

CURRENT AFFAIRS APRIL 2024

1. Port Louis is the capital city of
 - a. Madagascar
 - b. Reunion Islands
 - c. Mauritius
 - d. Tuvalu

Answer: C

Port Louis is the capital city of Mauritius.

INSV Tarini on transoceanic sailing expedition set sail from Port Louis, Mauritius on 30 Mar 24. The sailing vessel crewed by the resilient duo of Lt Cdr Roopa A and Lt Cdr Dilna K will undertake return voyage to Goa covering a distance of approx 2900 nm. The expedition was flagged off by distinguished yachtsman, Cdr **Abhilash Tomy**(Retd), KC, NM who is also the official mentor of these two women officers. The flag off ceremony was also attended by Capt Manish Sain, Director, Indian Naval Sailing Association (INSA) and members of HCI, Mauritius. A MCG Dornier overflow the boat during departure from port. This expedition is part of the preparation training for the upcoming circumnavigation planned to commence in September this year.

2. Reserve Bank of India (RBI) commenced its operations on the 1st of April in _____
 - a. 1930
 - b. 1935
 - c. 1934
 - d. 1949

Answer: B

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi addressed the opening ceremony of RBI@90, a program marking 90 years of the Reserve Bank of India, in Mumbai, Maharashtra today. Shri Modi also released a commemorative coin to mark 90 years of RBI. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) commenced its operations on the 1st of April in 1935 and enters its 90th year today.

3. Defence exports have touched a record Rs _____ crore in the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24.
 - a. 21,083
 - b. 23,846
 - c. 32,862

d. 29,074

Answer: A

Defence exports have touched a record Rs 21,083 crore (approx. US\$ 2.63 Billion) in the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24, a growth of 32.5% over the last fiscal when the figure was Rs 15,920 crore. The recent figures indicate that the defence exports have grown by 31 times in the last 10 years as compared to FY 2013-14.

The defence Industry, including the private sector and Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSUs), have made tremendous efforts in achieving the highest-ever defence exports. The private sector and the DPSUs have contributed about 60% and 40% respectively.

4. Who is the incumbent Director General of Meteorology, India Meteorological Department?
- Rajendra Kumar
 - Soma Sen Roy
 - Ananda Kumar Das
 - Mrutyunjay Mohapatra

Answer: D

The India Meteorological Department (IMD) is an agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Government of India. It is the principal agency responsible for meteorological observations, weather forecasting and seismology. IMD is headquartered in Delhi and operates hundreds of observation stations across India and Antarctica. Regional offices are at Chennai, Mumbai, Kolkata, Nagpur, Guwahati and New Delhi.

Mrutyunjay Mohapatra, DGM IMD

5. Utkala Dibasa is celebrated on 1 April in the Indian state of
- Rajasthan
 - Odisha
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Bihar

Answer: B

Odisha Day, also Utkala Dibasa, is celebrated on 1 April in the Indian state of Odisha in memory of the formation of the state as a separate state out of Bihar and Orissa Province with addition of Koraput District and Ganjam District from the Madras Presidency on 1 April 1936

6. Which of the following bodies has recently launched 'Myth vs Reality Register'?
- CCI
 - ECI

- c. CIC
- d. PIB

Answer: B

To combat the spread of misinformation and uphold the integrity of the electoral process, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has today launched a '**Myth vs Reality Register**' as part of the ongoing General Elections 2024. It was launched today by Chief Election Commissioner Shri Rajiv Kumar along with Election Commissioners Shri Gyanesh Kumar and Shri Sukhbir Singh Sandhu at Nirvachan Sadan, New Delhi. The 'Myth vs Reality Register' is accessible to the public through the Election Commission's official website (<https://mythvsreality.eci.gov.in/>). The factual Matrix of the Register will be continuously updated regularly to include the latest busted fakes and fresh FAQs. The introduction of the 'Myth vs Reality Register' marks a significant milestone in the ECI's ongoing efforts to safeguard the electoral process from misinformation.

7. Samudra Paheredar has been recently mentioned in the news. What is Samudra Paheredar in the context of India?
- a. Underwater tunnel
 - b. Marine aircraft
 - c. Pollution control vessel
 - d. Reconnaissance radar

Answer: C

Indian Coast Guard (ICG) **Pollution Control Vessel Samudra Paheredar**, with an integral helicopter, made a port call at Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam on April 02, 2024 as part of its ongoing overseas deployment to Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) countries. During the three-day visit, the crew will engage in professional interactions focusing on marine pollution response, maritime search & rescue, and maritime law enforcement. The activities will also include cross-deck training, subject matter expert exchanges, sports events and passage exercise with the Vietnam Coast Guard (VCG).

8. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), the largest pure-play green financing NBFC in the country, has achieved its highest-ever annual loan sanctions and disbursements in the financial year 2023-24. The company has sanctioned loans amounting to Rs. _____ crores during the fiscal year.
- a. 37,354
 - b. 59,650
 - c. 25,089
 - d. 47,076

Answer: A

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA), the largest pure-play green financing NBFC in the country, has achieved its highest-ever annual loan sanctions and disbursements in the financial year 2023-24. The company has sanctioned loans amounting to Rs. **37,354 crores** and disbursed loans worth Rs. 25,089 crores during the fiscal year. This has led to a significant growth of 26.71% in the loan book, which now stands at Rs. 59,650 crores.

9. The _____ anniversary of the iconic Kodaikanal Solar Observatory (KSO) was celebrated on 1 April 2024 by Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
- 110th
 - 130th
 - 115th
 - 125th

Answer: D

The 125th anniversary of the iconic Kodaikanal Solar Observatory (KSO) was celebrated on 1 April 2024 by Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), to remember the history of KSO, felicitate its scientists, and honour its legacy was a milestone for astronomy in India. The KSO houses a digital repository of 1.2 lakh digitised solar images and thousands of other images of the Sun recorded every day since the start of the 20th century.

10. Technology Development Board (TDB), is a statutory body established by Government of India under Technology Development Board Act, 1995, to promote development and commercialization of indigenous technology and adaptation of imported technology for much wider application. TDB comes under
- PMO
 - Department of Space
 - Ministry of Science & Technology
 - MeitY

Answer: C

The Technology Development Board (TDB) has entered into an agreement with M/s Remine India Private Limited, for "Setting up a commercial plant for recycling of Li Battery and E-Waste using Indigenous Technology" at Eldeco, SIIDCUL Industrial Area in Sitarganj (District Udham Singh Nagar), Uttarakhand on 27th March 2024 in New Delhi. Through the agreement, TDB has pledged a financial assistance of ₹ 7.5 crores out of the total project cost of ₹ 15 crores, marking a significant stride towards sustainable development and environmental stewardship.

TDB under **Ministry of Science & Technology**

11. Which of the following ministries has recently launched myCGHS app?
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
 - Ministry of Panchayati Raj
 - Ministry of Road Transport and Highways

Answer: A

Shri Apurva Chandra, Secretary, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare launched the myCGHS app for iOS ecosystem of devices, here today. The app is designed to enhance access to Electronic Health Records, information, and resources for Central Government Health Scheme (CGHS) beneficiaries.

12. As per the provisions of Drug Price Control Orders (DPCO)_____, drugs are categorized as scheduled and non-scheduled formulations
- 2013
 - 2014
 - 2015
 - 2016

Answer: A

As per the provisions of Drug Price Control Orders (DPCO) 2013, drugs are categorized as scheduled and non-scheduled formulations. The formulations which are listed in Schedule-I of DPCO 2013 are scheduled formulations and the formulations that are not specified in Schedule-I of DPCO 2013 are non-schedule formulations.

13. On 8 December 2005, the General Assembly declared that _____ April of each year shall be observed as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.
- 1
 - 2
 - 3
 - 4

Answer: D

On 8 December 2005, the General Assembly declared that 4 April of each year shall be observed as the International Day for Mine Awareness and Assistance in Mine Action.

14. Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a highly contagious viral disease affecting
- Bird

- b. Cow
- c. Poultry
- d. Monkey

Answer: B

Lumpy skin disease (LSD) is a highly contagious viral disease that affects cattle and buffalo, and is characterized by fever, enlarged lymph nodes, and multiple nodules on the skin and mucous membranes. It is caused by a double-stranded DNA virus in the Poxviridae family, also known as Neethling virus, and is believed to be transmitted by arthropods, including ticks and biting insects. LSD is associated with high temperatures, high humidity, wet summer and autumn months, and low-lying areas or near bodies of water.

15. Juice jacking is a
- a. Atmospheric water generator
 - b. Catalytic converter
 - c. Cyber attack
 - d. Aromatic collision system

Answer: C

Juice jacking is a cyber attack that involves hackers using public USB charging ports to infect devices with malware or make hardware changes that allow them to steal data

16. 'CAR-T cell therapy' is related to
- a. AIDS
 - b. Hemophilia
 - c. Sickle Cell Anemia
 - d. Cancer

Answer: D

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu launched India's first home-grown gene therapy for cancer at IIT Bombay today (April 4, 2024).

Speaking on the occasion, the President said that the launch of India's first gene therapy is a major breakthrough in our battle against cancer. As this line of treatment, named "CAR-T cell therapy", is accessible and affordable, it provides a new hope for the whole of humankind. She expressed confidence that it will be successful in giving new lives to countless patients.

17. Exercise Gagan Shakti-24 is an initiative of
- a. Indian Army

- b. Indian Navy
- c. Indian Air Force
- d. Indian Coast Guard

Answer: C

As part of the ongoing exercise Gagan Shakti-24, Indian Air Force (IAF) aircraft recently operated from the Emergency Landing Facility (ELF) in the northern sector in Kashmir valley. A large number of troops were airlifted and subsequently air landed utilising Chinook, Mi-17 V5 and ALH Mk-III helicopters by night.

