploration and discovery.

3. How many satellites were placed in the orbit aboard the SSLV D2 launch vehicle of ISRO?

- [A] One
- [B] Three
- [C] Five
- [D] Seven

Answer: Three

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched its second developmental flight of a Small Satellite Launch Vehicle – SSLV-D2. It placed three satellites into a 450 km-circular orbit, which are ISRO's Earth Observation Satellite - EOS 07, U.S.-based firm Antaris' Janus-1 and Chennai-based space start-up SpaceKidz's AzaadiSAT-2.

4. Which company launched the World's first satellite-based two-way messaging system?

- [A] Meta
- [B] Qualcomm
- [C] AMD
- [D] Samsung

Answer: Qualcomm

Snapdragon Satellite, which was launched recently, is the world's first 'satellite-based, two-way capable messaging solution'. The solution works for smart-phones developed by Qualcomm in partnership with Iridium Inc. The technology was initially introduced at the Consumer Electronics Show (CES) 2023. On a Snapdragon Satellite, emergency messaging will be activated on the next-gen smart-phones.

5. As per a recent report, what was the top financial activity done in India in the last 12 months?

- [A] Putting money in savings



- [B] Paying for health insurance
- [C] Investments in stocks and shares
- [D] Repaying Loans

Answer: Putting money in savings

As per YouGov's latest report, over a third of urban Indians have claimed that their disposable income has decreased in the last 12 months. Putting money in their savings (33 per cent), paying for health insurance (26 per cent) and investments in stocks and shares (21 per cent) were the top three financial activities done in the past 12 months, as per the report.

6. As per the annual report of International Energy Agency, which region will use half of world's electricity by 2025?

- [A] North America
- [B] Europe
- [C] Asia
- [D] Oceania

Answer: Asia

According to a new forecast released by the International Energy Agency, Asia will use half of the world's electricity by 2025, for the first time. As per the annual report, China will be consuming more electricity than the European Union, United States and India combined. Africa, which is home to almost a fifth of world's nearly 8 billion inhabitants, will account for just 3% of global electricity consumption in 2025.

7. Prime Minister recently flagged off two Vande Bharat trains in which state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Bihar

Answer: Maharashtra

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off two Vande Bharat trains in Maharashtra high-speed rail connection. The Mumbai-Solapur and Mumbai-Sainagar Vande Bharat Express were flagged off from Mumbai. With this, the number of Vande Bharat Express trains running from Mumbai will increase to three and the count will go up to 10 for the country.

8. Natalia Gavrilita stepped down from the position of Prime Minister of which country?

- [A] Moldova
- [B] Malta
- [C] France
- [D] Italy

Answer: Moldova

Moldovan Prime Minister Natalia Gavrilita stepped down from her position citing a lack of support in the country. Moldova is a landlocked country in Eastern Europe and a former Soviet Republic. The pro-Western government had been in power for just 18 months. Moldova's President Maia Sandu accepted Gavrilita's resignation.

9. Which app has been India's most accessible app for persons with disabilities, in a recent report?

- [A] Zomato
- [B] WhatsApp
- [C] PayTm
- [D] Bhim

Answer: WhatsApp

WhatsApp has been named India's most accessible app for persons with disabilities in a report titled



'Making the Digital Ecosystem Disabled Friendly'. The report was released by the Vidhi Centre for Legal Policy, which evaluated accessibility features of messaging, online payments, transport, e-commerce, and food delivery. WhatsApp was the only app rated as 'highly accessible' based on the Web Content Accessibility Guidelines (WCAG).

10. Indian Institute of Science (IISc) partnered with which company for R&D in electrostatic discharge protection?

- [A] Meta
- [B] Samsung
- [C] Apple
- [D] Nokia

Answer: Samsung

Samsung Semiconductor India Research (SSIR) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) have recently announced a partnership. The partnership aims to promote research and development in an on-chip electrostatic discharge (ESD) protection.

11. Which city is the host of India's first ever Formula E Championship?

- [A] Hyderabad
- [B] Bengaluru
- [C] Kochi
- [D] Bhubaneswar

Answer: Hyderabad

Union Information and Broadcasting Minister Anurag Singh Thakur flagged off the Formula E Championship in Hyderabad. Hyderabad city hosts India's first ever Formula E-race Hyderabad E-Prix at the 'Hyderabad Street Circuit' on the banks of Hussain Sagar Lake. This is also the first motorsport event in the country in the last 10 years. Hyderabad is the 27th city in the world to host the race as non-carbon emission event.

12. Jerlin Anika, who was seen in the news, is associated with which sports?

- [A] Tennis
- [B] Badminton
- [C] Squash
- [D] Chess

Answer: Badminton

Eighteen-year-old Jerlin Anika Jayaratchagan, a Deaflympic champion, qualifies in the general category at the Olympics. Jerlin Anika became the first Woman Deaflympian to receive the prestigious Arjuna Award. She holds the record of the youngest player to represent India in Summer Deaflympics at the age of 13. She clinched three gold medals at the 2021 Summer Deaflympics.

13. A.B.K. Prasad, who was chosen for Raja Ram Mohan Roy National Award, is associated with which profession?

- [A] Businessperson
- [B] Scientist
- [C] Journalist
- [D] Sportsperson

Answer: Journalist

Veteran journalist A.B.K. Prasad has been chosen for the prestigious Raja Ram Mohan Roy National Award for excellence in journalism. This was announced by the Press Council of India, New Delhi. He has a journalistic career over 75 years. He has the honour of being the editor of all mainstream journals of Andhra Pradesh. He also served as the chairman of the Official Language Commission in Andhra Pradesh.



14. Bharatpur bird Sanctuary, which was seen in the news, is located in which state/UT?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Bihar

Answer: Rajasthan

The Rajasthan state Forest Department has proposed to construct a zoo inside Keoladeo National Park, a World Heritage Site popularly known as Bharatpur bird sanctuary. The Wetland Ex-Situ Conservation Establishment (WESCE) aims to display a range of wetland species, including rhinos, water buffaloes, crocs, dolphins and exotic species. AFD, an arm of the French government, has agreed to fund up to Rs 1,200 crore over eight years. Experts raise questions about the zoo coming up in a significant habitat for migratory birds.

15. Brigadier B D Mishra (retired) has been appointed as the Governor/L-G of which state/UT?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] West Bengal
- [C] Himachal Pradesh
- [D] Ladakh

Answer: Ladakh

President of India Droupadi Murmu appointed governors in 12 states and a Union Territory while accepting the resignation of two Governors namely Maharashtra's Bhagat Singh Koshiyari and Ladakh's Radha Krishnan Mathur. Jharkhand Governor Ramesh Bais is now Governor of Maharashtra and Arunachal Pradesh governor Brigadier B D Mishra (retired) has been appointed as Lieutenant Governor of Ladakh.

16. What is the rate of inflation based on WPI for the month of January 2023?

- [A] 4.73 %
- [B] 5.73 %
- [C] 6.73 %
- [D] 7.73 %

Answer: 4.73 %

The annual rate of inflation based on all India Wholesale Price Index (WPI) number is 4.73% (Provisional) for the month of January, 2023 against 4.95% recorded in December 2022. Decline in the rate of inflation is primarily contributed by mineral oils, chemicals and chemical products, textiles, crude petroleum and natural gas, textiles, and food products. DPIIT releases index numbers of wholesale price in India on monthly basis.

