

Current Affairs MCQs PDF - January, 2023



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These Questions are part of GKToday's Current Affairs 2022 **Daily 20 MCQ Series** in [GKToday Android Application](#).

1. Which institution has urged stock exchanges to set up Investor Risk Reduction Access (IRRA) platform?

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

Answer: SEBI

Markets regulator SEBI has asked stock exchanges to set up an Investor Risk Reduction Access (IRRA) platform. The platform will give investors an opportunity to square off their position or cancel pending orders in case of disruption of trading services. There is a rise in instances of glitches in systems of trading members, some of which lead to disruption of trading services.

2. What is the target for agricultural and processed food products from India for 2022-23?

- [A] USD 3.56 billion
- [B] USD 13.56 billion
- [C] USD 23.56 billion
- [D] USD 43.56 billion

Answer: USD 23.56 billion

India's agricultural and processed food products exports rose by 16 per cent in the first eight months (April-November) of the current financial year 2022-23 on an annual basis. For the year 2022-23, an export target of \$23.56 billion has been fixed for the agricultural and processed food products basket. At present, the agricultural exports attained 74 per cent of its annual export target.

3. New Jalpaiguri, which was in the news related to Vande Bharat Express, is located in which state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] West Bengal
- [C] Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Gujarat

Answer: West Bengal

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually flagged off the Vande Bharat express connecting Howrah and New Jalpaiguri. It is a railway station in Siliguri, West Bengal and is considered as the gateway to the northeast. The Vande Bharat Express covers a distance of 564 km in 7.45 hours, will save three hours of travel time. The Vande Bharat express will be preferred by tea industry executives and tourists travelling to the Himalayas in North Bengal and Sikkim.

4. Which city is the host of 'Cooperative Beneficiaries Conference'?

- [A] Chennai
- [B] Bengaluru
- [C] Cochin
- [D] Ahmedabad

Answer: Bengaluru

Union Minister of Home and Cooperation, Amit Shah addressed the 'Cooperative Beneficiaries Conference' in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The first cooperative society in the whole country was established in Gadag district of Karnataka in 1905. The Minister announced that one cooperative society will be formed in every panchayat of the country. NABARD, NDDDB and the Ministry of Cooperation have prepared an action plan to form 2 lakh new such cooperative societies in three years.

5. Which company is acquiring Ford India's manufacturing plant?



- [A] Eicher Motors
- [B] Tata Motors
- [C] Mahindra and Mahindra Motors
- [D] Hyundai Motors

Answer: Tata Motors

Tata Motors said the acquisition of Ford India's manufacturing plant at Sanand through its subsidiary will be completed by January 2023. Tata Passenger Electric Mobility Limited (TPEML) announced that would acquire Ford India's Sanand plant in Gujarat for around ₹725 crore. The acquisition included the entire land and buildings, vehicle manufacturing plant along with machinery and equipment and transfer of all eligible employees of FIPL's vehicle manufacturing operations at Sanand.

6. Which company has partnered with the Spain-based Stark Future SL, in the field of electric motorcycles?

- [A] Hero Motorcorp
- [B] Eicher Motors
- [C] TVS Motors
- [D] Honda Motors

Answer: Eicher Motors

Automobile firm Eicher Motors, the parent company of Royal Enfield, announced a strategic collaboration in the space of electric motorcycles with Spain-based Stark Future SL. As part of this collaboration, the board of Eicher Motors has approved an investment of 50 million euros for 10.35% equity stake in Stark Future. Stark Future is a European electric motorcycle manufacturer with focus in the area of performance electric motorcycles.

7. Which state announced special schemes for Green Tech, Rural Impact and Women-led startups?

- [A] Telangana
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Punjab
- [D] New Delhi

Answer: Tamil Nadu

The Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission (StartupTN) has rolled out special packages of assistance for Green Tech, Rural Impact and Women-led startups. Chief Minister M.K. Stalin launched the initiative, which included funds earmarked under StartupTN's flagship grant scheme, Tamil Nadu Startup Seed Grant Fund (TANSEED). It also announced a 50 per cent increase in grants for startups falling under special categories. He also launched a MentorTN portal, under which budding startups can approach successful entrepreneurs, professionals and trusted subject matter experts.

8. What is the target of number of Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres under the Ayushman Bharat?

- [A] 1 Lakh
- [B] 1.5 Lakh
- [C] 2.5 Lakh
- [D] 5 Lakh

Answer: 1.5 Lakh

The government has achieved the target of starting 1.5 lakh Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres across the country, as per the Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya. Under Ayushman Bharat, the government had set a target of transforming existing 1.5 lakh Sub-Health Centres (SHCs) and rural and urban Primary Health Centres (PHCs) across the country as AB-HWCs by December 2022.

9. Which institution released the 'Statistical Tables relating to Banks in India'?

- [A] Finance Ministry



- [B] Reserve Bank of India
[C] NITI Aayog
[D] World Bank

Answer: Reserve Bank of India

The Reserve Bank released its web publication titled 'Statistical Tables relating to Banks in India: 2021-22'. The publication covers the activities of the Indian banking sector. It presents entity-wise information of liabilities and assets; income and expenses; financial ratios, number of employees and details of priority sector advances for scheduled commercial banks among other information.

10. Zuari Bridge, the second largest cable-stayed bridge in India, is located in which state/UT?
[A] Arunachal Pradesh
[B] Punjab
[C] Goa
[D] Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: Goa

Union Minister Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the first phase of a new bridge on the Zuari River which will improve connectivity between North Goa and South Goa. Zuari Bridge is the second largest cable-stayed bridge in India, behind Mumbai's Bandra-Worli sea link. The bridge is part of a Rs 2,530 crore road project covering a distance of 13.2 kilometres between Bambolim and Verna villages in Goa. Dilip Buildcon is constructing the new Zuari bridge.

11. Which country has taken over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first six months of 2023?
[A] Finland
[B] Sweden
[C] Italy
[D] Germany

Answer: Sweden

Sweden has taken over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for the first six months of the year, on January 1, 2023. It followed Czech Republic, which headed the Council in the second half of 2022. This is the third time that Sweden has taken over the Presidency of the Council. The EU Council Presidency rotates every six months between the Member States of the EU.

12. Which Asian country has officially recognised e-Sports as part of multi-sports events?
[A] Sri Lanka
[B] India
[C] Bangladesh
[D] China

Answer: India

The President of India, Droupadi Murmu, in exercise of the powers conferred by clause (3) of article 77 of the Constitution amended the rules governing E-sports. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology and the Sports Ministry are asked to include 'e-Sports as part of multi-sports events'.

13. What is the name of the annual state-level Youth Festival organised in Kerala?
[A] Keralotsavam
[B] Kerala Sahavu
[C] Malayala Manorama
[D] Mallu Magic

Answer: Keralotsavam

Keralotsavam is the state-level Youth Festival of Kerala. It is coordinated by Kerala State Youth Welfare Board. Palakkad emerged the overall champions of the state-level sports competitions held as a part of



Keralotsavam. Kozhikode and Kannur stood in the second and third positions. The government provides support for setting up training grounds in all village panchayats.

14. International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP) recognised the 'Nijaat' Campaign of which state Police?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Chhattisgarh
- [C] Kerala
- [D] New Delhi

Answer: Chhattisgarh

International Association of Chiefs of Police (IACP), US-based international organisation has selected 'Nijaat' campaign of Chhattisgarh police for 'Leadership in Crime Prevention' in the institutional category. The anti-drug and illicit liquor campaign was launched by the Chhattisgarh police includes tough action against businesses of illegal drugs or narcotics, public awareness, and extending support in counselling and rehabilitation.

15. What is the name of the difference between the total revenue and total expenditures of a country in a year?

- [A] Fiscal Deficit
- [B] Revenue Deficit
- [C] Primary Deficit
- [D] Budget Deficit

Answer: Fiscal Deficit

Fiscal Deficit is the difference between the total revenue and total expenditures of a country in a year. The Fiscal Deficit at the end of November touched 59 per cent of the full year budget estimate. According to data released by the Controller General of Accounts (CGA), the fiscal deficit was ₹978,154 crore in the April-November period 2022-23.

16. Where is the 'Institute of Veterinary Biological Products (IVBP)' located?

- [A] Pune
- [B] Ahmedabad
- [C] Lucknow
- [D] Mysuru

Answer: Pune

The government signed a pact with the Pune-based Institute of Veterinary Biological Products (IVBP) for commercial production of 'Lumpi-ProVac' vaccine. It is an indigenously developed vaccine for the control of lumpy skin disease in cattle. At present Goat Pox vaccine is used for controlling Lumpy Skin Disease in animals. ICAR-NRCE, Haryana, in collaboration with ICAR- IVRI, Uttar Pradesh developed the vaccine named Lumpi-ProVac.

17. What is the total investment made by the Department of Science & Technology in the Science and Technology system in 2022-23?

- [A] Rs 2002 crore
- [B] Rs 4002 crore
- [C] Rs 6002 crore
- [D] Rs 8002 crore

Answer: Rs 6002 crore

The total investment made by the Department of Science & Technology in Science and Technology system in 2022-23 is Rs 6002 crore. In the last 8 years, the investment has doubled from about Rs 2900 crore in 2014-15 to Rs 6002 crore in 2022-23. The Gross Expenditure on R&D (GERD) has increased more than three times in the last 10 years, as per the year-end review report of the Ministry.



18. Which cabinet has decided to merge its districts with existing ones and redraw boundaries in 14 places?

- [A] Punjab
- [B] Assam
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Bihar

Answer: Assam

The Assam Cabinet decided to merge four districts with existing ones and redraw boundaries in 14 places. The decision was taken a day ahead of the Election Commission's (EC) deadline on starting the delimitation exercise for assembly and parliamentary seats. EC earlier announced fresh delimitation of 126 assembly and 14 parliamentary seats and banned creation of new administrative units.

19. The New Integrated food security Scheme subsumes two current schemes of which Ministry?

- [A] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- [B] Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- [C] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Rural Development

Answer: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

The new integrated food security Scheme was rolled out with effect from 1 January 2023. It would provide free food grains to 81.35 crore beneficiaries under National Food Security Act (NFSA). The new scheme will subsume two current food subsidy schemes of the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution namely the Food Subsidy to FCI for NFSA, and Food Subsidy for decentralized procurement states.

20. Which country has handed over the chairmanship of Wassenaar Arrangement to India in 2023?

- [A] France
- [B] Germany
- [C] Ireland
- [D] USA

Answer: Ireland

India assumed the chairmanship of the plenary of the Wassenaar Arrangement for one year on January 2023. The 42-member Wassenaar Arrangement is a voluntary export control regime that monitors transfers of conventional weapons and dual-use goods. Ireland's ambassador handed over the chairmanship to India's ambassador last year. India joined the Wassenaar Arrangement in December 2017 as its 42nd participating state.

21. Which state received the largest outlay in the total expenditure of Rs 13,000 crore on cleaning the Ganga since 2014?

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

Answer: Uttar Pradesh

The Union government spent more than Rs 13,000 crore on cleaning the Ganga since 2014. The Ganga Council recently met in Kolkata and Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the meeting through video conference. Uttar Pradesh received the largest outlay among states at 4,205 crore. Bihar is in second place at 3,516 crores. Bengal (1,302 crore), Delhi (1,253) and Uttarakhand (1,117) are the other regions in the top five states.

22. As per the Ministry of Culture, how many centrally protected monuments are missing?

- [A] 10



- [B] 20
- [C] 50
- [D] 100

Answer: 50

According to a submission made in Parliament by the Ministry of Culture, 50 of India's 3,693 centrally protected monuments are missing. The missing monuments include 11 that were in Uttar Pradesh, two each in Delhi and Haryana. The list also included monuments in Assam, West Bengal, Arunachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand. As per the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI), 14 of these monuments have been lost to rapid urbanisation, 12 are submerged by reservoirs or dams, and the locations of remaining 24 are untraceable.

23. Which institution builds the K9-Vajra tracked self-propelled howitzers?

- [A] DRDO
- [B] HAL
- [C] Larsen & Toubro
- [D] BHEL

Answer: Larsen & Toubro

The Defence Ministry has started the process for procurement of 100 more K9-Vajra tracked self-propelled howitzers which are built in India by Larsen & Toubro (L&T). The howitzers are built using technology transferred from South Korean defence major Hanwha Defense. The K9-Vajra is a 155 mm, 52-calibre tracked self-propelled howitzer.

24. Which institution launched its Medium-term Strategy Framework named 'Utkarsh 2.0'?

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

Answer: RBI

The Reserve Bank of India's Medium-term Strategy Framework for the period 2023-2025 named 'Utkarsh 2.0' was launched by RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das. The first strategy framework (Utkarsh 2022) covering the period 2019-2022 was launched in July 2019. Utkarsh 2.0 retains the six Vision statements as well as Core Purpose, Values, and Mission statement of the 2022 version.

25. 'Future Engineer Program' is an initiative of which multi-national company?

- [A] Meta
- [B] Amazon
- [C] Samsung
- [D] IBM

Answer: Amazon

Amazon Future Engineer is a program aimed at increasing access to computer science education for children and young adults. It was launched in India in the year 2021. National Education Society for Tribal Students (NESTS), Ministry of Tribal Affairs has partnered with Amazon to empower teachers and students in the field of digital education.

26. Which institution developed the Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) app?

- [A] RBI
- [B] NPCI
- [C] SEBI
- [D] NASSCOM

Answer: NPCI

Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) was launched on 30 December 2016 in India. The payment



application was indigenously developed by National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI). The app lets users make simple and quick transactions using Unified Payments Interface (UPI). In November 2022, National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) announced the launch of BHIM App open source license model. Recently, the sixth anniversary of BHIM app was celebrated.

27. Which state launched 'Didir Suraksha Kawach and Didir Doot' programmes?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] West Bengal
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Haryana

Answer: West Bengal

West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee launched a fresh public outreach programme to reach out to people of the State. Under the initiative of Didir Suraksha Kawach (Didi Protection Shield) about 3.5 lakh volunteers of the Trinamool Congress will reach out to all households of the state about government's flagship programmes. 'Didir Doot' app can be downloaded to register their problems.

28. Ajay Kumar Srivastava has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of which bank?

- [A] Punjab National Bank
- [B] State Bank of India
- [C] Indian Overseas Bank
- [D] Indian Bank

Answer: Indian Overseas Bank

The Centre has appointed Ajay Kumar Srivastava as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Indian Overseas Bank. Partha Pratim Sengupta has demitted office as MD & CEO of the bank after his superannuation. Sanjay Vinayak Mudaliyar, Chief General Manager at Bank of Baroda is appointed as executive director in IOB. As of 30 September 2022, the Government of India held 96.38% in IOB.

29. Where is the headquarters of the Theosophical Society (TS) located?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Odisha

Answer: Tamil Nadu

The Theosophical Society was founded in 1875 by Helena Petrovna Blavatsky and others. It is a worldwide body with the aim to advance the ideas of Theosophy. The 147th International Convention of the Theosophical Society (TS) was organised at its international headquarters in Adyar. "The theme of this conference is 'Our Responsibility in the Interconnected World'.

