

CURRENT AFFAIRS JANUARY 2024

1. XPoSat has been recently launched by which of the following agencies?
 - a. ISRO
 - b. NASA
 - c. ESA
 - d. JAXA

Answer: A

The X-ray Polarimeter Satellite (XPoSat) is an Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) manufactured space observatory to study polarisation of cosmic X-rays. It was launched on 1 January 2024 on a PSLV rocket, and it has an expected operational lifespan of at least five years.

The telescope is being developed by the Raman Research Institute (RRI) in close collaboration with U R Rao Satellite Centre (URSC)

2. Which of the following States of India has recently set a Guinness World Record for the most people performing Surya Namaskar simultaneously at 108 venues?
 - a. Maharashtra
 - b. Gujarat
 - c. Uttar Pradesh
 - d. Odisha

Answer: B

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, congratulated Gujarat for setting a Guinness World Record for the most people performing Surya Namaskar simultaneously at 108 venues.

3. The Government of India, with the approval of the President of India, has constituted the Sixteenth Finance Commission, in pursuance to Article 280(1) of the Constitution. Who will be the Chairperson of Sixteenth Finance Commission?
 - a. Vijay L. Kelkar
 - b. N. K. Singh
 - c. C. Rangarajan
 - d. Arvind Panagariya

Answer:

D

The Government of India, with the approval of the President of India, has constituted the Sixteenth Finance Commission, in pursuance to Article 280(1) of the Constitution.

Dr Arvind Panagariya, former Vice-Chairman, NITI Aayog, and Professor, Columbia University will be the Chairman. Members of the Sixteenth Finance Commission would be notified separately. Shri Ritvik Ranjanam Pandey has been appointed as Secretary to the Commission. Detailed terms of reference for Sixteenth Finance Commission have also been spelt out in the notification issued today.

4. Government of India has recently declared 'Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, Jammu and Kashmir (TeH)' as an 'Unlawful Association' under Section 3(1) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) _____.
- 1965
 - 1966
 - 1967
 - 1969

Answer: C

Government of India has declared 'Tehreek-e-Hurriyat, Jammu and Kashmir (TeH)' as an 'Unlawful Association' under Section 3(1) of the Unlawful Activities (Prevention) Act (UAPA) 1967.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah in his post on 'X' said that "The outfit is involved in forbidden activities to separate J&K from India and establish Islamic rule. The group is found spreading anti-India propaganda and continuing terror activities to fuel secessionism in J&K".

5. Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur Kushalta Sampann Hitgrahi (PM-DAKSH) targets which of the following sections of society?
- SC
 - DNT
 - Safai Karamcharis
 - All of the above

Answer: D

Pradhan Mantri Dakshta Aur KushaltaSampannHitgrahi (PM-DAKSH)

PM-DAKSH Yojana, a Central Sector Scheme, was launched during 2020-21. The main objective of the Scheme is to enhance competency level of the target groups (SCs, OBCs, EBCs, DNTs, Safai Karamcharis including waste pickers etc) to make them employable both in self-employment and wage-employment for their socio-economic development.

6. Agatti Airport is a regional airport located in

- a. Andaman and Nicobar
- b. Dadra and Nagar Haveli
- c. Maharashtra
- d. Lakshadweep

Answer:

D

Agatti Airport is a regional airport serving the union territory of Lakshadweep, India. It is located at the southern end of Agatti Island, and is the sole airstrip in the archipelago, which lies off the west coast of mainland India.

7. Simplified Certification Scheme comes under the ambit of which of the following?
- a. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
 - b. Ministry of Finance
 - c. Ministry of Communications
 - d. Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Answer: C

The technical arm Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC) of Department of Telecommunications, Ministry of Communications, has brought 37 more products under Simplified Certification scheme (SCS) w.e.f. 01 January 2024. This will reduce the time taken for certification from eight weeks to two weeks and promote ease of doing business. These products include media gateway, IP security equipment, IP terminals, optical fibre or cable, transmission Terminal Equipment, etc. The total products under SCS have now gone up to forty nine from twelve.

8. 'Desert Cyclone' is a joint military exercise between India and _____
- a. USA
 - b. UAE
 - c. UK
 - d. Iran

Answer: B

The UAE Land Forces contingent comprising 45 personnel arrived in India to participate in the 1st edition of the India - UAE Joint Military Exercise 'DESERT CYCLONE'. The Exercise is scheduled to be conducted in Mahajan, Rajasthan from 2nd to 15th January 2024. The UAE contingent is being represented by troops from the Zayed First Brigade. The Indian Army contingent comprising 45 personnel is being represented mainly by a Battalion from the Mechanised Infantry Regiment.

9. The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission was launched by the Prime Minister of India on 1st July _____ at Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh
- 2020
 - 2021
 - 2022
 - 2023

Answer: D

A significant milestone has been crossed by the Health Ministry. More than 1 crore people have been screened for Sickle Cell Disease under the National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission.

The Mission endeavors to screen 7 crore population in 3 years. Sickle cell disease is a genetic blood disease which affects the whole life of the affected patient. It is more common in the tribal population of India but occurs in non-tribals too. The National Sickle Cell Anaemia Elimination Mission was launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 1st July 2023 at Shahdol, Madhya Pradesh. The program is being carried out in a mission mode for screening, prevention, and management of sickle cell anemia in all tribal and other high prevalent areas States/UTs of India. The focus is on 278 districts of 17 states with higher prevalence of SCD viz., Gujarat, Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Chhattisgarh, West Bengal, Odisha, Tamil Nadu, Telangana, Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Kerala, Bihar and Uttarakhand.

10. Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA) is formed in 1987 as a Mini Ratna (Category – I) Government of India Enterprise under Government of India and administratively controlled by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE). Who is the incumbent Chairman & Managing Director of IREDA?
- Pradip Kumar Das
 - Ajay Kumar Sahani
 - Bijay Kumar Mohanty
 - Manoj Sinha

Answer:

A

On the occasion of New Year 2024, CMD IREDA Shri Pradip Kumar Das has announced that the year 2024 will be christened as 'Year of Human Resource Development and Discipline' to mark IREDA's future roadmap into new strategic sectors and geographies.

11. Which of the following countries joined as new member(s) of BRICS on 1st of January 2024?

- a. Egypt
- b. Ethiopia
- c. Iran
- d. All of the above

Answer: D

BRICS is an intergovernmental organization comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates. It was formed in 2010 by the addition of South Africa to its predecessor called BRIC named after first letter of founding countries Brazil, Russia, India, and China.

Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates joined the organization on 1st of January 2024.

12. International Mind-Body Wellness Day is celebrated on
- a. January 1
 - b. January 2
 - c. January 3
 - d. None

Answer: C

International Mind-Body Wellness Day is celebrated every year on January 3 and this year it will be observed on Wednesday. Natural medicine has been practised for thousands of years; Hippocrates is seen as the founder of this field. His studies and lectures served as a catalyst for the ongoing investigation into the global application of medicine. Mind-body wellness methods in the modern era are relatively new. Over the course of the last few decades, a great deal of attention and research has been directed toward understanding how the mind and body interact to promote health. Science has recently reaffirmed the link between mind-body wellbeing, whether it is a good and healthy mind that supports a healthy body or the other way around.

13. Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme is associated with which of the following States?
- a. Gujarat
 - b. Rajasthan
 - c. Karnataka
 - d. Madhya Pradesh

Answer: B

The newly elected BJP government in Rajasthan has sought the union health ministry's approval to integrate the state's Chiranjeevi health insurance scheme with the Centre's Ayushman Bharat programme, two official's privies to the matter said.

The scheme, to be named Ayushman Bharat Mukhyamantri Chiranjeevi Health Insurance Scheme, is expected to retain the existing benefits of the state scheme, including a ₹25 lakh insurance cover in both private and government hospitals, the officials said.

The Chiranjeevi scheme, introduced by former chief minister Ashok Gehlot of the Congress party, offers higher coverage compared to the Ayushman Bharat's ₹5 lakh.

14. Françoise Bettencourt Meyers is a French businesswoman, philanthropist, writer, billionaire heiress, and the richest woman in the world, with an estimated net worth of US\$100 billion as of December 2023, according to Forbes. She is associated with which of the following companies?

- a. Société Générale
- b. Crédit Agricole
- c. L'Oréal
- d. Électricité de France

Answer:

C

Françoise Bettencourt Meyers is a French businesswoman, philanthropist, writer, billionaire heiress, and the richest woman in the world, with an estimated net worth of US\$100 billion as of December 2023, according to Forbes.

She is the only child and heir of Liliane Bettencourt, and the granddaughter of Eugène Schueller, founder of L'Oréal.

L'Oréal heiress Françoise Bettencourt Meyers has become the first woman to amass a \$100bn (£78.5bn; €90.1bn) fortune, according to a ranking of the richest people in the world.

15. Chad is a landlocked country located in

- a. Eastern Europe
- b. Africa
- c. Latin America
- d. None

Answer:

B

Chad is a landlocked country at the crossroads of North and Central Africa. It is bordered by Libya to the north, Sudan to the east, the Central African Republic to the south, Cameroon to

the southwest, Nigeria to the southwest (at Lake Chad), and Niger to the west. Chad has a population of 16 million, of which 1.6 million live in the capital and largest city of N'Djamena.

16. Who is the incumbent Chief Minister of Mizoram?

- a. Zoramthanga
- b. Lalduhoma
- c. Lal Thanhawla
- d. Zoramthanga

Answer: B

The Chief Minister of Mizoram Shri Pu. Lalduhoma met the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi.