17. Kala Ghoda Art Festival, which was seen in the news, is held at which city?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Mumbai
- [C] Kolkata
- [D] Bhopal

Answer: Mumbai

The Kala Ghoda Association's Kala Ghoda Arts Festival 2023 was recently organised in Mumbai, Maharashtra. The festival began in 1999 and has evolved into a first-of-its-kind multi-disciplinary street art festival. The Kala Ghoda Arts Festival was held after two years at its iconic venue in Mumbai. It includes a number of verticals such as children, food, dance, literature, heritage walks among others.

18. Which country awards the prestigious 'Wolf Prize'?

- [A] USA
- [B] Russia



[C] Israel

[D] Germany

Answer: Israel

The winners of the 2023 Wolf Prize were announced recently. The eight recipients come from five different countries and three of the laureates are from the United States. Israel's Wolf Prize has been awarded since 1978 and is considered one of the world's most prestigious awards for scientific and artistic achievements. The scientific categories include Medicine, Agriculture, Mathematics, Chemistry, and Physics. The art categories are in Painting and Sculpting, Music, and Architecture.

19. Which country observed the anniversary of 'Stolen Generation' apology?

[A] Germany

[B] Australia

[C] UK

[D] Israel

Answer: Australia

Australia recently observed the 15 year Anniversary of 'Stolen Generation' apology, for forcibly removing Indigenous children from families under old assimilation policies. Australia committed about USD 300 million to improve life outcomes including safe and reliable water for remote Indigenous communities, building of new homes, making essential food affordable and accessible, and supporting families impacted by family violence.

20. Which tech major is set to shift to the 'microLED display technology'?

[A] Samsung

[B] Apple

[C] Google

[D] Microsoft

Answer: Apple

MicroLEDs are self-illuminating diodes that have brighter and better colour reproduction than Organic Light Emitting Diode (OLED) display technology. Apple is currently working on this display technology and plans to implement on future watch models starting in 2024 and expand to phones and desktops. This is considered as the next big transition in display technology.

21. 'Khanan Prahari' application, which was seen in the news, is associated with which Union Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Defence

[B] Ministry of Mines

[C] Ministry of Power

[D] Ministry of Steel

Answer: Ministry of Mines

The government has launched a mobile app namely 'Khanan Prahari' and a web app Coal Mine Surveillance and Management System (CMSMS) for reporting unauthorized coal mining activities. The objective of the CMSMS application was to detect participation against illegal mining by receipt of citizen's complaints through mobile app.

22. Saur Revolution, which was seen in the news, is associated with which country?

[A] USA

[B] Afghanistan

[C] Germany

[D] Russia

Answer: Afghanistan

The Saur Revolution was launched by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan (PDPA) in 1978 to



overthrow Afghan president Mohammed Daoud Khan, who had set up an autocratic one-party system. This socialist revolution is also known as the April Revolution. The Saur Revolution led to the creation of a socialist Afghan government that was closely aligned to the USSR.

23. Article 93 of the Indian Constitution, which was seen in the news, is associated with the appointment of which position?

- [A] Governor
- [B] Supreme Court Judge
- [C] Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha
- [D] Deputy Speaker of Rajya Sabha

Answer: Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha

Article 93 of the Indian Constitution mandates the election of the Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha. The Deputy Speaker of Lok Sabha is the second-highest ranking legislative official in the House of the People. The Supreme Court recently issued notices to the Centre and five states namely Rajasthan, Uttarakhand, Madhya Pradesh, Uttar Pradesh, and Jharkhand over the failure to elect a Deputy Speaker.

24. Which Union Ministry released the 'Draft Geo-heritage Sites and Geo-relics Bill'?

- [A] Ministry of Tourism
- [B] Ministry of Mines
- [C] Ministry of Culture
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: Ministry of Mines

The Draft Geo-heritage Sites and Geo-relics (Preservation and Maintenance) Bill was released recently by Ministry of Mines for public suggestions. This proposed legislation has provisions concerning the declaration, preservation, protection and maintenance of geo-heritage sites and geo-relics of national importance. Its objective is to promote research, education and awareness about these sites.

25. Which state recently approved Competitive Examination Ordinance, to prevent unfair means in recruitment?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Bihar
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Telangana

Answer: Uttarakhand

The Uttarakhand Competitive Examination (Measures for Control and Prevention of Unfair Means in Recruitment) Ordinance, 2023 was approved by the state government recently. The objective of this ordinance is to prevent offences that adversely affect the process of competitive examinations. The anti-cheating law has provisions providing hefty fines of up to Rs.10 crores and life imprisonment for the guilty.

26. Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE) was a militant organisation formed in which country?

- [A] Sri Lanka
- [B] India
- [C] Nepal
- [D] Malaysia

Answer: Sri Lanka

The Liberation Tigers of Tamil Eelam (LTTE), also known as the Tamil Tigers, was a militant organization in Sri Lanka that fought for an independent Tamil state called Tamil Eelam. The militant group was founded in 1976 by Velupillai Prabhakaran. It engaged in armed clashes against the Sri Lankan government and armed forces. The LTTE was widely regarded as the most dominant Tamil militant group in Sri Lanka and a feared guerrilla force.



27. Who coined the term 'BIMARU' the acronym for Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh?

- [A] Ashish Bose
- [B] Amartya Sen
- [C] Jayati Ghosh
- [D] Manmohan Singh

Answer: Ashish Bose

The term BIMARU was coined by the late demographer Ashish Bose in a paper that was presented to the former Indian Prime Minister Rajiv Gandhi. The term BIMARU is an acronym for Bihar, Madhya Pradesh, Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh. BIMARU states are those that are considered to be lagging behind in the overall economic growth and basic amenities like education, healthcare.

28. Coradion calendula, which was seen in the news, belongs to which species?

- [A] Turtle
- [B] Fish
- [C] Snake
- [D] Spider

Answer: Fish

Coradion calendula is a new species of butterfly fish belonging to the genus Coradion. It was recently discovered in Australian waters. Coradion calendula has characteristics that are similar to those of Coradion chrysozonus. Its habitat spans from the North West Shelf east to the northern Cape York Peninsula, close to the Torres Strait. It is likely to feed on sponge tissue and benthic invertebrates.

29. Lumpy skin disease (LSD) occurs prevalently in which species/group?

- [A] Cattle
- [B] Human beings
- [C] Poultry
- [D] Fish

Answer: Cattle

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a viral illness that affects cattle, caused by the lumpy skin disease virus (LSDV) of the Capripoxvirus genus. This disease is characterized by the formation of nodules or lumps on the skin, accompanied by fever and other symptoms. It causes reduced milk production, weight loss, damage to hides and welfare issues.

30. National Productivity Council (NPC) is an autonomous government body under which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [C] Ministry of External Affairs
- [D] Ministry of MSME

Answer: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

National Productivity Day is observed on February 12 every year in India. It is coordinated by the National Productivity Council (NPC), an autonomous government body that comes under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry. The day commemorates the founding of the NPC, which was set up in 1958 to promote the productivity culture in India.

31. JANUS-1 Satellite, which was seen in the news, was successfully launched by which country?

- [A] India
- [B] USA
- [C] UK
- [D] Japan



Answer: India

The JANUS-1 Satellite is the world's first cloud-built demonstration satellite. It was fully conceived, designed, and manufactured with Antaris' end-to-end cloud platform. This satellite was successfully launched recently with the help of the SSLV-D2 rocket developed by the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO).