30. Which sports authority recently introduced 'Yo-Yo and Dexa Tests' in team selection criteria?

- [A] Hockey
- [B] Cricket
- [C] Weight Lifting
- [D] Archery

Answer: Cricket

Ahead of the ICC Men's World Cup that takes place in India in October, the Board of Control for Cricket in India has instructed that Yo-Yo and Dexa Tests will be a part of the team selection criteria. Dexa test or DXA test is Dual Energy X-ray Absorptiometry, which measures bone density using low dose X-rays. The Yo-Yo test is an aerobic endurance fitness test, involving running between markers at increasing speeds.

31. Which Union Ministry launched a five-pronged energy efficiency plan to become carbon-neutral



by 2030?

- [A] Ministry of Coal
- [B] Ministry of Railways
- [C] Ministry of Steel
- [D] Ministry of Tourism

Answer: Ministry of Railways

The Union Railways Ministry has rolled out a five-pronged energy efficiency plan to become carbon-neutral by 2030. The policy is broadly focuses on five action points namely sustainable buildings, cloud-based data monitoring and management portal, energy efficiency in equipment and appliances, power quality and restoration, and capacity building and awareness.

32. Which Union Ministry is associated with 'New industrial policy'?

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

Answer: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Ministry of Commerce and Industry's Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) is working on a new industrial policy. The draft 'Statement on Industrial Policy 2022-Make in India for the world' has been circulated to different ministries for their views and comments. It proposes to increase financing sources for industry and a scheme for promoting Made in India brand.

33. What is the total volume of Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions in December 2022?

- [A] 282 lakh
- [B] 282 crore
- [C] 782 lakh
- [D] 782 crore

Answer: 782 crore

In December, 782 crore transactions in volume terms were done on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform, as per the Department of Financial Services. UPI payments have touched record high of ₹12.82 lakh crore in December. The platform was launched in 2016. In November, as many as 730 crore transactions worth ₹11.90 lakh crore took place via UPI.

34. XBB.1.5 Covid variant has caused a huge rise in new cases in which country?

- [A] South Africa
- [B] Italy
- [C] USA
- [D] Indonesia

Answer: USA

US Centers for Disease Control and Prevention estimates that XBB.1.5 has more than doubled its share of the Covid-19 figures each week. In the Northeast region of the country, XBB.1.5 is causing 75% of new cases. The XBB.1.5 strain is a relative of the Omicron XBB variant, which is a recombinant of the Omicron BA.2.10.1 and BA.2.75 subvariants.

35. 'Koregaon Bhima war memorial' is located in which state?

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

Answer: Maharashtra

The 205th anniversary of the Bhima-Koregaon battle was observed recently as lakhs of Ambedkarites



from across Maharashtra and the country congregated at the memorial. The 'Koregaon Bhima war memorial' is located in Perne village in Pune. People pay floral tributes to the bravery of the Mahar soldiers who fought against the Peshwa forces in the 1818 battle.

36. Anil Kumar Lahoti has taken over the charge of new Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of which institution?

- [A] UIDAI
 - [B] Railway Board
 - [C] PMFBY
 - [D] Tribes India
- Answer:** Railway Board

Anil Kumar Lahoti has taken over the charge of new Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Railway Board, Ministry of Railways. Prior to this, Anil Kumar Lahoti worked as Member (Infrastructure) of the Railway Board. He was behind the planning and construction of Anand Vihar Terminal in Delhi and the Ajmeri Gate side station building. He was also associated with planning for redevelopment of New Delhi station as a World Class station.

37. Which country recently switched to euro from its kuna currency and became the 20th member of the Eurozone?

- [A] Slovenia
 - [B] Croatia
 - [C] Serbia
 - [D] Romania
- Answer:** Croatia

Croatia switched to the euro and entered Europe's borderless zone as Prime Minister Andrej Plenkovic called a historic moment for his country. The Balkan nation bid farewell to its kuna currency and became the 20th member of the Eurozone. It is now the 27th nation in the passport-free Schengen zone. It is the world's largest zone which enables more than 400 million people to move freely around its members. The country of 3.9 million people joined the European Union in 2013.

38. As per the CMIE's latest report, which state had recorded the highest unemployment rate among states in December 2022?

- [A] New Delhi
 - [B] Uttar Pradesh
 - [C] Haryana
 - [D] Andhra Pradesh
- Answer:** Haryana

India's unemployment rate reached a 16-month high of 8.3 percent in December 2022 according to a report by the Centre for Monitoring Indian Economy (CMIE). CMIE added that the increase was partly due to the increase in labour participation rate. The urban unemployment rate increased to 10.09 percent in December while the rural unemployment rate was marginally lower at 7.44 percent. At 37.4 percent, Haryana reported the highest unemployment rate among states, followed by Rajasthan at 28.5 percent and Delhi at 20.8 percent.

39. Which country inaugurated the Pokhara Regional International Airport (PRIA), with the support of China?

- [A] Sri Lanka
 - [B] Nepal
 - [C] Bangladesh
 - [D] Bhutan
- Answer:** Nepal



Nepal Prime Minister Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachand inaugurated the country's third international airport in Pokhara built with Chinese assistance. The Pokhara Regional International Airport (PRIA), a flagship project of Nepal-China Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) cooperation, was constructed with Chinese loan assistance. Besides the Tribhuvan International Airport in Kathmandu, Gautam Buddha International Airport was upgraded as international airport in May 2022.

40. Mohamed Irfaan Ali, who is a recipient of Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award, is the President of which country?

- [A] Israel
- [B] Guyana
- [C] Ukraine
- [D] UAE

Answer: Guyana

President Mohamed Irfaan Ali, the ninth President of Guyana, is one among the 21 recipients of the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA). He will also be the Chief Guest at the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention will be held this time in Indore. US-based businessman Darshan Singh Dhaliwal, and DSB Group CEO Piyush Gupta are among 21 recipients.

41. Which city is the host of the 'VIRAASAT' festival organised by the Ministry of Textiles?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] Tiruppur
- [C] Ahmedabad
- [D] New Delhi

Answer: New Delhi

The second phase of the Sari Festival 'VIRAASAT'- celebrating 75 hand-woven Saris of India is hosted at Handloom Haat, Janpath, New Delhi. The Ministry of Textiles is organizing the festival, while the first phase was held in December 2022. Handloom saris drawn from several exotic locations of India including Jamdani, Ikat, Pochampally, Chanderi, Lalitpuri and Patola are on display and sale at the exhibition.

42. Which country is set to launch 'Electronic Supreme Court Reports (e-SCR) project'?

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

Answer: India

The Supreme Court of India is set to launch a project, to provide free access to official law reports of its verdicts to law students, lawyers and the general public. The Electronic Supreme Court Reports (e-SCR) project will be unveiled on the direction of Chief Justice of India D Y Chandrachud. The project will be rolled out on the Supreme Court's website and will be made available on the mobile application of Supreme Court of India and Judgment portal of National Judicial Data Grid (NJDG).

43. Which city is the host of the Indian Science Congress (ISC)?

- [A] Nagpur
- [B] Indore
- [C] Varanasi
- [D] Cochin

Answer: Nagpur

The 108th session of Indian Science Congress (ISC) has been launched in Nagpur, Maharashtra. Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually addressed the Indian Science Congress 2023. The five-day event is being hosted by the Nagpur University with the focal theme of 'Science and Technology for Sustainable

**Development with Women Empowerment’.**

44. Who is the head of the Committee set up to discuss measures to protect Ladakh's culture, language and employment?

- [A] Jamyang Tsering Namgyal
- [B] Amit Shah
- [C] Nityanand Rai
- [D] RK Mathur

Answer: Nityanand Rai

The Centre has constituted a High Powered Committee to discuss measures to protect Ladakh's unique culture, language and employment. A 17 member committee has been set up under the Chairmanship of Minister of State for Home Affairs Nityanand Rai. Other members include Ladakh Lieutenant Governor RK Mathur, MP Jamyang Tsering Namgyal, and nominee officials of Home ministry among others.

45. Which institution declares ‘Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs)’ in India?

- [A] Ministry of Finance
- [B] Reserve Bank of India
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] Supreme Court

Answer: Reserve Bank of India

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lists Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) of India, that are too big to fail. In the recent list, RBI listed the top three Indian lenders - State Bank of India, ICICI Bank, and HDFC Bank - as Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs). They attract closer supervision and regulation from RBI.

46. Which institution conducts the ‘Systemic Risk Survey (SRS)’ in India?

- [A] State Bank of India
- [B] Reserve Bank of India
- [C] Bombay Stock Exchange
- [D] National Stock Exchange

Answer: Reserve Bank of India

The Reserve Bank of India conducts the Systemic Risk Survey (SRS) in India. As per the recent survey, confidence of respondents in Indian financial system improved as 93.6 per cent of them remaining fairly or highly confident of the stability of the Indian financial system. The 23rd round of the RBI's Systemic Risk Survey was conducted in November 2022. The survey captured perception of risk to financial stability from external sector and their views on the likelihood of a global recession in 2023.

47. Who is the first woman officer to be operationally deployed at Kumar Post, Siachen?

- [A] Captain Shiva Chouhan
- [B] Captain Bhawana Kanth
- [C] Captain Avani Chaturvedi
- [D] Captain Mohana Singh Jitarwal

Answer: Captain Shiva Chouhan

Captain Shiva Chouhan, an officer from the Corps of Electronics and Mechanical Engineers, became the first woman officer to be operationally deployed at Kumar Post in the Siachen Glacier. The post is located at an altitude of 15,632 feet. Kumar Post is named after late Colonel Narinder Kumar, who was instrumental in the Indian Army launching ‘Operation Meghdoot’ and securing the Siachen Glacier in 1984.

48. Where is the ‘Institute of Mathematical Sciences’ located?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] Mysuru



[C] Chennai

[D] Panaji

Answer: Chennai

Department of Posts under Tamilnadu Circle released a Special Cover on 60 Years of The Institute of Mathematical Sciences (IMSc). The Institute of Mathematical Sciences is a premier research institute in Chennai, India founded by Alladi Ramakrishnan in 1962. Since its inception, members of the institute have engaged in research in fundamental and interdisciplinary sciences.

49. How many new members have been recently added to the U.N. Security Council in 2023, for a two-year tenure?

[A] Three

[B] Four

[C] Five

[D] Seven

Answer: Five

Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland were made the new members of the U.N. Security Council for the two-year seats they won unopposed in June. The five countries would replace India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico and Norway in the Council. The ambassadors of the five countries installed their national flags alongside those of other members outside the council chambers.

50. Which country has announced financial support to households to move away from the capital city?

[A] China

[B] Japan

[C] USA

[D] Indonesia

Answer: Japan

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Japan has planned to boost financial support to households to move away from the capital city Tokyo. This move aims to combat depopulation in other areas of the country. Eligible families in the Tokyo metropolitan area will receive 1 million yen (USD 7,700) per child starting in the fiscal year 2023 if they move to a disadvantaged local area. The increased support for children comes on top of a 1 million yen scheme.

51. Which institution commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project?

[A] ONGC

[B] NTPC

[C] PFC

[D] GAIL

Answer: NTPC

NTPC Ltd commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project in the piped natural gas (PNG) network of NTPC Kawas Township, Surat. The project is a joint effort of NTPC and Gujarat Gas Limited (GGL). Green hydrogen in Kawas is made by electrolysis of water using power from already installed 1 MW floating solar project. This feat has been achieved only by few countries like UK, Germany, and Australia.

52. 'Gaan Ngai festival' is celebrated in which Indian state?

[A] Assam

[B] Manipur

[C] West Bengal

[D] Odisha

Answer: Manipur



The Gaan Ngai festival of the Zeliangrong community is celebrated in Manipur. It is celebrated every year after harvesting. During the festival, the Zeliangrong community shows their gratitude by offering their harvest to the almighty. It is a custom to produce new fire by rubbing dry wood and split bamboo pieces and distribute them to other households. The Zeliangrong community in Manipur comprises Rongmei, Liangmei, and Zeme tribes.

53. Which state has announced to start the Kalasa Banduri Nala project?

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

Answer: Karnataka

Karnataka received clearance from the Centre for two Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) on the Kalasa-Banduri Nala on the Mahadayi River. Goa objected to this decision and has planned to represent its concern to the Centre. The Kalasa Banduri Nala project aims to divert water from Mahadayi to satisfy the drinking water needs of 4 districts of Karnataka. The river originates in Belagavi district of Karnataka and flows into the Arabian Sea in Goa.

54. 'Siyom bridge' has been inaugurated in which state/UT?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Jammu and Kashmir
- [C] Arunachal Pradesh
- [D] Punjab

Answer: Arunachal Pradesh

Defence Minister Rajnath Singh inaugurated the Siyom Bridge in Arunachal Pradesh, constructed by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO). It is one among the 28 projects, mostly along the border with China. They include 12 in Ladakh and Jammu & Kashmir, five in Arunachal Pradesh, three each in Sikkim, Punjab and Uttarakhand, and two in Rajasthan.

55. Which country developed the Aadhaar-like platform for 9 countries called 'Modular Open-Source Identity Platform (MOSIP)'?

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

Answer: India

International Institute of Information Technology Bangalore (IIITB) has developed a platform to provide Aadhaar-like digital identities for nine countries. The Modular Open-Source Identity Platform (MOSIP) is a digital identity platform. Citizens of Philippines, Morocco, Sri Lanka, Uganda, Ethiopia, Republic of Guinea, Sierra Leone, Burkina Faso and Togolese Republic will enrol on the platform.

56. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Draft Online Gaming Policy'?

- [A] Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- [B] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [C] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Answer: Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

The draft rules for online gaming in India was released by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY) The 'Draft Amendments to the IT (Intermediary Guidelines and Digital Media Ethics Code) Rules 2021', propose a ban on betting and wagering in online games. The rules propose setting up a self-regulatory body for grievance redressal and mandating know-your-customer (KYC) rules for



gamers and online gaming intermediaries.

57. What is the theme of 'All India Annual State Ministers Conference on Water'?

- [A] Bharat AmritKaal
- [B] Water Vision @ 2047
- [C] Amrit Paani @ 2047
- [D] Sustainable Water

Answer: Water Vision @ 2047

The Prime Minister Narendra Modi addressed the first All India Annual State Ministers' Conference on Water. The theme of the conference is 'Water Vision @ 2047' and the objective of it is to bring together key policymakers for discussions on ways to harness water resources for sustainable development and human development.

58. What is the initial outlay of the National Green Hydrogen Mission?

- [A] Rs 9744 crore
- [B] Rs 19744 crore
- [C] Rs 39744 crore
- [D] Rs 79444 Crore

Answer: Rs 19744 crore

The Union Cabinet approved the National Green Hydrogen Mission with a total initial outlay of Rs 19,744 crore. Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'National Hydrogen Mission' on Independence Day in 2021. If the electricity used for the process of generating hydrogen comes from a renewable source then the hydrogen is referred to as green hydrogen.