17. The Ratle Hydroelectric Plant is a run-of-the-river hydroelectric power station, with permitted pondage under the Indus Water Treaty, currently under construction on

-
- a. Ravi River
 - b. Chenab River
 - c. Sutlej River
 - d. Beas River

Answer: B

The Ratle Hydroelectric Plant is a run-of-the-river hydroelectric power station, with permitted pondage under the Indus Water Treaty, currently under construction on the Chenab River, downstream of the village near Drabshalla in Kishtwar district of the Indian Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir.

18. Schengen Agreement is associated with which of the following?

- a. Europe
- b. Africa
- c. South America
- d. Arctic

Answer: A

The Schengen Agreement is a treaty which led to the creation of Europe's Schengen Area, in which internal border checks have largely been abolished. It was signed on 14 June 1985, near the town of Schengen, Luxembourg, by five of the ten member states of the then European Economic Community. It proposed measures intended to gradually abolish border checks at the signatories' common borders, including reduced-speed vehicle checks which allowed vehicles to

cross borders without stopping, allowing residents in border areas freedom to cross borders away from fixed checkpoints, and the harmonisation of visa policies.

19. Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR) is one of India's premier nuclear research centres. It is the second largest establishment of the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE), next to Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (BARC), located in _____
- a. Karnataka
 - b. Gujarat
 - c. Maharashtra
 - d. Tamil Nadu

Answer:

D

Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Tuesday dedicated to the nation the Rs 400 crore Demonstration Fast Reactor Fuel Reprocessing Plant (DFRP) at the Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research (IGCAR), Kalpakkam (Tamil Nadu).

The plant is a pilot for the bigger facility that would come up to reprocess the fuel that would come out of the two more 500 MW Prototype Fast Breeder Reactors (PFBR) that would come up later. The fast reactor power generation company Bharatiya Nabhikiya Vidyut Nigam Ltd (BHAVINI) in Kalpakkam is setting up the PFBR and in the future, two more fast reactors will also be built by the company.

20. World Braille Day, celebrated since 2019, is observed to raise awareness of the importance of Braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and partially sighted people. World Braille Day is on _____
- a. January 5
 - b. January 6
 - c. January 3
 - d. January 4

Answer: D

World Braille Day is an international day on 4 January and celebrates awareness of the importance of braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and visually impaired people.

21. _____ Police, in collaboration with MapMyIndia, has recently mapped all 784 accident black spots across the state on their navigation system Mapppls App. With this, _____ becomes the first state to have mapped accident black spots.
- a. Tamil Nadu
 - b. Sikkim

- c. Punjab
- d. Tripura

Answer: C

Punjab Police, in collaboration with MapMyIndia, mapped all 784 accident black spots across the state on their navigation system Mappls App. With this, Punjab becomes the first state to have mapped accident black spots.

22. Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda is the incumbent Prime Minister of

- a. Nepal
- b. Bhutan
- c. Myanmar
- d. Thailand

Answer:

A

Nepal on Thursday signed a long-term agreement for the export of 10,000 MW power to India in the next 10 years and an MoU for cooperation in renewable energy while External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar and his Nepal counterpart N P Saud jointly inaugurated 3 cross-border transmission lines. Jaishankar is on a two-day visit to the Himalayan nation.

The power export agreement was signed during the 7th meeting of the Nepal-India Joint Commission. On Thursday, an MoU for cooperation in renewable energy was also signed by the Nepal Electricity Authority and National Thermal Power Corporation Limited, India.

“Discussions focused on our overall bilateral ties, trade and economic relations, land, rail and air connectivity projects, cooperation in defence and security, agriculture, energy, power, water resources, disaster management, tourism, civil aviation, people to people and cultural exchange and development partnership,” Jaishankar said on X.

Nepal PM Pushpa Kamal Dahal Prachanda called the agreement a major breakthrough in Nepal’s power sector. Nepal’s Foreign Ministry said on X: “Various aspects of Nepal-India relations were discussed on the occasion...”

23. Kuppalli Venkatappa Puttappa is a well known

- a. Poet
- b. Scientist
- c. Politician
- d. Bureaucrat

Answer: A

Kuppalli Venkatappa Puttappa popularly known by his pen name Kuvempu, was an Indian poet, playwright, novelist and critic. He is widely regarded as the greatest Kannada poet of the 20th century. He was the first Kannada writer to receive the Jnanpith Award.

Bengali writer Shirshendu Mukhopadhyaya has been awarded the 2023 Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar. He has written more than 90 books, including travelogues and fiction for children.

24. PRITHvi Vlgyan (PRITHVI) is a scheme of the Ministry of
- Earth Sciences
 - Science and Technology
 - Space
 - Education

Answer: A

The Union Cabinet Chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the overarching scheme “PRITHvi Vlgyan (PRITHVI)” of Ministry of Earth Sciences, for implementation during the period from 2021-26 at an overall cost of Rs. 4,797 crore. The scheme encompasses five ongoing sub-schemes namely “Atmosphere & Climate Research-Modelling Observing Systems & Services (ACROSS)”, “Ocean Services, Modelling Application, Resources and Technology (O-SMART)”, “Polar Science and Cryosphere Research (PACER)”, “Seismology and Geosciences (SAGE)” and “Research, Education, Training and Outreach (REACHOUT)”.

25. Exam Warriors is a book written for young students to help them deal with the stress of exams. It was authored by _____
- Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan
 - Ramdas Pai
 - Dharmendra Pradhan
 - Narendra Modi

Answer:

D

Exam Warriors is a book by Prime Minister of India Narendra Modi, published in 2018. Exam Warriors is written for young students to help them deal with the stress of exams. It is available in 13 languages as follows, Hindi, English, Tamil, Telugu, Malayalam, Kannada, Odia, Assamese, Gujarati, Marathi, Punjabi, Urdu & Bengali.

26. Bhitarkanika National Park is located in
- West Bengal

- b. Odisha
- c. Gujarat
- d. Maharashtra

Answer:

B

Bhitarkanika National Park is a 145 km² large national park in northeast Kendrapara district in Odisha in eastern India. It was designated on 16 September 1998 and obtained the status of a Ramsar site on 19 August 2002

27. Four Stars of Destiny is an upcoming book of
- a. Manoj Mukund Naravane
 - b. Manoj Pande
 - c. Dalbir Singh Suhag
 - d. Bikram Singh

Answer:

A

General M.M. Naravane's book: 'Four Stars of Destiny'

28. The 19th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement is to be held in January 2024 in Kampala, _____.
- a. Indonesia
 - b. Uganda
 - c. Cameroon
 - d. Nigeria

Answer: B

The 19th Summit of the Non-Aligned Movement is to be held in January 2024 in Kampala, Uganda.

29. Timorebestia is an/a
- a. Extinct species
 - b. Chemical solvent
 - c. A variety of bristlecone pine
 - d. An agent used in amino acid racemization

Answer: A

Timorebestia koprii is an extinct species of stem-group chaetognath (arrow worm relative) that lived about 520 million years ago, in the Cambrian. It was first discovered in Greenland, more specifically in the Sirius Passet lagerstätte, and was first described in 2024.

30. The Similipal kai chutney made with _____ by the tribal people of Odisha's Mayurbhanj district received the geographical identity tag on January 2, 2024.
- Carpenter ant
 - Black garden ant
 - Yellow crazy ant
 - Red weaver ant

Answer:

D

The Similipal kai chutney made with red weaver ants by the tribal people of Odisha's Mayurbhanj district received the geographical identity tag on January 2, 2024.

The application was made by The Mayurbhanj Kai Society Ltd in 2020 for registration in Class 30 under sub-section (1) of section 13 of Geographical Indications of Goods (Registration and Protection) Act, 1999.

The savoury chutney is popular in the region for its healing properties and also deemed important for nutritional security of the tribal people. The scientists of OUAT Bhubaneswar analysed the red weaver ants and found it contains valuable proteins, calcium, zinc, vitamin B-12, iron, magnesium, potassium, sodium, copper, amino acids, among others. Consuming the species can help boost the immune system and prevent diseases, according to experts.

31. The Government of India has approved a centrally sponsored innovative scheme called Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram or New India Literacy Programme (NILP), popularly known as ULLAS: Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society. The scheme aligns with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and aims to empower those adults aged _____ years and above from all backgrounds who could not get due schooling and mainstream them with society to be able to contribute more to the growth story of the country.
- 10
 - 12
 - 15
 - 18

Answer:

C

The Government of India has approved a centrally sponsored innovative scheme called Nav Bharat Saksharta Karyakram or New India Literacy Programme (NILP), popularly known as ULLAS: Understanding of Lifelong Learning for All in Society. The scheme aligns with the recommendations of the National Education Policy (NEP) 2020 and aims to empower those adults aged 15 years and above from all backgrounds who could not get due schooling and mainstream them with society to be able to contribute more to the growth story of the

country. The budget of the scheme is Rs. 1037.90 crore for implementation from FYs 2022-23 to 2026-27.

32. Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying and Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways have recently laid down the foundation stone for the project on modernization and upgradation of Paradip Fishing Harbour on 8th January, 2024. Paradip Fishing Harbour is in
- Odisha
 - Gujarat
 - Goa
 - West Bengal

Answer:

A

Union Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Shri Parshottam Rupala and Minister for Ports, Shipping & Waterways Shri Sarbananda Sonowal will lay the foundation stone for the project on modernisation and upgradation of Paradip Fishing Harbour on 8th January, 2024 at Paradip, Odisha. Central Government has accorded approval to the proposal of Paradip Port Authority for Modernisation and Upgradation of Paradip Fishing Harbour at a total estimated cost of Rs 108.91 Crore with 100% central financial assistance under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) in convergence with Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways under Sagarmala Scheme. This fishing harbour project is implemented by Paradip Port Authority with a completion period of 18 months.