32. Shinku La Tunnel is proposed to be constructed in which state/UT?

- [A] Arunachal Pradesh
- [B] Ladakh
- [C] Sikkim
- [D] West Bengal

Answer: Ladakh

Recently, the Union Cabinet approved the construction of the Shinku La Tunnel. The proposed tunnel will provide all-weather connectivity in Ladakh. This is expected to be a major asset for tourism and other economic activities in the region. It will also benefit the economy of the Zaskar Valley. Covering a distance of 4.1 km, it will be constructed at an altitude of 16,580 feet by the Border Roads Organization (BRO). It is expected to be the world's highest tunnel.

33. The 'International Seabed Authority' is based in which country?

- [A] USA
- [B] Jamaica
- [C] Egypt
- [D] Australia

Answer: Jamaica

The International Seabed Authority is an organization of 167 countries and the European Union based in Kingston, Jamaica. It is an intergovernmental organization that was established under the 1982 UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) and its 1994 Agreement on Implementation. The Authority recently announced that Minerals in Indian Ocean can turn India self-sufficient in nickel and cobalt.

34. 22nd Rang Bharat Mahotsav was organised in which city?

- [A] Panaji
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] Mumbai
- [D] Kolkata

Answer: New Delhi

The 22nd edition of the Rang Bharat Mahotsav, an international theatre festival, is being organized in New Delhi by the National School of Drama. The festival will showcase 33 plays in New Delhi and 47 plays in nine other major cities, which include Jammu, Bhopal, Guwahati, Ranchi, Nasik, Rajahmundry, Kevadia, Jaipur, and Srinagar. The festival will also feature various related events such as book launches, national and international seminars, and master-classes by theatre experts.

35. What is the name of the first cruise ship manufactured in India?

- [A] Ganga Vilas
- [B] Bharat Vilas
- [C] Histo Brustro
- [D] Bharat Café

Answer: Ganga Vilas

The MV Ganga Vilas is a river cruise ship manufactured in India. It was flagged off in January 2023 by the Prime Minister. Ganga Vilas is also the longest Motor Vessel of its kind in the world. It is also significant as the first cruise ship to be manufactured in India. It is on course to creating a world record for sailing the longest along several river systems, entered Assam from Bangladesh, 39 days after



leaving Varanasi.

36. Which city is the host of the 'Technotex 2023' event of Ministry of Textiles?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Mumbai
- [C] Guwahati
- [D] Gandhi Nagar

Answer: Mumbai

'Technotex 2023: Envisioning Indian Technical Textiles at 2047' is the flagship event of the Ministry of Textiles. It will be organised in Mumbai in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry. Its main purpose is to promote textiles that are specifically designed for specific purposes.

37. 'Jal-Jan Abhiyan' was recently inaugurated in which state/UT?

- [A] Uttar Pradesh
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Gujarat

Answer: Rajasthan

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the 'Jal-Jan Abhiyan' in Rajasthan. It is jointly implemented by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Brahma Kumaris organization. The Jal Jan Abhiyan is a campaign that seeks to promote the conservation of water. It involves raising public awareness about the importance of water preservation. It aims to reach at least 10 million people and organise 10,000 programs. The Brahma Kumaris organization is currently headquartered in Mount Abu in Rajasthan.

38. 'KAVACH-2023' is a national-level hackathon organised by which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Education
- [B] Ministry of Electronics and IT
- [C] Ministry of Skill Development
- [D] Ministry of Defence

Answer: Ministry of Education

KAVACH-2023 is a national level hackathon that was launched to find innovative ideas and technological solutions to address the cyber security challenges. It is being organized by the Union Education Ministry's Innovation Cell, All India Council for Technical Education (AICTE), Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPR&D, MHA) and Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C, MHA).

39. 'eSanjeevani' platform is associated with which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- [B] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [C] Ministry of External Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Education

Answer: Ministry of Health and Family Welfare

eSanjeevani, also known as National Teleconsultation Service, is a government initiative that provides online outpatient doctor (OPD) consultation service to citizens. This first-of-its-kind scheme was launched in 2019 and it is being implemented by the Union Health Ministry. The eSanjeevani OPD portal and system was developed by the Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC). The platform recently registered a new record by delivering teleconsultation services to 10 crore beneficiaries.

40. The Delhi Police is a law enforcement agency that comes under the aegis of which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Defence



- [B] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [C] Ministry of External Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Culture

Answer: Ministry of Home Affairs

The Delhi Police is a law enforcement agency that comes under the aegis of the Ministry of Home Affairs. It is responsible for the National Capital Territory of India (NCT) and is currently one of the largest metropolitan police forces in the world. On February 16, the Delhi Police Raising Day was observed. The year 2023 marks the 76th Raising Day.

41. 'H3 Rocket', which was seen in the news, has been developed by which country?

- [A] USA
- [B] Israel
- [C] Japan
- [D] UAE

Answer: Japan

The H3 rocket is a Japanese launch vehicle developed by Mitsubishi Heavy Industries (MHI) and Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA). The first launch attempt of the H3 rocket was expected to take place in February, 2023. However, it was aborted due to an anomaly in the first stage system. The second launch attempt is expected to take place at the end of March this year.

42. When is the 'Global Tourism Resilience Day' observed every year?

- [A] February 10
- [B] February 12
- [C] February 14
- [D] February 17

Answer: February 17

The Global Tourism Resilience Day (GTRD) is observed on February 17 each year. It was adopted by the United Nations in the year 2023 and this year marks the inaugural edition. Its objective is to highlight the importance of tourism resilience at the international level. In 2019, tourism sector accounted for 7 percent of global trade and 10 percent of global GDP. It is the third largest export industry in the world.

43. Which institution launched the 'Government Securities Lending Directions, 2023'?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] RBI
- [C] SEBI
- [D] World Bank

Answer: RBI

The Reserve Bank of India released the Draft Reserve Bank of India (Government Securities Lending) Directions, 2023. These draft norms seek to regulate the lending and borrowing of government securities (G-secs) in the securities lending market. According to the draft norms, the Government Securities Lending (GSL) transactions can be done for a minimum duration of 1 day and a maximum duration of 90 days.

44. Which legislation seeks to combat espionage activities in India?

- [A] Official Secrets Act, 1923
- [B] Foreigners Act, 1946
- [C] Indian Evidence Act, 1872
- [D] Indian Penal Code, 1860

Answer: Official Secrets Act, 1923

The Official Secrets Act, 1923 is a colonial-era legislation that seeks to combat espionage activities in India. It strongly prohibits activities that involve helping adversary countries against India. It also bans



the entry, inspection, or even passing over a prohibited government area or site like an electrical substation. Recently, 10 sensitive installations in 6 states and 1 union territory were declared as out of bounds under the Official Secrets Act.

45. Which state/UT recently launched the 'Shrama Shakthi Scheme'?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Madhya Pradesh

Answer: Karnataka

The Shrama Shakthi Scheme was launched recently by the Karnataka Government. Under this scheme, the state government will provide a financial aid of Rs.500 per head every month to landless women farm labourers. It will be implemented through the direct benefit transfer (DBT). Free bus passes for working women, school and college going girl students, Free skill training initiative for women are part of the scheme.

46. India's first ring metro corridor is expected to be operationalized in 2024 in which state/UT?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Mumbai
- [C] Kolkata
- [D] Hyderabad

Answer: New Delhi

India's first ring metro corridor is expected to be operationalized in 2024 in Delhi. The Majlis Park-Maujpur corridor will be the first and only ring metro corridor in India. The total length of this ring metro corridor is 71.15 km and it will have a total of 8 stations. This ring metro corridor is expected to ease travel for passengers from Faridabad, Noida, Ghaziabad, and Bahadurgarh.