59. The recent Supreme Court ruling on Article 19 ambit extended free speech against which entity?

- [A] State
- [B] Private citizens
- [C] Parliamentarians
- [D] Non Resident Indians

Answer: Private citizens

Supreme Court ruled that a citizen can seek enforcement of the fundamental rights to freedom of speech not just against the state. With this the Supreme Court has extended the ground for seeking these rights against other private citizens. The court ruled that the right of free speech and expression guaranteed under the Article 19(1)(a) cannot be curbed by any additional grounds other than those already laid down in Article 19(2).

60. Which state/UT recently joined the free rice scheme of the Centre under the National Food Security Act (NFSA)?

- [A] West Bengal
- [B] Telangana
- [C] Tamil Nadu
- [D] Goa

Answer: Telangana

The Telangana government has decided to join the free rice scheme of the Centre under the National Food Security Act (NFSA). The Central scheme aims to supply five kgs of rice per head per month in a family to 54.44 lakh NFSA cardholders in the State. The State government will extend the scheme to an additional 35.52 lakh cardholders at its own cost.

61. India's National Security Adviser Ajit Doval held a Strategic Dialogue with his counterpart from which country?

- [A] USA
- [B] France



[C] Australia

[D] Sri Lanka

Answer: France

National Security Adviser Ajit Doval and his French counterpart Emmanuel Bonne held discussions on defence and security cooperation. In addition to being the diplomatic advisor to the French president, Emmanuel Bonne is also France's G7-G20 sherpa.

62. When is the 'World Braille Day' observed?

[A] January 2

[B] January 4

[C] January 6

[D] January 8

Answer: January 4

World Braille Day on January 4 is celebrated to honor the birth anniversary of Braille's inventor, Louis Braille from France. Braille, used by blind and partially sighted people, is a tactile representation of alphabetic and numerical symbols using six dots to represent each letter and number, and even musical, mathematical and scientific symbols.

63. Sam Bankman-Fried, who was in the news recently, was the founder of which company?

[A] Tesla

[B] FTX

[C] TikTok

[D] Coinbase

Answer: FTX

The founder of cryptocurrency company FTX, Sam Bankman-Fried faces eight criminal counts, including wire fraud and money laundering conspiracy, among others. He recently pleaded not guilty in Manhattan federal court, to charges of defrauding investors related to the collapse of the crypto exchange. He is accused of redirecting the deposits of FTX customers without their consent to his Alameda Research hedge fund.

64. The Greenfield International Airport at Goa has been named after which leader?

[A] Atal Bihari Vajpayee

[B] Manohar Parrikar

[C] Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

[D] Sushma Swaraj

Answer: Manohar Parrikar

The Union Cabinet has given ex-post facto approval for naming of Greenfield International Airport at Goa's Mopa as Manohar International Airport. It was named after former Defence Minister and Goa chief minister Manohar Parrikar. He served as Chief Minister of Goa from 2017 until his death.

65. The Government has approved Rs 28.11 crore to extend the interest-free loan to tobacco farmers of which state?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Andhra Pradesh

[C] Kerala

[D] Karnataka

Answer: Andhra Pradesh

The government has approved Rs 28.11 crore to extend the interest-free loan to tobacco farmers in Andhra Pradesh. This measure will help the Flue Cured Virginia tobacco farmers overcome the damage caused by Mandous Cyclonic rains, as per the Commerce Ministry. The interest-free loan to the eligible farmers will be administered by the Tobacco Board.



66. Which country has generated a record 87.6 % of power from zero-carbon sources?

- [A] Canada
- [B] Singapore
- [C] UK
- [D] Norway

Answer: UK

The United Kingdom announced that a record 87.6% of power generated into the grid came from zero-carbon sources like wind, nuclear and hydropower. This was announced by National Grid Plc's Electricity System Operator. 67% of Britain's power came from wind, with 19% from nuclear and 9.5% from gas-fired power stations. A wind generation record was also set with almost 21 gigawatts of output.

67. Which Union Ministry is organising the 'Startup India Innovation Week'?

- [A] Ministry of MSME
- [B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [C] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Answer: Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) under the Ministry of Commerce and Industry is organising 'Startup India Innovation Week 2023' from January 10-16. It aims to celebrate the Indian startup ecosystem. On the National Startup Day on January 16, DPIIT will felicitate the winners of National Startup Awards.

68. Which state is set to inaugurate the world's longest river cruise?

- [A] Bihar
- [B] Assam
- [C] Uttar Pradesh
- [D] Uttarakhand

Answer: Uttar Pradesh

Prime Minister Narendra Modi is set to flag off the world's longest river cruise 'MV Ganga Vilas' from Varanasi in Uttar Pradesh. The luxury cruise will cover a distance of more than 3,200 kilometers across 27 river systems in five States in India and Bangladesh. The MV Ganga Vilas vessel has three decks, 18 suites on board with a capacity of 36 tourists, with pollution-free mechanisms and noise control technologies.

69. Which state-owned institution is one of the co-promoters of IDBI Bank?

- [A] RBI
- [B] SBI
- [C] LIC
- [D] Canara Bank

Answer: LIC

At present, the government and state-owned Life Insurance Corporation hold a little over 94 per cent in IDBI Bank and are classified as its co-promoters. The central government is looking to sell nearly 61 per cent stake in IDBI Bank. Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) accepted the central government's request to reclassify its shareholding in the Bank after its disinvestment as 'public holding'.

70. Which Insurance company launched an 'Organ donation initiative' and relay marathon called Zindagi Express?

- [A] Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance
- [B] Aditya Birla Sun life Insurance
- [C] Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance



[D] Max Life Insurance

Answer: Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance

Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance commenced a three-week long organ donation initiative. As part of the initiative, a relay marathon called Zindagi Express is organised to tour nearly 5,500 km across the country to raise awareness about organ donation. For the fourth year in a row, it joined hands with Mohan Foundation, an NGO working in the organ donation landscape.

71. Which city is the host of the 'Auto Expo 2023 - Components show'?

[A] Mumbai

[B] Ahmedabad

[C] New Delhi

[D] Bengaluru

Answer: New Delhi

The 16th edition of Auto Expo 2023- Components Show is scheduled from January 12 to 15, in New Delhi and over 800 companies from 15 countries will participate in the Auto Expo. India's Component industry witnessed a growth of nearly 35% to Rs 2.65 lakh crore in first-half of the year, due to domestic demand from the passenger vehicles segment. It is jointly organised by Automotive Component Manufacturers Association of India (ACMA), Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) and Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM).

72. Which country organised the 10th edition of Dhaka Lit Fest (DLF)?

[A] India

[B] Bangladesh

[C] Nepal

[D] Thailand

Answer: Bangladesh

The 10th edition of the Dhaka Lit Fest (DLF) has recently kicked off in Bangladesh. The DLF is one of the largest literary festivals of Bangladesh. The DLF is being organised after a gap of three years due to the pandemic. Over 500 literary personalities including Nobel Prize Winner for Literature Abdur Razzak Gurnu, film makers, artists and people from the field of science are participating in the event.

73. Which company became the Mobile communications Network Partner of Manchester City in India?

[A] Bharti Airtel

[B] Jio Platforms

[C] BSNL

[D] Vi

Answer: Jio Platforms

Manchester City has announced a new regional partnership with Jio Platforms. With this, the country's leading digital services brand becomes the Club's Official Mobile Communications Network Partner in India. The partnership was supported by RISE Worldwide, a Reliance initiative. As part of the new agreement, Man City's OTT platform CITY+ will be integrated into the JioTV platform providing fans in India further access to exclusive club content.

74. Which footballer has been named as the 'World's Best Player' for 2022 by IFFHS?

[A] Kylian Mbappe

[B] Neymar

[C] Lionel Messi

[D] Cristiano Ronaldo

Answer: Lionel Messi

PSG superstar Lionel Messi has been crowned the 'World's Best Player' for 2022 by the International



Federation of Football History and Statistics (IFFHS). In 51 official games for club and country, Messi scored 35 goals and laid on 30 assists. Messi was also named the winner of the IFFHS World's Best International Goal Scorer 2022 Award. Argentina's coach Lionel Scaloni was voted as the best coach.

75. ISRO has partnered with which company to promote space-tech startups in India?

- [A] Tesla
- [B] Microsoft
- [C] Google
- [D] Apple

Answer: Microsoft

Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Microsoft signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote the growth of space-tech startups in India. The MoU seeks to empower space tech startups across the country with technology tools and platforms, market support and mentorship. The space-tech startups identified by ISRO will be onboarded onto the Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub platform.

76. What is the estimated GDP Growth of India in 2022-23, as per the NSO first advance estimates?

- [A] 6 per cent
- [B] 7 per cent
- [C] 8 per cent
- [D] 8.5 per cent

Answer: 7 per cent

The National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation released the First Advance Estimates (FAE) of National Income for the financial year 2022-23. Real GDP or in the year 2022-23 is estimated at ₹157.60 lakh crore. The growth in real GDP during 2022-23 is estimated at 7.0 per cent as compared to 8.7 per cent in 2021-22.

77. What is the purpose of the 'Aamantran' Portal, which was recently launched?

- [A] Grievance Redressal
- [B] Invitation Management
- [C] Issuance of Electoral Bonds
- [D] Donation to Places of Worship

Answer: Invitation Management

As part of the Government's e-governance initiative, an online Invitation Management Portal was launched. The Aamantran portal can be used to extend e-Invitations to dignitaries/guests and Online Sale of Tickets to general public for witnessing Republic day and Independence day events.

78. 'Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation & 21st Century skills' is one of the themes of which summit?

- [A] Y-20
- [B] ASEAN
- [C] SAARC
- [D] G-7

Answer: Y-20

Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur launched the themes of the Y20 summit, logo and website in the curtain raiser event of Y20 Summit India. Themes of Y20 India are Future of Work: Industry 4.0, Innovation & 21st Century skills, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Reduction: Making Sustainability a way of life, Peace-building and Reconciliation: Ushering in an era of No War, Shared Future: Youth in Democracy and Governance and Health, Wellbeing & Sports: Agenda for Youth.

79. Kevin McCarthy has been elected as the House Speaker of which country?

- [A] UK



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

Answer: USA

Kevin McCarthy was elected as the House speaker after days of painstaking negotiations and failed votes. Earlier, the Republicans in the House of Representatives failed to elect the Speaker amid faction of holdouts continued to not vote for Kevin McCarthy. This was the time since 1923 that a nominee of the majority party in the House wasn't able to win the first vote for the position of Speaker.

80. Which Indian city is the host of the International Kite Festival 2023?

- [A] Pune
- [B] Jaisalmer
- [C] Kolkata
- [D] Ahmedabad

Answer: Ahmedabad

The International Kite Festival 2023 recently commenced in Ahmedabad, Gujarat. Governor Acharya Devvrat inaugurated the festival at Sabarmati Riverfront. The festival is being organized by Gujarat Tourism on the G20 theme of 'One Earth, One Family, One Future. International Kite festival will also be organized in Surat, Vadodara, Rajkot, Dwarka, Somnath, Dhordo, and Kevadia.

81. Which city is the host of the India-US Trade Policy Forum Meeting in 2023?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] California
- [D] Washington DC

Answer: Washington DC

Union Commerce minister Piyush Goyal is visiting New York and Washington DC to participate in India-US Trade Policy Forum. After roundtable meetings with business leaders and think tanks in New York, he will attend the 13th Trade Policy Forum (TPF) meeting in Washington DC. The 12th TPF Ministerial meeting was held on 23 November 2021 after a gap of four years in New Delhi.

82. 'Lecanemab', which was granted approval by the US FDA, is used to treat which disease?

- [A] COVID-19
- [B] Alzheimer
- [C] Cancer
- [D] Diabetes

Answer: Alzheimer

The US Food and Drug Administration granted accelerated approval for the Alzheimer's disease drug Lecanemab. The drug has shown "potential" as an Alzheimer's disease treatment by appearing to slow progression. Though it is not a cure, the drug works by binding to amyloid beta, which is a hallmark of Alzheimer's disease.

83. Which state won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission?

- [A] Kolkata
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Rajasthan

Answer: Odisha

Odisha has won the UN-Habitat's World Habitat Awards 2023 for Jaga Mission initiative of the state. Jaga mission is the world's largest land titling and slum upgrading program which aims at empowering the lives of slum dwellers. Odisha is undertaking Jaga Mission to upgrade all of the state's 2,919 slums.



In the last five years of the initiative, 1,75,000 families have been granted land tenure security.

84. Which institution launched the 'Portal for mapping of Industrial Units and Laboratories'?

- [A] DPIIT
- [B] BIS
- [C] FICCI
- [D] NITI Aayog

Answer: BIS

On the 76th Foundation Day of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS), the portal for mapping of Industrial Units and Laboratories was launched. Commerce and Industry Ministry also launched standards clubs in schools, Standards National Action Plan (SNAP) 2022-27, revised National Building Code of India (NBC 2016) and National Electrical Code of India 2023.

85. Which organisation publishes the Food Price Index (FFPI)?

- [A] UNICEF
- [B] FAO
- [C] IMF
- [D] World Bank

Answer: FAO

The UN agency, Food and Agricultural Organisation (FAO) has published its latest Food Price Index (FFPI) which tracks the monthly international prices of cereals, vegetable oil, dairy, meat and sugar. The FFPI averaged to 132.4 points in December, which is one per cent lower than the previous December. The FFPI was notably higher in 2022 than in 2021.

86. Which city announced to launch a new mobility card to pay fares electronically on buses and metro?

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

Answer: Delhi

Delhi government is set to launch a new mobility card for commuters to pay fares electronically on both buses and the metro. Delhi Transport department issued a notice inviting a tender for the project. The cards are part of the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC), which enables passengers from any part of the country to use NCMC-compliant RuPay debit card for travel.

87. One 97 Communications is the parent entity of which financial service company?

- [A] PhonePe
- [B] PayTm
- [C] Groww
- [D] BharatPe

Answer: PayTm

One 97 Communications is the parent entity of the leading Indian mobile payments and financial services company Paytm, headquartered in Noida. Paytm Payments Bank appointed Surinder Chawla as Managing Director and CEO, after banking regulator RBI's approval. However, the RBI continues to bar Paytm Payments Bank from on-boarding new customers.

88. Which institution announced to issue 'Sovereign Green Bonds'?

- [A] Niti Aayog
- [B] RBI
- [C] NSE
- [D] BSE



Answer: RBI

The Reserve Bank has announced the indicative calendar for the issuance of Sovereign Green Bonds. Accordingly, two auctions will be conducted for an amount of eight thousand crore rupees each. The RBI has informed that five percent of the notified amount will be reserved for retail investors, with options of five years or ten years. The proceeds will be deployed in public sector projects which help in reducing the carbon intensity and mobilising resources for green infrastructure.