18. Which of the following rivers drains into Gulf of Khambhat?

- a. Krishna
- b. Padma
- c. Vamsadhara
- d. Sabarmati

Answer: D

The Gulf of Khambhat/Gulf of Cambay, is a bay on the Arabian Sea coast of India, bordering the state of Gujarat just north of Mumbai and Diu Island. The Gulf of Khambhat is about 200 km long, about 20 km wide in the north and up to 70 km wide in the south. Major rivers draining Gujarat are the **Narmada**, **Tapti**, **Mahi** and the **Sabarmati**, that form estuaries in the gulf.

19. Army Medical Corps celebrated its _____ Raising Day on 03rd April 2024.

- a. 230th
- b. 260th
- c. 240th
- d. 270th

Answer: B

Army Medical Corps celebrated its 260th Raising Day on 03rd April 2024. Raised in the year 1764, the Corps has rendered selfless service to the nation over centuries of progress, development, dedication & sacrifice, both in combat and in peace, living up to the Corps motto of 'Sarve Santu Niramaya' meaning 'let all be free from disease'.

20. Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA) Number is a randomly generated _____ digit number used for the purposes of uniquely identifying persons and authenticating them, and linking their health records across multiple systems and stakeholders.

- a. 10
- b. 12

- c. 14
- d. 15

Answer: C

Any citizen/patient who wishes to participate in ABDM must start by creating the Ayushman Bharat Health Account (ABHA). ABHA Number, similar to a bank account number, is a randomly generated **14** digit number used for the purposes of uniquely identifying persons and authenticating them, and linking their health records across multiple systems and stakeholders.

Ayushman Bharat Health Accounts (ABHA) is an integral component of the Ayushman Bharat Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY), which is India's flagship national health protection scheme. ABHA is designed to facilitate cashless transactions and manage financial aspects related to healthcare services under the Ayushman Bharat scheme.

21. What is the motto of Indian Coast Guard?
- a. We Protect
 - b. This We'll Defend
 - c. Always Ready
 - d. Always Faithful

Answer: A

motto of the Indian Coast Guard "VAYAM RAKSHAMAH" which means "WE PROTECT".

In a swift operation, Indian Coast Guard (ICG) rescued 27 Bangladeshi fishermen on 04 April 24, stranded on their fishing boat at sea. At about 1130 hrs on April 4, 2024, Indian Coast Guard Ship Amogh during patrol at Indo-Bangladesh International Maritime Border Line (IMBL), sighted a Bangladeshi fishing boat (BFB) Sagar II, adrift inside Indian waters. ICG ship launched boarding team to investigate. During investigation it was revealed that the boat had a steering gear breakdown for the last two days and had been adrift since then, which led to the boat drifting inside Indian waters. The BFB had 27 crew/fishermen onboard.

22. Who is the incumbent Chief of Defence Staff?
- a. Manoj Mukund Naravane
 - b. Bipin Rawat
 - c. Anil Chauhan
 - d. Dalbir Singh Suhag

Answer: C

Chief of Defence Staff General Anil Chauhan has highlighted the need for Military Leaders to adapt to the changing character of war and underscored the importance of inter services

synergy. He was addressing Future Leaders of the Indian Armed Forces at Defence Services Staff College, Wellington on 05 April 2024.

23. India upgraded its commitments under Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in Glasgow COP26 and in August 2022 communicated its updated NDCs to UNFCCC. According to this, India targets to reduce emissions intensity of its GDP by _____ percent by 2030, from 2005 level.
- a. 33
 - b. 40
 - c. 45
 - d. 70

Answer: C

India upgraded its commitments under Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) in Glasgow COP26 and in August 2022 communicated its updated NDCs to UNFCCC, which includes:

To put forward and further propagate a healthy and sustainable way of living based on traditions and values of conservation and moderation, including through a mass movement for 'LIFE' – 'Lifestyle for Environment' as a key to combating climate change.

To reduce Emissions Intensity of its GDP by 45 percent by 2030, from 2005 level.

To achieve about 50 percent cumulative electric power installed capacity from non-fossil-fuel-based energy resources by 2030, with the help of transfer of technology and low-cost international finance including from Green Climate Fund (GCF).

24. Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port is located in
- a. Odisha
 - b. Assam
 - c. West Bengal
 - d. Gujarat

Answer: C

Port of Kolkata or Kolkata Port, officially known as Syama Prasad Mookerjee Port (formerly Kolkata Port Trust or Port of Calcutta), is the only riverine major port of India, located in the city of Kolkata, West Bengal, around 203 kilometres from the sea.

It is the oldest operating port in India and was constructed by the British East India Company. Kolkata is a freshwater port with no variation in salinity. The port has two distinct dock systems – Kolkata Dock at Kolkata and a deep water dock at Haldia Dock Complex, Haldia.

25. Ahobilam is a town and holy site in the Allagadda mandal of Nandyal district in the Indian state of _____
- Telangana
 - Andhra Pradesh
 - Tamil Nadu
 - Karnataka

Answer: B

Ahobilam is a town and holy site in the Allagadda mandal of Nandyal district in the Indian state of Andhra Pradesh.

It is surrounded by picturesque hills of the Eastern Ghats with several mountain hills and gorges. It is the centre of worship of Narasimha, the lion-headed avatar of Vishnu, to whom the nine Hindu temples and other shrines all dedicated. The main village and a temple complex are at Lower Ahobilam. Upper Ahobilam, about 8 kilometres to the east, has more temples in a steep gorge.

26. Acting swiftly, Indian Coast Guard Ship _____ on patrol off the Andhra coast saved nine fishermen who had suffered severe burn injuries after their boat caught fire and sunk at sea on 5 April 2024.
- Saurya
 - Samudra
 - Sagara
 - Veera

Answer: D

Acting swiftly, Indian Coast Guard Ship Veera on patrol off the Andhra coast saved nine fishermen who had suffered severe burn injuries after their boat caught fire and sunk at sea on 5 April 2024.

27. Papikonda National Park is located in
- Andhra Pradesh
 - Telangana
 - Karnataka
 - Jharkhand

Answer: A

Papikonda National Park is a national park in India, located near Rajamahendravaram in the

Papi Hills of the Alluri Sitharama Raju and Eluru districts of Andhra Pradesh, and covering an area of 1,012.86 km²

It is an Important Bird and Biodiversity Area and home to some endangered species of flora and fauna

28. What is the policy repo rate as fixed by MPC of RBI as on 1st April 2024?

- a. 6%
- b. 6.25%
- c. 6.5%
- d. 5.75%

Answer: C

The RBI decided to keep the key policy repo rate unchanged at 6.5% in its April monetary policy along with maintaining the stance at 'withdrawal of accommodation

29. Project Akashdeep is an initiative of

- a. Indian Coast Guard
- b. Indian Army
- c. Indian Air Force
- d. CBIC

Answer: B

The **Army** has started the induction of control and reporting systems under 'Project Akashdeep' to bolster its air defence capabilities, sources said Thursday. The deployment of the systems began with flagging off of the first batch of Control Centres from BEL Ghaziabad on Thursday.

Developed by Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL), the project is aimed at significantly enhancing the operational efficiency and integration of the Army's air defence mechanisms.

30. The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP), which takes place annually on ____ April, presents an opportunity to recognize the positive role sport and physical activity play in communities and in people's lives across the globe.

- a. 3
- b. 4
- c. 5
- d. 6

Answer: D

The International Day of Sport for Development and Peace (IDSDP), which takes place annually

on 6 April, presents an opportunity to recognize the positive role sport and physical activity play in communities and in people's lives across the globe.

The global theme for 2024 is "**Sport for the Promotion of Peaceful and Inclusive Societies**".

31. 'VerifyBeforeYouAmplify' is a recent initiative by
- MeitY
 - ECI
 - PIB
 - RBI

Answer: B

In response to the proliferation of fake news and misinformation online, the ECI introduced the '**Verify Before You Amplify**' initiative (पोस्ट से पहले पुष्टि) as highlighted by CEC Shri Rajiv Kumar during the Press Conference for announcement of Schedule of General Elections, thereby busting fake news and urging individuals to exercise caution and diligence before sharing information on social media platforms. This proactive measure aims to empower citizens to verify the accuracy and authenticity of content before amplifying it, thereby mitigating the spread of false information and safeguarding the integrity of the electoral process.

As the country gears up for the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections, the Election Commission of India (ECI) has embarked on an innovative journey to engage citizens through unique campaigns like '**Turning 18**' and '**You are the One**' on social media platforms, employing a tailored messaging strategy within the overarching theme of '**Chunav Ka Parv, Desh Ka Garv**'. Currently ECI has social media presence on major platforms including Facebook, Instagram, X, YouTube with recent additions of Public App, WhatsApp Channel, and LinkedIn.

32. Ugadi is mainly celebrated in
- South India
 - North India
 - Central India
 - Western India

Answer: A

Ugadi or Yugadi, also known as **Samvatsarādi** is New Year's Day according to the Hindu calendar and is celebrated in the states of **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka and Goa**

33. Gudi Padwa is also called as
- Gujarati New Year
 - Odisha New Year

- c. Bhojpuri New Year
- d. Marathi New Year

Answer: D

Gudhi Paadwa is a spring festival marking the start of the lunisolar new year for Hindus, primarily those of the **Marathi and Konkani heritage**.

It is celebrated in and around Maharashtra, Goa & Daman at the start of Chaitra, the first month of the lunisolar Hindu calendar. The festival is characterised by colourful floor decorations called rangoli, a special gudi dvaja; which is a saari or dhoti or other piece of cloth garlanded with flowers, mango, and neem leaves; a sugar crystal garland called gathi, topped with upturned silver or copper vessels. Celebration also includes street gathering, dancing & festive foods.