47. The mPassport Police App was introduced recently by which Union Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of External Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Defence
- [C] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Electronics and IT

Answer: Ministry of External Affairs

The mPassport Police App was introduced recently by the Union External Affairs Ministry. The aim of this application is to simplify and hasten the process of police verification of passport issuance. It will reduce the verification time by five days from the previous verification time of 15 days to complete this process. With this application, the police personnel can submit digital and paperless verification reports via mobile tablets. It was launched for the Delhi Police jurisdiction alone.

48. Which state government has announced '24x7 Cyber Security Operation Centre'?

- [A] Karnataka
- [B] Kerala
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Odisha

Answer: Karnataka

The state government of Karnataka is planning to establish a 24x7 Cyber Security Operation Center (CSOC) to safeguard government websites and online services. The CSOC will help the government keep pace with emerging technologies and cyber threats and minimise the cost of upgrading and maintaining these technologies. This first-of-its-kind centre will help cloud-based technologies and data centres increase access to critical infrastructure by improving their security.



49. Which country has recently terminated the 'Immigrant Investor Programme'?

- [A] Sweden
- [B] Ireland
- [C] USA
- [D] Australia

Answer: Ireland

The government of Ireland has recently terminated the Immigrant Investor Programme. Under this initiative, citizens of the non-EU countries were permitted to acquire residency in Ireland if they make an investment of at least 1 million euros in the country. This programme also provided visas to those donating 5 lakh euros to philanthropic causes. This programme has overseen investments of around 1.2 billion euros for almost 10 years. It was terminated as such initiatives are seen as a security risk.

50. What per cent of India's capital procurement budget has been earmarked for domestic industry?

- [A] 25
- [B] 50
- [C] 75
- [D] 100

Answer: 75

Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh announced that a record 75 per cent of the defence capital procurement budget has been earmarked for domestic industry in 2023-24. In 2023-24, the Ministry of Defence has been allocated a total Budget of 5.94 lakh crore rupees, which is 13.18 per cent of the total budget. Capital outlay pertaining to modernisation and infrastructure development has been increased to 1.63 lakh crore rupees.

51. 'HARBINGER 2023' is the global hackathon organised by which institution?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] RBI
- [C] ISRO
- [D] SEBI

Answer: RBI

The Reserve Bank announced its second global hackathon 'HARBINGER 2023 - Innovation for Transformation' with the theme 'Inclusive Digital Services'. Fin-tech companies have been invited to develop solutions that have the potential to make digital financial services accessible to the differently-abled, facilitate efficient compliance, extend the reach of Central Bank Digital Currencies and enhance the scalability of blockchains. Winner of the hackathon will be given a prize of Rs 40 lakh and runner-up Rs 20 lakh.

52. Lakshmi Bhandar is a scheme implemented by which state/UT?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] West Bengal
- [C] Assam
- [D] Jharkhand

Answer: West Bengal

West Bengal state government announced its state budget for the year 2023-24 and broadens several welfare schemes. The state Budget for the year 2023-24 widened the ambit of social welfare schemes like Lakshmi Bhandar, added a new scheme providing death benefits for fishermen, promised financial assistance for micro-enterprise and allocated ₹3000 crore for rural road connectivity and repair of urban roads in the State.

53. India agreed to collaborate on digital infrastructure, climate action and sustainable development, with which country?



- [A] Australia
- [B] Spain
- [C] Germany
- [D] USA

Answer: Spain

India and Spain agreed to collaborate on digital infrastructure, climate action and sustainable development. Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Spanish counterpart Mr Pedro Sánchez discussed several bilateral and international issues of mutual interest. They have also reviewed ongoing bilateral initiatives and expressed satisfaction at the high-level exchanges and growing cooperation in defence, economic and commercial sectors.

54. Which institution is set to provide maintenance and overhaul support for MQ-9B drone engines in India?

- [A] BHEL
- [B] HAL
- [C] DRDO
- [D] ISRO

Answer: HAL

Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd. (HAL) announced that it would provide maintenance and overhaul support for MQ-9B drone engines in India. Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and General Atomics announced at Aero India that the turbo-propeller engines which power the MQ-9B Guardian High Altitude Long Endurance (HALE) RPAS will be supported by HAL engine division for Indian market.

55. Akshdeep Singh and Priyanka Goswami, who were seen in the news, play which sports?

- [A] Chess
- [B] Badminton
- [C] Race-walking
- [D] Squash

Answer: Race-walking

Akshdeep Singh and Priyanka Goswami have won the National Race-Walking Championships 2023 in Ranchi, Jharkhand. With this, both have qualified for this year's World Championships and next year's Olympics in Paris. India's Ram Baboo and Manju Rani set new national records to win the men's 35km and women's 35km races, respectively.

56. Which city is the host of the 'India International Seafood Show'?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] Kochi
- [C] Kolkata
- [D] Chennai

Answer: Kolkata

India International Seafood Show (IISS) concluded in Kolkata, as the government aims to double seafood exports by 2025. A total of 370 business meets were held during the event to boost seafood export. Marine Products Export Development Authority (MPEDA) and Seafood Exporters Association of India organised the event. India's renewed seafood exports target will earn 14 billion US dollars by 2025 as against USD 7.76 billion in 2021-22.

57. 'EX DHARMA GUARDIAN' is a joint military exercise held between India and which country?

- [A] Australia
- [B] Japan
- [C] France
- [D] Sri Lanka



Answer: Japan

The 4th edition of joint military exercise, 'EX DHARMA GUARDIAN', between India and Japan has recently commenced in Japan. This annual exercise will promote bilateral relations between India and Japan and enhance the level of defence cooperation between the two forces. The last edition of Exercise Dharma Guardian was held in Belgaum, Karnataka in 2022.

58. Indian Railways launches 'Rail Post Gati Shakti Express Cargo Service' along with which institution?

- [A] DMRC
- [B] India Post
- [C] Blue Dart
- [D] LIC

Answer: India Post

Indian Railways launches Rail Post Gati Shakti Express Cargo Service to provide logistics for services sector in country simultaneously on four sectors. The Cargo Service is a joint parcel product of the two entities between Indian Railways and India Post. The service was among the announcements made by Union finance minister Nirmala Sitharaman in last year's Budget.

59. Which city is the host of 'Global Tourism Investors' Summit'?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] Kolkata
- [D] Bengaluru

Answer: New Delhi

The Tourism Ministry will organise first Global Tourism Investors' Summit from this year in New Delhi to showcase opportunities in the Tourism and hospitality sector. The Summit will deliberate on potential opportunities for investment across tourism segments including hotels and restaurants, adventure and eco-tourism, cruise, and other related tourism sectors.

60. David Malpass is the head of which international organisation?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] International Monetary Fund
- [C] World Economic Forum
- [D] Asian Development Bank

Answer: World Bank

World Bank President David Malpass said he would leave his post well before his five-year term ends. His five-year term was due to end in April 2024. Malpass has been under pressure in recent months to accelerate reforms aimed at changing the way the World Bank operates to combat climate change.

61. What is the maximum limit of instant transactions made using UPI LITE wallet?

- [A] Rs 100
- [B] Rs 200
- [C] Rs 500
- [D] Rs 1000

Answer: Rs 200

Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL) has enabled UPI LITE, a feature designed by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). With this launch, PPBL has become the first payments bank to launch the feature. A UPI LITE wallet allows a user to do instant transactions of up to ₹200. A maximum of ₹2,000 can be added twice in a day to UPI LITE, making the cumulative daily usage up to ₹4,000.