33. India has recently signed a Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024 with Kingdom of _____
- UAE
 - Saudi Arabia
 - Kuwait
 - Qatar

Answer: B

Union Minister for Women and Child Development and Minority Affairs Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani accompanied by Shri. V. Muraleedharan, Minister of State for External Affairs and Parliamentary Affairs signed the Bilateral Haj Agreement 2024 with H.E. Dr. Tawfiq bin Fawzan Al-Rabiah, Minister of Hajj and Umrah, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia (KSA) today at Jeddah, KSA.

34. Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare has recently inaugurated the country's 1st Healthy & Hygienic Food Street, _____, at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok, in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh
- Chai Paani
 - PRASADAM

- c. Curry street
- d. Bhojan

Answer: B

Union Minister of Health & Family Welfare Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya inaugurates the country's 1st Healthy & Hygienic Food Street, 'PRASADAM,' at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok, in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh

"PRASADAM will connect common citizens in every corner of the country with pure and safe local and traditional food. This endeavour will align common people and tourists to safe and healthy eating habits." This was stated by Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health & Family Welfare as he inaugurated the country's 1st Healthy & Hygienic Food Street, 'PRASADAM,' at Neelkanth Van, Mahakal Lok, in Ujjain, Madhya Pradesh today. He was joined by Dr. Mohan Yadav, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh, Shri Rajendra Shukla ji Deputy Chief Minister of Madhya Pradesh State, Shri Narendra Shivaji Patel, Minister of State for Public Health and Family Welfare of Madhya Pradesh State and Shri Anil Firojiya, Member of Lok Sabha.

35. The Inland Waterways Authority of India, under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways (MoPSW), has recently hosted the inaugural 'Inland Waterways Development Council' meeting on January 8, 2023, in _____.
- a. Kanpur
 - b. Delhi
 - c. Warangal
 - d. Kolkata

Answer:

D

The Inland Waterways Authority of India, under the Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways (MoPSW), is set to host the inaugural 'Inland Waterways Development Council' meeting on January 8, 2023, in Kolkata. The day-long meeting on board the vessel MV Ganga Queen, by Shri Sarbananda Sonowal, Union Minister of Ports, Shipping & Waterways and AYUSH, will bring together key figures from across the waterways states and central government including Shri Shripad Naik and Shri Shantanu Thakur, Ministers of State for Ports, Shipping & Waterways. The event will also see the participation of Ministers from various State Governments, accompanied by their Principle Secretaries/Secretaries, alongside numerous senior officers of the Central Government and domain experts in the field.

36. Who has been recently elected as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh?
- a. Sheikh Hasina
 - b. Iajuddin Ahmed

- c. Zillur Rahman
- d. Mohammad Abdul Hamid

Answer:

A

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today spoke to Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina of Bangladesh and congratulated her on her victory for a historic fourth consecutive term in the Parliamentary elections.

37. Who is the incumbent Governor of Assam?

- a. Paban Kumar
- b. Puneet Yadav
- c. Gulab Chand Kataria
- d. None

Answer: C

Governor of Assam, Shri Gulab Chand Kataria will inaugurate the Regional Conference on the theme "e- Governance" in Guwahati tomorrow. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology, MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh will also address the Inaugural Session.

38. Who has become the Member (Operations & Business Development), Railway Board in January 2024?

- a. Jaya Varma Sinha
- b. Braj Mohan Agrawal
- c. Seema Kumar
- d. Satish Kumar

Answer: C

Ms. Seema Kumar has taken over the charge of the post of Member (Operations & Business Development), & Railway Board on 05.01.2024.

39. Mário Jorge Lobo Zagallo, who recently passed away, belonged to which of the following sports?

- a. Hockey
- b. Football
- c. Golf
- d. Table tennis

Answer: B

Mário Jorge Lobo Zagallo was a Brazilian professional football player, coordinator and manager, who played as a forward.

40. Glynis Margaret Payne Johns was a/an

- a. British actress
- b. American actress
- c. Canadian actress
- d. Australian actress

Answer:

A

Glynis Margaret Payne Johns was a British actress. In a career spanning eight decades on stage and screen, Johns appeared in more than 60 films and 30 plays. She received various accolades throughout her career, including a Tony Award and a Drama Desk Award as well as nominations for an Academy Award, a Golden Globe Award, and a Laurence Olivier Award. She was one of the last surviving major stars from the Golden Age of Hollywood and classical years of British cinema.

41. Rashid Khan, who recently passed away, was associated with

- a. Hindustani music
- b. Carnatic music
- c. Classical dance
- d. Urdu literature

Answer:

A

Rashid Khan was an Indian classical musician in the Hindustani tradition. He belonged to the Rampur-Sahaswan gharana, and was the great-grandson of gharana founder Inayat Hussain Khan.

42. Tshering Tobgay has recently won the parliamentary elections in _____.

- a. Nepal
- b. Bhutan
- c. Timor-Leste
- d. Laos

Answer: B

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today congratulated H.E. Tshering Tobgay and the People's Democratic Party for winning the parliamentary elections in Bhutan.

43. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is a day celebrated on January _____ to honor the contributions of the Indian diaspora to India's development

- a. 6th
- b. 8th
- c. 9th
- d. 10th

Answer:

C

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is a day celebrated on January 9th to honor the contributions of the Indian diaspora to India's development. It also commemorates Mahatma Gandhi's return to Mumbai from South Africa on January 9, 1915.

44. Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2023 was awarded to Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty for their contribution in the field of
- a. Badminton
 - b. Tennis
 - c. Athletics
 - d. Cricket

Answer: A

Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award

- Satwiksairaj Rankireddy (badminton)
- Chirag Shetty (badminton)

45. The International Classification of Diseases (ICD) is a globally used medical classification used in epidemiology, health management and for clinical purposes. The ICD is maintained by the _____
- a. World Federation of Public Health Associations
 - b. Consortium of Universities for Global Health
 - c. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention
 - d. World Health Organization

Answer: D

The International Classification of Diseases (ICD) is a globally used medical classification used in epidemiology, health management and for clinical purposes. The ICD is maintained by the World Health Organization (WHO), which is the directing and coordinating authority for health within the United Nations System.

The ICD is originally designed as a health care classification system, providing a system of diagnostic codes for classifying diseases, including nuanced classifications of a wide variety of

signs, symptoms, abnormal findings, complaints, social circumstances, and external causes of injury or disease. This system is designed to map health conditions to corresponding generic categories together with specific variations, assigning for these a designated code, up to six characters long. Thus, major categories are designed to include a set of similar diseases.

ICD 11 TM Module 2, Morbidity Codes, World Health Organization launch event will be held in New Delhi on 10th January, 2024. The data and terminology relating to diseases based on Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani systems will now be included in the WHO's ICD11 classification.

The data and terminology relating to diseases based on Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani systems will now be included in the ICD11 classification of WHO. This effort will lead to global uniformity in ASU (Ayurveda, Unani, and Siddha) medicine as a code of vocabulary defining diseases. The World Health Organization (WHO) has developed a classification series called International Classification of Diseases (ICDs) to classify diseases internationally. The global data on diseases currently available is mainly based on healthcare practices to be diagnosed through modern biomedicine. The classification of data and terminology relating to diseases based on Ayush systems such as Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani etc. is not yet included in the WHO ICD series.

46. 27th National Youth Festival will be held in

- a. Pune
- b. Guwahati
- c. Jaipur
- d. Nashik

Answer: D

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 27th National Youth Festival in Nashik, Maharashtra on 12th January and will address the youth of the nation.

This year, National Youth Day will be celebrated by all field organisations of the Department of Youth Affairs in districts pan-India in collaboration with multiple Government departments. 'MY Bharat' volunteers throughout the country, with support from NSS units, NYKS and many educational institutions will coordinate their energies to carry out activities to volunteer for India. Youth Clubs will also bring their vibrant energy to the celebration, ensuring a truly inclusive atmosphere. More than 88,000 volunteers will participate in the campaign.

47. Who is the incumbent Governor of Himachal Pradesh?

- a. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- b. Shiv Pratap Shukla
- c. Bandaru Dattatreya
- d. Kalraj Mishra

Answer: B

The Governor of Himachal Pradesh, Shri Shiv Pratap Shukla called on the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi.

48. Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space has recently presented "Indian of the Year Award" for the year 2023 in the category 'Outstanding Achievement' to Team _____.

- a. DRDO
- b. ISRO
- c. BARC
- d. CSIR

Answer: B

Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, Dr Jitendra Singh presented "Indian of the Year Award" for the year 2023 in the category 'Outstanding Achievement' to Team ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation).

The award, instituted by a national TV channel, was received by ISRO Chairman S. Somnath and Project Director of Chandrayaan 3, Dr P.Veeramuthuvel, at a glittering ceremony in New Delhi.

49. The Coal Controller's Organization is a subordinate Office of Ministry of _____, having its offices at Kolkata, Delhi and field Offices at Dhanbad, Ranchi, Bilaspur, Nagpur, Sambalpur and Kothagudem. The Coal Controller Organisation performs various functions under different statutes/rules to ensure fair production and commercial transactions of coal including quality surveillance.

- a. Coal
- b. Steel
- c. Mines
- d. Commerce and Industry

Answer:

A

The Coal Controller's Organization is a subordinate Office of Ministry of Coal, having its offices at Kolkata, Delhi and field Offices at Dhanbad, Ranchi, Bilaspur, Nagpur, Sambalpur and Kothagudem. The Coal Controller Organisation performs various functions under different statutes/rules to ensure fair production and commercial transactions of coal including quality surveillance.