Also called: **Marathi New Year**, Hindu New Year

34. Chetri Chandra is a festival that marks the beginning of the Lunar Hindu New Year for _____ Hindus
- a. Dongri
 - b. Santhali
 - c. Sindhi
 - d. Nepali

Answer: C

Chetri Chandra is a festival that marks the beginning of the Lunar Hindu New Year for **Sindhi** Hindus. The date of the festival is based on the lunar cycle of the lunisolar Hindu calendar, falling on the first day of the year, in the Sindhi month of Chet (Chaitra)

35. Navreh is also known as
- a. Assamese New Year
 - b. Kashmiri New Year
 - c. Gwalior New Year
 - d. Arunachal New Year

Answer: B

Navreh or **Kashmiri New Year** is the celebration of the first day of the Kashmiri new year by Kashmiri Hindus, with the largest Kashmiri Hindu community being the **Kashmiri Pandits**. Kashmiri Pandits dedicate Navreh festival to their **Goddess Sharika** and pay homage to her during the festival. It takes place on the first day of the bright half (Shukla Paksha) on the month of Chaitra (March–April) of the Kashmiri Hindu calendar

Sajibu Nongma Pānba is the lunar new year festival of the Meitei people who follow **Sanamahism** (traditional **Meitei** religion), celebrated predominantly in the Indian state of **Manipur**

36. World Homeopathy Day is celebrated annually to honour the work of German physician and chemist Dr. Samuel Hahnemann on his birth anniversary - April _____.
- a. 7
 - b. 9
 - c. 10
 - d. 11

Answer: C

World Homeopathy Day is celebrated annually to honour the work of German physician and chemist Dr Samuel Hahnemann on his birth anniversary - April 10.

World Homeopathy Day 2024 theme

The theme for World Homeopathy Day is “Homeoparivar: One Health, One Family.

37. The Kamakhya Temple at Nilachal hills in _____ is one of the oldest and most revered centres of Tantric practices, dedicated to the goddess Kamakhya.
- a. Assam
 - b. West Bengal
 - c. Tamil Nadu
 - d. Odisha

Answer: A

The Kamakhya Temple at Nilachal hills in Guwahati, Assam is one of the oldest and most revered centres of Tantric practices, dedicated to the goddess Kamakhya. The temple is the center of the Kulachara Tantra Marga and the site of the Ambubachi Mela, an annual festival that celebrates the menstruation of the goddess

38. Project Seabird is related to
- a. Indian Army
 - b. Indian Navy
 - c. Indian Coast Guard
 - d. DGCA

Answer: B

INS Kadamba or Naval Base Karwar or **Project Seabird** is an Indian Navy base located near Karwar in Karnataka.

39. The National Green Hydrogen Mission was launched on 4th January, 2023 with an outlay of Rs. _____ crores up to the financial year 2029-30.
- a. 9,744
 - b. 29,744
 - c. 19,744
 - d. 25,744

Answer: C

The **Ministry of New & Renewable Energy**, Government of India has issued Guidelines for implementation of R&D Scheme under the National Green Hydrogen Mission.

The R&D scheme seeks to make the production, storage, transportation and utilization of green hydrogen more affordable. It also aims to improve the efficiency, safety and reliability of the relevant processes and technologies involved in the green hydrogen value chain.

The National Green Hydrogen Mission was launched on 4th January, 2023 with an outlay of Rs. 19,744 crores up to the financial year 2029-30.

40. Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM) is an initiative of
- a. ONGC
 - b. SAIL
 - c. BHEL
 - d. NTPC

Answer: D

NTPC Limited, **India's largest integrated power company**, is gearing up to launch the latest edition of Girl Empowerment Mission (GEM), its flagship **Corporate Social Responsibility** initiative. The program aligns with the Government of India's Beti Bachao, Beti Padhao initiative and aims to tackle gender inequality by nurturing girls' imaginations and fostering their ability to explore opportunities. GEM does this through a 1-month workshop for young girls during summer holidays, by offering them a platform for their all-round upliftment and development.

Starting from April 2024, the new edition of GEM will add nearly 3,000 meritorious children belonging to underprivileged sections of the society at 42 identified locations of the power sector PSU. With this, the total number of children benefiting from the Mission will cross 10,000.

The GEM Mission, initiated as a pilot project in 2018 with just three locations and 392 participants, has flourished into a nationwide movement. Despite challenges posed by the COVID-19 pandemic in 2020 and 2021, the program has continued to expand its reach and impact. Till date, it has benefited a total of 7,424 girls, with the number of participants steadily increasing each year. In 2023 alone, 2,707 girls participated in the workshop across 40 locations of NTPC, spanning 16 states of India.

41. Which of the following countries has recently introduced a new gold-backed currency called ZiG?
- Zambia
 - Zimbabwe
 - Gabon
 - Guinea Bissau

Answer: B

Zimbabwe has introduced a new gold-backed currency called ZiG - the name stands for "Zimbabwe Gold".

It is the latest attempt to stabilise an economy that has lurched from crisis to crisis for the past 25 years.

Unveiling the new notes, central bank governor John Mushayavanhu said the ZiG would be structured, and set at a market-determined exchange rate.

The ZiG replaces a Zimbabwean dollar, the RTGS, that had lost three-quarters of its value so far this year.

42. Neptis philyra, commonly known as long-streak sailor, has been discovered for the first time in India in Tale Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Lower Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh. It is a
- Bird
 - Spider
 - Butterfly
 - Frog

Answer: C

A rare butterfly species named Neptis philyra, commonly known as long-streak sailor, has been discovered for the first time in India in Tale Valley Wildlife Sanctuary in Lower Subansiri district of Arunachal Pradesh, by a team of butterfly enthusiasts

43. The peace clause protects India's food procurement programmes against action from WTO members in case the subsidy ceilings (de minimis)— _____% of value of food production in the case of India and other developing countries—are breached.
- 5
 - 10
 - 15
 - 20

Answer: B

India has, for the fifth time, invoked the peace clause for exceeding the 10% ceiling on support it offered its rice farmers. The country informed the World Trade Organization (WTO) that the value of its rice production in 2022-23 was \$52.8 billion while it gave subsidies worth \$6.39 billion, which comes out to 12.1% as against the permitted 10%.

The peace clause protects India's food procurement programmes against action from WTO members in case the subsidy ceilings (de minimis)—10% of value of food production in the case of India and other developing countries—are breached.

New Delhi had first invoked the clause in 2020 when it became the first country to do so.

44. Simon Harris has recently become the Prime Minister of
- UK
 - Greenland
 - Italy
 - Ireland

Answer: D

Simon Harris on Tuesday became Ireland's new prime minister, replacing Leo Varadkar after he abruptly quit last month citing personal and political reasons.

45. India's _____ Mission team was recently awarded the prestigious 2024 John L. 'Jack' Swigert Jr. Award for Space Exploration
- Chandrayaan-3
 - Gaganyaan
 - Mangalyaan
 - Aditya L1

Answer: A

India's Chandrayaan-3 mission team was recently awarded the prestigious 2024 John L. 'Jack' Swigert Jr. Award for Space Exploration, acknowledging their efforts to elevate the standards of space exploration.

With the successful Chandrayaan-3 mission in August last year, India became the first country to land on the south pole of the moon. The giant stride in lunar exploration of the south pole, was crafted by the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro), which 'broadens humanity's horizons in space exploration, opening up new realms for comprehension and collaboration,' as stated in a press release by the Space Foundation.

46. Eid al-Fitr is celebrated by Muslims worldwide because it marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of _____
- a. Ramadan
 - b. Muharram
 - c. Shawwal
 - d. Rajab

Answer: A

Eid al-Fitr is the earlier of the two official holidays celebrated within Islam (the other being Eid al-Adha). Eid al-Fitr is celebrated by Muslims worldwide because it marks the end of the month-long dawn-to-sunset fasting of Ramadan.

47. Department of Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) at Command Hospital (Southern Command) in _____ has conducted two piezoelectric Bone Conduction Hearing Implants (BCI) in a 7-year old male child suffering from congenital external and middle ear anomalies with severe degree of hearing loss and one adult with Single Sided Deafness (SSD), becoming the first government hospital across the country to procure and conduct the successful piezoelectric bone conduction hearing implants.
- a. Chennai
 - b. Dharwad
 - c. Pune
 - d. Kochi

Answer: C

Department of Ear, Nose & Throat (ENT) at Command Hospital (Southern Command) in Pune has conducted two piezoelectric Bone Conduction Hearing Implants (BCI) in a 7-year old male child suffering from congenital external and middle ear anomalies with severe degree of hearing loss and one adult with Single Sided Deafness (SSD), becoming the first government

hospital across the country to procure and conduct the successful piezoelectric bone conduction hearing implants.

48. India accounted for the _____-highest number of cases of hepatitis B and C in 2022 with 35 million infections, according to the Global Hepatitis Report 2024 by the World Health Organisation (WHO).
- Fifth
 - Third
 - Fourth
 - Second

Answer: D

India accounted for the second-highest number of cases of hepatitis B and C in 2022 after China, with 35 million infections, according to a report by the World Health Organisation (WHO).

Hepatitis is an inflammation of the liver that can cause a range of health problems and can be fatal.

According to the WHO's 2024 Global Hepatitis Report released on Tuesday, 254 million people lived with hepatitis B and 50 million with hepatitis C in 2022 globally.

India, which was second only to China in the viral hepatitis burden, registered 29.8 million hepatitis B cases in 2022 while the number of hepatitis C infections stood at 5.5 million.

China registered 8.3 crore cases of hepatitis B and C, representing 27.5 per cent of the total disease burden.

The report said that with a total of 35 million cases, India accounted for 11.6 per cent of the total disease burden globally that year.

There are five main strains of the hepatitis virus, referred to as types A, B, C, D and E. While they all cause liver disease, they differ in important ways including modes of transmission, severity of the illness, geographical distribution and prevention methods.

In particular, types B and C lead to chronic disease in hundreds of millions of people and together are the most common cause of liver cirrhosis, liver cancer and viral hepatitis-related deaths.

The WHO on Tuesday flagged that the number of lives lost due to viral hepatitis is increasing with the disease being the second leading infectious cause of death globally -- with 1.3 million deaths per year the same as tuberculosis.

49. Which of the following has recently become the first private sector bank to open a branch in Lakshadweep's Kavaratti?
- ICICI
 - HDFC
 - Axis Bank
 - Federal Bank

Answer: B

The largest private sector lender HDFC Bank on Wednesday inaugurated a branch in Lakshadweep's Kavaratti island. The bank is the only private sector lender to have a presence in Lakshadweep, according to a statement.