62. What is the rank of India in the OECD Services trade restrictiveness index (STRI)?

- [A] 35



- [B] 47
- [C] 54
- [D] 65

Answer: 47

India is ranked at 47th position in Services Trade Restrictiveness Index (STRI) conducted by the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) for the year 2022. The index includes sectors like air transport, road freight cover and government regulations. The STRI indices takes into consideration the government policies in several sectors that define the ease of trading in those sectors and industries. Based on these factors, STRI indices assign value to countries between zero and one.

63. India signed MoU on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and official passports?

- [A] Switzerland
- [B] Fiji
- [C] Israel
- [D] Australia

Answer: Fiji

India and Fiji signed a Memorandum of Understanding on visa exemption for holders of diplomatic and official passports. Under this agreement, diplomatic and official passport holders will be able to enter, transit, and stay in each other territories without a visa for a period not exceeding 90 days.

64. Which country has reaffirmed Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India?

- [A] USA
- [B] Australia
- [C] Germany
- [D] Russia

Answer: USA

A bipartisan resolution was introduced in the US Senate to recognise Arunachal Pradesh as an integral part of India. The resolution commends India for taking steps to defend itself against aggression and security threats from China.

65. Kuno National Park, which was seen in the news, is in which state?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Gujarat
- [D] Assam

Answer: Madhya Pradesh

Kuno National Park is a wildlife sanctuary and national park located in Madhya Pradesh. It is named after the Kuno River and was initially established in 1981 as a wildlife sanctuary. In 2018, it was granted national park status. As part of the Cheetah Reintroduction Project, 12 more cheetahs were released into the Kuno National Park, bringing the total number of cheetahs to 20.

66. Which state/UT is expected to be the most climate-vulnerable region in India, as per a recent report?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Maharashtra

Answer: Bihar

As per the XDI's Gross Domestic Climate Risk report, the economies of India, China and the US will witness the worst impact of the climate change. This report revealed that 14 Indian states will remain within the top 100 most climate-risk prone territories among more than 2,600 regions in the world by



2050. Bihar, with a global ranking of 22, is expected to be the most climate-vulnerable region in India by 2050.

67. Which city is the host of the first-ever G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) meeting?

- [A] Panaji
- [B] Khajuraho
- [C] Mysuru
- [D] Jaipur

Answer: Khajuraho

The first-ever G20 Culture Working Group (CWG) meeting is set to take place in Khajuraho, India. It will focus on protecting and restoring cultural property. This exhibition will showcase 25 artifacts that have been returned to India after being smuggled out of the country. The CWG's goal is to reduce illicit trafficking of cultural property by 2030, regulate online trading platforms, and raise public awareness about restitution laws and conventions.

68. What is the expansion of 'ecDNA', which are recently found by the scientists as helping agents for cancer to spread?

- [A] existential DNA
- [B] extrachromosomal DNA
- [C] evolutionary DNA
- [D] extra-resistant DNA

Answer: extrachromosomal DNA

Scientists have found small pieces of DNA known as extrachromosomal DNA (ecDNA) that help cancer to spread. The discovery was made by a team of researchers working on the Cancer Grand Challenges initiative. These small pieces of genetic material, also known as oncogenes, can make cancer cells more resistant to current cancer treatments.

69. Which institution released the 'Global Security Outlook Report 2023'?

- [A] World Bank
- [B] NITI Aayog
- [C] World Economic Forum
- [D] International Monetary Fund

Answer: World Economic Forum

World Economic Forum (WEF) recently released the 'Global Security Outlook Report 2023' in collaboration with Accenture. It warned that the cyber-attacks are expected to cause an unprecedented threat in the coming 2 years. The report also predicts catastrophic cyber events mainly due to the present geopolitical instability.

70. The term 'Crimes Against Humanity' is officially defined in which law/statute?

- [A] Rome Statute
- [B] Statute of the International Court of Justice
- [C] Charter of the United Nations (UN)
- [D] International Human Rights Law

Answer: Rome Statute

Crimes against humanity are atrocities committed as part of a widespread or systematic attack targeting any civilian population. The term 'crimes against humanity' has been officially defined in the 1998 Rome Statute. In a recent Security Conference, United States Vice President Kamala Harris says Russia committed 'crimes against humanity' in Ukraine.

71. Which act governs a civil marriage where the state sanctions the marriage rather than religion?

- [A] Secular Marriage Act of 1954
- [B] Special Marriage Act of 1954



[C] Sikh Marriage Act of 1954

[D] Sovereign Marriage Act of 1954

Answer: Special Marriage Act of 1954

The Special Marriage Act of 1954 (SMA) was passed by the Indian Parliament to govern the civil marriages that are sanctioned by the state instead of the religion. It is designed to enable interfaith or inter-caste marriages without the couple giving up their individual religious identities. This law applies to people of all faiths, including Muslims, Hindus, Sikhs, Christians, Jains, and Buddhists living across India.

72. 'Aircraft's Feathered Position' has been revealed as the human error in the airplane crash occurred in which country?

[A] USA

[B] Nepal

[C] Bangladesh

[D] China

Answer: Nepal

A preliminary report on the recent Yeti Airlines crash in Nepal revealed that the plane's propellers were found in an unusual 'feathered position'. Feathering is part of the checklist that needs to be followed when faced with emergencies such as a forced landing. This report assessed that this might have occurred because of a human error. All 72 people aboard the plane, including 68 passengers and 4 crew members, lost their lives in the crash.

73. 'Mehrauli Archaeological Park' is a heritage area located in which state/UT?

[A] Uttar Pradesh

[B] New Delhi

[C] Kolkata

[D] Punjab

Answer: New Delhi

The Mehrauli Archaeological Park is an archaeological area in Mehrauli, one of the seven mediaeval cities that constitute present-day Delhi. It is situated adjacent to the Qutub Minar World Heritage Site and the Qutb complex. It houses over 100 historically important monuments. It is the only area in Delhi that has had over 1,000 years of continuous occupation. A G20 meeting is set to take place in the park in this year.

74. Lavani Folk Art is a traditional dance form famous in which state/UT?

[A] Goa

[B] Maharashtra

[C] Odisha

[D] West Bengal

Answer: Maharashtra

Lavani folk art is a traditional art form in which women dancers wearing brightly coloured sarees, perform on stage before live audience. This indigenous art form gained popularity during the Peshwa era in the 18th century. There are various sub-genres of Lavani. The most popular among them is the Shringarik or the erotic kind. A younger generation of women dancers is accused of vulgarising the traditional folk-art form.

75. As per a recent report, fossil fuel-related items contributed to what percent of India's annual inflation rate?

[A] 10

[B] 20

[C] 30



[D] 50

Answer: 20

A report titled 'Fossil Fuel Prices and Inflation in India' was released recently by Cambridge Econometrics. According to this report, fossil fuel-related items like transport and household energy contributed to 20 percent of India's annual rate of inflation between April and May 2022. Between January 2021 and August 2022, prices of fuel and power surged nearly 5 times faster than the overall consumer price in India. This has increased household expenses on fuel and electricity.

76. APJ Abdul Kalam Satellite Launch Vehicle Mission-2023 was launched from which state?

[A] Maharashtra

[B] Goa

[C] Tamil Nadu

[D] Karnataka

Answer: Tamil Nadu

The APJ Abdul Kalam Satellite Launch Vehicle Mission-2023 was launched from Pattipolam village in Tamil Nadu by the Martin Foundation in association with Dr APJ Abdul Kalam International Foundation and Space Zone India. More than 5,000 students from grades six to twelve across the country designed and developed 150 PICO satellites, which were launched. The selected students were taught about satellite technology.