In order to align the organization with the current scenario in the coal sector reforms, Ministry of Coal had formed a four member Committee under the Chairmanship of Sh. A.N.Sahay, Ex CMD, MCL/Ex Coal Controller to review the functions of Coal Controller's Office in November, 2019. The Committee proposed restructuring of Coal Controller Organisation with the aim to regulate the commercial mining, augment domestic coal production to achieve 1 billion Tonnes with zero import. The Restructuring of Coal Controller Organisation has finally been approved by Ministry of Finance (DOE) vide dated 20.10.2023.

50. Which of the following cities bagged All India Clean City Rank 1 at the Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023?

- a. Pune
- b. Varanasi
- c. Chandigarh
- d. Surat

Answer:

D

The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu conferred Swachh Survekshan awards 2023 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi hosted by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA). 13 awardees received felicitations under categories of Clean Cities, Cleanest Cantonment, SafaiMitra Suraksha, Ganga Towns and Best Performing State were given away. This year the cleanest city award showcased joint winners. Port city **Surat** bagged the top honours, alongside Indore, who had conquered the top spot alone for 6 consecutive years. In the category of cities with a population of less than 1 lakh, Sasvad, Patan and Lonavala secured the top three spots. Mhow Cantonment Board in Madhya Pradesh was adjudged the Cleanest Cantonment Board. Varanasi and Prayagraj won the top two awards amongst the Cleanest Ganga Towns. Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh and Chhattisgarh won the top three awards for Best Performing State. Chandigarh walked away with the award for the Best Safaimitra Surakshit Sheher. 110 awards were bestowed during the ceremony.

All India Clean City Rank 1: Surat and Indore

51. 12th of January 2024 marks the birth anniversary of _____, and is celebrated as National Youth Day across the country.

- a. A. P. J. Abdul Kalam
- b. Mokshagundam Visvesvaraya
- c. Swami Vivekananda
- d. Rabindranath Tagore

Answer: C

12th of January 2024 marks the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda, and is celebrated as National Youth Day across the country. The Department of Youth Affairs is gearing up for National Youth Day, with a unique and expansive approach designed to engage and empower every corner of the country's young demographic.

52. Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhuyday Yojana comes under the Ministry of _____
- Minorities
 - Panchayati Raj
 - Rural Development
 - Social Justice & Empowerment

Answer: D

Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhuyday Yojana (PM- AJAY) is a merged scheme of 03 Centrally Sponsored Scheme namely Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY), Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCA to SCSP) and Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana(BJRCY) and has been implemented since 2021-22 with an aim to reduce poverty of the SC communities by generation of additional employment opportunities through Skill development, income generating schemes and other initiatives and to improve socio-economic developmental indicators by ensuringadequate infrastructure and requisite services in the SC dominated villages. Broadly, the Scheme has following three components:

- Development of SC dominated villages in to an “AdarshGram”.
- ‘Grants-in-aid’ for District/State-level Projects for socio-economic betterment of SCs that may include creation of infrastructure in SC dominated villages including thoses elected under Adarsh Gram component, construction of Hostels/Residential schools, Comprehensive Livelihood Projects which may include components such as Skill development, related infrastructure development, financial assistance towards loans taken by beneficiaries for acquisition/creation of assets required for livelihood generation etc.
- Construction of Hostels in higher educational institutions which aretop-ranked as per the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) of Government of India and are funded by the Centre/State/UT Governments either fully or partially. Similarly, construction of hostels in schools which are either fully or partially funded by the Centre/State/UT Governments and recommended by the Ministry of Education

It is under Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

53. The first meeting of Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC) concluded on January 8, 2024 in Kolkata to strengthen the inland water transport system in the country. It was held under the chairmanship of _____
- Sarbananda Sonowal
 - Nirmala Sitharaman
 - Shripad Yesso Naik
 - Shantanu Thakur

Answer: A

The first meeting of Inland Waterways Development Council (IWDC) concluded on January 8, 2024 in Kolkata to strengthen the inland water transport system in the country. The Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (MoPSW), Shri Sarbananda Sonowal chaired the meeting onboard vessel MV Ganga Queen showcasing the interesting possibilities waterways sector holds.

54. Which of the following countries passed a bill in January 2024 to ban the consumption and sale of dog meat?
- Japan
 - Philippines
 - Thailand
 - South Korea

Answer: D

South Korean lawmakers passed a bill to ban the consumption and sale of dog meat in a move cheered by animal welfare groups.

55. Who is the incumbent President of the Maldives?
- Ibrahim Mohamed Solih
 - Abdulla Yameen
 - Mohamed Muizzu
 - Mohammed Waheed Hassan

Answer:

C

Mohamed Muizzu is a Maldivian politician who is currently serving as president of the Maldives since 17 November 2023.

56. Lohri is a festival mainly associated with
- Eastern India
 - Southern India

- c. Western India
- d. Northern India

Answer: D

Lohri is a popular winter Dogra and Punjabi folk festival celebrated primarily in Northern India.

The significance and legends about the Lohri festival are many and these link the festival to the Duggar region and Punjab region.

It is believed by many that the festival marks the passing of the winter solstice. Lohri marks the end of winter, and is a traditional welcome of longer days and the sun's journey to the Northern Hemisphere. It is observed the night before Maghi.

57. Makar Sankranti is dedicated to which of the following gods?

- a. Varuna
- b. Indra
- c. Surya
- d. Brahma

Answer:

C

Makar(a) Sankranti also referred to as Uttarayana, Makar, or simply Sankranti, is a Hindu observance and a festival.

Usually falling on the date of January 14 annually (January 15 on a leap year), this occasion marks the transition of the sun from the zodiac of Sagittarius (dhanu) to Capricorn (makara).

Since the sun has made this transition which vaguely coincides with moving from south to north, the festival is dedicated to the solar deity, Surya, and is observed to mark a new beginning. Many native multi-day festivals are organised on this occasion all over India.

58. Recently inaugurated Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri-Nhava Sheva Atal Setu has got how many kilometers length over the sea?

- a. 14.5
- b. 16.5
- c. 21.8
- d. 17.5

Answer: B

The Prime Minister's vision is to improve the 'ease of mobility' of citizens by strengthening urban transport infrastructure and connectivity. In line with this vision, the Mumbai Trans

Harbour Link (MTHL), now named 'Atal Bihari Vajpayee Sewri - Nhava Sheva Atal Setu' has been built. The foundation stone of the bridge was laid by the Prime Minister in December 2016.

Atal Setu has been constructed at a total cost of more than Rs 17,840 crore. It is about a 21.8 km long 6-lane bridge having about 16.5 km length over the sea and about 5.5 km on the land. It is the longest bridge in India and also the longest sea bridge in India. It will provide faster connectivity to Mumbai International Airport and Navi Mumbai International Airport and will also reduce the travel time from Mumbai to Pune, Goa and South India. It will also improve connectivity between Mumbai Port & Jawaharlal Nehru Port.

59. Kalaram Temple is located in

- a. Maharashtra
- b. Gujarat
- c. Karnataka
- d. Goa

Answer:

A

Kalaram Temple, is a Hindu temple in Nashik of Nashik district in Maharashtra, dedicated to the deity Rama. It is a temple situated in Panchavati area of the Nashik. The temple derives its name from a black statue of Rama. The literal translation of kalaram is "black Rama". The sanctum sanctorum also houses the statues of the goddess Sita and the god Lakshmana. Thousands of devotees visit the temple every day.

60. An Indian Air Force An-_____ aircraft (registration K-2743), went missing over the Bay of Bengal on 22 July 2016.

- a. 12
- b. 22
- c. 32
- d. 42

Answer:

C

An Indian Air Force An-32 aircraft (registration K-2743), had gone missing over the Bay of Bengal on 22 July 2016 during an op mission. 29 Personnel were on board this flight. Large scale Search and Rescue operations by aircraft and ships could not locate any missing personnel or the aircraft debris.

The National Institute of Ocean Technology which functions under the aegis of the Ministry of Earth Sciences, had recently deployed an Autonomous Underwater Vehicle (AUV) with deep sea exploration capability at the last known location of the missing An-32. This search was

conducted at a depth of 3400 m using multiple payloads, including a multi-beam SONAR (Sound Navigation and Ranging), synthetic aperture SONAR and high resolution photography. Analysis of search images had indicated the presence of debris of a crashed aircraft on the sea bed approximately, 140 nautical miles (approx. 310 Km) from the Chennai coast.

The search images were scrutinised and found to be conforming with an An-32 aircraft. This discovery at the probable crash site, with no other recorded history of any other missing aircraft report in the same area, points to the debris as possibly belonging to the crashed IAF An-32 (K-2743).

61. Bhogi is the first day of the four-day _____ festival
- Ugadi
 - Pongal
 - Karaga
 - Dasara

Answer: B

Bhogi is the first day of the four-day Pongal festival. It falls on last day of Margazhi month of Tamil Calendar and Agrahāyaṇa or Mārgaśīrṣa month of Hindu Solar Calendar, which is 13 January by the Gregorian calendar. It is the day before Makar Sankranti, celebrated widely in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, and Maharashtra.

62. Rama Natakam is associated with
- Arunachala Kavi
 - Muthu Thandavar
 - Marimutthu Pillai
 - None

Answer:

A

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has shared a rendition of song from the great poet Arunachala Kavirayar's Rama Natakam performed by singer Ashwath Narayanan.

Arunachala Kavi was a Tamil poet and a composer of Carnatic music. He was born in Tillaiyadi in Thanjavur District in Tamil Nadu and . The three Tamil composers Arunachala Kavi, Muthu Thandavar and Marimutthu Pillai are considered the Tamil Trinity, who contributed to the evolution of Carnatic music. He composed the famous opera Rama Natakam.

63. Food Corporation of India has celebrated its ____ Foundation Day on 14th January 2024.
- 55th

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

Answer: B

Food Corporation of India should emerge as a trusted partner of farmers and people of the country, said Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Textiles and Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal said while delivering address during 60th Foundation of FCI.