The bank seeks to serve customers wherever they are and looks forward to serving the financial needs of individuals, families, and businesses in Lakshadweep, the bank's retail branch banking group head S Sampathkumar said. The branch was inaugurated by Captain Lovekesh Thakur, Commanding Officer, Indian Navy and K P Muthukoya, a well-known resident, in the presence of bank officials, the statement said.

50. What is India's rank in the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024?
- First
 - Second
 - Third
 - Fourth

Answer: C

India ranks **third** with 67 unicorns, US has 703, China has 340

All is not well with India's startup ecosystem. According to the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024, India for the first time recorded a decline in unicorn creation since 2017. India in 2023 had 67 unicorns, which is one less than 68 such startups last year, according to the latest Hurun Global Unicorn Index. The US led the list with 703 unicorns, up 37 from 2022, and China with 340 unicorns. UK and EU ranked No 4 and No 5 in the list, respectively. The total value of the world's unicorns have reached US\$5 trillion, equivalent to last year's GDP of Japan.

51. Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu is mainly celebrated in
- Assam
 - Punjab
 - Odisha
 - Madhya Pradesh

Answer: A

Bohag Bihu or Rongali Bihu is a traditional ethnic festival celebrated in the Northeastern Indian state of Assam and other parts of Northeastern India by the indigenous ethnic groups of Assam, and marks the beginning of the Assamese New Year. The festival is of mostly aboriginal origin comprising Tibeto-Burman and Tai elements

52. Pohela Boishakh is the first day of the _____ calendar
- Gujarati
 - Nepalese
 - Bengali
 - Sindhi

Answer: C

Pohela Boishakh is the first day of the Bengali calendar which is also the official calendar of Bangladesh. This festival is celebrated on 14 April in Bangladesh and 15 April in the Indian states of West Bengal, Tripura, Jharkhand and Assam (Barak Valley) by Bengalis regardless of religious faith.

53. Puthandu is the first day of the Tamil month _____
- Vaikasi
 - Chithirai
 - Aani
 - Thai

Answer: B

Puthandu also known as Tamil New Year, is the first day of year on the Tamil calendar and traditionally celebrated as a festival by Tamil People across the world. The festival date is set with the solar cycle of the solar Hindu calendar, as the first day of the Tamil month **Chithirai**

54. On which of the following dates does the 2024 Indian general election polling begin?
- April 17
 - April 18
 - April 19
 - April 26

Answer: C

General elections will be held in India from **19 April 2024** to 1 June 2024 to elect the 543 members of the 18th Lok Sabha. The elections will be held in seven phases and the results will be announced on 4 June 2024. This will be the largest-ever election in the history, surpassing

the 2019 Indian general election, and will last 44 days, second only to the 1951–52 Indian general election.

102 Parliamentary Constituencies in 21 states are scheduled for polling on 19th April, 2024 in which 127 General Observers, 67 Police Observers and 167 Expenditure Observers have been deployed. All have reported in constituencies before the last date of nomination i.e. 26th March, 2024. Sh. Rajiv Kumar, Chief Election Commissioner accompanied with Sh. Gyanesh Kumar, Election Commissioner and Sh. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu, Election Commissioner asked all the observers to strictly ensure that polling stations contain all amenities for voters especially to combat heat, no inducements are offered close to voting of first phase, forces are optimally utilised and law and order is kept under strict watch.

55. Prerana Program is an initiative of the Ministry of
- a. Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
 - b. Women and Child Development
 - c. Social Justice
 - d. Education

Answer: D

PRERANA is a Visionary one week Journey to Inspire India's Youth

An initiative of **Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education,** Government of India to be implemented by Navodaya Vidyalaya Samiti.

Prerana is a transformative one week experiential learning program designed to empower the youth of the country. This immersive experience combines cutting-edge technology with heritage of Bharat and inspirational teachings, welcoming 20 selected students from 10 districts at a time, covering all the districts in the country.

56. In which year was the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency established?
- a. 1967
 - b. 1987
 - c. 1977
 - d. 1997

Answer: B

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) is an Indian public sector enterprise which provides financial assistance and other services to projects related to renewable sources of energy and energy efficiency/conservation. Formed in **1987**, IREDA is a

Mini Ratna (Category – I) organisation owned by the Government of India and administratively controlled by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE).

57. Operation Meghdoot was launched on 13 April _____, when the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) advanced to the Siachen glacier to secure the heights dominating the Northern Ladakh region. The operation involved the airlifting of Indian Army soldiers by the IAF and dropping them on the glacial peaks
- 1984
 - 1985
 - 1986
 - 1983

Answer: A

Meghdoot was launched on 13 April 1984, when the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) advanced to the Siachen glacier to secure the heights dominating the Northern Ladakh region. The operation involved the airlifting of Indian Army soldiers by the IAF and dropping them on the glacial peaks. Although the operation began in 1984, IAF helicopters were already operating in the Siachen Glacier since 1978, flying the Chetak helicopters which was the first IAF helicopter to land in the Glacier in October 1978.

58. India celebrated World Quantum Day 2024 on April _____, 2024, with aspirations to become a global leader in various fields of Quantum Science and Technology.
- 11
 - 12
 - 13
 - 14

Answer: D

India celebrates World Quantum Day 2024 on April 14, 2024, with aspirations to become a global leader in various fields of Quantum Science and Technology.

Quantum Mechanics, the study of atoms and sub-atomic particles, has now advanced to such an extent that it has now moved to the engineering domain and is leading to novel and varied applications. Researchers worldwide have utilized its principles to develop technologies such as LEDs, lasers, and ultra-precise atomic clocks used in the Global Positioning System. Considerable attention is now being paid to controlling and manipulating quantum systems for Quantum Computing, Quantum Communications, and Quantum Sensing applications. To advance the awareness and appreciation of quantum science and technology among the public

worldwide, an international initiative was taken in 2022, commemorated annually as the World Quantum Day on April 14th.

59. The National Quantum Mission (NQM), conceptualized by the Prime Minister Science Technology Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) received Cabinet approval on April 19, 2023 with a total outlay of Rs _____ Crore for a period of eight years. The Mission aims to seed, nurture, and scale up scientific and industrial R&D and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology (QT). This will accelerate QT-led economic growth, nurture the ecosystem in the country, and make India one of the leading nations in the development of QT and applications.
- 5003
 - 4003
 - 6003
 - 7003

Answer: C

The National Quantum Mission (NQM), conceptualized by the Prime Minister Science Technology Advisory Council (PM-STIAC) received Cabinet approval on April 19, 2023 with a total outlay of Rs 6003.65 Crore for a period of eight years. The Mission aims to seed, nurture, and scale up scientific and industrial R&D and create a vibrant & innovative ecosystem in Quantum Technology (QT). This will accelerate QT-led economic growth, nurture the ecosystem in the country, and make India one of the leading nations in the development of QT and applications.

Being implemented by the Department of Science and Technology (DST), NQM envisages well-orchestrated and synergistic efforts through a hub-spoke-spike model, involving Centres of Excellence (CoEs), consortia projects, individual scientist-centric projects, etc. This mission is guided by a Mission Governing Board (MGB) chaired by Dr. Ajai Chowdhry and assisted by the Mission Technology Research Council (MTRC) chaired by the PSA to the Government of India.

The Mission aims to **establish four Thematic Hubs (T-Hubs)** in domains such as (i) **Quantum Computing**, (ii) **Quantum Communication**, (iii) **Quantum Sensing & Metrology**, and (iv) **Quantum Materials & Devices**. A Call for Pre-Proposals to establish T-Hubs was given on January 20, 2024, inviting contributions from academic institutions and R&D labs.

60. In the context of Quantum Science and Technology, what does 'QKD' represent?
- Quantum Knowledge Dissemination
 - Quantum Key Distribution
 - Quantum Kinetic Diode
 - Quantum Key Discharge

Answer: B

Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) is a secure communication method that uses quantum mechanics to generate and distribute cryptographic keys. It allows two parties to create a shared secret key that can be used to encrypt and decrypt messages.

61. Joint military Exercise DUSTLIK is an exercise between India and
- Israel
 - Uzbekistan
 - Azerbaijan
 - USA

Answer: B

The Indian Army contingent departed today for the 5th edition of India- Uzbekistan joint military Exercise DUSTLIK. The Exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 15th to 28th April 2024 at Termez, the Republic of Uzbekistan. Exercise DUSTLIK is a yearly event conducted alternatively in India and Uzbekistan. Last edition was conducted at Pithoragarh (India) in February 2023.

The Indian Armed Forces contingent comprising 60 personnel is being represented by 45 personnel from the Indian Army, majorly from a Battalion of the JAT Regiment, and 15 personnel from the Indian Air Force. The Uzbekistan contingent comprising approximately 100 personnel, from Uzbekistan Army and Air Force, will be represented by personnel from Southern Operational Command, part of South-West Military District.

62. Who is the incumbent Chairperson of the National Highways Authority of India?
- Santosh Kumar Yadav
 - Anurag Jain
 - Jitendra Kumar
 - M Ravichandran

Answer: A

Keeping its focus on building a robust and sustainable National Highway network, NHAI organized a day long national workshop in New Delhi to discuss different aspects of environmental impact assessment, planning and mitigation for holistic National Highway development. Chief Guest for the event was Shri Anurag Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways. Shri **Santosh Kumar Yadav, Chairman NHAI along** with Guest of Honour Shri Jitendra Kumar, IFS, DGF&SS, MoEF&CC were also present on the occasion. The event saw participation from senior officials of MoRTH, NHAI, NHIDCL, MoEF&CC, QQI-NABET, DPR Consultants, Concessionaires, Authority Engineers, and Independent Engineers.

63. Which of the following authors has recently released a memoir "Knife"?
- a. Jhumpa Lahiri
 - b. Sanjay Gupta
 - c. Akhil Sharma
 - d. Salman Rushdie

Answer: D

British-American author Salman Rushdie releases his memoir "Knife" on Tuesday, recounting the harrowing experience of being stabbed at a public event in 2022 and how he overcame the near-fatal ordeal.