77. What is the name of the indigenous data link communication developed by the Indian Navy?

[A] Vayulink

[B] Rakshalink

[C] Radiolink

[D] Commlink

Answer: Vayulink

The Indian Air Force (IAF) has developed an indigenous data link communication named 'Vayulink'. It uses the Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System (IRNSS) that is also known as NAVIC, to send radio communication to the base station when the signals are low. The Vayulink system also prevents aircraft collision, provides better combat teaming and helps plan real-time basis.

78. Amrutha Nagarothana Scheme is implemented in which state?

[A] Kerala

[B] Karnataka

[C] Andhra Pradesh

[D] Odisha

Answer: Karnataka

Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai has announced ₹9,698 crore-worth projects in the State Budget 2023-23 for comprehensive development of Bengaluru city. Under the Amrutha Nagarothana Scheme, works worth ₹6,000 crore are being implemented in Bengaluru. Development of 108 km of roads has been taken up under the high-density corridors scheme.

79. CERC has approved a proposal to start a spot market segment for which category of power?

[A] Expensive power

[B] Nuclear power

[C] Renewable Power

[D] Wholesale Power

Answer: Expensive power

India's power regulator has approved a proposal to start a separate spot market segment for 'expensive' power, according to an order given to the Indian Energy Exchange (IEX). The approval from the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC), given to the country's largest spot power market, is for



electricity derived from costlier sources of imported coal and gas, as well as battery storage.

80. Israeli Aerospace Industries (IAI) signed MoU with which Indian organisation to form a joint venture related to Armed Forces?

- [A] HAL
- [B] ISRO
- [C] BEL
- [D] DRDO

Answer: BEL

Israeli Aerospace Industries (IAI) and India's Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), both owned by their respective Governments, entered into a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) to form a joint venture firm for extending product support services for Indian Armed Forces. MRSAM is an advanced air and missile defence system that provides protection against a variety of aerial platforms. The MRSAM is used by the Indian Air Force, Indian Army, Indian Navy and Israeli Defence Forces.

81. Which country ranks first in AI skill penetration and talent concentration, as per the recent NASSCOM report?

- [A] USA
- [B] India
- [C] China
- [D] Russia

Answer: India

According to a recently published NASSCOM report, India ranks first in AI skill penetration and talent concentration and fifth in AI scientific publications. The report states that tech talent in India is three times more likely to have AI skills than in other countries. India's AI skills Penetration Factor leads all countries across education, finance, hardware and networking, manufacturing, software and IT services.

82. Which state hosted the B20 Conference, the official G20 dialogue forum for business community?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Manipur
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Gujarat

Answer: Manipur

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh inaugurated a conference on 'Opportunities for Multilateral Business Partnerships in ICT, Tourism, Healthcare and Handloom' in Imphal. This was the first of the four sessions of B20 scheduled in Northeast India. B20 is the official G20 dialogue forum for the global business community. Manipur had launched new Industrial and Investment Promotion Policy, Industrial Single Window Clearance Act, 2021 and Integrated Logistics Policy, 2022 for ease of doing business.

83. 'DUSTLIK' is a military training exercise undertaken by India with which country?

- [A] Iran
- [B] Uzbekistan
- [C] Sri Lanka
- [D] Bangladesh

Answer: Uzbekistan

India-Uzbekistan biennial military training Exercise DUSTLIK 2023 will be conducted in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand. The Indian contingent will be represented by the 14th Battalion of the Garhwal Rifles, part of Western Command in this bilateral exercise. This joint exercise is aimed at enhancing military capability to undertake multi-domain operations in a Sub Conventional scenario under United Nations Mandate.

84. Teja variety of red chilli is prevalently grown in which state/UT?



- [A] Odisha
- [B] Telangana
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Kerala

Answer: Telangana

The rising demand for the popular Teja variety of red chilli in the export market is aiding the Khammam Agriculture Market, which is Telangana's second largest chilli market yard. The chilli is famous for its culinary, medicinal and other wide-ranging uses. It is also a main ingredient in making pepper spray. The huge demand for Oleoresin, a natural chilli extract, is mainly driving the export of Teja variety of red chilli from Khammam to various Asian countries.

85. Which country launched the 'Hwasong-15' is the Intercontinental ballistic missile?

- [A] Israel
- [B] France
- [C] North Korea
- [D] USA

Answer: North Korea

The Hwasong-15 intercontinental ballistic missile (ICBM) has been recently launched at Pyongyang International Airport, in North Korea. South Korea alleged that North Korea could test-fire intercontinental ballistic missiles on a lower, longer trajectory and conduct its seventh nuclear test this year. North Korea has so far conducted ICBM tests only on lofted trajectories.

86. Which institution announced to set up panel on investor protection regime?

- [A] RBI
- [B] SEBI
- [C] Supreme Court
- [D] NITI Aayog

Answer: Supreme Court

The Supreme Court has rejected the government's submission of a list of experts in a sealed cover for a panel to examine the country's investor protection regime. The court will select the committee's members on its own, said a bench headed by Chief Justice DY Chandrachud. The apex court is hearing public interest litigation (PIL) on the Hindenburg Research report into the Adani Group and the impact it has had on investors. The top Court also rejected the government's proposal of sealed cover suggestions.

87. Northern India's first nuclear plant is set to come up in which state?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] Haryana
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Punjab

Answer: Haryana

North India's first nuclear power plant is coming up in Gorakhpur, Haryana, about 150 km north of the national capital. Department of Atomic Energy has been given permission to set up joint ventures with PSUs for resources to open atomic energy plants.

88. The term 'Corrupt Practice' is defined in which act in India?

- [A] Indian Penal Code
- [B] Representation of People's Act
- [C] Code Of Criminal Procedure
- [D] Indian Evidence Act

Answer: Representation of People's Act



Issues concerning 'corrupt practice' is dealt with by Section 123 of the Representation of People's Act, 1951. Recently, the Supreme Court observed that no individual in India cast their votes based on the education qualifications of the candidate. Therefore, false information regarding the electoral candidate's education qualifications cannot be considered as corrupt practice.

89. 'New START Treaty' which was seen in the news, is a treaty between which two countries?

- [A] USA-UAE
- [B] USA-Russia
- [C] France-India
- [D] India-Sri Lanka

Answer: USA-Russia

The New START Treaty is the last remaining nuclear arms control treaty between the US and Russia. Russian President Vladimir Putin recently announced Russia's intention to suspend the participation in this treaty. The treaty caps the number of strategic nuclear warheads that the two countries can deploy. It was signed in 2010 between former US President Barack Obama and Russian President Dmitry Medvedev.

90. 'The Mukaab' is a new development project, associated with which country?

- [A] Saudi Arabia
- [B] Israel
- [C] France
- [D] Australia

Answer: Saudi Arabia

The Mukaab is a new development project that has been announced by Saudi Arabia's Crown Prince and Prime Minister Mohammed bin Salman. The ambitious plan aims to build the largest inner-city building in the world named 'The Mukaab' in Riyadh, the country's capital. It aims to develop the world's largest modern downtown in Riyadh in line with Saudi Vision 2030.

91. ULTRASAT, is the first telescope mission of which country?

- [A] UAE
- [B] Israel
- [C] Iran
- [D] France

Answer: Israel

ULTRASAT, Israel's first telescope mission, is set to be launched into a geostationary orbit in early 2026 through a partnership between NASA and the Israel Space Agency. The ultra-violet observatory will focus on observing short-duration space events such as supernovae and the merging of neutron stars, utilizing its wide field of view to quickly capture ultraviolet light from such sources.