The Food Corporation of India (FCI) is a statutory body created and run by the Government of India. It is under the ownership of Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, formed by the enactment of Food Corporation Act, 1964

It was set up in 1965 with its initial headquarters at Chennai. Later this was moved to New Delhi.

64. Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex is a military missile research center in
- a. Bengaluru
 - b. Ahmedabad
 - c. Nashik
 - d. Hyderabad

Answer: D

Raksha Rajya Mantri Shri Ajay Bhatt visited DRDO's Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex Hyderabad on January 14, 2024. He reviewed the ongoing missile technologies and related Programmes at Research Centre Imarat (RCI). Sri U Raja Babu, Director General, Missiles & Strategic Systems [DG(MSS)] briefed the Raksha Rajya Mantri on various technological development. Lab Directors of DRDL, ASL & RCI, explained critical systems and technologies developed by them to RRM.

65. Armed Forces Veterans' Day is celebrated on _____ January every year to recognize the service rendered by the First Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Field Marshal KM Cariappa, who retired on this day in 1953.
- a. 12th
 - b. 13th
 - c. 14th
 - d. 15th

Answer:

C

Armed Forces Veterans' Day is celebrated on 14th January every year to recognise the service rendered by the First Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces Field Marshal KM Cariappa, who retired on this day in 1953. The day was first celebrated in 2016 and it is commemorated every year since by hosting such interactive events in the honour of the Ex-Servicemen.

66. The India Meteorological Department (IMD) is an agency of the Ministry of Earth Sciences of the Government of India. In which year was it formed?
- a. 1865
 - b. 1875
 - c. 1885
 - d. 1895

Answer: B

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.

Formed on 15 January 1875

67. 'Pranab My Father: A Daughter Remembers' is a book by
- a. Neel Mukherjee
 - b. Bharati Mukherjee
 - c. Sharmistha Mukherjee
 - d. Meenakshi Mukherjee

Answer: C

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi was presented a copy of 'Pranab My Father: A Daughter Remembers' by Ms Sharmistha Mukherjee, daughter of the former President.

68. Which one of the following is the chair of BRICS 2024?
- a. India
 - b. Russia
 - c. China
 - d. South Africa

Answer:

B

Russia's 2024 BRICS Chairmanship began on Monday, January 1. Russian President Vladimir

Putin said the motto is "Strengthening Multilateralism for Equitable Global Development and Security".

69. Munawwar Rana, who recently passed away, was an Indian _____ poet
- a. Hindi
 - b. Urdu
 - c. Kannada
 - d. Santhali

Answer: B

Munawwar Rana was an Indian Urdu poet. He was honoured with the Sahitya Akademi Award in 2014 for his poem Shahdaba.

70. "Paluke Bangaramayena" is one of the famous Telugu compositions by the 17th century composer and devotee of Lord Sri Rama, _____
- a. Mangalampalli Balamuralikrishna
 - b. Ananda Bhairavi
 - c. Karuninchi Brochithivani
 - d. Bhadrachala Ramadasu

Answer: D

"Paluke Bangaramayena" is one of the famous Telugu compositions by the 17th century composer and devotee of Lord Sri Rama, Bhadrachala Ramadasu. He is known to have composed hundreds such songs however the original music is lost.

Indian Carnatic vocalist Mangalampalli Balamuralikrishna set music to these songs in the 1950s and popularized them. These have become one of the most famous renditions. Subsequently, many versions of this song have been sung.

71. The President of India has recently addressed a public meeting at Mawphlang. The President also virtually inaugurated the upgraded Rongjeng Mangsang Adokgre Road and Mairang Ranigodown Azra Road as well as laid the foundation stones for Shillong Peak Ropeway and tourist accommodations in the villages of Kongthong, Mawlyngot and Kudengrim. All these events mainly happened in the State of _____
- a. Sikkim
 - b. Assam
 - c. Meghalaya
 - d. Himachal Pradesh

Answer:

C

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu addressed a public meeting at Mawphlang, **Meghalaya** today (January 16, 2024). She also virtually inaugurated the upgraded Rongjeng Mangsang Adokgre Road and Mairang Ranigodown Azra Road as well as laid the foundation stones for Shillong Peak Ropeway and tourist accommodations in the villages of Kongthong, Mawlyngot and Kudengrim.

72. Veerabhadra temple is a Hindu temple located in the Lepakshi, in the state of _____

- a. Andhra Pradesh
- b. Karnataka
- c. Telangana
- d. Maharashtra

Answer: A

Veerabhadra temple is a Hindu temple located in the Lepakshi, in the state of Andhra Pradesh, India. The temple is dedicated to the Virabhadra, a fierce incarnation of Lord Shiva. Built in the 16th century, the architectural features of the temple are in the Vijayanagara style with profusion of carvings and paintings at almost every exposed surface of the temple. It is one of the centrally protected monuments of national importance and is considered one of the most spectacular Vijayanagara temples

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi performed darshan and puja at Veerbhadra Temple in Lepakshi, Puttaparthi, in Andhra Pradesh today. Shri Modi heard verses from the Ranganatha Ramayan in Telugu and witnessed the tale of Jatayu visually presented through the traditional shadow puppetry art form from Andhra Pradesh known as **Tholu Bommalata**.

73. REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of _____, has successfully issued its inaugural Japanese Yen (JPY) 61.1 billion 5-year, 5.25-year and 10-year Green bonds, issued under its US\$ 10 billion Global Medium Term Notes Programme. Proceeds from the issue of the Bonds will be applied to finance the Eligible Green Projects in accordance with the Company's Green Finance Framework, RBI's External Commercial Borrowings Guidelines and the approvals granted by it from time to time.

- a. Steel
- b. Coal
- c. Commerce and Industry
- d. Power

Answer: D

REC Limited, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power, has successfully issued its inaugural Japanese Yen (JPY) 61.1 billion 5-year, 5.25-year and 10-year Green bonds, issued under its US\$ 10 billion Global Medium Term Notes Programme. Proceeds from the issue of the Bonds will be applied to finance the Eligible Green Projects in accordance with the Company's Green Finance Framework, RBI's External Commercial Borrowings Guidelines and the approvals granted by it from time to time.

REC is a 'Maharatna' company under the administrative control of the Ministry of Power, Government of India, and is registered with RBI as Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC), Public Financial Institution (PFI) and Infrastructure Financing Company (IFC). REC is financing the entire Power-Infrastructure sector comprising Generation, Transmission, Distribution, Renewable Energy and new technologies like Electric Vehicles, Battery Storage, Pump Storage projects, Green Hydrogen and Green Ammonia projects. More recently, REC has also diversified into the Non-Power Infrastructure sector comprising Roads & Expressways, Metro Rail, Airports, IT Communication, Social and Commercial Infrastructure (Educational Institution, Hospitals), Ports and Electro-Mechanical (E&M) works in respect of various other sectors like Steel and Refinery. REC Ltd. provides loans of various maturities to State, Central and Private Companies for creation of infrastructure assets in the country.

REC Ltd. continues to play a key strategic role in the flagship schemes of the Government for the power sector and has been nodal agency for Pradhan Mantri Sahaj Bijli Har Ghar Yojana (SAUBHAGAYA), Deen Dayal Upadhaya Gram Jyoti Yojana (DDUGJY) and National Electricity Fund (NEF) Scheme which resulted in strengthening of last-mile distribution system, 100% village electrification and household electrification in the country. REC has also been made the nodal agency for certain States and Union Territories for the Revamped Distribution Sector Scheme (RDSS).

74. 12th General Assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP) was held in
- Ladakh
 - New Delhi
 - Sikkim
 - Arunachal Pradesh

Answer:

B

12th General Assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP) was held in New Delhi

75. 'Cyber Surakshit Bharat' is an initiative of the Ministry of _____
- Electronics and Information Technology
 - Home Affairs

- c. Defence
- d. Internal Affairs

Answer:

A

The 'Cyber Surakshit Bharat' initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) was conceptualised with the mission to spread awareness about cyber-crime and build capacities of Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) and frontline IT officials, across all government departments, for ensuring adequate safety measures to combat the growing menace of cybercrime and enable organizations to defend their digital infrastructures and become future-ready in tackling cyber-attacks.

76. _____ notified the Point of Presence (PoP) Regulations 2023, simplifying the registration process with the objectives of ease of doing business and greater usage of digital mode.
- a. PFRDA
 - b. RBI
 - c. SEBI
 - d. ESIC

Answer:

A

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) notified the Point of Presence (PoP) Regulations 2023, simplifying the registration process with the objectives of ease of doing business and greater usage of digital mode.

With this notification, banks and non-banks can act as PoPs to on-board NPS subscribers. Now, they require only single Registration for NPS, instead of multiple registrations earlier, and can operate with just one branch with wider digital presence. The timeline for disposing off applications has been reduced from 60 days to 30 days.

77. Connaught Place, officially known as Rajiv Chowk, is one of the main financial, commercial and business centres in _____
- a. Mumbai
 - b. New Delhi
 - c. Lucknow
 - d. Kolkata

Answer:

B

Connaught Place, officially known as Rajiv Chowk, is one of the main financial, commercial and business centres in New Delhi, Delhi, India

78. The Union Cabinet approved the National Quantum Mission (NQM) on 19th April _____ being implemented by DST with a total outlay of Rs.6003.65 Crore for a period of eight years
- 2020
 - 2021
 - 2022
 - 2023

Answer: D

The Union Cabinet approved the National Quantum Mission (NQM) on 19th April 2023 being implemented by DST 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 Quantum Technologies & Applications (QTA).