89. Which neighbouring country of India is set to dispatch over 159 containers of Ammunition to Ukraine?

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

Answer: Pakistan

Pakistan is planning to dispatch 159 containers of ammunition including projectiles and primers to Ukraine through a port in Poland. A vessel named BBC Vesuvius is set to carry 155 mm projectiles, propelling bag charges and other ammunition. Earlier, Pakistan played a crucial role in transfer of arms on behalf of the UK to Ukraine.

90. Kangla Nongpok Thong, eastern gate of the Kangla fort, has been inaugurated in which state?

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

Answer: Manipur

Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh handed over and dedicated the Kangla Nongpok Thong, an eastern gate of the historic Kangla fort in Imphal to the people of the state. The Nongpok Thong will be manned by India Reserve Battalion (IRB) personnel while the Nongchup Thong (western gate) will remain closed. The Nongpok Thong was constructed through Imphal Smart City Limited (ISCL) as Funding Agency.

91. Which Indian state is the birth place of the modern-day polo, the Sagol Kangjei?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Manipur
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: Manipur

Union Home Minister Amit Shah unveiled a 120-foot-tall statue of a polo player riding a pony at Marjing Polo Complex in Imphal, Manipur. Manipur is considered the birthplace of the game and it reached the British before 1850. In November last year, the first Chief Minister's Sagol Kangjei Championship was held during the Sangai festival to promote the indigenous game. The ponies in Manipur are becoming vulnerable due to lack of grazing grounds.

92. Which city is the host of 'Aadi Shaurya - Parv Parakram Ka', a Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance Festival?

- [A] Ranchi
- [B] Raipur
- [C] New Delhi
- [D] Patna

Answer: New Delhi

Aadi Shaurya - Parv Parakram Ka, a Military Tattoo and Tribal Dance Festival will be held at Jawaharlal Nehru stadium in New Delhi. As per the Defence Ministry, the two-day festival will showcase the



competence of the Armed Forces and the beauty of India's tribal culture. The Ministry of Defence and the Ministry of Tribal Affairs are jointly organising the event.

93. Who is the first Indian Tennis player to win a WTA singles title?

- [A] Yuki Bhambri
- [B] Sania Mirza
- [C] Ramkumar Ramanathan
- [D] Lakshya Sen

Answer: Sania Mirza

Sania Mirza became the first Indian to win a WTA singles title in 2005. She reached her career-high ranking of world number 27 by 2007. Recently, the 36-year-old has confirmed her retirement from professional Tennis. She will be playing at her final Grand Slam appearance in women's doubles at the Australian Open alongside Kazakhstan's Anna Danilina. She will retire at the WTA 1000 event in Dubai. Sania Mirza has won six Grand Slam doubles titles, the first for any Indian.

94. Which Indian state is the host of the Purple Fest, the first Inclusive festival for persons with disabilities?

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

Answer: Goa

Goa organised the Purple Fest, the first Inclusive festival for persons with disabilities. It celebrated the lives and achievements of PwDs and served as a platform to increase awareness towards the inclusion of such persons in the society. Purple Fest was organized at Panjim, by the Directorate of Social Welfare, Office of the State Commissioner for PwDs (Goa), Goa Tourism Development Corporation, Information & Publicity Department (Goa) and Entertainment Society of Goa.

95. Deepor Beel, is the only Ramsar site of which state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Punjab
- [D] Haryana

Answer: Assam

Deepor Beel, the only Ramsar site of Assam, recorded over 26,000 birds of 97 different species during a recent bird count. The site recorded 10,289 birds of 66 species recorded in 2021. It is troubled by developmental projects and urban waste. A spot bird photography contest was also held during the event and repeat of the bird count exercise is scheduled during the Asian Waterfowl Count.

96. 'Kumarakom and Beypore', which were selected under the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme, are located in which state?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Haryana

Answer: Kerala

Kumarakom in Kottayam and Beypore in Kozhikode from Kerala have been selected for development under the Swadesh Darshan 2.0 Scheme. The two places are among 34 other destinations from 19 states and Union Territories selected under the scheme of the Ministry of Tourism. Kerala has many places declared under eco circuit, spiritual circuit, rural circuit, as part of the Swadesh Darshan scheme 1.0.



97. 'Centralised Receipt and Processing Center (CRPC)' and 'Integrated Ombudsman Scheme' are related to which institution?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] Reserve Bank of India
- [C] DPIIT
- [D] ISRO

Answer: Reserve Bank of India

The Reserve Bank of India recently released Annual Report of Ombudsman Schemes for 2021-22. The Centralised Receipt and Processing Center (CRPC) was established by RBI under the Integrated Ombudsman Scheme 2021. As per the report, the volume of complaints received by the ombudsman schemes or consumer education and protection cells during the year 2021-22 increased by 9.39 per cent to 4,18,184. According to the Report, complaints relating to the digital modes of payment and transactions were the highest in number.

98. What is the theme of the "National Science Day 2023"?

- [A] Sustainable Science
- [B] Atmanirbhar India and Science
- [C] Global Science for Global Wellbeing
- [D] Behavioural Science

Answer: Global Science for Global Wellbeing

Union Minister of State Science & Technology; Dr Jitendra Singh released the theme for the 'National Science Day 2023', titled "Global Science for Global Wellbeing". The National Science Day (NSD) is celebrated every year on 28 February to commemorate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' since 1986. On this day Sir C.V. Raman announced the discovery of the 'Raman Effect'.

99. Which institution launched a new system to measure and grade hospital performance under AB PM-JAY?

- [A] NITI Aayog
- [B] NHA
- [C] NSO
- [D] IMA

Answer: NHA

The National Health Authority (NHA) is introducing a new system to measure and grade hospital performance under Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB PM-JAY). The new initiative will introduce the concept of 'value-based care', where payment will be outcome based and providers will be rewarded according to the quality of the treatment delivered. The providers will be rewarded for helping the patients improve their health.

100. Which Union Ministry issued advisory to television channels on reportage of violence?

- [A] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [B] Ministry of Information and broadcasting
- [C] Ministry of Women and Child Development
- [D] Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Answer: Ministry of Information and broadcasting

The Ministry of Information and broadcasting has issued an advisory to television channels against reporting incidents of accidents, deaths, and violence including violence against women, children and the elderly. Ministry observed that the videos are being taken from social media and broadcast without editorial discretion and urged to ensure compliance and consistency with the Programme Code.

101. Which airport of India won the second rank in the Cirium list of top-performing global airports of 2022?



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

Answer: Bengaluru

As per the list of the top-performing global airports of 2022 released by Cirium Aviation Analytics, Haneda Airport of Tokyo, Japan is placed in the first place. Bangalore's Kempegowda International Airport won the 2nd rank, whereas Delhi's Indira Gandhi International Airport acquired the 7th rank.

102. Which state launched a dedicated platform for investors from the global diaspora to make investments in the State's start-ups?

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

Answer: Tamil Nadu

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M.K. Stalin launched 'Global Tamil Angels platform' of Start-upTN, an investment platform for Tamil diaspora. The platform lets investors from the global Tamil diaspora to make investments in the State's start-ups. It was launched at the "Global Startup Investors Summit," jointly organised by the Tamil Nadu Startup and Innovation Mission and FeTNA International Tamil Entrepreneur Network. A multi-crore American Tamil Fund (ATF) by investors from the Tamil Diaspora in the US was also announced.

103. Michael Debabrata Patra, whose term was recently extended serve in which organisation?

- [A] Supreme Court
- [B] Reserve Bank of India
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] Election Commission

Answer: Reserve Bank of India

The Central government has extended the tenure of Dr Michael Debabrata Patra as Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India for one more year. Michael Debabrata Patra took over as Deputy Governor of the RBI in January 2020. He was an Executive Director of India's central bank before being elevated to the post of Deputy Governor.

104. USA announced USD 100 million to which neighbouring country of India for flood recovery and reconstruction aid?

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

Answer: Pakistan

The United States has announced an additional USD 100 million to Pakistan for its recovery and reconstruction efforts. The floods which occurred last year killed as many as 1,739 and affected 33 million people. The funding also includes humanitarian assistance to support flood relief and recovery efforts in refugee hosting areas.

105. Suryakumar Yadav, who was seen in the news, is associated with which sports?

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



Answer: Cricket

Suryakumar Yadav has become the fastest player to reach 1,500 runs in T20 International cricket in terms of balls faced. He took only 843 balls to reach this landmark. The fastest batters to reach this milestone are Virat Kohli, KL Rahul, Australian veteran Aaron Finch and Pakistan skipper Babar Azam, who all took 39 innings to score 1,500 runs in T20 International cricket. Pakistan's Mohammed Rizwan reached the milestone in 42 innings and he is now followed by Suryakumar.

106. What is the name of the short-range ballistic missile which was recently test-launched by India?

- [A] Prithvi II
- [B] Agni V
- [C] Vikas II
- [D] Bhim I

Answer: Prithvi II

Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully carried out a training launch of a Short-Range Ballistic Missile, Prithvi-II from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the Odisha coast. The Defence Ministry said that the missile struck its target with high accuracy. The user training launch successfully validated all operational and technical parameters of the Prithvi-II missile, which has a range of around 350 kilometres.

107. What is the name of the international agreement signed in 1987 to ban Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs)?

- [A] Paris Agreement
- [B] Montreal Protocol
- [C] Chicago Agreement
- [D] Kyoto Protocol

Answer: Montreal Protocol

The Montreal Protocol, an international agreement in 1987 to stop using the harmful chemicals, has been successful, as per a recent UN report. Chlorofluorocarbons (CFCs), which were commonly found in spray cans, fridges, foam insulation and air conditioners, were blamed for damaging the ozone layer.

108. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated Global Investors Summit in which city?

- [A] Mumbai
- [B] Ahmedabad
- [C] Indore
- [D] Lucknow

Answer: Indore

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the 7th edition of 'Invest Madhya Pradesh-Global Investors Summit', in Indore. The theme of the flagship event of the state government is 'Madhya Pradesh-The Future Ready State'. Guyana President Dr Mohamed Irfaan Ali and Suriname President Chandrikapersad Santokhi also addressed the meet.

109. As per UNICEF, child mortality refers to the probability a newborn would die before reaching how many years of age?

- [A] 1
- [B] 3
- [C] 5
- [D] 7

Answer: 5

The child mortality or under-five mortality rate refers to the probability a newborn would die before reaching exactly 5 years of age. It is expressed per 1,000 live births. As per the 'Levels & trends in child mortality 2022' released by UN Inter-agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME), an



estimated 5 million children died before their fifth birthday and another 2.1 million children and youth aged between 5–24 years lost their lives in 2021.

110. Which country is the host of the 'World Hindi Day Conference 2023'?

- [A] Bangladesh
- [B] Maldives
- [C] Fiji
- [D] Thailand

Answer: Fiji

World Hindi Day, also known as Vishwa Hindi Diwas, is observed on January 10 every year. The day aims to create awareness and to promote the Hindi language across the world. The theme this year of the conference is 'Hindi: Traditional Knowledge to Artificial Intelligence'. The World Hindi Day conference is to be held at Nadi, Fiji.

111. Which Indian state passed the Bill providing 30 per cent horizontal reservation to domiciled women of the state?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Uttarakhand
- [C] Jharkhand
- [D] Madhya Pradesh

Answer: Uttarakhand

Uttarakhand Governor Gurmit Singh consented to a Bill providing 30 per cent horizontal reservation to domiciled women of the state in government jobs. Uttarakhand Public Services (Horizontal Reservation for Women) Bill, 2022 was passed by the state assembly.

112. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Statement on climate of India during 2022' report?

- [A] Ministry of Earth Sciences
- [B] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- [C] Ministry of Power
- [D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: Ministry of Earth Sciences

India Meteorological Department (IMD) under the Ministry of Earth Sciences released the 'Statement on climate of India during 2022' report. As per the report, the annual mean land surface air temperature averaged over India during 2022 was +0.510C above the long-term average (1981-2010 period). The year 2022 was the fifth warmest year on record since nationwide records commenced in 1901.

113. Road Transport and Highways Ministry observes Road Safety Week in which month?

- [A] November
- [B] December
- [C] January
- [D] February

Answer: January

Union Road Transport and Highways Ministry observes Road Safety Week from 11th to 17th of January. During the Week, various activities is being organised throughout the Country to create awareness among general public. Ministry will conduct several activities including Nukkad Nataks (Street Shows) and Sensitization Campaigns at various locations.

114. Which country has the world's most powerful passport, as per the Henley Passport Index 2023?

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



Answer: Japan

Japan continues to top the list of the world's most powerful passport for the year 2023, according to the Henley Passport Index report 2023. Japanese citizens can travel to as many as 193 countries visa-free or visa-on-arrival access destinations around the world. The second spot is shared by Singapore and South Korea. Indian passport ranks 85th in the world's most powerful passport index 2023 and gives visa-free entry to 59 destinations.

115. Which state is the host of the 26th National Youth Festival?

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

Answer: Karnataka

The 26th National Youth Festival is scheduled in the twin cities of Hubballi - Dharwad in Karnataka from 12th to 16th January. Union Minister for Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur said that the theme of this year's Youth Festival is 'Vikasit Yuva, Vikasit Bharat'. Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the National Youth Festival-2023 on 12th January, on the Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.

116. Which city is the host of the 'All India Presiding Officers (Assembly Speakers) Conference'?

- [A] Pune
- [B] Jaipur
- [C] Chennai
- [D] Varanasi

Answer: Jaipur

Vice President and Rajya Sabha Chairman Jagdeep Dhankhar has inaugurated the 83rd All India Presiding Officers in Jaipur. Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla, Speakers and Deputy Speakers of various Legislative Assemblies including the Rajya Sabha Deputy Chairman also present in the conference. This 83rd Conference of All India Presiding Officers is being held in Rajasthan after eleven years.

117. Which country has announced a ban on single-use plastic shopping bags from 2024?

- [A] USA
- [B] UAE
- [C] Singapore
- [D] China

Answer: UAE

The United Arab Emirates announced a ban on single-use plastic shopping bags to take effect next year. The law would prohibit the import, production and circulation of such bags from January 1, 2024. A similar ban would apply to plastic cups, plates and cutlery from January 1, 2026. The UAE, host of this year's United Nations climate summit, declared its aim to achieve carbon neutrality by 2050.

118. 'Duare Sarkar' scheme is a flagship initiative of which Indian state?

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

Answer: West Bengal

President of India Droupadi Murmu recently presented the seventh edition of the Digital India Awards 2022. 22 Innovative Digital Initiatives by Government entities under 7 categories received Digital India Awards 2022. West Bengal government's 'Duare Sarkar' scheme, to provide services at the doorstep of citizens, won the platinum award and the CBSE won Gold award for its 'Digital Academic Repository -

**Parinam Manjusha'.**

119. Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee National Institute of Water and Sanitation (SPM-NIWAS) has inaugurated in which city?