92. When is the 'International Mother Language Day 2023' observed?

- [A] 18 February
- [B] 21 February
- [C] 24 February
- [D] 27 February

Answer: 21 February

February 21 is observed as the International Mother Language Day. Its aim is to promote linguistic and cultural diversity and multilingualism across the world. It was first announced by the UNESCO's General Conference in 1999 and formally recognized by the UNGA in 2002. The year 2008 marked the International Year of Languages. The theme for 2023 is 'Multilingual education – a necessity to transform education'.



93. As per a recent study, people in India, Pakistan, Peru and China are more vulnerable to which condition?

- [A] Glacial lake outburst
- [B] Heat Waves
- [C] Landslides
- [D] Dust Storms

Answer: Glacial lake outburst

Glacial lake outburst is an occurrence where water is suddenly released from a lake that is dammed by a glacier, causing flooding downstream. According to a study titled 'Glacial Lake outburst floods threaten millions globally,' around 15 million people around the world are vulnerable to the glacial lake outburst. More than half of the vulnerable population live in India, Pakistan, Peru, and China.

94. FLDG arrangement, which was seen in the news, is related to which field?

- [A] Sports
- [B] Diplomacy
- [C] Finance
- [D] Agriculture

Answer: Finance

First loss default guarantee (FLDG) arrangement allowed fin-tech companies to provide a guarantee to compensate for up to a certain percentage of default in a loan portfolio. The RBI has banned the FLDG arrangement under its digital lending guidelines due to concerns regarding fin-techs taking on default risks without regulation. Fintech lenders are exploring alternative business models.

95. A severe form of 'Mpox Virus' has been found in immunosuppressed people suffering from which disease?

- [A] HIV
- [B] COVID-19
- [C] Cancer
- [D] Tuberculosis

Answer: HIV

Mpox virus is an orthopoxvirus that causes monkeypox or mpox, a disease that has symptoms similar to smallpox but less severe. This pathogen is deadly in 15 percent of affected people and it was largely confined to Africa. A severe form of this virus has been found in immunosuppressed people living with the advanced stage of HIV.

96. Horaglanis populi, which was seen in the news, belongs to which species?

- [A] Cat fish
- [B] Spider
- [C] Turtle
- [D] Snake

Answer: Cat fish

Horaglanis populi is a newly discovered species of aquifer-dwelling catfish. It was found in the lateritic aquifer systems in Kerala. The state currently has 4 endemic species of Horaglanis genus. The new species has 4 pairs of well-developed barbels and a blood-red body. Its length is less than 3.2 cm. It is blind and does not have pigments. It is highly vulnerable to extinction due to its small ranges.

97. Who is the chair of the 22nd Law Commission, which was recently extended until 2024?

- [A] Justice Rituraj Awasthi
- [B] Justice Ranjan Gogoi
- [C] Justice Chandru
- [D] Justice Jasti Chelameswar



Answer: Justice Rituraj Awasthi

The Union Cabinet has granted an extension of the 22nd Law Commission's term until August 31, 2024. The Commission is chaired by former Karnataka High Court Chief Justice Rituraj Awasthi. The Commission is responsible for identifying and repealing outdated laws, reviewing existing laws, and proposing necessary changes. It will also simplify Central Acts and remove inconsistencies. The Commission is also investigating key issues such as the implementation of a Uniform Civil Code and holding simultaneous elections.

98. Rideau Canal Skateway, which was seen in the news, is in which country?

- [A] Australia
- [B] Canada
- [C] Germany
- [D] USA

Answer: Canada

The Rideau Canal Skateway is a popular winter attraction in Ottawa, Canada. It is the world's largest skating rink. It is part of the Rideau Canal, a UNESCO World Heritage Site. For the first time since it was built in 1971, Rideau Canal Skateway will not open because of the lack of ice. This is due to the unusually high temperature in the region.

99. Which country has launched 'Commercial Arms Transfer (CAT) Policy'?

- [A] USA
- [B] UK
- [C] Germany
- [D] Russia

Answer: USA

The US administration has unveiled a new Commercial Arms Transfer (CAT) policy that places greater emphasis on human rights in its arms export policy. This is in contrast to the Trump-era policy that gave more importance to commercial considerations. The new policy covers the review of government-to-government weapons transfers, security assistance, and licensed commercial sales of US-origin military equipment overseen by various government departments.

100. Which by-product of fertilizer production also weakly radio-active, is to be used in construction of roads by NHAI?

- [A] Sulphur-gypsum
- [B] Phosphor-gypsum
- [C] Benzyl-gypsum
- [D] Potash gypsum

Answer: Phosphor-gypsum

Phosphor-gypsum, a by-product of fertilizer production, is composed of gypsum but is weakly radio-active due to naturally occurring uranium and thorium. It is not commonly used in construction due to concerns about its radioactivity, resulting in indefinite storage. The NHAI is exploring the possibility of using phosphor-gypsum waste material in the construction of national highway and achieve circular economy. An Indian fertilizer company recently constructed a road using the neutralised phosphor-gypsum waste material.

101. The Union Cabinet approved the air services agreement between India and which country?

- [A] Namibia
- [B] Egypt
- [C] Guyana
- [D] South Africa

Answer: Guyana



The India-Guyana air services agreement has been approved by the Union Cabinet recently. The agreement will enable flight services between the two countries. According to the 2012 census, Indians comprise about 40 per cent of the population in Guyana. Both India and Guyana are signatories to the Convention on International Civil Aviation. India has air services agreements with around 110 countries.

102. Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination (WMCC) Meeting was held in which country?

- [A] China
- [B] Japan
- [C] Australia
- [D] Myanmar

Answer: China

The Working Mechanism for Consultation and Coordination on India-China Border Affairs (WMCC) was established as a result of a 2012 agreement between India and China. Its main purpose is to facilitate regular and institutional exchanges between the two neighbours. Recently, the top official in India's External Affairs Ministry visited China to attend the 26th WMCC. It was held in Beijing.

103. Which country recently recorded the 'Anopheles Stephensi' mosquito species?

- [A] South Africa
- [B] Congo
- [C] Egypt
- [D] Kenya

Answer: Kenya

Anopheles stephensi is a mosquito species that can transmit both *Plasmodium falciparum* and *P. vivax* malaria parasites. Recently, Kenya recorded this species, making it the sixth and the latest country in Africa to report the invasion of this vector. The species is well adapted to urban areas and has been spreading to new regions, including parts of East Africa.

104. Where is the Indian Navy's Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) located?

- [A] Gurugram
- [B] Vishakhapatnam
- [C] Panaji
- [D] Bhubaneswar

Answer: Gurugram

The Indian Navy's Information Fusion Centre for Indian Ocean Region (IFC-IOR) is located in Gurugram. It is a regional maritime security centre that was launched in 2018. It aims to promote maritime security in the western Indian Ocean. It recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Regional Coordination Operations Centre (RCOC) of Seychelles.

105. le Clot, which was seen in the news, is an ancient crater located in which country?

- [A] Australia
- [B] France
- [C] New Zealand
- [D] USA

Answer: France

le Clot is an ancient crater located within the Domaine du Meteore vineyard in France. It measures 220 meters in diameter and 30 meters in depth. This is a major discovery since finding of small crater is rare. Currently, only 3 structures have been recorded -one in France and two in Germany. The presence of the le Clot was confirmed after finding the presence of iron oxide spherules, shock microdiamonds, and a magnetic low within the crater.



106. 'Super Pigs' have been recently spotted in which country?