The 1st meeting of Mission Governing Board (MGB) of National Quantum Mission (NQM) under the chairmanship of Dr. Ajai Chowdhry discussed implementation strategy and timelines of NQM as well as the formation of Mission Coordination Cell (MCC). The MCC will be set up as a coordinating agency for the Mission and will work in coordination with the Mission Secretariat, DST.

79. Kothandaramaswamy Temple is located in
- Tamil Nadu
 - Kerala
 - Karnataka
 - Telangana

Answer:

A

The Kothandaramaswamy Temple at Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu is a shrine dedicated to the Hindu deity Rama. The temple is classified one among the 108 Abhimana Kshethram of Vaishnavate tradition

PM to visit Sri **Ranganathaswamy Temple** in Tiruchirappalli; to listen scholars reciting verses from the Kamba Ramayanam in this temple

PM to visit Sri **Arulmigu Ramanathaswamy Temple**; witness the chanting of the Ramayana in multiple languages and participate in Bhajan Sandhya

PM to also visit Kothandaramaswamy Temple, Dhanushkodi; PM to also visit Arichal Munai

80. The Ram Mandir is a Hindu temple under construction in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh. It is being constructed under which of the following styles of temple architecture?
- e. Dravida
 - f. Nagara
 - g. Vesara
 - h. None

Answer: B

The Ram Mandir is a Hindu temple under construction in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh

Answer: Nagara

81. The India International Science Festival (IISF) is a collaborative endeavour between Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of _____, Department of Space and Department of Atomic Energy in partnership with Vijnana Bharati.
- a. Education
 - b. Electronics and Information Technology
 - c. Earth Sciences
 - d. Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare

Answer: C

The India International Science Festival (IISF) is a collaborative endeavour between Ministry of Science and Technology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, Department of Space and Department of Atomic Energy in partnership with Vijnana Bharati - a science movement spearheaded by scientists of the nation with swadeshi spirit

Shri Kiren Rijju, Union Cabinet Minister for the Ministry of Earth Science, inaugurated the prestigious Young Scientist Conference on January 17, 2024, at the Indian International Science Festival at Faridabad (Haryana).

82. The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister was apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding signed on 07th November 2023 between the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the Republic of India and Agencia Nacional de Regulacion, Control Y Vigilancia Sanitaria – ARCSA, Doctor Leopoldo Izquieta Perez, The Republic of _____ on cooperation in the field of Medical Products Regulation.
- a. Ecuador
 - b. Brazil
 - c. Chile

d. Peru

Answer:

A

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, was apprised of a Memorandum of Understanding signed on 07th November 2023 between the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO), Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of the Republic of India and Agencia Nacional de Regulacion, Control Y Vigilancia Sanitaria – ARCSA, Doctor Leopoldo Izquieta Perez, The Republic of Ecuador on cooperation in the field of Medical Products Regulation.

83. The largest event in the Civil Aviation sector in Asia, the four-day “Wings India 24” extravaganza is being held in _____
- a. Kempegowda
 - b. Mumbai
 - c. Hyderabad
 - d. New Delhi

Answer: C

The largest event in the Civil Aviation sector in Asia, the mesmerizing four-day “Wings India 24” extravaganza kickstarted in Hyderabad. Spanning across commercial, general, and business aviation, the theme for the show is “Connecting India to the World in Amrit Kaal: Setting the Stage for India Civil Aviation @2047”. Held at Begumpet Airport in Hyderabad, the inaugural session of the Global Aviation Summit was inaugurated by the Union Minister of Civil Aviation and Steel, Shri. Jyotiraditya M. Scindia.

84. To enhance the efficiency of the electronic toll collection system, _____ has recently introduced the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative.
- a. Maharashtra State Road Transport Corporation
 - b. Delhi Transport Corporation
 - c. National Highways Authority of India
 - d. Bengaluru Metropolitan Transport Corporation

Answer: C

To enhance the efficiency of the electronic toll collection system, the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has introduced the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative.

The initiative, introduced a decade after the launch of FASTags in 2014, aims to prevent multiple vehicles from using a single FASTag or linking of multiple FASTags to a particular vehicle.

85. India has recently recorded its first-ever confirmed sighting of a rare Tibetan brown bear in Northern _____ marking an addition of a new subspecies to the mammal diversity of India. This species, scientifically known as *Ursus arctos pruinosus*, was recorded in camera traps set up by the _____ Forest Department and WWF-India.
- Arunachal Pradesh
 - Sikkim
 - Ladakh
 - Uttarakhand

Answer: B

India recorded its first-ever confirmed sighting of a rare Tibetan brown bear in Northern Sikkim marking an addition of a new subspecies to the mammal diversity of India.

This species, scientifically known as *Ursus arctos pruinosus*, was recorded in camera traps set up by the Sikkim Forest Department and WWF-India.

86. Phulkari refers to the folk embroidery of _____.
- Andhra Pradesh
 - Maharashtra
 - Punjab
 - Sikkim

Answer:

C

Phulkari refers to the folk embroidery of the Punjab.

87. In which year was the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) formed?
- 1953
 - 1963
 - 1973
 - 1983

Answer: B

Sashastra Seema Bal is a border guarding force of India deployed along its borders with Nepal and Bhutan. It is one of the seven Central Armed Police Forces under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).

The force was originally set up under the name Special Service Bureau in **1963** in the aftermath of the Sino-Indian War to strengthen India's border areas against enemy operations.

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Minister Shri Amit Shah addressed the **60th** Raising Day celebrations of Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) as the chief guest at the SSB Recruit Training Center in Tezpur, Assam. Chief Minister of Assam Shri Himanta Biswa Sarma, Union Home Secretary, Director General SSB and other dignitaries were present on the occasion.

88. Vemana, popularly known as Yogi Vemana, was an Indian philosopher and poet in the _____ language
- Telugu
 - Kannada
 - Tamil
 - Odia

Answer:

A

Vemana, popularly known as Yogi Vemana, was an Indian philosopher and poet in the Telugu language. His poems are known for their use of simple language and native idioms. They discuss the subjects of yoga, wisdom and morality.

89. Misleading advertisement' as defined under the Section 2(28) of the Consumer Protection Act, _____ means any means an advertisement, which falsely describes such product or service; or gives a false guarantee to, or is likely to mislead the consumers as to the nature, substance, quantity or quality of such product or service.
- 2017
 - 2018
 - 2019
 - 2020

Answer: C

The Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA), headed by Chief Commissioner Shri Rohit Kumar Singh, has initiated action against Amazon Seller Services Pvt. Ltd., concerning the sale of sweets on www.amazon.in under the name 'Shri Ram Mandir Ayodhya Prasad.'

The action has been initiated based on a representation made by Confederation of All India Traders (CAIT) alleging that Amazon is engaging in deceptive trade practices involving sale of sweets under the guise of 'Shri Ram Mandir Ayodhya Prasad'.

It may be mentioned that under Rule 4(3) of the Consumer Protection (e-commerce) Rules, 2020 no e-commerce entity shall adopt any unfair trade practice, whether in the course of business on its platform or otherwise

Further, 'Misleading advertisement' as defined under the Section 2(28) of the Consumer Protection Act, 2019 means any means an advertisement, which falsely describes such product or service; or gives a false guarantee to, or is likely to mislead the consumers as to the nature, substance, quantity or quality of such product or service.

90. The Geological Survey of India (GSI) was set up in _____ primarily to find coal deposits for the Railways.
- 1889
 - 1864
 - 1842
 - 1851

Answer: D

The Geological Survey of India (GSI) was set up in 1851 primarily to find coal deposits for the Railways. Over the years, GSI has not only grown into a repository of geo-science information required in various fields in the country but has also attained the status of a geo-scientific organisation of international repute. Its main functions relate to creating and updating of national geoscientific information and mineral resource assessment. These objectives are achieved through ground surveys, air-borne and marine surveys, mineral prospecting and investigations, multi-disciplinary geoscientific, geo-technical, geo-environmental and natural hazards studies, glaciology, seismo-tectonic study and carrying out fundamental research.

GSI's chief role includes providing objective, impartial and up-to-date geological expertise and geoscientific information of all kinds, with a focus on policy making decisions, commercial and socio-economic needs. GSI also emphasizes on systematic documentation of all geological processes both surface and subsurface, of India and its offshore areas. The organization carries out this work through geological, geophysical, & geochemical surveys using the latest does so by using the latest and most cost-effective techniques and methodologies.

GSI, headquartered in **Kolkata**, has six regional offices located in Lucknow, Jaipur, Nagpur, Hyderabad, Shillong and Kolkata and state unit offices in almost all states of the country. GSI is an attached office to the Ministry of Mines.

The **63rd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB)** meeting organized by Geological Survey of India (GSI), Ministry of Mines will be held on 22nd January 2024 in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.

The meeting will be held under the Chairmanship of Shri V.L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Govt. of India, Ministry of Mines. It will be attended by Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shri Janardan Prasad, Director General, GSI and other senior functionaries of different

Ministries, State Directorates of Mining & Geology, PSUs, representatives from private mining industry, Mining associations and other stakeholders.

91. With the introduction of North-East Area (Re-organisation) Act 1971, Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya attained statehood on January _____, 1972
- a. 20
 - b. 21
 - c. 22
 - d. 23

Answer: B

With the introduction of North-East Area (Re-organisation) Act 1971, Tripura, Manipur and Meghalaya attained statehood on January 21, 1972

92. Parakram Diwas has been celebrated in India annually since 2021, honoring _____
- a. Subhas Chandra Bose
 - b. Bhagat Singh
 - c. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
 - d. Surya Sen

Answer:

A

Parakram Diwas has been celebrated annually since 2021, honoring Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose. In 2021, the inaugural event took place at Victoria Memorial Hall, Kolkata. In 2022, a hologram statue of Netaji was unveiled at India Gate, and in 2023, 21 largest unnamed islands of Andaman & Nicobar Islands were named after the 21 Param Vir Chakra awardees and a model of National Memorial dedicated to Netaji which was supposed to be built on Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Dweep, was unveiled.