64. India is among the twelve countries responsible for 60 percent of the planet's mismanaged plastic waste though the fast-developing South Asian nation's per capita plastic waste production is among the lowest in the world, according to The Plastic Overshoot Day report. The report was released by
- a. Surfrider Foundation
 - b. 5 Gyres
 - c. Plastic Pollution Coalition
 - d. EA Earth Action

Answer: D

India is among the twelve countries responsible for 60 percent of the planet's mismanaged plastic waste though the fast-developing South Asian nation's per capita plastic waste production is among the lowest in the world, according to a new report.

The Plastic Overshoot Day report by Swiss non-profit EA Earth Action also said global plastic waste generation has risen by 7.11 per cent since 2021. The world is estimated to have generated 220 million tons of plastic waste this year, 70 million tons of which will end up polluting the environment.

65. International Turban Day is on
- a. April 12
 - b. April 13
 - c. April 14
 - d. April 15

Answer: B

13 April was chosen as International Turban Day because Baisakhi is a major Sikh festival that celebrates the birth of the Khalsa Panth. On this day on 13 April 1699, the tenth Guru, Guru

Gobind Singh established the Khalsa Panth at Anandpur Sahib which made it a meaningful date for Sikhs around the world.

66. Rama Navami is a Hindu festival that celebrates the _____
- Rama's victory over Ravana
 - Rama's return from the exile
 - Birth of Rama
 - Rama's union with Sita

Answer: C

Rama Navami is a Hindu festival that celebrates the **birth of Rama**, one of the most popularly revered deities in Hinduism, also known as the seventh avatar of Vishnu.

He is often held as an emblem within Hinduism for being an ideal king and human through his righteousness, good conduct and virtue.

The festival falls on the ninth day of the bright half (Shukla Paksha) of the lunar cycle of Chaitra (March–April), the first month in the Hindu calendar.

67. Mamta G Sagar, has been recently awarded the World Literary Prize for her contribution to literature by the World Organization of Writers. She works in which of the following languages?
- Telugu
 - Kannada
 - Marathi
 - Hindi

Answer: B

Kannada poet, playwright and academic, Mamta G Sagar, was awarded the World Literary Prize for her contribution to literature by the World Organization of Writers (WOW) on April 6.

68. Derek Underwood, who recently passed away, was a famous
- Cricket player
 - Football player
 - Chess player
 - Athlete

Answer: A

Derek Underwood, England's top **spinner (cricket)** post-World War II, passed away at 78. He took 297 wickets in 86 Tests and 2,465 wickets for Kent in his career. Underwood was known

for his quick bowling and precise accuracy, making him a formidable opponent during a time of uncovered wickets.

69. World Art Day is on
- a. April 12
 - b. April 14
 - c. April 15
 - d. April 17

Answer: C

World Art Day, a celebration to promote the development, diffusion and enjoyment of art, was proclaimed at the 40th session of UNESCO's General Conference in 2019.

Art nurtures creativity, innovation and cultural diversity for all peoples across the globe and plays an important role in sharing knowledge and encouraging curiosity and dialogue. These are qualities that art has always had, and will always have if we continue to support environments where artists and artistic freedom are promoted and protected. In this way, furthering the development of art also furthers our means to achieve a free and peaceful world.

Each year, on 15 April, World Art Day celebrations help reinforce the links between artistic creations and society, encourage greater awareness of the diversity of artistic expressions and highlight the contribution of artists to sustainable development. It is also an occasion to shine a light on arts education in schools, as culture can pave the way for inclusive and equitable education.

70. The executive board of the _____ has recently re-appointed Kristalina Georgieva as its Managing Director for a second five-year term.
- a. IMF
 - b. World Bank
 - c. WTO
 - d. UNESCO

Answer: A

The International Monetary Fund's (IMF) executive board has re-appointed Kristalina Georgieva as its Managing Director for a second five-year term, as per a release issued by the global financial institution on Friday, April 12. The decision was "taken by consensus", it said.

Georgieva's second tenure will also stretch for a five-year period, starting from October 2024, the IMF said, adding that she was the sole candidate nominated for the post.

71. SPACE, a premier testing & evaluation hub for sonar systems for Indian Navy, has been recently set up by DRDO. What does 'E' represent in SPACE?
- Engagement
 - Evaluation
 - Encryption
 - Exploration

Answer: B

A state-of-the-art Submersible Platform for Acoustic Characterisation and **Evaluation** (SPACE) was inaugurated by Secretary, Department of Defence (R&D) and Chairman DRDO Dr Samir V Kamat at Underwater Acoustic Research Facility, Kulamavu in Idukki, Kerala on April 17, 2024. The SPACE, set up by the Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory of DRDO, has been designed as a premier testing and evaluation hub for sonar systems destined for Indian Navy onboard various platforms including ships, submarines and helicopters.

72. Surya Tilak Project, recently seen in the news, is associated with which of the following places?
- Konark
 - Modhera
 - Ayodhya
 - Mathura

Answer: C

Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), an Autonomous body under the Department of science and Technology played a crucial role in the Surya Tilak Project at **Ayodhya**. Under the Surya Tilak project, sunlight was brought on the forehead of Sri Ram Lalla at 12 noon on the occasion of Sri Ram Navami in the Chaitra month. IIA team carried out the calculation of the sun position, design and optimisation of the optical system, and performed the integration & alignment at the site.

73. Fitch Ratings has recently affirmed the long-term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) of both State Bank of India (SBI) and Canara Bank at _____
- BBB-
 - AA-
 - BBB
 - BBB+

Answer: A

Fitch Ratings affirmed the long-term Issuer Default Rating (IDR) of both State Bank of India (SBI) and Canara Bank at 'BBB-' and said the outlook looks stable.

74. Which of the following sectors does the Government's recently launched CDP-SURAKSHA digital platform aim at?
- Women safety
 - Railway
 - Urban transport
 - Horticulture

Answer: D

The CDP-SURAKSHA is essentially a digital platform. SURAKSHA stands for “System for Unified Resource Allocation, Knowledge, and Secure **Horticulture** Assistance.” The platform will allow an instant disbursement of subsidies to farmers in their bank account by utilising the e-RUPI voucher (more on this later) from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

The CDP-SURAKSHA has features such as database integration with PM-KISAN, cloud-based server space from NIC, UIDAI validation, eRUPI integration, local government directory (LGD), content management system, geotagging, and geo-fencing.

75. The Airports Council International (ACI) World, a global organisation which measures and assesses airport standards has ranked Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport as the _____ busiest airport in the world in 2023.
- Fourth
 - Sixth
 - Eighth
 - Tenth

Answer: D

The Airports Council International (ACI) World, a global organisation which measures and assesses airport standards ranked Delhi's Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport as the tenth busiest airport in the world in 2023.

Data shared by the ACI on Monday showed that the IGI airport in the capital handled 7.22 crore passengers annually. The Hartsfield-Jackson Atlanta International Airport in the United States held the top rank with 10.46 crore passengers.

From the top 10 rankings for total passenger traffic, five of the airports are in the United States. The biggest jump in the rankings is recorded for Tokyo's Haneda airport, which leaped from 16th position in 2022 to the 5th spot in 2023.

76. Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE), a laboratory of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), is located in
- Chennai
 - Mumbai
 - Ahmedabad
 - Bengaluru

Answer: D

Gas Turbine Research Establishment (GTRE) is a laboratory of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO). Located in Bengaluru, its primary function is research and development of aero gas-turbines for Military aircraft. As a spin-off effect, GTRE has been developing marine gas-turbines also.

77. Which of the following countries has recently become the first country in the world to roll out a new vaccine (called Men5CV), recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), which protects people against five strains of the meningococcus bacteria?
- Nigeria
 - Uganda
 - Ethiopia
 - South Africa

Answer: A

In a historic move, Nigeria has become the first country in the world to roll out a new vaccine (called Men5CV) recommended by the World Health Organization (WHO), which protects people against five strains of the meningococcus bacteria. The vaccine and emergency vaccination activities are funded by Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance, which funds the global meningitis vaccine stockpile, and supports lower-income countries with routine vaccination against meningitis.

Nigeria is one of the 26 meningitis hyper-endemic countries of Africa, situated in the area known as the African Meningitis Belt. Last year, there was a 50% jump in annual meningitis cases reported across Africa.

In Nigeria, an outbreak of *Neisseria meningitidis* (meningococcus) serogroup C outbreak led to 1742 suspected meningitis cases, including 101 confirmed cases and 153 deaths in seven of 36 Nigerian states (Adamawa, Bauchi, Gombe, Jigawa, Katsina, Yobe, Zamfara) between 1 October

2023 and 11 March 2024. To quell the deadly outbreak, a vaccination campaign has been undertaken on 25--28 March 2024 to initially reach more than one million people aged 1-29 years.

Meningitis is a serious infection that leads to the inflammation of the membranes (meninges) that surround and protect the brain and spinal cord. There are multiple causes of meningitis, including viral, bacterial, fungal and parasitic pathogens. Symptoms often include headache, fever and stiff neck. Bacterial meningitis is the most serious, can also result in septicaemia (blood poisoning), and can seriously disable or kill within 24 hours those that contract it.

78. 'Just A Mercenary?: Notes from My Life and Career' is a book written by
- Y V Reddy
 - D Subbarao
 - Raghuram Rajan
 - Urjit Patel

Answer: B

The book is by Duvvuri Subbarao,

79. The International Day for Monuments and Sites also known as World Heritage Day is an international observance held on _____ April each year around the world
- 15
 - 17
 - 18
 - 16

Answer: C

The International Day for Monuments and Sites also known as World Heritage Day is an international observance held on 18 April each year around the world with different types of activities, including visits to monuments and heritage sites, conferences, round tables and newspaper articles.

80. Gaia BH3, recently seen in the news, is a
- Moon of Jupiter
 - Black hole
 - Asteroid
 - Underwater trench

Answer: B

Astronomers have detected the **largest stellar black hole** with mass 33 times that of the Sun in the Milky Way galaxy. It is also the second closest black hole to Earth, sitting just 2,000 light years away from the planet.