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

Answer: Kolkata

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the Dr. Syama Prasad Mookerjee National Institute of Water and Sanitation (SPM-NIWAS) at Joka in Kolkata via video conferencing. SPM – NIWAS has been set up at a cost of around Rs. 100 Crore. Through this apex institute, the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation (DDWS) aims to bridge the knowledge and capacity building gap in public health engineering, sanitation and hygiene through various courses.

120. ReNew Power said installed India's first 3x platform wind turbine generators (WTGs) in which state?

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

Answer: Karnataka

ReNew Power said installed India's first 3x platform wind turbine generators (WTGs) in Gadag, Karnataka. The new WTGs will be a part of the country's first 'Round the Clock' renewable energy project, combining wind, solar and a battery energy storage system (BESS). This project will produce enough energy to power over 1 million households in India annually.

121. Which organisation released the 'Global Risks Report 2023'?

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

Answer: World Economic Forum

The Global Risks Report 2023 was recently released by the World Economic Forum (WEF). As per the report, failure to mitigate climate change' as well as 'failure of climate change adaptation' are the two most severe risks facing the world in the next decade. They are followed by 'natural disasters and extreme weather events' and 'Biodiversity loss and ecosystem collapse'.

122. Which is the first European country to have a Reciprocal Access Agreement with Japan?

- [A] Germany
- [B] UK
- [C] Italy
- [D] France

Answer: UK

The UK Prime Minister signed a landmark defence agreement with the Japanese Prime Minister at London. This is regarded as the most significant defence agreement between the two countries in more than a century, which allows UK forces to be deployed to Japan. The UK is the first European country to have a Reciprocal Access Agreement with Japan.

123. Which state launched the 'shared school bus system' and agriculture response vehicle scheme?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Meghalaya



[C] West Bengal

[D] Bihar

Answer: Meghalaya

Meghalaya Chief Minister Conrad Sangma launched the shared school bus system, part of Sustainable Transport and Efficient Mobility Society (STEMS) programme. He also launched the Prime Agriculture Response Vehicles, to give financial assistance to farmers for procurement of the 'Agriculture Response Vehicles'. Another scheme to provide financial assistance to tourism entrepreneurs to purchase premium tourist vehicles was also launched.

124. Australia has recently signed a new security treaty with which country?

[A] India

[B] China

[C] Papua New Guinea

[D] Maldives

Answer: Papua New Guinea

Australia and Papua New Guinea pledged to clinch a new security treaty within four months, also to tackle the threat of climate change. Australia's President Anthony Albanese became the first foreign leader to address the Papua New Guinea parliament. The agreement comes amid China's ongoing attempts to increase its influence in the Pacific region.

125. As of January 2023, which category of the direct tax mopped up the highest collection?

[A] Income Tax

[B] Corporate Tax

[C] GST

[D] Capital gains tax

Answer: Corporate Tax

As per Finance Ministry's data, India's net direct tax collections stood at ₹12.31 lakh crore as on January 10, at almost 87% of the target for 2022-23. Between April 1, 2022 and January 10, 2023, the government's gross direct tax collections stood at Rs 14.71 lakh crore. Out of that, Rs 7.2 lakh crore is corporate tax and Rs 7 lakh crore is personal income tax.

126. 'Customs Automated System' is associated with which institution?

[A] CBIC

[B] CBDT

[C] RBI

[D] SEBI

Answer: CBIC

The centre has notified the Customs (Assistance in Value Declaration of Identified Imported Goods) Rules, 2023. The rules are aimed at addressing the undervaluation of specified imported goods. The Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC) will come out with a list of identified goods, which will be subject to stricter scrutiny for their true value.

127. Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has specified identity standards for which product, for the first time?

[A] Milk Products

[B] Basmati Price

[C] Health Supplements

[D] Organic Foods

Answer: Basmati Price

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has specified identity standards for basmati rice including brown basmati, milled basmati, parboiled brown basmati, and milled parboiled basmati.



The standards aimed at establishing fair practices in the trade of basmati rice and protect consumer interest, both domestically and globally. These new standards will be enforced from August 1.

128. Covovax, which was recommended as heterologous booster, was manufactured by which company?

- [A] Serum Institute of India
- [B] Biocon
- [C] Dr Reddys Lab
- [D] Bharat Biotech

Answer: Serum Institute of India

An expert panel of Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) has recommended market authorisation for Covovax as a heterologous booster dose for adults, who were administered two doses of Covishield or Covaxin. Serum Institute of India manufactures Covid vaccine, through technology transfer from Novavax. The subject expert committee (SEC) of the CDSCO recommended for market authorisation.

129. Which is the first country to recognise Bitcoin as a legal tender?

- [A] Iran
- [B] Venezuela
- [C] El Salvador
- [D] Maldives

Answer: El Salvador

El Salvador became the first country in the world to recognise Bitcoin as a legal tender two years ago. It has recently approved a law to regulate the issuance of other digital assets by both the state and private entities. The bill aims to attract national and foreign investors while creating new financing opportunities.

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130. Which institution developed the Unified payments interface (UPI) payment system?

- [A] Reserve Bank of India
- [B] National Payments Corporation of India
- [C] Securities Exchange Board of India
- [D] NITI Aayog

Answer: National Payments Corporation of India

Unified Payments Interface (UPI) is a real-time payment system developed by National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). NPCI recently announced that Non-resident Indians (NRIs) will be able to make the unified payments interface (UPI) payments without having an Indian mobile number. NRIs from Singapore, Australia, Canada, Hong Kong, Oman, Qatar, USA, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, can make transactions using the UPI platform with their international numbers.

131. Which state/UT suggested the Centre to grant "migrated minority" status?

- [A] Punjab
- [B] Delhi
- [C] Jammu and Kashmir
- [D] Assam

Answer: Delhi

The Delhi government has suggested that the Centre can grant "migrated minority" status to Hindus who moved to the national capital from places like Jammu & Kashmir or Ladakh where they are a religious minority. This is a part of a compilation of views collected by the Centre from 24 States on whether religious and linguistic minority communities should be identified and notified by the Union or the respective States. The Centre submitted the affidavit in the Supreme Court.

132. 'Pineapple Express' phenomenon, which was seen in the news, is related to which field?



- [A] Agriculture
- [B] Transport
- [C] Meteorology
- [D] Tourism

Answer: Meteorology

California and other parts of the West Coast have been hit with a series of atmospheric rivers, which are long, narrow regions in the atmosphere that transport most of the water vapour outside the tropics. The atmospheric rivers are called 'Pineapple Express' when the tail end, where the moisture is pulled into the atmosphere, starts near Hawaii stretching towards the U.S. West Coast. It is a common atmospheric phenomenon that resembles a conveyor belt for moisture.

133. Which country's air transport faced delays due to glitches in NOTAM (Notice to Air Missions) system?

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

Answer: USA

Thousands of flights, within, into or out of the United States were delayed or cancelled due to a technical glitch. The US Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) NOTAM (Notice to Air Missions) system, which alerts pilots and other flight personnel about hazards or changes to airport facility services, was not processing updated information.

134. Which institution has collaborated with IISc to develop models to speed up screening of antimicrobials?

- [A] Unilever
- [B] Meta
- [C] Biocon
- [D] Tata Consumer Products

Answer: Unilever

Researchers at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) and Unilever have collaborated to develop computational models to speed up screening of antimicrobials. The models of bacterial cell walls can speed up the screening of antimicrobials. Antimicrobials are molecules which can kill disease-causing bacteria. According to IISc, each bacterial cell is enveloped by a cell membrane, which is in turn surrounded by a cell wall.

135. What is the name of the indigenously built vessel to be used for India's manned ocean mission?

- [A] Varunayaan
- [B] Samudrayaan
- [C] Meghayaan
- [D] Prithviyaan

Answer: Samudrayaan

India is set to send three explorers to a depth of 500 meters under the sea in an indigenously built vessel, Samudrayaan, this year. Engineers at the National Institute of Ocean Technology in Chennai have designed the steel sphere that will house the aquanauts in the mission.

136. Swastika Ghosh, who was seen in the news, plays which sports?

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



Answer: Table Tennis

Swastika defeated Chinese Taipei's Liu Hsing-Yin thereby becoming the fourth Indian to qualify for the World Table Tennis Championship. Swastika joins Sreeja Akula, Manika Batra and Sharath Kamal, who qualified for the World by finishing among the top-16 from the continent.

137. Which country is set to send rescue capsule to rescue three crew of the International Space Station?

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

Answer: Russia

Russia announced that it would send rescue capsule to rescue three crew of the International Space Station, after a meteorite damaged the spacecraft. The docked Soyuz MS-22 had a major leak last month, spraying radiator coolant into space and prompting a pair of cosmonauts to abort a planned spacewalk. Russia's space agency, Roscosmos said the strike caused no immediate threat to the crew of the space station.

138. What is LHS 475b, which was recently discovered by the astronomers?

- [A] Star
- [B] Exo-planet
- [C] Comet
- [D] Asteroid

Answer: Exo-planet

Astronomers using the James Webb Space Telescope have validated the discovery of an exo-planet interior to the habitable zone of the dwarf star LHS 475. Named LHS 475b, this planet is almost 99.1% the size of Earth, and has an orbital period of 2.03 days. LHS 475 hosts at least one planet, which was previously classified as a planet candidate by NASA's Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS) mission.

139. Which country announced to increase retirement age from 62 to 64 by 2030?

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

Answer: France

The French Prime Minister Elisabeth Borne has announced that it would increase the retirement age from 62 to 64 by 2030. The government defended the reform as a way to fiscally balance the country's pension system. Full French pension age will be raised by three months every year, starting from 2023.

140. Which country assured to cooperate with small and medium enterprises in the state of Kerala?

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

Answer: Australia

After the signing of the landmark bilateral trade pact India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (IAECTA), Kerala's food sector will open up more opportunities in Australia. The Australian delegation assured to further cooperate with small and medium enterprises in the State. The agreement will be beneficial for the sectors such as gems and jewellery, textiles, leather, footwear, furniture, agricultural products, engineering products, pharmaceuticals and automobiles.



141. Which country is the host of the annual climate change conference (COP 28) in 2023?

- [A] USA
- [B] UAE
- [C] India
- [D] Bangladesh

Answer: UAE

The United Arab Emirates (UAE) will host this year's annual climate change conference (COP 28 in November 2023). The country has named Sultan Al Jaber, Minister for Industry and Advanced Technology, as the president of the conference. The decision has invited criticism from climate activists because Al Jaber is also the CEO of the Abu Dhabi National Oil Company, the world's 12th largest oil company by production.

142. What is the name of the world's longest river cruise, which was flagged off by the Prime Minister?

- [A] MV Ganga Vilas
- [B] MV Bharat Vilas
- [C] MV Gangayaan
- [D] MV Uttarayaan

Answer: MV Ganga Vilas

Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the world's longest river cruise 'MV Ganga Vilas' in Varanasi. The cruise will begin its journey from Varanasi and sail around 3,200 km in 51 days to reach Dibrugarh in Assam via Bangladesh. The Prime Minister also inaugurated a 'Tent City' on the banks of the Ganga River in Varanasi via video conferencing.

143. India's first 3x platform wind turbine generators (WTG) has been installed in which state?

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

Answer: Karnataka

ReNew Power has installed India's first 3x platform wind turbine generators (WTGs) in Gadag, Karnataka. The new wind turbine generators will be a part of the country's first 'Round the Clock' renewable energy project, combining wind, solar and a battery energy storage system (BESS). This project will produce energy to power over 1 million households in India annually.

144. After Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Punjab, which state recently restored the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for government employees?

- [A] New Delhi
- [B] Telangana
- [C] Kerala
- [D] Himachal Pradesh

Answer: Himachal Pradesh

The Himachal Pradesh government decided to restore the Old Pension Scheme (OPS) for government employees, who were covered under National Pension System (NPS). Prior to this, Chhattisgarh, Rajasthan and Punjab have also rolled out the Old Pension Scheme (OPS). This decision will benefit over 1.36 lakh NPS employees of the state. A cabinet Sub Committee has been constituted for the implementation of granting Rs 1,500 to the women of 18 to 60 years.

145. Buxwaha Mine, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?

- [A] Chhattisgarh
- [B] Madhya Pradesh



[C] Assam

[D] Andhra Pradesh

Answer: Madhya Pradesh

Essel Mining and Industries Limited (EMIL), a subsidiary of the Aditya Birla group, has been trying to operationalise a big diamond project in Madhya Pradesh. There are protests over human displacement, environmental damage, loss of livelihood. The mine is inside a forest in Buxwaha, located 200 kms from Sanchi, Madhya Pradesh. Madhya Pradesh accounts for about 90% of the total diamond resource of the country. Andhra Pradesh and Chhattisgarh are the other states that produce diamonds.

146. 'Dekho Apna Desh' campaign is associated with which Union Ministry?

[A] Ministry of Railways

[B] Ministry of Tourism

[C] Ministry of Culture

[D] Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: Ministry of Tourism

'Dekho Apna Desh' campaign was launched by Union Tourism Minister at Konark, Odisha, in accordance with Prime Minister Narendra Modi's appeal to travel to at least 15 destinations by the year 2022, to promote domestic tourism. Indian Railways recently launched the Bharat Gaurav Tourist Train, in line with the 'Dekho Apna Desh' initiative. The train runs on a route connecting pilgrimage sites of Ayodhya in India and Janakpur in Nepal.

147. Which state is the host of the 'Think-20' meeting held under G20?

[A] Gujarat

[B] Madhya Pradesh

[C] Jharkhand

[D] Chhattisgarh

Answer: Madhya Pradesh

Several personalities from across the globe attended the 'Think-20' meeting, held under G20 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh. Various topics, including 'Global Governance with LiFE, Values, and Wellbeing' were discussed in the meeting. The main speaker at the inaugural session was Tetsushi Sonobe, Dean and CEO of the Asian Development Bank Institute, Tokyo.

148. Which state adopted a bill to make its language compulsory for State government jobs?

[A] Maharashtra

[B] Karnataka

[C] Tamil Nadu

[D] Kerala

Answer: Tamil Nadu

The Tamil Nadu Assembly amended a legislation, to make securing a pass in Tamil language paper compulsory for recruitment to State government services. The act was amended with retrospective effect, from December 1, 2021. Previously the act said the employees should pass a 'second class language test' in Tamil within a period of two years from the date of their appointment, failing which they shall be discharged from service.

149. What was India's trade deficit with China in the year 2022?

[A] USD 202 billion

[B] USD 101 billion

[C] USD 20 billion

[D] USD 10 billion

Answer: USD 101 billion

The trade deficit for India stood at USD 101.02 billion, crossing the USD 100 billion mark for the first



time. The trade between India and China touched an all-time high of USD 135.98 billion in 2022, according to data released by Chinese customs. The total India-China trade was 8.4 per cent higher than the USD 125 billion mark in 2021. While China's exports to India climbed to USD 118.5 billion rising 21.7% y-o-y, Indian exports to China dipped to USD 17.48 billion.