93. Who is the Chairperson of the High-Level Committee constituted by the Government of India to examine the issue relating to holding of simultaneous elections in the country?
- a. Ram Nath Kovind
 - b. Ghulam Nabi Azad
 - c. Arjun Ram Meghwal
 - d. Subhash C. Kashyap

Answer: A

The High-Level Committee constituted by the Government under the Chairmanship of Shri Ram Nath Kovind former President of India to examine the issue relating to holding of simultaneous elections in the country and make recommendations thereon held its third meeting in New

Delhi today. Shri Ghulam Nabi Azad, former Leader of Opposition, Rajya Sabha, Shri Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State (Independent Charge) Ministry of Law and Justice, Shri N. K. Singh, former Chairman, 15th Finance Commission, Dr. Subhash C. Kashyap, former Secretary General, Lok Sabha, and Shri Sanjay Kothari, former Chief Vigilance Commissioner attended the meeting.

94. Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is a statutory body to regulate downstream activities in the petroleum and natural gas sector in India. It was constituted under Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, _____.
- a. 2014
 - b. 2010
 - c. 2000
 - d. 2006

Answer: D

Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) is a statutory body to regulate downstream activities in the petroleum and natural gas sector in India. It was constituted under the act of Parliament of India, namely Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board Act, 2006.

Dr. **Anil Kumar Jain**, Chairperson, Petroleum and Natural Gas Regulatory Board (PNGRB) met Shri Banwarilal Purohit, Administrator of UT of Chandigarh and Governor of Punjab on 19th January 24 at Chandigarh.

95. Recently consecrated Ram Mandir main temple building, which is 360 ft long, 235 ft wide and 161 ft high, is made of sandstone quarried from Bansi Pahadpur, _____.
- e. Uttar Pradesh
 - f. Gujarat
 - g. Rajasthan
 - h. New Delhi

Answer:

C

Shri Ram Mandir construction has been technically assisted by atleast four leading National Institutes of CSIR (Council of Scientific & Industrial Research) and DST (Department of Science & Technology) under Ministry of Science & Technology, in addition to certain inputs from other institutions like IITs as well as ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation).

CSIR-CBRI Roorkee has majorly contributed towards Ram Temple construction; CSIR-NGRI Hyderabad gave significant inputs on foundation design and seismic safety; DST-IIA Bengaluru provided technical support on Sun's path for Surya Tilak and CSIR-IHBT Palampur has made tulips bloom for the divine Ram Mandir Pran Pratishtha ceremony in Ayodhya on 22nd January, said the Union Science Minister.

Dr Jitendra Singh said, the main temple building, which is 360 ft long, 235 ft wide and 161 ft high, is made of sandstone quarried from Bansi Pahadpur, **Rajasthan**. Cement or iron and steel is not used anywhere in its construction. The Structural Design of the 3-storey temple is designed earthquake resilient and can withstand strong tremors of magnitude 8 on the Richter scale for as long as 2,500 years, he said.

96. The Indian Army contingent comprising 25 personnel reached Egypt to take part in the 2nd edition of India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise _____. The Exercise will be conducted at Anshas, Egypt from 22nd January to 1st February 2024. The first edition of the exercise was conducted last year in India.
- a. CYCLONE
 - b. TORNADO
 - c. AKASH
 - d. SKYLAND

Answer:

A

The Indian Army contingent comprising 25 personnel reached Egypt to take part in the 2nd edition of India-Egypt Joint Special Forces Exercise CYCLONE. The Exercise will be conducted at Anshas, Egypt from 22nd January to 1st February 2024. The first edition of the exercise was conducted last year in India.

97. The 11th edition of India-_____ Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR has commenced at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh. The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 22nd January to 3rd February 2024. It is an annual event conducted alternatively in both the countries.
- a. Kazakhstan
 - b. Kyrgyzstan
 - c. Turkmenistan
 - d. Iran

Answer: B

The 11th edition of India-Kyrgyzstan Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR has commenced at the Special Forces Training School in Bakloh, Himachal Pradesh. The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 22nd January to 3rd February 2024. It is an annual event conducted alternatively in both the countries.

98. BHISHM Cube was recently seen in the news. It is related to which of the following sectors?
- a. Defence
 - b. Education
 - c. Spirituality

d. Health

Answer: D

The Arogya Maitri Disaster Management Cube-BHISHMA is a mobile hospital that is part of Project BHISHM. The project was launched in February 2022 and is a component of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita and Maitri".

In a remarkable display of timely medical intervention, the BHISHM Cube of Project Arogya Maitri, a state-of-the-art mobile hospital deployed in Ayodhya, played a pivotal role in saving the life of Shri Ramkrishna Srivastava, a 65-year-old . Shri Srivastava suffered a heart attack and a sudden medical emergency during the Pran Prastitha event, collapsing unconscious.

99. The Salar Jung Museum is an art museum located at Dar-ul-Shifa, on the southern bank of the _____ River in the city of Hyderabad
- a. Baitarani
 - b. Vamsadhara
 - c. Musi
 - d. Palar

Answer: C

The Salar Jung Museum is an art museum located at Dar-ul-Shifa, on the southern bank of the Musi River in the city of Hyderabad, Telangana, India. It is one of the notable National Museums of India. Originally a private art collection of the Salar Jung family, it was endowed to the nation after the death of Salar Jung III. It was inaugurated on 16 December 1951.

- 100.Operation Sarvashakti is an initiative of
- a. Indian Army
 - b. Indian Coast Guard
 - c. ISRO
 - d. Indian Navy

Answer:

A

India has continuously flagged persistent terrorist activities sponsored by Pakistan in Jammu and Kashmir on national and international stages. In a bid to crack down on these, the Indian Army is initiating 'Operation Sarvashakti', media reports said, citing sources. The motto of launching this operation is to counteract the resurgence of terrorism orchestrated by Pakistani proxy groups along the Pir Panjal mountain ranges in the Union Territory.

- 101.Karpoori Thakur was an Indian politician who served two terms as the 11th Chief Minister of _____

- a. Uttar Pradesh
- b. Bihar
- c. Odisha
- d. Madhya Pradesh

Answer: B

Karpoori Thakur was an Indian politician who served two terms as the 11th Chief Minister of Bihar, first from December 1970 to June 1971, and then from June 1977 to April 1979. He was popularly known as Jan Nayak. On 26 January 2024, he will be posthumously awarded India's highest civilian honour, the **Bharat Ratna**, by the Government of India

Thakur, fondly remembered as 'Jannayak' and considered a fountainhead of OBC politics, will be the 49th recipient of the country's highest civilian honour. The Bharat Ratna was last conferred on late president Pranab Mukherjee in 2019.

102.The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation has recently addressed the 5th International and 44th All India Criminology Conference of the National Forensic Science University (NFSU) in _____

- a. New Delhi
- b. Maharashtra
- c. Karnataka
- d. Gujarat

Answer:

D

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah addressed the 5th International and 44th All India Criminology Conference of the National Forensic Science University (NFSU) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

103.Parvatmala Pariyojana is an initiative of the Ministry of

- a. Road Transport & Highways
- b. Ports, Shipping and Waterways
- c. Communications
- d. Railways

Answer: A

Union Minister for **Road Transport and Highways** Shri Nitin Gadkari said more than 200 projects at a cost of Rs 1.25 lakh crore have been identified in coming five years under National Ropeways Development Programme, "Parvatmala Pariyojana".

104. Every year on January _____, National Girl Child Day (NGCD) is being celebrated nationwide with an aim to engage the public at large in creating a positive environment that values the girl child.

- a. 22nd
- b. 23rd
- c. 24th
- d. 25th

Answer:

C

Every year on January 24th, National Girl Child Day (NGCD) is being celebrated nationwide with an aim to engage the public at large in creating a positive environment that values the girl child. To create wider awareness and for encouraging a participative spirit, the Ministry of Women and Child has requested all States/UTs to conduct a 5-day special campaign especially designed for public engagement upto the grass root level.

105. A flagship programme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, the Fit India Mission is all set to launch the 'Fit India Champions' podcast series. It is being launched in partnership with _____, a major stakeholder in the fitness sector that proactively manages health through its digital and multimedia technology.

- a. Gympass
- b. GOQii
- c. HealthifyMe
- d. Cult.fit

Answer: B

A flagship programme of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, the Fit India Mission is all set to launch the 'Fit India Champions' podcast series.

It is being launched in partnership with GOQii, a major stakeholder in the fitness sector that proactively manages health through its digital and multimedia technology.

106. India has celebrated _____ Republic Day in 2024.

- a. 70th
- b. 74th
- c. 75th
- d. 76th

Answer:

C

The President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu will address the nation tomorrow (January 25, 2024) on the eve of 75th Republic Day.

107. Uttar Pradesh celebrates its Foundation Day on January _____ every year. This day is known as Uttar Pradesh Diwas or UP Diwas in Hindi. The United Province was renamed Uttar Pradesh on January _____, 1950.

- a. 23
- b. 24
- c. 25
- d. 26

Answer:

B

Uttar Pradesh celebrates its Foundation Day on January 24 every year. This day is known as Uttar Pradesh Diwas or UP Diwas in Hindi. The United Province was renamed Uttar Pradesh on January 24, 1950.

108. Since 2011, January _____ has been celebrated as the National Voters' Day across India. The date was chosen as it commemorates the foundation day of the Election Commission of India (ECI) which was founded on January _____, 1950.