When a star with more than eight times the Sun's mass runs out of fuel, it explodes as a supernova and its core collapses to form a stellar black hole.

So far, studies have suggested that there are around 50 suspected or confirmed stellar-mass black holes in the Milky Way, but there could be as many as 100 million in our galaxy alone, according to NASA.

The new discovered stellar black hole "Gaia BH3" has dethroned Cygnus X-1, which is 21 times as massive as the Sun, to become the most massive black hole of stellar origin in the Milky Way. Further, such black holes, on average, are only about 10 times as massive as the Sun.

81. Which of the following places is the home of the Shompen tribe, who recently made history by casting their votes for the first time in the General Elections of 2024?
- Andaman and Nicobar
 - Lakshadweep
 - Nilgiris
 - Odisha

Answer: A

In Andaman and Nicobar Islands, voters belonging to the tribal communities came out in large numbers. Shompen tribe of Great Nicobar made history by casting their votes for the first time in #GeneralElections2024. In Mizoram, an elderly couple reaffirmed their vow to vote together. In Arunachal Pradesh, an elderly woman trekked to the Polling Station on her own volition despite having the home voting facility.

82. The Government has appointed Vice Admiral _____ presently serving as the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, as the next Chief of the Naval Staff with effect from the afternoon of April 30, 2024.
- Dinesh Kumar Tripathi
 - R Hari Kumar
 - Sanjay Jasjit Singh
 - Rajesh Pendharkar

Answer: A

The Government has appointed Vice Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, PVSM, AVSM, NM, presently serving as the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, as the next Chief of the Naval Staff with

effect from the afternoon of April 30, 2024. The present Chief of the Naval Staff, Admiral R Hari Kumar, PVSM, AVSM, VSM retires from service on April 30, 2024.

83. Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023 replaces which of the following laws?
- Indian Penal Code 1860
 - Code of Criminal Procedure, 1973
 - Indian Evidence Act, 1872
 - Code of Civil Procedure, 1908

Answer: B

In order to repeal archaic colonial laws and usher in legislations which are citizen centric and cater to the requirements of a vibrant democracy three laws have been enacted to overhaul the criminal justice system in the country. The legislations i.e. the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, 2023; the **Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita, 2023** and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam, 2023, replace the earlier criminal laws namely, the Indian Penal Code 1860, the Code of **Criminal Procedure, 1973** and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872. As notified, **these criminal laws are to take effect from 1st July 2024.**

84. During Financial Year 2022-23, India imported crude oil, LPG, LNG, and petroleum products from OPEC countries, amounting to approximately US\$ _____ billion.
- 60
 - 120
 - 180
 - 240

Answer: B

India and OPEC have a longstanding partnership. India is the second largest export destination for OPEC.

During Financial Year 2022-23, India imported crude oil, LPG, LNG, and petroleum products from OPEC countries, amounting to approximately US\$ 120 billion.

85. Who is the incumbent Minister of Railways of Union of India?
- Piyush Goyal
 - Suresh Prabhu
 - D V Sadananda Gowda
 - Ashwini Vaishnaw

Answer: D

Ashwini Vaishnaw is an Indian politician who is currently serving as the 39th Minister of Railways, 55th Communications Minister and 2nd Electronics & Information Technology Minister in Government of India since 2021 and a member of the Rajya Sabha representing Odisha since 2019.

86. Mahavir Janma Kalyanak celebrates the birth of Mahavira, the _____ Tirthankara (supreme preacher) of Jainism.
- 1st
 - 22nd
 - 23rd
 - 24th

Answer: D

Mahavir Janma Kalyanak is one of the most important religious festivals in Jainism. It celebrates the birth of Mahavira, the twenty-fourth and last Tirthankara (supreme preacher) of present Avasarpinī.

87. Asteya is a Jain principle which refers to
- Chastity
 - Non-attachment
 - Truthfulness
 - Non-Stealing

Answer: D

Bhagwan Mahavir illuminated the path of peaceful co-existence and universal brotherhood through Jain principles like Ahimsa (Non-Violence), Satya (Truthfulness), **Asteya (Non-Stealing)**, Brahmacharya (Chastity) and Aparigraha (Non-attachment).

Jains celebrate five Kalyanak's (major events) of every Tirthankar including Mahavir Swami Ji: **Chyavana/Garbha (Conception)** Kalyanak; Janma (Birth) Kalyanak; **Diksha (Renunciation)** Kalyanak; **Kevaljnana (Omniscience)** Kalyanak and **Nirvana (Liberation/Ultime Salvation)** Kalyanak. 21st April 2024 is the Janma Kalyanak of Bhagwan Mahavir Swami and the Government is commemorating the occasion with the Jain community by organizing a cultural programme in Bharat Mandapam along with Saints from the Jain community gracing the occasion and blessing the congregation.

88. Exercise Poorvi Lehar, recently seen in the news, is an exercise by
- Indian Army
 - Indian Navy
 - Indian Air Force

d. NSG

Answer: B

Indian Navy conducted Exercise Poorvi Lehar on East Coast under the Operational Control of The Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief, Eastern Naval Command. The exercise aimed at validation of procedures towards assessment of Indian Navy's preparedness to meet Maritime Security challenges in the region.

The exercise witnessed participation of Ships, Submarines, Aircrafts and Special Forces. XPOL was conducted in multiple phases including combat training in a realistic scenario during the Tactical Phase and successful conduct of various firings during the Weapon Phase towards reaffirming Indian Navy's capability to deliver ordnance on target. With operation of aircraft from diverse locations, a near continuous Maritime Domain Awareness was maintained throughout the Area of operations. In addition to the participation of assets from Eastern Naval Command, the exercise also witnessed participation of assets from IAF, Andaman & Nicobar Command and Coast Guard indicating a very high degree of interoperability amongst the Services.

89. Veterinary Council of India (VCI) is governed under the provisions of the Indian Veterinary Council Act of_____.
- a. 1974
 - b. 1964
 - c. 1984
 - d. 1954

Answer: C

The Veterinary Council of India (VCI) is a statutory body which regulates veterinary practice in India. Established under the Ministry of Agriculture of the Government of India in 1984, and based in New Delhi, the council is governed by the **Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984**. The first members were nominated in 1989. The first elections to the council took place in 1999. Since May 2019 after the creation of Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying the Veterinary Council of India is functional as a statutory body under this ministry.

The Central Government, in pursuance of the provisions of rules 10 and 11 of the Indian Veterinary Council Rules, 1985, conferred by section 4 read with the clause (g) of sub-section (3) of section 3 of the **Indian Veterinary Council Act, 1984** (52 of 1984), has announced the election of the 11 members Veterinary Council of India vide notification S.O. 4701(E) dated 25th October 2023. Now the Returning Officer appointed by the Hon'ble High Court of Delhi, has

appointed the following dates for holding election of members from amongst persons enrolled in the Indian Veterinary Practitioners Register of the Veterinary Council of India:

90. Dragonfly rotorcraft mission is associated with which of the following space agencies?

- a. NASA
- b. ESA
- c. CNSA
- d. ISRO

Answer: A

NASA on Tuesday confirmed Dragonfly rotorcraft mission to Saturn's organic compound-rich moon Titan with a budget of \$3.35 billion and a launch date set for July 2028.

The Dragonfly mission passed all the criteria of its Preliminary Design Review in early 2023 but it was asked to develop an updated budget and schedule to fit into the current budget of the space agency. This updated plan was presented and then conditionally approved in November 2023.

91. National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC) is headquartered in

- a. Chennai
- b. Hyderabad
- c. Mumbai
- d. Pune

Answer: C

The National Film Development Corporation (NFDC), the nodal agency of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting, which organises the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF), invites all aspiring animators to unleash their creativity and gain invaluable expertise at the exclusive Animation Crash Course & VFX Pipeline workshop at the upcoming 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF).

The National Film Development Corporation of India (NFDC) based in **Mumbai** is the central agency established in 1975, to encourage high quality Indian cinema. It functions in areas of film financing, production and distribution and under the **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**.

92. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj commemorates the _____ of April every year as National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD) with profound zeal and fervour, marking the enactment of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act.

- a. 21st
- b. 22nd

- c. 23rd
- d. 24th

Answer: D

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is organizing a National Colloquium on “Governance at the Grassroots after Three Decades of the 73rd Constitutional Amendment” on 24th April, 2024, at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi in observance of National Panchayati Raj Day. Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj Shri Vivek Bharadwaj and Secretary, Department of Rural Development Shri Shailesh Kumar Singh will inaugurate the National Colloquium in the presence of Additional Secretary, Ministry of Panchayati Raj Dr. Chandra Shekhar Kumar and other senior officials.

The Ministry of Panchayati Raj commemorates the 24th of April every year as National Panchayati Raj Day (NPRD) with profound zeal and fervour, marking the enactment of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act, 1992, which came into force on 24th April, 1993. The National Colloquium on Grassroots Governance holds particular significance as it coincides with three decades of the Constitution (73rd Amendment) Act and two decades since the creation of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is dedicated to empowering grassroots governance and accelerating progress on LSDGs across rural India through innovative initiatives and digital interventions.

93. Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) under Ministry of Personnel, Public Administration and Pensions has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Civil Service, _____ on cooperation in the field of Human Resource Development in Civil Service.
- a. Singapore
 - b. Thailand
 - c. Cambodia
 - d. Philippines

Answer: C

Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) under Ministry of Personnel, Public Administration and Pensions signed a Memorandum of Understanding with Ministry of Civil Service, Cambodia on cooperation in the field of Human Resource Development in Civil Service today. The MoU advances the cordial and friendly ties between India and Cambodia in the field of Human Resource Development in Civil Service over the next 05 years. The MoU was signed by Excellency Mr. Hun Many, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Civil Service, on behalf of the Kingdom of Cambodia, and Dr. Devyani Khobragade, Ambassador of India to the Kingdom of Cambodia, on behalf of Government of India at a ceremonial function held in Phnom Penh today. Senior Officials of Ministry of External Affairs, Embassy of India in Cambodia, Embassy of Cambodia in India and the Ministry of Civil Service of

the Kingdom of Cambodia, Shri V. Srinivas, Secretary, DARPG, Shri. N.B.S. Rajput, Joint Secretary, DARPG and Shri Parthasarathy Bhaskar, Deputy Secretary, DARPG attended the ceremony from High Commission of India in London.