150. What is the Retail inflation based on CPI in December 2022 in India?

- [A] 5.72 %
- [B] 6.72 %
- [C] 7.72 %
- [D] 8.72 %

Answer: 5.72 %

Retail inflation based on the consumer price index (CPI), eased to a one-year low of 5.72 percent in December 2022. The inflation figure dipped from 5.88 percent recorded in the previous month. As per the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation data, the retail inflation slipped to lowest level since December 2021. CPI has come below the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) upper margin of 6 percent for the first time in the calendar year 2022.

151. World Health Organization (WHO) recently urged South-East Asian countries to take urgent measures against which disease?

- [A] Polio
- [B] Measles
- [C] Tuberculosis
- [D] Pneumonia

Answer: Measles

World Health Organization (WHO) has urged all nations in South-East Asia to take urgent and accelerated measures against measles. The disease is on the rise as nearly nine million children having missed vaccination in the past two years and 5.3 million children remain partially vaccinated. The measles vaccination coverage significantly reduced after the pandemic.

152. Which country is set to establish a 'Global South Centre of Excellence'?

- [A] Singapore
- [B] Maldives
- [C] India
- [D] Bangladesh

Answer: India

Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India will establish a Global South Centre of Excellence. The Centre aims to undertake research on development solutions of any of developing countries which can be scaled up and implemented in other members of the Global South. He announced this at the concluding session of the Voice of Global South virtual summit.

153. Which institution released the report titled 'Survival of the Richest'?

- [A] World Economic Forum
- [B] Oxfam International
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] Reserve Bank of India

Answer: Oxfam International

A new study titled 'Survival of the Richest' released by Oxfam International on the first day of the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting in Davos. The report showed that the richest one percent of the population in India now owns more than 40 percent of the country's total wealth, while the bottom half of the population shares only 3 percent of the wealth.

154. 'Varuna' is a bilateral naval exercise between India and which country?



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

Answer: France

The "Varuna" bilateral naval exercise between India and France is being conducted on the Western Seaboard. The exercise began in 1993 and was given its name in 2001. This 21st edition of the exercise will include advanced air defence exercises and other maritime operations. The exercise has been regarded as a symbol of the strategic relationship between the countries.

155. Korwa ordnance factory is manufacturing AK-203 assault rifles in a joint venture with which country?

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

Answer: Russia

The AK-203 Kalashnikov is a modern assault rifle that is being manufactured at the Korwa ordnance factory in UP's Amethi district. The AK-203 project is carried out through a joint venture called Indo-Russia Rifles Pvt Ltd. The project seeks to manufacture over six lakh rifles over a 10-year period for a cost of Rs 5,124 crore. The first lot of 5,000 rifles will be delivered to the Indian army by March.

156. Which author has been awarded the 'Federal Bank Literary Award 2022'?

- [A] K Venu
- [B] Sreekumaran Thampi
- [C] Anwar Ali
- [D] M Mukundan

Answer: K Venu

K Venu, a noted writer, was awarded the Federal Bank Literary Award 2022 for his autobiography 'Oranweshananthinte Katha'. The award was presented by Balagopal Chandrasekhar, Chairman and Independent Director of Federal Bank, as a part of the Kerala Literature Festival.

157. The Armed Forces Veterans' Day is celebrated during which month?

- [A] January
- [B] February
- [C] March
- [D] April

Answer: January

The Armed Forces Veterans' Day is celebrated on 14th January every year. As on this day in 1953, the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of Indian Army Field Marshal KM Cariappa, who led the Indian forces to victory in the 1947 war, retired from the Service. The seventh Armed Forces Veterans' Day was celebrated across the country, as a mark of respect to the selfless duty of the ex-servicemen and their sacrifices towards the Nation. The Raksha Mantri also launched the 'Soul of Steel' Alpine Challenge, an initiative to promote tourism in border areas.

158. As per the recent analysis by NASA, 2022 is tied with 2015 as the ____ warmest on record?

- [A] First
- [B] Second
- [C] Fifth
- [D] Sixth

Answer: Fifth



According to an analysis by (NASA), the Earth's average surface temperature in 2022 tied with 2015 as the fifth warmest on record. Scientists from NASA's Goddard Institute for Space Studies (GISS) say that global temperatures in 2022 were 1.6 degrees Fahrenheit, or 0.89 degrees Celsius, above the average for NASA's baseline period 1951-1980.

159. Which Union Ministry implements the 'National Urban Technology Mission for Municipal Services and ULBs'?

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

Answer: Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

The Centre is set to launch a five-year National Urban Technology Mission which will introduce technological innovations in municipal services and infrastructure of 4,500 urban local bodies in the country. The mission is to be carried by the Ministry of housing and urban affairs. The mission will identify six basic common citizen services which every urban local body will have to offer online.

160. As per the 'India Mobile Gaming Report 2022' which state is the top destination for mobile gamers?

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

Answer: Uttar Pradesh

Uttar Pradesh is the top destination for mobile gamers, according to India Mobile Gaming Report 2022. The report was released by the gaming platform Mobile Premier League. Uttar Pradesh is followed by Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Bihar and West Bengal. Other states like Odisha, Punjab, Tamil Nadu, Puducherry and Himachal Pradesh have seen the highest increase in mobile gamers in 2022 compared to 2021.

161. Pudaang village, where road construction have been started for the first time since Independence, is located in which state?

- [A] Himachal Pradesh
- [B] Sikkim
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Chhattisgarh

Answer: Chhattisgarh

The Chhattisgarh government has begun with road construction work in Pudaang village. The road will connect it with rest of the state for the first time since India's Independence. The Pudang village is surrounded by forests and valleys. Its remote location has been a challenging task for road construction. Residents of the village travelled to Chhattisgarh through Jharkhand border.

162. Which state government has implemented a policy for blindness control?

- [A] Punjab
- [B] New Delhi
- [C] Rajasthan
- [D] Kerala

Answer: Rajasthan

Rajasthan government has implemented a policy for blindness control with the objective of 'Right to Sight'. The state Department of Medical and Health released the policy document for prevention of blindness. Under the policy, the Rajasthan government will mandatorily run Keratoplasty Centres and Eye



Banks at all the government medical colleges.

163. Thiruvalluvar is a famous poet of which language?

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

Answer: Tamil

Thiruvalluvar is a celebrated Tamil poet and philosopher, best known as the author of the Tirukkuraḷ, a collection of couplets on ethics, political and economics, and love. Thiruvalluvar Day is celebrated in Tamil Nadu as a part of Pongal celebrations. On the occasion of Thiruvalluvar Day, chief minister MK Stalin launched the 'Vallalar Palluyir Kappagangal', a Rs 20 crore scheme announced for animal welfare.

164. 'White Tufted Royal Butterfly' has been recently spotted in which state?

- [A] Goa
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Andhra Pradesh
- [D] Bihar

Answer: Kerala

A team of butterfly observers and researchers have found White Tufted Royal Butterfly, a rare butterfly species at Kalliyad in Kannur. According to researchers, the butterfly is protected under Schedule 2 of the Wildlife Protection Act. It was last spotted in Agasthyakoodam in 2017 and the Shendurney Wildlife Sanctuary in 2018. The wingspan of the butterfly is 32-40 mm. Its larvae feed on *Scurrula parasitica*, a plant belonging to the Loranthaceae family.

165. Which state organised an International Book Fair recently?

- [A] Kerala
- [B] Tamil Nadu
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] New Delhi

Answer: Tamil Nadu

The First edition of Chennai International Book Fair recently began in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. The fair has been organised by the Directorate of Public Libraries, Tamil Nadu Text Book and Educational Services Corporation and Booksellers and Publishers Association of South India. It focuses on facilitating the exchange of knowledge between publishers in Tamil Nadu and those from across the world. It aims to provide a platform for literary and culture exchange with a number of Tamil books on display, Tamil publishing houses as participants and stalls put up by 30 countries.

166. Which city is the host of the 'G20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG)'?

- [A] Coimbatore
- [B] Jaipur
- [C] Pune
- [D] Mysuru

Answer: Pune

The first G20 Infrastructure Working Group (IWG) meeting under G20 India Presidency will take place in Pune, Maharashtra. The meeting will be joined by the IWG member countries, guest countries and international organizations. The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance, Government of India will host the two-day IWG meetings, along with Australia and Brazil as the co-chairs.

167. Which delivery company has launched Ambulance Service for Delivery Partners and its dependants?

- [A] Zomato



- [B] Swiggy
- [C] Uber Eats
- [D] Dunzo

Answer: Swiggy

Swiggy has rolled out Ambulance Service for Delivery Partners and its dependants, to help its active delivery executives and their dependents in the case of emergencies. To access the free ambulance service. The delivery executives can reach out on a toll-free number or tap the SOS button in case of an emergency before, during or after a delivery. As per a recent study in 2020-21, 77 lakh workers were engaged in India's gig economy.

168. Sanjiv Chadha is the Managing director (MD) and CEO of which bank?

- [A] State Bank of India
- [B] Bank of Baroda
- [C] Canara Bank
- [D] Punjab National Bank

Answer: Bank of Baroda

The government has extended the tenure of managing director (MD) and CEO of Bank of Baroda (BoB) Sanjiv Chadha till June 2023. His three-year tenure ended in January 2023. The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the proposal of the Department of Financial Services for extending the term of Chadha. The Financial Services Institutions Bureau (FSIB), recommended Union Bank of India ED Rajneesh Karnatak for the position of MD & CEO in Bank of India.

169. Indian cricket team defeated which country with the margin of 317 runs?

- [A] Australia
- [B] New Zealand
- [C] Sri Lanka
- [D] Bangladesh

Answer: Sri Lanka

India defeated Sri Lanka by the largest ever margin of 317 runs in the last ODI and clinched the series by 3-0. Indian team broke the record for largest victory (by runs) in ODIs at the final match of the series in Thiruvananthapuram. India broke New Zealand's record of 290 runs. India posted a score of 390 in fifty overs and the Sri Lanka run could only reach 73.

170. Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni, who were seen in the news, play which sports?

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

Answer: Tennis

The top-seeded Indian Tennis team of Yuki Bhambri and Saketh Myneni has won the Bangkok Open title. This is their sixth title together on the ATP Challenger Tour, as the Indians beat the Indonesian-Australian combo 2-6 7-6(7) 14-12. Yuki and Saketh will next compete in the Australian Open -- the season's first Grand Slam.

171. 'PARAKH', which has been in the news, is a regulator body related to which field?

- [A] Tourism
- [B] Education
- [C] OTT Platforms
- [D] Online Gaming

Answer: Education

The National Council for Education Research and Training (NCERT) has notified India's first national



assessment regulator, PARAKH. It will work on setting norms, standards and guidelines for student assessment and evaluation for all recognised school boards in the country. The Educational Survey Division of NCERT, New Delhi, will function as PARAKH in the initial phase and it will be extended across the country.

172. Kollam, which became the first constitution literate district in India, is located in which state?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Kerala
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Odisha

Answer: Kerala

Kollam became the first constitution literate district in India. Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan conferred the honour on the district. 'The Citizen', a Constitution literacy campaign was jointly launched by the Kollam district panchayat, District Planning Committee and the Kerala Institute of Local Administration (KILA). As a part of the campaign, thousands of neo-literates were educated on the Indian Constitution.

173. Shubhman Gill, who was seen in the news, is associated with which sports?

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

Answer: Cricket

Indian Opener Shubhman Gill recently hit his first double Century from 149 balls against New Zealand in the first of three ODIs. India opener smashed a brilliant 208 with a strike rate of 139.59, with 19 boundaries and nine sixes. The 23-year-old also became the youngest batter to score a double century. Gill joined an elite list comprising Tendulkar, Rohit Sharma, Ishan Kishan, Fakhar Zaman, Virender Sehwag, Chris Gayle, and Martin Guptill.

174. India has been urging which country to implement '13th Amendment' to its Constitution?

- [A] USA
- [B] UK
- [C] Sri Lanka
- [D] Bangladesh

Answer: Sri Lanka

India has been urging Sri Lanka to implement the 13th Amendment which was brought in after the Indo-Sri Lankan agreement of 1987. Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe said that the government will implement 13th Amendment, which provides for devolution of power to minority Tamil community. He also informed that a Social Justice Commission would be established to address the grievances of all communities.

175. Which financial services company announced the new phase of its Girls4Tech programme in India?

- [A] Mastercard
- [B] Visa
- [C] Maestro
- [D] Paypal

Answer: Mastercard

Mastercard announced the new phase of its flagship Girls4Tech programme in India, which will benefit over 10,800 girls from 30 government schools in Tamil Nadu. This scheme is supported by the Mastercard Impact Fund and run in partnership with the American India Foundation (AIF). The expansion



of the programme aims to reach additional 1 lakh female students across the country by 2024 to encourage them to take up Science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) education.

176. Which country's population has declined for the first time in 61 years with a fall of roughly 850,000?

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

Answer: China

China's population has declined for the first time in 61 years, statistics released by its National Bureau of Statistics (NBS). The gap between the most populous country in the world and India, which is second-most populous, has narrowed to less than 40 million (4 crore) people. The country's population earlier witnessed a decline in the 1960s under Mao Zedong's leadership, during the Great Chinese Famine.

177. What is the wholesale price inflation in December 2022 in India?

- [A] 4.95 %
- [B] 5.15%
- [C] 6.25%
- [D] 7.15%

Answer: 4.95 %

The annual rate of inflation based on all India Wholesale Price Index (WPI) is 4.95% for the month of December 2022. The figure was 5.85% recorded in November, 2022. The decline in the rate of inflation in December is primarily contributed by fall in prices of food articles, mineral oils, crude petroleum & natural gas, food products, textiles and chemicals and chemical products.

178. Which country has unveiled one of the world's strictest anti-tobacco laws?

- [A] Mexico
- [B] Finland
- [C] Germany
- [D] France

Answer: Mexico

Mexico has brought into force one of the world's strictest anti-tobacco laws by enacting a total ban on smoking in public places. The step was first approved in 2021. It also includes a ban on tobacco advertising. Several other Latin American countries have also passed legislation to create smoke-free public spaces. Mexico's existing 2008 law, which created smoke-free spaces in bars, restaurants and workplaces, is now extended to an outright ban in all public spaces.

179. A Yeti Airlines with 72 passengers crashed in which country, in its deadliest plane crash in 30 years?

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

Answer: Nepal

Nepal faces its deadliest plane crash in 30 years as the Yeti Airlines flight from Kathmandu to the tourist town of Pokhara crashed. There were 72 passengers and crew aboard the Yeti Airlines and all passengers were dead after the crash. The Himalayan country has some of the most difficult terrain to navigate. The European Union has banned Nepalese airlines from its airspace over concerns about training and maintenance standards.

180. Which institution releases the 'World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends' every year?



- [A] World Bank
- [B] UNICEF
- [C] ILO
- [D] World Economic Forum

Answer: ILO

The International Labour Organization (ILO) released the 'World Employment and Social Outlook: Trends 2023 report'. As per the report, the current global economic slowdown is likely to widen social and economic inequalities as more workers will be forced to accept lower quality, poorly paid jobs which lack job security and social protection. As per the report, total working hours per person are still below pre-pandemic levels in Asia Pacific region.