- [A] India
- [B] China
- [C] United States
- [D] North Korea

Answer: United States

Canada's super pigs have been recently spotted in the United States. These non-indigenous species cause major damage to the North American region by spreading diseases and eating away the crops. Super pig came as a result of the cross-breeding of domestic pigs and wild boars. It is highly intelligent and elusive. The crossbreed was created to help pigs withstand the subzero temperature in Canada.

107. Mad Cow Disease has been confirmed in cattle of which country?

- [A] India
- [B] China
- [C] Brazil
- [D] Argentina

Answer: Brazil

Mad cow disease, also known as bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), is a fatal and progressive disease affecting the central nervous system of adult cattle. Brazil, one of the world's largest beef exporters, has temporarily suspended its beef exports to China after a confirmed case of mad cow disease.

108. 'National Health Authority's Scan and Share Service' was launched as part of which scheme?

- [A] Swachh Bharat Mission
- [B] Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission
- [C] Mission Indradhanush
- [D] Janani Suraksha Yojana

Answer: Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission

National Health Authority's Scan and Share service has been adopted by 365 hospitals across 25 states and UTs in India within five months of its launch. It was launched as part of Ayushman Bharat Digital Mission. The service enables paperless and instant token generation for outpatient department (OPD) registration using a unique QR code displayed by participating hospitals.

109. Kaziranga National Park is located in which state?

- [A] West Bengal
- [B] Assam
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Sikkim

Answer: Assam

Kaziranga National Park is a protected area located in the Indian state of Assam. It is home to a large population of one-horned rhinoceroses, As of 2018 census, 2,613 rhinos are living in the park. The Central government has sought a factual report on the rhino population numbers in the National Park and Tiger Reserve based on the survey conducted in March 2022. Earlier, an activist found the possibility of number of rhinos being inflated.

110. Which state was ranked the top performer in the 'Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Index 2022'?

- [A] West Bengal
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Madhya Pradesh



Answer: West Bengal

The Institute for Competitiveness released the second edition of the Foundational Literacy and Numeracy Index 2022. It measures the literacy of children below the age of 10. The index measures states based on five key parameters including educational infrastructure, access to education, basic health, learning outcomes, and governance. It ranked West Bengal as the top performer and Uttar Pradesh as the lowest among large state category.

111. A mix of Fentanyl and animal tranquilizer called Xylazine, known as 'Tranq Dope' is causing concerns in which country?

- [A] India
- [B] Sri Lanka
- [C] USA
- [D] China

Answer: USA

A dangerous mix of Fentanyl and animal tranquilizer 'Xylazine', known as "Tranq Dope," is being sold in the US. Xylazine, an animal tranquilizer, is known for destructive effects on people's skin. The substance is being used as a synthetic cutting agent for opioids like heroin and is causing outbreaks of skin infections and overdoses in major cities across the country.

112. What is the name of the small space rock, which is responsible for the coolant leakage of the Soyuz MS-22 capsule?

- [A] Mini-meteoroid
- [B] Micro-meteoroid
- [C] Ultra-meteoroid
- [D] Milli-meteoroid

Answer: Micro-meteoroid

Micrometeoroid is a small space rock that weighs less than 1 gram. It is responsible for the coolant leakage of the Soyuz MS-22 capsule. This prevented the spacecraft from being either used as a refuge or a return vehicle as its cabin temperature cannot be regulated. As per International Astronomical Union (IAU), the term 'meteoroid' is used to describe any solid object that is found to be moving in space while being less than 1 meter in size.

113. United States conducted a simulated table-top exercise called 'DSC TTX', along with which country?

- [A] India
- [B] South Korea
- [C] Japan
- [D] China

Answer: South Korea

The United States and South Korea recently conducted a simulated table-top exercise called DSC TTX. It is aimed at determining actions to be taken in the event of a possible nuclear attack by North Korea. The exercise was the eighth edition of the US and South Korean deterrence strategy committee table-top exercise.

114. Where is the Urban 20 Engagement Group's inaugural event held?

- [A] Bengaluru
- [B] Ahmedabad
- [C] Varanasi
- [D] Guwahati

Answer: Ahmedabad

The Urban 20 (U20) Engagement Group held its inaugural event in Ahmedabad, attended by more than



70 delegates from 42 cities. This is the largest recorded attendance since the inception of U20. The U20 meeting focused on the role of cities in economic prosperity and ecological harmony. The meeting aimed to equip city governments with on-ground solutions to close the gap between policy and practice.

115. Which country is the host of 'Asia Pacific Conference of German Business' in 2024?

- [A] India
- [B] Germany
- [C] Bangladesh
- [D] Sri Lanka

Answer: India

The Asia-Pacific Conference of German Business (APK) is a flagship event that provides platform to strengthen personal and economic ties between countries in Europe and the Asia-Pacific region. India is likely to host the Asia Pacific Conference of German Businesses in 2024. This was announced during the visit by German chancellor Olaf Scholz to India. The visit largely focused on the war in Ukraine and cooperation in green hydrogen.

116. Tribeni, which is the host of Kumbho Mohotshav, is located in which state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] West Bengal
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Karnataka

Answer: West Bengal

Tribeni Kumbho Mohotshav is an age-old festival that is celebrated on the banks of Ganga River. However, it was stopped 700 years ago and revived only 2 years ago by locals. Its origins can be traced back to thousands of years and it finds mention in Bengali literary works like Mangalakavya, Vaishnava literature, Shakta literature and others. Various Bengali traditional genres like Kirtan, Baul, Godiyo Nritto, Sree-Khol, Poter Gaan, and Chou-Nach were included.

117. 'Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (PRGT)' is a division of which institution?

- [A] International Monetary Fund
- [B] World Bank
- [C] World Economic Forum
- [D] Asian Development Bank

Answer: International Monetary Fund

The Poverty Reduction and Growth Facility (PRGF) is a division of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) that provides financial assistance to the world's most impoverished countries. It was established in 1999, to replace the Enhanced Structural Adjustment Facility. The IMF recently sought urgent action from the international community to strengthen the global financial architecture, including global financial safety net and the debt resolution.

118. Which department released the 'Secretariat Reforms' Report, which shows progress in government operations

- [A] Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- [B] Department of Personnel and Training
- [C] Department of Expenditure
- [D] Department of Revenue

Answer: Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances

The 2nd Edition of the Secretariat Reforms report for January 2023 shows significant progress in various areas of government operations like decision-making and public services. It was released by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG). The report focused on areas such as Swachhata Campaign, efficiency in government decision-making, e-Office implementation and



the government's best practices.

119. The 18th World Security Congress witnessed the adoption of which declaration?

- [A] Varanasi Declaration
- [B] Jaipur Declaration
- [C] Pune Declaration
- [D] Mysuru Declaration

Answer: Jaipur Declaration

The conclusion of the 18th World Security Congress witnessed the adoption of the Jaipur Declaration. It was held jointly by India's Railway Protection Force (RPF) and Paris-based International Union of Railways (UIC). This globally-recognized platform focuses on the current security challenges in the railways sector.

120. Which country created a 'Recovery Visa' recently to help bring in specialist workers?

- [A] India
- [B] New Zealand
- [C] China
- [D] Sri Lanka

Answer: New Zealand

New Zealand created a Recovery Visa recently to help bring in specialist workers required to support the rebuilding efforts in the disaster-hit regions of the country. It was launched after the Gabrielle cyclone and Auckland flooding. It covers experts such as insurance assessors, infrastructure and utilities engineers and technicians, heavy machinery operators and debris removal workers.

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