94. Who is the incumbent Director General of CSIR?

- a. N. Kalaiselvi
- b. S.P. Singh
- c. Arvind Khanna
- d. Akansha Trehan

Answer: A

N. Kalaiselvi, DG, CSIR

95. Recently released provisional figures of Direct Tax collections for the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 show that net collections are at Rs. _____ lakh crore.

- a. 9.58
- b. 29.58
- c. 39.58
- d. 19.58

Answer: D

The provisional figures of Direct Tax collections for the Financial Year (FY) 2023-24 show that Net collections are at Rs. 19.58 lakh crore, compared to Rs. 16.64 lakh crore in the preceding Financial Year i.e. FY 2022-23, representing an increase of 17.70%.

The Budget Estimates (BE) for Direct Tax revenue in the Union Budget for FY 2023- 24 were fixed at Rs. 18.23 lakh crore which were revised and the Revised Estimates (RE) were fixed at Rs. 19.45 lakh crore. The provisional Direct Tax collections (net of the refunds) have exceeded the BE by 7.40% and RE by 0.67%.

96. C-DOT, the premier Telecom R&D Centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India and Indian Institute of Technology, _____ have recently signed an agreement for “Automated Service Management in 5G and Beyond Networks Using AI”.

- a. Ropar
- b. Bhubaneshwar
- c. Jodhpur
- d. Indore

Answer: C

C-DOT, the premier Telecom R&D Centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Government of India and Indian Institute of Technology, Jodhpur (IIT-J) signed an agreement for “Automated Service Management in 5G and Beyond Networks Using AI”.

The agreement is signed under the Telecom Technology Development Fund (TTDF) of the DoT, which is designed for providing funding support to domestic companies and institutions involved in technology design, development, commercialization of telecommunication products and solutions to enable affordable broadband and mobile services in rural and remote areas.

97. DRDO’s Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE), _____ has successfully developed the lightest Bullet Proof Jacket in the country for protection against 7.62 x 54 R API (Level 6 of BIS 17051) ammunition
- Pune
 - Bengaluru
 - Kanpur
 - Banswara

Answer: C

DRDO’s Defence Materials and Stores Research and Development Establishment (DMSRDE), Kanpur has successfully developed the lightest Bullet Proof Jacket in the country for protection against 7.62 x 54 R API (Level 6 of BIS 17051) ammunition. Recently, this bullet proof jacket was successfully tested at TBRL, Chandigarh as per BIS 17051-2018. This jacket is based upon new design approach, where novel material along with new processes have been used. The front Hard Armour Panel (HAP) of this jacket defeats multiple hits (06 shots) of 7.62 x 54 R API (Sniper rounds) in both ICW (In-conjunction with) and Standalone design. The ergonomically designed front HAP is made up of monolithic ceramic plate with polymer backing which enhances the wearability and comfort during the operation. The areal density of ICW Hard Armour Panel (HAP) and standalone HAP is less than 40 kg/m² and 43 kg/m² respectively.

98. India has showcased its innovative technologies and power generation practices, at the _____ World Energy Congress, being held in Rotterdam, Netherlands, from 22nd April, 2024 to 25th April, 2024.
- 22nd
 - 23rd
 - 24th
 - 26th

Answer: D

India is showcasing its innovative technologies and power generation practices, at the 26th

World Energy Congress, being held in Rotterdam, Netherlands, from 22nd April, 2024 to 25th April, 2024.

99. World Earth Day is on

- a. April 21
- b. April 22
- c. April 23
- d. April 24

Answer: B

The annual event of World Earth Day falls on April 22. This year, it falls on Monday. The theme for World Earth Day 2024 is **Planet vs Plastics**. The theme aims to bring attention to the serious issue of plastic pollution and how it harms nature. For Earth Day 2024, EARTHDAY.ORG aims to end plastic for planetary health and demands a 60 per cent reduction in the production of all plastics by 2040.

100. The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is an international financial institution that offers investment, advisory, and asset-management services to encourage private-sector development in less developed countries. The IFC is a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in _____

- a. Washington, D.C.
- b. New York
- c. Seattle
- d. London

Answer: A

The International Finance Corporation (IFC) is an international financial institution that offers investment, advisory, and asset-management services to encourage private-sector development in less developed countries. The IFC is a member of the World Bank Group and is headquartered in Washington, D.C. in the United States.

101. Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy is located in

- a. Gurugram
- b. New Delhi
- c. Dehradun
- d. Nashik

Answer: C

Indira Gandhi National Forest Academy (IGNFA) is a forest service training institute under the Ministry of Environment and Forests of India, which was originally as Indian Forest College,

established in 1938 for training of senior forest officers. It is situated in the New Forest campus of Forest Research Institute (FRI), Dehradun. IGNFA is currently functioning as a staff college for the officers of the Indian Forest Service

Location: Dehradun, Uttarakhand

102. International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure 2024 will be held in

- a. India
- b. China
- c. USA
- d. South Africa

Answer: A

The International Conference on Disaster Resilient Infrastructure 2024 will follow a hybrid format as in the last edition and will be organized on 24-25 April 2024 in New Delhi, India.

ICDRI is the Coalition's flagship annual conference to strengthen the global dialogue and collaboration on disaster and climate resilient infrastructure. This year's theme is 'Investing today for a more resilient tomorrow.' We will bring together governments, the global infrastructure community, multilateral development banks, and the private sector to map challenges and opportunities, identify and share good practices in policy, technologies, financial mechanisms, instruments, and frameworks, and demonstrate pathways to enhance investments for sustainable and resilient infrastructure.

103. Who is the incumbent Coal Controller of India?

- a. S.C. Agrawal
- b. Aarti Mahawar
- c. Gouranga Singh
- d. Sajeesh Kumar N.

Answer: D

Sajeesh Kumar N.: Coal Controller

Office of Coal Controller (earlier Coal Commissioner), established in 1916, is one of the oldest offices in Indian Coal sector. Main aim behind setting up this office was to have Government control to adequately meet the coal requirement during First World War. Acute scarcity of coal necessitated promulgation of Colliery Control Order, 1944 for effective control on production, distribution and pricing of coal. Subsequently, it was revised by a more comprehensive order in 1945. Later in 1996, distribution and pricing of coal was deregulated. Thereafter, Colliery Control Order, 2000 superseded the previous order. Finally, the Colliery Control Rules, 2004, was published by Government of India in August, 2004.

104. National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP) _____ aims to create a digitally empowered India through affordable, resilient, and ubiquitous digital communication infrastructure and services

- a. 2017
- b. 2020
- c. 2018
- d. 2019

Answer: C

National Digital Communications Policy (NDCP) 2018 recognizes spectrum as a key natural resource for public benefit to achieve India's socio-economic goals. NDCP 2018 aims to further liberalize the spectrum sharing, leasing, and trading regime in the country. The newly enacted Telecommunications Act, 2023 provides that the Central Government may permit the sharing, trading, leasing and surrender of assigned spectrum, subject to the terms and conditions, including applicable fees or charges, as may be prescribed.

105. "SUNFLOWERS WERE FIRST ONES TO KNOW", a film by Chidanand Naik, a student of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), has been selected in the 'La Cinef' Competitive section of _____ Cannes Film Festival, France.

- a. 76th
- b. 77th
- c. 78th
- d. 79th

Answer: B

"SUNFLOWERS WERE FIRST ONES TO KNOW", a film by Chidanand Naik, a student of Film and Television Institute of India (FTII), has been selected in the 'La Cinef' Competitive section of 77th Cannes Film Festival, France. The festival is to be held from 15th to 24th May 2024. The section is an official section of the festival aimed at encouraging new talents and recognises films from film schools across the world

The film is among 18 shorts (14 live-action and 4 animated films) selected from a total of 2,263 films submitted by film schools all over the world. This is the only Indian film selected in 'La Cinef' section of Cannes. The Jury will hand over La Cinef prizes at a ceremony preceding the screening of the awarded films on 23rd May in the Buñuel Theatre.

106. Georgia Meloni is the incumbent Prime Minister of

- a. Italy
- b. Slovenia
- c. Greece

d. Spain

Answer: A

Giorgia Meloni is an Italian politician who has been serving as the prime minister of Italy since October 2022, the first woman to hold this position.

107. The Indian Historical Records Commission (IHRC), an apex advisory body on archival matters, acts as an all-India forum of creators, custodians and users of records to advise the Government of India on the management of records and their use for historical research. Established in 1919, the IHRC is headed by the

- a. Secretary, Ministry of Culture
- b. Prime Minister of India
- c. Vice President of India
- d. Union Minister of Culture

Answer: D

The Indian Historical Records Commission (IHRC), an apex advisory body on archival matters, acts as an all-India forum of creators, custodians and users of records to advise the Government of India on the management of records and their use for historical research. Established in 1919, the IHRC is headed by the Union Minister of Culture.

108. The Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) is a leading medical training institute in

- a. Mumbai
- b. Pune
- c. Nagpur
- d. Dehradun

Answer: B

The Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) is a leading medical training institute in Pune, India, in the state of Maharashtra. The college is managed by the Indian Armed Forces.

Established in May 1948 as a post-graduate teaching institution after World War II on the recommendation of the BC Roy Committee, remnants of various Indian Army Medical Corps units were amalgamated to create the Armed Forces Medical Services. The AFMC undergraduate wing was established on 4 August 1962, which is also celebrated annually as AFMC Day by its alumni.