181. Which badminton player won the Malaysia Open Super 1000 women's singles title?

- [A] P V Sindhu
- [B] Saina Nehwal
- [C] Akane Yamaguchi
- [D] CHEN Yu Fei

Answer: Akane Yamaguchi

Akane Yamaguchi, the reigning world champion won the Malaysia Open Super 1000 women's singles titles in Kuala Lumpur. Viktor Axelsen won the Malaysia Open Super 1000 men's singles title. This was Axelsen's ninth Super Series Premier title and third Malaysia Open. In mixed doubles, the world no. 1 Chinese pair of Zheng Siwei-Huang Yaqiong, claimed the season's first Super Series Premier title.

182. Which Indian child actor won the International Press Academy (IPA) award?

- [A] Bhavin Rabari
- [B] Sunny Pawar
- [C] Raj Bhanushali
- [D] Naga Vishal

Answer: Bhavin Rabari

Bhavin Rabari, the lead child actor of Gujarati film Chhello Show bagged International Press Academy (IPA) award in the 'Best Breakthrough Performance' category at the 27th Satellite Awards held in the United States. The picture is also the first Indian film to be shortlisted for the Oscars in the 'Best International Feature Film' class after 21 years.

183. Which company has signed a 3 billion euro contract to supply and service freight trains in India?

- [A] Robert Bosch
- [B] Schneider Electric
- [C] Siemens
- [D] General Electric

Answer: Siemens

German engineering company Siemens has signed a 3 billion euro (USD 3.25 billion) contract to supply and service freight trains in India. This is the biggest locomotive deal in its history. Siemens will deliver 1,200 electric locomotives and provide servicing for 35 years under the agreement. This is also its biggest ever in India.

184. Which Indian state is the 'Yonex- Sunrise India Open 2023'?

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

Answer: New Delhi



The India Open which is officially known as Yonex- Sunrise India Open 2023 is set to start in New Delhi. The tournament is being held in India since 2008, however this will be the first time when India Open will be held in the super 750 status category. The tournament will see top players from 29 countries, and a total of 97 players will compete in various categories.

185. 'Expected loss-based' and 'incurred loss' approach, which are seen in the news, are associated with which institutions?

- [A] Banks
- [B] Mutual Funds
- [C] Insurance Companies
- [D] Stock Exchanges

Answer: Banks

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) proposed a framework for adoption of an 'expected loss-based' approach for provisioning by banks. Prior to this, banks used to make loan loss provisions based on an 'incurred loss' approach. With the proposed framework, banks now have to assess expected loss on their financial assets and make provisions after assessment, rather than making it after the loan turns into a non-performing asset (NPA).

186. NASA has awarded 425 million dollars to which Company for the agency's sustainable flight demonstrator project?

- [A] Boeing
- [B] Air Bus
- [C] Tesla
- [D] Apple

Answer: Boeing

National Aeronautics and Space Administration, NASA, has awarded 425 million dollars to Boeing Company for the agency's sustainable flight demonstrator project. Under the project, Boeing will work with NASA to build, test, and fly a full-scale demonstrator aircraft and validate technologies aimed at lowering emissions. NASA will invest 425 million dollars, while Boeing and its partners will contribute the remainder of the agreement funding.

187. India is set to start supplying diesel to which country through a Friendship pipeline?

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

Answer: Bangladesh

The India-Bangladesh Friendship pipeline (IBFPL) will start supplying diesel to Bangladesh on an experimental basis for June this year. About 131.5 kilometre long pipeline has been constructed for importing diesel from India. Out of this, 126.5 kilometre pipeline is in Bangladesh and 5 kilometre line is in India. The international pipeline will carry diesel from the Siliguri based marketing terminal of the Numaligarh Refinery Limited to Parbatipur depot of Bangladesh Petroleum Corporation (BPC).

188. Which is the first country to back the debt restructure programme of Sri Lanka?

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

Answer: India

India has sent financing assurances to the International Monetary Fund (IMF). It thereby becomes the first of Sri Lanka's creditors to officially back the crisis-hit island nation's debt restructure programme.



India's move takes Sri Lanka one step closer to a crucial USD 2.9-billion package from the IMF.

189. Which institution introduced a blocking of funds facility for trading in secondary markets?

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

Answer: SEBI

Capital markets regulator SEBI proposed to introduce a blocking of funds facility for trading in secondary markets. This move is aimed at safeguarding investors' money from misuse and default by stock brokers. This is similar to Application Supported by Blocked Amount (ASBA)-like facility already available for the primary market. This move eliminates the need to transfer funds to stock broker.

190. Which Union Ministry is associated with which Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code?

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

Answer: Ministry of Corporate Affairs

The Government proposed a set of changes to the existing Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC) aiming to enhance the efficiency of the bankruptcy process and expanding the scope of the framework. According to the release from the Ministry of Corporate Affairs, Fast-Track Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (FIRP) is proposed to allow financial creditors to drive the insolvency resolution process for a corporate debtor outside of the judicial process.

191. Which country's 'Sea Level Change Team' has released a study on Rising Sea Levels on Coasts?

- [A] Japan
- [B] Philippines
- [C] Indonesia
- [D] USA

Answer: USA

The NASA Sea Level Change Team conducted a study recently, which shows that average sea level rise approaching the 1-foot mark for most coastlines of the contiguous U.S. by 2050. As per the study, the Gulf Coast and Southeast will see the most change. The results from the NASA Sea Level Change Team could help refine projections for coastal communities for catastrophic and nuisance floods.

192. Researchers have discovered a rare low-altitude basalt plateau in which state/UT?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Kerala
- [C] Maharashtra
- [D] Goa

Answer: Maharashtra

Agharkar Research Institute (ARI) in Pune recently discovered a rare low-altitude basalt plateau in Manjare village, Thane district. This is the fourth type of plateau to be identified in the region. The plateau houses 76 species of plants and shrubs from 24 different families discovered in Thane region in the Western Ghats. The Western Ghats is one of four global biodiversity hotspots in India.

193. What is the name of the employment drive announced to provide give jobs to 10 lakh people in India?

- [A] Bharat Job Mela
- [B] Rozgar Mela
- [C] Pradhan Mantri Rozgar Yojana



[D] Pradhan Mantri Employment Scheme

Answer: Rozgar Mela

Prime Minister Narendra Modi distributed 71,000 appointment letters to newly inducted recruits in different government departments and organisations. The event was part of the 'Rozgar Mela' drive which was announced by him last year to give jobs to 10 lakh people. The new recruits will join various positions under the central government like junior engineers, loco pilots, technicians among others.

194. Which institution releases the Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks' Outlook 2021-22?

[A] NITI Aayog

[B] SBI

[C] RBI

[D] NABARD

Answer: RBI

The Reserve Bank of India released the 9th volume of the annual publication titled 'Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks' Outlook 2021-22'. The publication also provides bank-wise information of Scheduled Primary (Urban) Co-operative Banks on financial ratios on Capital Adequacy, Profitability, and Employee Productivity.

195. Which country supplies the Apache attack helicopters to India?

[A] Japan

[B] France

[C] USA

[D] Israel

Answer: USA

The United States supplies Apache attack helicopters to India. The first fuselage out of six AH-64E Apache attack helicopters, which is the main body of an aircraft, was dispatched by TBAL to Arizona in the U.S. for final assembly. The first fuselage for the Indian Army's contract for six AH-64E Apache attack helicopters has rolled out of the Tata Boeing Aerospace Limited (TBAL) facility in Hyderabad. It is the Joint Venture between Tata Advanced Systems Limited and aircraft manufacturer Boeing.

196. Which country is the host of the Feria Internacional del Turismo (FITUR) international tourism trade fair?

[A] India

[B] Spain

[C] UK

[D] France

Answer: Spain

Feria Internacional del Turismo or FITUR, the international tourism trade fair was hosted by Spain in Madrid. India participated in an international tourism trade fair to help fast-track the recovery of the country's inbound tourism to the pre-pandemic levels. It is one of the world's largest international travel exhibitions.

197. Which armed force started the 'Ops Alert' exercise to enhance security?

[A] Indo-Tibetan Border Police Force

[B] Border Security Force

[C] Central Railway Protection Force

[D] Central Industrial Security Force

Answer: Border Security Force

The Border Security Force has started an 'Ops Alert' exercise to enhance security along the India-Pakistan border. The 'Ops Alert' exercise will continue along the Indo-Pak international border from Sir Creek to the Rann of Kutch in Gujarat and Barmer district of Rajasthan. The exercise was being carried



out to tackle ill designs of anti-national elements during the Republic Day celebrations.

198. Which Union Ministry released 'Endorsements Know-hows!' guide for celebrities, influencers and virtual influencers on social media?

- [A] Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- [B] Ministry of Home Affairs
- [C] Ministry of External Affairs
- [D] Ministry of Defence

Answer: Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution

The Department of Consumer Affairs under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution released a guide named 'Endorsements Know-hows!' for celebrities, influencers and virtual influencers on social media platforms. The guide aims to ensure that individuals do not mislead their audiences when endorsing products or services. It also ensures if they are in compliance with the Consumer Protection Act and any associated rules or guidelines.

199. What is the name of the Indigenous mobile operating system developed by IIT Madras?

- [A] IndOS
- [B] BharOS
- [C] MadrasOS
- [D] TamilOS

Answer: BharOS

The BharOS is an Android Open Source Project based operating system which is developed by JandK Operations Private Limited. The start-up is incubated at IIT Madras. Unlike Android, it does not have default Google apps or services. BharOS services are currently being provided to organisations that have stringent privacy and security requirements.

200. What is the theme of the 'India International Science Festival'?

- [A] Marching towards Amrit Kaal with Science, Technology, and Innovation
- [B] Innovation for Sustainable Development
- [C] Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
- [D] Bharat Vigyan

Answer: Marching towards Amrit Kaal with Science, Technology, and Innovation

India International Science Festival is being held in Bhopal with the theme of 'Marching towards Amrit Kaal with Science, Technology, and Innovation'. International Science Film Festival of India (ISFFI) was organised as a part of the India International Science Festival (IISF). Nine Indian science movies received awards in various categories at an international film festival.

201. Which country's President is the Chief Guest of Republic Day celebrations of India?

- [A] UAE
- [B] Malaysia
- [C] Egypt
- [D] Australia

Answer: Egypt

Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El-Sisi arrived in New Delhi as he will be the chief guest at the 74th Republic Day parade of India. This is the first time the President of Egypt has been invited as the chief guest on Republic Day. India and Egypt are celebrating 75 years of establishment of diplomatic relations this year. India has also invited Egypt as a 'guest country' during its G20 Presidency.

202. Which city is the host of WEF Global Future Council 2023?

- [A] Colombo
- [B] Dubai
- [C] Melbourne



[D] New York

Answer: Dubai

Over 50 high-impact initiatives were launched or profiled at the World Economic Forum Annual Meeting 2023. The World Economic Forum and the government of the United Arab Emirates signed a collaboration agreement on the TradeTech initiative to use technology to overcome trade impediments. They also signed an agreement to host the annual meeting of the Forum's Global Future Council 2023 in Dubai.

203. Which Indian Armed Force is set to hold command-level exercise named 'Pralay'?

[A] Indian Army

[B] Indian Navy

[C] Indian Air Force

[D] Indian Coast Guard

Answer: Indian Air Force

The Indian Air Force will carry out Exercise Pralay involving all its major air bases in the northeast including the recently moved drone squadrons in the northeast amid the ongoing standoff with China. The Indian Air Force has deployed and activated the S-400 air defence squadron in the area which can take on any enemy aircraft or missile from a distance of up to 400 km. This is the second such command-level exercise carried out by the IAF in recent months.

204. Which country has launched 'Welcome Corps scheme', to sponsor refugees seeking sanctuary in the country?

[A] USA

[B] China

[C] Russia

[D] India

Answer: USA

The United States launched 'Welcome Corps scheme', which will allow groups of people and organisations in the US to sponsor refugees seeking sanctuary in the country. This move that was welcomed by rights groups as a positive step. Welcome Corps will initially apply only to refugees who have already been approved for entry into the US. This is applicable for refugees arriving through the US Refugee Admissions Program (USRAP).

205. Kole wetland, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?

[A] Karnataka

[B] Kerala

[C] Odisha

[D] West Bengal

Answer: Kerala

After the Asian Waterbird Census (AWC) conducted recently, it was found that there is a drop in the number of birds in various parts of Kerala. The Thrissur-Ponnani kole fields is a Ramsar site known for the number and diversity of birds recorded the lowest count of waterbirds in three decades here. Kole wetlands have been visited by hundreds of migratory birds every year.

206. Which state is the host of the All-India Conference of Director Generals/ Inspector Generals of Police?

[A] Assam

[B] New Delhi

[C] West Bengal

[D] Gujarat

Answer: New Delhi



The 57th Conference of Directors General of Police / Inspectors General of Police was organised in New Delhi. Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the Conference and distributed Police Medals for Distinguished Services. The Conference covered several aspects of policing and national security, including Counter Terrorism, Counter Insurgency and Cyber Security.

207. Which country is the host of the 'FIDE World Championship 2023'?

- [A] Kazakhstan
- [B] Italy
- [C] Israel
- [D] India

Answer: Kazakhstan

Astana, the capital city of Kazakhstan is set to host the FIDE World Chess Championship Match during April-May 2023. The current world champion Magnus Carlsen won't play in the 2023 FIDE World Chess Championship. Ian Nepomniachtchi and Ding Liren will battle to seize the throne of the World Champion.

208. Prime Minister Modi to name 21 islands of Andaman & Nicobar after which awardees?

- [A] Bharat Ratna
- [B] Padma Vibhushan
- [C] Padma Bhushan
- [D] Param Vir Chakra

Answer: Param Vir Chakra

Prime Minister Modi named 21 islands of Andaman & Nicobar after Param Vir Chakra awardees, to give due honour and recognition to real-life heroes. The move was taken on Parakram Diwas, also known as Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti. The national event aims to mark the birth anniversary of prominent Indian freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.

209. Which city is the host of 'G20's first Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting'?

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

Answer: Bengaluru

G20's first Environment and Climate Sustainability Working Group Meeting is set to be held in Bengaluru. It will focus on the promotion of the blue economy along with coastal sustainability, restoration of degraded lands and ecosystems, enhancement of biodiversity and strengthening of a circular economy. The delegates are scheduled to visit the Kalkere Arboretum and Bannerghatta Biological Park in Bengaluru.

210. Who is the winner of the Bahrain's ISA Award for Service to Humanity Himalayan Cataract Project?

- [A] Dr Sanduk Ruit
- [B] Dr Santhosh G Honavar
- [C] Dr Vineet Ratra
- [D] Dr Aditya Kelkar

Answer: Dr Sanduk Ruit

Nepalese ophthalmologist Dr Sanduk Ruit has won Bahrain's ISA Award for Service to Humanity, a top civilian award of Bahrain. The award carries a cash prize of USD 1 million, a certificate of merit and a gold medal. He is the recipient of the Padma Shri Award by the Indian Government, the National Order of Merit of Bhutan as well as the Ramon Magsaysay Award.