109. SJVN Limited has achieved a significant milestone with the inauguration of India's first Multi-purpose (Combined Heat & Power) Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at SJVN's 1,500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) in Jhakri, _____

- a. Punjab
- b. Haryana
- c. Himachal Pradesh
- d. Rajasthan

Answer: C

SJVN Limited has achieved a significant milestone with the inauguration of India's first Multi-purpose (Combined Heat & Power) Green Hydrogen Pilot Project at SJVN's 1,500 MW Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station (NJHPS) in Jhakri, Himachal Pradesh. The green hydrogen produced from the project will be utilized for High Velocity Oxygen Fuel (HVOF) Coating Facility of NJHPS for meeting its combustion fuel requirements. In addition, it will also generate electricity through its fuel cell of 25 kW capacity.

The first Multi-purpose (Combined Heat & Power) Green Hydrogen Generation Plant of the nation has been inaugurated by Chairperson and Managing Director, Smt. Geeta Kapur on April 24, 2024. Speaking about the project, the Chairperson said: "Aligned with National Green Hydrogen Mission of Government of India, SJVN's Green Hydrogen Pilot Project is poised to accelerate the development of green hydrogen production infrastructure in the power sector, thus establishing green hydrogen as a clean energy source."

110. World Energy Council India is a country member of World Energy Council (WEC), a global body established in 1923, with the aim of promoting sustainable supply and use of energy. WEC India is one of the earliest country members of World Energy Council, having joined the Council in _____

- a. 1924
- b. 1925
- c. 1923
- d. 1926

Answer: A

The 26th World Energy Congress is expected to be a critical turning point for leadership on clean and inclusive energy transitions worldwide. Themed 'Redesigning Energy for People and Planet', the four-day gathering marks the World Energy Council's centenary in world energy. According to the Council, the Congress seeks to explore the role of connected energy societies in driving forward global energy transitions in a world context which is less predictable, more turbulent and faster-shifting.

World Energy Council India is a country member of World Energy Council (WEC), a global body established in 1923, with the aim of promoting sustainable supply and use of energy. WEC India is one of the earliest country members of World Energy Council, having joined the Council in

1924. WEC India functions under the patronage of Ministry of Power, Government of India and with the support of the Ministries of Coal, New & Renewable Energy, Petroleum & Natural Gas and External Affairs.

111. Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) is an Indian multinational biotechnology company based in _____, which is engaged in drug discovery, drug development, and the manufacture of vaccines, biotherapeutics, pharmaceuticals and healthcare products.

- a. Pune
- b. Bengaluru
- c. Hyderabad
- d. Mumbai

Answer: C

Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL) is an Indian multinational biotechnology company based in Hyderabad, which is engaged in drug discovery, drug development, and the manufacture of vaccines, biotherapeutics, pharmaceuticals and healthcare products.

112. National Sanskrit University, earlier known as Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha is a central university in _____

- a. Andhra Pradesh
- b. Uttar Pradesh
- c. Uttarakhand
- d. Haryana

Answer: A

National Sanskrit University, earlier known as Rashtriya Sanskrit Vidyapeetha is a central university in Tirupati, Andhra Pradesh

113. Council of Scientific & Industrial Research (CSIR)-Indian Institute of Petroleum(IIP), Dehradun, celebrated its _____ Foundation Day in 2024

- a. 60th
- b. 65th
- c. 70th
- d. 75th

Answer: B

Council of Scientific & Industrial Research(CSIR)-Indian Institute of Petroleum(IIP), Dehradun, celebrated its 65th Foundation Day on its campus today. It is a premier R&D

organization established on 14th April 1960. Padma Bhushan Dr V K Saraswat, Hon'ble Member NITI Aayog and Mentor CSIR-IIP, graced the occasion as the Chief Guest. The celebration marked the institute's rich history of pioneering research, innovative technologies, and industry collaborations.

114. Which one of the following ports has recently received the shipping ministry's approval for operating as India's first transshipment port?

- a. Kakinada Port
- b. Vizhinjam Port
- c. Dahej Port
- d. Mundra Port

Answer: B

Adani Group's Vizhinjam Port in Kerala has received approval to operate as India's first transshipment port, facilitating the transfer of cargo between ships. The Shipping ministry's nod allows customs to establish an office at the port.

115. World Day for Safety and Health at Work is a UN international day that is celebrated every April _____

- a. 26
- b. 27
- c. 28
- d. 30

Answer: C

The annual World Day for Safety and Health at Work on 28 April promotes the prevention of occupational accidents and diseases globally. It is an awareness-raising campaign intended to focus international attention on the magnitude of the problem and on how promoting and creating a safety and health culture can help reduce the number of work-related deaths and injuries.

116. 'Kamikaze' drone, recently seen in the news, is in connection with the affairs of

- a. Iran
- b. Israel
- c. Ukraine
- d. Turkey

Answer: A

Iran unveiled a suicide drone days after the west imposed sanctions on its drone firms. The announcement about the drone was made via the IRGC-linked Tasnim news agency. The latest 'Kamikaze' drone is engineered to fly into targets & detonate upon impact and is said to be similar to Russia's Lancet drones.

117. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) has been recently granted

- a. Maharatna status
- b. Navratna status
- c. Miniratna status
- d. Shauryaratna status

Answer: B

Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) has granted the Navratna status to Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA)

118. "The Winner's Mindset" is a book authored by

- a. Sam Northeast
- b. Mark Wood
- c. Dom Bess
- d. Shane Watson

Answer: D

Shane Robert Watson is an Australian cricket coach, commentator and former cricketer who played for and occasionally captained the Australian national cricket team between 2002 and 2016.

Shane Watson witnessed one of cricket's greatest tragedies unfolding on the field. He was one of the players at the Sydney Cricket Ground when Phillip Hughes was felled by a bouncer during a Sheffield Shield match in late 2014. The talented opener, who played for Australia in 26 Tests and 25 ODIs, died at a hospital two days later.

Watson feared it could happen to him, too. All it could take is just one ball. Watson overcame that trauma. He became an even better cricketer than he was before, in fact. In the book, **The Winner's Mindset**, he tells us how.

119. International Dance Day is a global celebration of dance, created by the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the main partner for the performing arts of UNESCO. The event takes place every year on _____ April.

- a. 27
- b. 28

- c. 29
- d. 30

Answer: C

International Dance Day is a global celebration of dance, created by the Dance Committee of the International Theatre Institute (ITI), the main partner for the performing arts of UNESCO. The event takes place every year on 29 April, which is the anniversary of the birth of Jean-Georges Noverre (1727–1810), who is considered to be the "father" or creator of modern ballet (ie. classical or romantic ballet as we know it today not "Modern Ballet" as this is sometimes confused with contemporary ballet.) The day strives to encourage participation and education in dance through events and festivals held on the date all over the world. UNESCO formally recognize ITI to be the creators and organizers of the event.

120.Koodal Aḷagar Temple, recently seen in the news, is located in

- a. Tamil Nadu
- b. Kerala
- c. Karnataka
- d. Telangana

Answer: A

Koodal Aḷagar Temple in Madurai, a city in the South Indian state of **Tamil Nadu**, is dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu. Constructed in the Dravidian style of architecture, the temple is glorified in the Naalayira Divya Prabandham, the early medieval Tamil canon of the Alvar saints from the 6th–9th centuries CE. It is one of the 108 Divya Desams dedicated to Vishnu, who is worshipped as Viyooga Sundarrajan, and his consort Lakshmi as Mathuravalli.

121.Index of Eight Core Industries measures the combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries viz. Cement, Coal, Crude Oil, Electricity, Fertilizers, Natural Gas, Refinery Products and Steel. The Eight Core Industries comprise ____percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

- a. 41.27
- b. 40.27
- c. 50.27
- d. 25.27

Answer: B

The ICI measures the combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries viz. Cement, Coal, Crude Oil, Electricity, Fertilizers, Natural Gas, Refinery Products

and Steel. The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).

122. NHPC Limited, the largest organization for hydropower development in India, has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Ocean Sun, a _____ company operating as a technology provider to the floating solar industry. As per the MoU, NHPC and Ocean Sun will explore key areas of cooperation for demonstration of Ocean Sun's floating solar energy technology based on photovoltaic panels. The panels would be mounted on hydro-elastic membranes, at relevant sites to be identified by NHPC.

- a. Swedish
- b. French
- c. Norwegian
- d. American

Answer: C

NHPC Limited, the largest organization for hydropower development in India, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding with M/s Ocean Sun, a Norwegian company operating as a technology provider to the floating solar industry. As per the MoU, NHPC and Ocean Sun will explore key areas of cooperation for demonstration of Ocean Sun's floating solar energy technology based on photovoltaic panels. The panels would be mounted on hydro-elastic membranes, at relevant sites to be identified by NHPC.

The agreement is in continuation of efforts towards sustainable development and addition of renewable energy capacity by NHPC, which is engaged not only in hydro power development but also in various renewable energy projects such as solar, wind and green hydrogen projects.

123. Fentanyl, recently seen in the news, is a/an

- a. Opioid
- b. Virus
- c. mRNA
- d. Cleansing agent

Answer: A

Fentanyl is a potent synthetic piperidine opioid primarily used as an analgesic. It is 20 to 40 times more potent than heroin and 100 times more potent than morphine; its primary clinical utility is in pain management for cancer patients and those recovering from painful surgeries. Fentanyl is also used as a sedative

124. Gem and jewellery sector has received an Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) status from which of the following ministries?

- a. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- b. Ministry of Chemicals and Fertilizers
- c. Ministry of Finance
- d. Ministry of Mines

Answer: C

The country's gem and jewellery sector has received an Authorised Economic Operator (AEO) status from the finance ministry which will facilitate exports and imports of gem and jewellery with shorter cargo release time, reduction in bank guarantee by 50 per cent compared to non-AEO entities and expedite resolution of customs, central excise and service tax cases.

125. The Rampage, initially named MARS (Multi-purpose, Air-launched Rocket System), is an air-to-surface missile developed by

- a. Israel
- b. India
- c. USA
- d. UK

Answer: A

The Rampage, initially named MARS (Multi-purpose, Air-launched Rocket System), is an air-to-surface missile developed by Israel Military Industries derived from the EXTRA. It is a standoff weapon designed to hit high-value targets such as radar installations, communications centers, weapons storage facilities and airfields while the launch aircraft remains out of range of air defenses