211. Charaideo Maidams, which are seen in the news, are located in which state?



- [A] West Bengal
- [B] Assam
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Andhra Pradesh

Answer: Assam

The Chief Minister of Assam, Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that the Centre has nominated the maidams of Ahom Kingdom in Charaideo to seek a UNESCO World Heritage Site tag for the historic site. The Charaideo Maidams are the representation of the late medieval mound burial tradition of the Tai Ahom community in Assam. The Maidams are managed by the Archaeological Survey of India and the State Department of Archaeology.

212. Which state is to set up a turtle conservation and rehabilitation centre?

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

Answer: Tamil Nadu

The Tamil Nadu government will set up a ₹6.30 crore turtle conservation and rehabilitation centre in Chennai. The centre will be set up at the Guindy Park with facilities including turtle pool, shed. It will also act as a temporary home to sick and injured turtles before they are released back to the natural habitat.

213. Which state/UT launched a water conservation scheme to renovate over 2000 ponds and construct over 2000 percolation tanks?

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

Answer: Jharkhand

Jharkhand government launched a water conservation scheme with an outlay of Rs 467.32 crore to benefit the farmers in the state that experienced drought last year. Under the programme, 2,133 ponds will be renovated and 2,795 percolation tanks will be constructed in all the blocks of 24 districts of the state.

214. Shompen tribe of people, which were seen in the news, are located in which state/UT?

- [A] Jharkhand
- [B] Madhya Pradesh
- [C] Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- [D] Assam

Answer: Andaman and Nicobar Islands

The Constitutional Conduct Group, which includes nearly 100 former civil servants, has written to President Droupadi Murmu protesting the mega-infrastructure project in the Great Nicobar Island. The Union Environment Ministry gave clearance for the diversion of 130.75 sq. km. of forest in Great Nicobar Island for a ₹72,000-crore project that includes a trans-shipment port, an airport, a power plant and a greenfield township. The project threatens to displace the 'extremely vulnerable' Shompen tribe.

215. Ministry of Information and Broadcasting directed to block the BBC Documentary on Prime Minister Modi under which rules?

- [A] Information Technology Rules, 2021
- [B] The Press and Registration of Books Act, 1867
- [C] National Investigation Agency Act, 2008
- [D] Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act, 1967



Answer: Information Technology Rules, 2021

Ministry of Information and Broadcasting issued directions to block the first episode of BBC Documentary 'India: The Modi Question' on YouTube. Over 50 tweets linking to the videos were also asked to be blocked. Directions to block the documentary on YouTube and Twitter were said to be issued using emergency powers under the IT Rules, 2021.

216. What is the average days of employment provided per household under MGNREGS as of 2022?

- [A] 30
- [B] 42
- [C] 62
- [D] 75

Answer: 42

The average days of employment provided per household under the Mahatma Gandhi National Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) is at a five-year low, this financial year. As of January, the average days of employment provided per household is 42 days while it was 50 days in 2021-22, 52 days in 2020-21, 48 days in 2019-20 and 51 days in 2018-19. There has been a decline in demand for jobs under the scheme this financial year.

217. UNESCO dedicated this year's International Day of Education to the girls and women of which country?

- [A] Iran
- [B] Afghanistan
- [C] Israel
- [D] Vietnam

Answer: Afghanistan

UNESCO dedicates this year's International Day of Education to Afghan girls and women, on the occasion of the International Day of Education, on 24 January. UNESCO is hosting an event at the United Nations in New York. The first panel discussion will be devoted to the education of girls and women in Afghanistan. UNESCO will renew its call to immediately restore their fundamental right to education. 2.5 million (80%) of school-aged Afghan girls and young women are out of school.

218. Wagner group, which was designated as transnational criminal organisation by the US, is from which country?

- [A] Russia
- [B] Iran
- [C] Israel
- [D] Afghanistan

Answer: Russia

The US Treasury Department designated the Russian mercenary organization Wagner Group as a 'transnational criminal organization'. It will impose additional sanctions next week against the group and its support network across the world. The US has released newly declassified photos of Russian railcars traveling from Russia to North Korea.

219. What is the name of the marine mammal group including whales, dolphins and porpoises?

- [A] Cetaceans
- [B] Cervidae
- [C] Geckos
- [D] Ranidae

Answer: Cetaceans

Cetaceans, the marine mammal group encompassing whales, dolphins and porpoises, evolved around 50 million years ago. A New research reveals the genes that allowed whales to grow to giant sizes.



These four genes helped in fostering great size and also in mitigating disadvantageous consequences including higher cancer risk and lower reproductive output.

220. Which state/UT released the 'Hockey & India — A Golden Legacy' book by Sportstar on Indian hockey?

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

Answer: Odisha

Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik released the publication titled 'Hockey & India — A Golden Legacy' book by Sportstar on Indian hockey. With 192 pages of old and new pictures from 1928 to the present, the book is a collector's edition for public in general and fans of Indian sports in particular.

221. Elena Rybakina, who eliminated World Number one Iga Swiatek in the Australian Open, is from which country?

- [A] Japan
- [B] Italy
- [C] Kazakhstan
- [D] USA

Answer: Kazakhstan

Wimbledon champion Elena Rybakina recently eliminated World No. 1 Iga Swiatek in straight sets to reach the Australian Open quarterfinals for the first time. The Kazakhstan-based player clinched a 6-4, 6-4 win to make her maiden Australian Open quarterfinal. Rybakina is the 2022 Wimbledon winner from Kazakhstan beat Poland's Swiatek, is a three-time major champion, including titles at the French Open and U.S. Open last season.

222. World Bank has appreciated which country for its transition from poorest to one of the fastest growing countries?

- [A] India
- [B] Indonesia
- [C] Bangladesh
- [D] Nepal

Answer: Bangladesh

World Bank (WB) Managing Director Axel van Trotsenburg lauded Bangladesh as one of the world's greatest development stories. The country has moved from being one of the poorest at its inception to one of the fastest growing countries of the world. The country's 6 percent average economic growth per annum since 2000 has lifted millions of people out of poverty. It started with a status of poverty in 1972, became a lower-middle income country in 2015 and is now on the way to becoming an upper-middle income country.

223. As per the Finance Ministry data, the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) subscribers figure crossed which milestone in 2022?

- [A] 1 million
- [B] 10 million
- [C] 5 million
- [D] 50 million

Answer: 10 million

The Atal Pension Yojana (APY) is a pension scheme targeted towards unorganised sector workers. It saw the highest-ever subscribers in 2022 with enrolments rising 36 per cent. The figure crossed 10 million for the first time in a calendar year, data released by the finance ministry showed. The number of



enrolments in 2022 rose to 12.5 million from 9.2 million in 2021. The majority of subscribers (82 per cent) opted for a Rs 1,000 pension per month.

224. Which city is the host of the Business 20 (B20) meet, as part of the G20?

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

Answer: Gandhinagar

As part of India's G 20 presidency, a Business20 (B20) inception meeting was organised at Gandhinagar in Gujarat. The first B20 meet being organized was attended by over 500 delegates who discussed upon various global issues including climate change, sustainability, digital transformation, and financial inclusion during several plenary sessions.

225. Which state/UT launched 'Food Processing Programme for Development of Clusters'?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Bihar
- [C] Jammu and Kashmir
- [D] Telangana

Answer: Jammu and Kashmir

The Jammu and Kashmir government launched an ambitious project 'UT Level Food Processing Programme for Development of Clusters for Specific Products of J&K'. It is a 879.75 crore initiative that aims to maximise farmer income and minimise post-harvest losses. The project will focus on developing 17 districts in J&K with establishment of processing and marketing infrastructure.

226. What is the deadline for banks to complete renewal of agreements for safe deposit lockers of customers?

- [A] December 2022
- [B] March 2023
- [C] December 2023
- [D] January 2024

Answer: December 2023

The Reserve Bank of India gave banks time till end of December 2023 to complete renewal of agreements for the existing safe deposit lockers of customers. Banks were earlier required to complete the process by January 01, 2023. The central bank has directed them to complete work in phases with milestones of 50 per cent by June 30, and 75 per cent by September 30.

227. Which country has launched new schemes including scheduling special interviews to reduce delays in visa processing in India?

- [A] UK
- [B] USA
- [C] UAE
- [D] Australia

Answer: USA

The United States has recently launched several new schemes to reduce delays in visa processing in India. The initiatives include scheduling special interviews for first time applicants and increasing strength of consular staff, which aims to cut delays in visa processing in India. The US embassy in Delhi and the consulates in Mumbai, Chennai, Kolkata and Hyderabad conducted 'special Saturday interview days'.

228. Estonia, which recently expelled the Russian ambassador, is located in which region?

- [A] West Asia



- [B] Europe
- [C] South America
- [D] Africa

Answer: Europe

Estonia is a country in Northern Europe, bordering the Baltic Sea and Gulf of Finland. Russia and Estonia have expelled the ambassadors from each other's countries in a tit-for-tat move. Estonia's diplomatic representation will be downgraded to a charge d'affaires that heads the European Union country's mission in Moscow.

229. Which country has declared a medical emergency after malnutrition and other diseases brought by gold mining?

- [A] Argentina
- [B] Brazil
- [C] South Africa
- [D] Egypt

Answer: Brazil

Brazil's Ministry of health declared a medical emergency in the Yanomami territory, following reports of children dying of malnutrition and other diseases brought by gold mining. Yanomami is the country's largest indigenous reservation. After publication of photos showing Yanomami children and elderly people so thin, President Luiz Inacio Lula da Silva visited the state.

230. Which state has launched a scheme to rent drones to low-income farmers?

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

Answer: Rajasthan

Rajasthan has launched a scheme to provide drones to low-income farmers on rent to help them monitor crops and spray chemicals on the crops. Around 1,500 drones will be made available at custom hiring centres by the state government in two years. Drone-based spray requires less quantity of water and pesticides and it also helps in saving water.

231. Which city is the host of the 'International Craft Summit' in India?

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

Answer: Jaipur

The three-day International Craft Summit is being organised in Jaipur, Rajasthan to promote craft products from Odisha. The event was inaugurated by Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik through video conferencing. Four UN agencies and five UNESCO Creative Cities have partnered with Jaipur district administration for the event, which was attended by delegates from 15 countries.

232. What is the name of the cluster of digital solutions like Aadhaar, UPI, Digi Locker, Co-Win, GeM, and GSTN?

- [A] Bharat e-platforms
- [B] India Stack
- [C] e-Bharat
- [D] Digi Bharat

Answer: India Stack

India Stack is a multi-layer cluster of digital solutions like Aadhaar, UPI, Digi Locker, Co-Win, GeM, and



GSTN that have played a significant role in the digital transformation in India. The first India Stack Developer Conference will be held in New Delhi, to ensure wider adoption of India's digital goods all over the world. India Stack will be one of the focus areas at the World Government Summit 2023 which will be held at Abu Dhabi next month.

233. The Monument Mitra scheme was transferred from the Ministry of Tourism to which Ministry?

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

Answer: Ministry of Culture

The Monument Mitra scheme was transferred from the Ministry of Tourism to the Ministry of Culture. Union Culture Secretary announced that the government will soon launch a revamped version of the Monument Mitra scheme under which the Culture Ministry will seek partnerships with private industries for upkeeping of 1,000 ASI monuments.

234. Which state is known for celebrating the annual Orange festival?

- [A] Maharashtra
- [B] Assam
- [C] Nagaland
- [D] West Bengal

Answer: Nagaland

In Nagaland, the third edition of the annual Orange festival 2023 is being celebrated at Rusoma village, in Kohima district. The Orange festival is conceptualised to recognise and celebrate the hard work of the orange growers while facilitating them the market linkages.

235. Cervical cancer vaccine Cervavac has been jointly developed by Indian Government along with which institution?

- [A] Bharat Biotech
- [B] Serum Institute
- [C] Dr Reddys Lab
- [D] Biocon

Answer: Serum Institute

The Cervavac vaccine has been developed jointly by the Serum Institute of India and the Indian Government's Department of Biotechnology. India's first indigenously developed Cervical cancer vaccine 'Cervavac' for 9-14-year-old has been launched. The vaccine will be included in the National Immunisation Programme by mid-2023.

236. As per Kantar India Union Budget Survey 2023, what is the concern among consumers regarding budget announcement?

- [A] Inflationary pressures
- [B] Income Tax
- [C] GST
- [D] Cryptocurrency

Answer: Inflationary pressures

According to the Kantar India Union Budget Survey 2023, Inflationary pressures remained the top concern among consumers regarding the Centre's budget announcement on February 1, 2023. Three out of four Indians expressed concerns about the rising inflation and want the government to introduce measures to tackle these challenges. Every one in four Indian is concerned about the threat of job layoff.

237. Which Union Ministry is associated with the Competition (amendment) Bill 2022?

- [A] Ministry of Labour and Employment



- [B] Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- [C] Ministry of Finance
- [D] Ministry of MSME

Answer: Ministry of Finance

The Parliamentary Standing committee on Finance gave its report in December on the Competition (amendment) Bill 2022. The Central government is set to modify the Competition (amendment) Bill 2022. The bill seeks to fine tune the regulatory framework and proposes global best practices like settlement and commitment and enhanced leniency provisions.

238. Which institution has proposed to use river names as tag line and branding for its products?

- [A] FCI
- [B] NABARD
- [C] APEDA
- [D] IRCTC

Answer: APEDA

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) proposes to use river names as tag line and branding for Indian agricultural products. APEDA is identifying agricultural products that can be sourced from the Gangetic, Brahmaputra, Cauvery and Godavari river basins, among others. APEDA will showcase riverine source of agri exports as unique identifier.

239. As of 2022, which state is the biggest producer of bajra and second-largest in jowar?

- [A] Punjab
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Answer: Rajasthan

The Centre has estimated the millet procurement in the country to move up from current 6-7 lakh tonnes (lt) to 40-50 lt in the next few years. Nine states including Karnataka, Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu and Odisha have launched their own programmes to procure millets and distribute those nutri-cereals. Rajasthan, the biggest producer of bajra and second-largest in jowar, is asked to start focusing on procurement of the grains.

240. For the first time in football history, which country initiated 'white card' in a match?

- [A] UK
- [B] Brazil
- [C] Portugal
- [D] Argentina

Answer: Portugal

A white card was shown for the first time in a women's cup quarter-final match between Benfica and Sporting Lisbon in Portugal. The card was initiated by Portugal to try and improve ethical value in the sport. It is in contrast with yellow and red cards which are used to discipline players for misconduct. The exact purpose and consequence of the card are yet to be announced. When a fan fell ill in the stands, the medical teams from both the teams rushed to the spot and the card was shown as an appreciation to the medical teams for their spirit.

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