- a. 24
- b. 26
- c. 23
- d. 25

Answer: D

Since 2011, January 25 has been celebrated as the National Voters' Day across India. The date was chosen as it commemorates the foundation day of the Election Commission of India (ECI) which was founded on January 25, 1950. The ECI is an autonomous constitutional body that is entrusted with one of the most important functions of our country i.e. conducting free, fair and credible elections across India. This year the NVD has even greater significance as it is celebrating the 75th anniversary of the first general elections it conducted in independent India in 1951-52.

As India celebrates the 75th anniversary of its first general elections, the theme of this year's NVD is set as 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure.' This theme is aimed at motivating the younger generation of voters to participate in elections and register themselves as voters. The theme is aimed to emphasise the satisfaction of having voted in elections, and the importance of every vote that matters during the elections. Ahead of the 2024 general elections in India, this year's NVD will play an important role in motivating first-time voters, and other young voters to register themselves to vote.

109. Which one of the following is an Anti-Tank Guided Missile?

- a. Agni-5

- b. VSHORADS
- c. HELINA
- d. Tejas

Answer:

C

Women's involvement in Defence R&D will be prominently highlighted in the tableau. Outstanding Scientist Smt Sunita Devi Jena will be the Contingent Commander. The tableau displays Man Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile (MPATGM), Anti-Satellite (ASAT) Missile, and Agni-5, Surface-to-Surface Ballistic Missile, Very Short Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS), Naval Anti-Ship Missile-Short Range (NASM-SR), **Anti-Tank Guided Missile 'HELINA'**, Quick Reaction Surface-to-Air Missile (QRSAM), Astra, Light Combat Aircraft 'Tejas', 'Uttam' Active Electronically Scanned Array Radar (AESAR), Advanced Electronic Warfare System 'Shakti', Cyber Security systems, Command Control Systems and the Semi Conductor Fabrication Facility.

110. On 23 January 2024, the Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted Exercise Desert _____ along with French Air and Space Force (FAF) and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force
- a. King
 - b. Queen
 - c. Star
 - d. Knight

Answer: D

On 23 Jan 24, the Indian Air Force (IAF) conducted Exercise Desert **Knight** along with French Air and Space Force (FAF) and United Arab Emirates (UAE) Air Force. While the French participation included the Rafale fighter aircraft and a Multi Role Tanker Transport, the UAE Air Force fielded the F-16. These aircraft operated from the Al Dhafra air base in the UAE. The IAF contingent comprised of Su-30 MKI, MiG-29, Jaguar, AWACS, C-130-J and Air to Air Refueller aircraft. The exercise in Indian FIR was conducted over the Arabian Sea, with IAF aircraft operating from bases within India.

111. The Jantar Mantar in Jaipur is a collection of 19 astronomical instruments built by the Rajput king _____
- a. Sawai Jai Singh
 - b. Sawai Bishan Singh
 - c. Sawai Ishvari Singh
 - d. Sawai Madho Singh I

Answer:

A

The Jantar Mantar, Jaipur is a collection of 19 astronomical instruments built by the Rajput king Sawai Jai Singh, the founder of Jaipur, Rajasthan.

The monument was completed in 1734.

It features the world's largest stone sundial, and is a UNESCO World Heritage Site.

It is near City Palace and Hawa Mahal.

The instruments allow the observation of astronomical positions with the naked eye. The observatory is an example of the Ptolemaic positional astronomy which was shared by many civilizations.

112. Thaipusam is a festival celebrating the victory of

- a. Genesha
- b. Balarama
- c. Murugan
- d. Veerbhadra

Answer:

C

Thaipusam or Thaiposam is a Tamil Hindu festival celebrated on the first full moon day of the Tamil month of Thai coinciding with Pusam star. The festival is celebrated to commemorate the victory of Hindu god Murugan over the demon Surapadman using a vel, a divine spear granted by Parvati.

113. On 18th December, 1970 the State of Himachal Pradesh Act was passed by Parliament and the new state came into being on _____ January, 1971

- a. 24th
- b. 25th
- c. 26th
- d. 27th

Answer: B

On 18th December, 1970 the State of Himachal Pradesh Act was passed by Parliament and the new state came into being on 25th January, 1971

The snow-covered land of Himachal Pradesh is built on the west of the Himalaya and was created on 25th January 1971 after the unification of more than 30 princely states. The renowned Sanskrit scholar, Acharya Diwakar Datt Sharma, coined the term 'Himachal'.

114. 14th National Voters' Day was celebrated across the country with the theme _____

- a. Making Elections Inclusive, Accessible and Participative
- b. Making Our Voters Empowered, Vigilant, Safe and Informed
- c. Electoral Literacy for Stronger Democracy

d. Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure

Answer: D

14th National Voters' Day celebrated across the country with the theme 'Nothing Like Voting, I Vote for Sure'

115.The President's Tatrakshak Medal is an Indian military decoration, awarded for exceptional devotion to duty or courage in _____.

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

Answer: B

The President's Tatrakshak Medal or President's Coast Guard Medal is an Indian military decoration, awarded for exceptional devotion to duty or courage in Indian Coast Guard. It is conferred by the President of India every year on the occasion of national celebrations - the Independence Day and the Republic Day.

116.Who is the incumbent Prime Minister of Mauritius?

- a. Anerood Jugnauth
- b. Navin Ramgoolam
- c. Seewoosagur Ramgoolam
- d. Pravind Kumar Jugnauth

Answer: D

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi, thanked Prime Minister of Mauritius Pravind Kumar Jugnauth for his warm wishes on the occasion of Republic Day today

117.PM YASASVI is a Scholarship scheme for Other Backward Class (OBCs), Economically Backward Class (EBC) and Denotified Nomadic Tribes (DNT) Students. The scheme comes under the Ministry of _____

- a. Education
- b. Social Justice and Empowerment
- c. Women and Child Development
- d. Finance

Answer: B

Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment is implementing an umbrella scheme namely PM Young Achievers Scholarship Award Scheme for Vibrant India (PM –YASASVI) for OBC and others.

PM YASASVI is a Scholarship scheme for Other Backward Class (OBCs), Economically Backward Class (EBC) and Denotified Nomadic Tribes (DNT) Students. Under this Scheme students can avail Pre-Matric Scholarship from Class 9 to 10 and Post Matric Scholarship for their higher studies at post-matriculation or post-secondary stage. Students who excel in their studies also get an opportunity of Scholarship to study in Top Class Schools and Colleges under the Scheme of 'Top Class School Education' and 'Top Class College Education'. Hostel facilities are also provided to OBC students under the 'Scheme of Construction of Hostels for OBC boys' and girls'. Components of Schemes are as under.

118.The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 is a disability law passed by the Parliament of India to fulfill its obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ratified by India in 2007. The Act replaces the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act,

- _____.
- a. 1991
 - b. 1994
 - c. 1995
 - d. 1996

Answer: C

The Rights of Persons with Disabilities Act, 2016 is a disability law passed by the Parliament of India to fulfill its obligations under the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ratified by India in 2007. The Act replaces the Persons with Disabilities (Equal Opportunities, Protection of Rights and Full Participation) Act, 1995.

119.Vyjayantimala Bali has been awarded Padma Vibhushan in 2024 for contribution in the field of _____

- a. Art
- b. Social Work
- c. Public Affairs
- d. Science and Engineering

Answer: A

Padma Awards - one of the highest civilian Awards of the country, are conferred in three categories, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri. The Awards are given

in various disciplines / fields of activities, viz.- art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc. 'Padma Vibhushan' is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service; 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field. The awards are announced on the occasion of Republic Day every year.

These Awards are conferred by the President of India at ceremonial functions which are held at Rashtrapati Bhawan usually around March / April every year. For the year 2024, the President has approved conferment of 132 Padma Awards including 2 duo cases (in a duo case, the Award is counted as one) as per list below. The list comprises 5 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 110 Padma Shri Awards. 30 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 8 persons from the category of Foreigners / NRI / PIO / OCI and 9 Posthumous awardees.

Vyjayantimala Bali: Art

120. Bindeshwar Pathak (Posthumous) has been awarded Padma Vibhushan in 2024 for contribution in the field of _____

- a. Literature and Education
- b. Sports
- c. Civil Service
- d. Social Work

Answer: D

Bindeshwar Pathak (Posthumous): **Social work**

121. 4th edition of the two-day Organic Orange Festival of the Rüsoma Village was held in

- a. Sikkim
- b. Nagaland
- c. Mizoram
- d. Tripura

Answer: B

Conceptualised with the intention to encourage rural farmers promote organic products and the opportunity for income generation, the 4th edition of the two-day Organic Orange Festival of the Rüsoma Village (Nagaland) kicked off.

Rüsoma Village also known as the 'Gardening village' with a total of 14,100 standing fruit bearing orange trees and 28,700 saplings under plantation, a premium orange tree, the villagers claimed can bear about 70 to 80 kilogram.

122. 'Sada Tanseeq' is a military exercise between India and _____

- a. Saudi Arabia
- b. Qatar
- c. Egypt
- d. UAE

Answer: A

A new dimension has been added to the military relations between India and Saudi Arabia. The first exercise 'Sada Tanseeq' between the armies of the two countries has started from Monday in the Mahajan Field Firing Range of Rajasthan, adjacent to the Pakistani border. The fortnight long exercise from Jan 29- Feb 10, will strengthen the defence cooperation and further expand bilateral relations between the two countries.

123. Which of the following organizations has recently launched the vigilance journal 'Pahal'?

- a. IREDA
- b. NABARD
- c. BSNL
- d. Coal India Limited

Answer: A

Shri **Pradip Kumar Das**, Chairman & Managing Director of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA), unveiled 'Pahal'- the insightful house journal of the Vigilance Department. The ceremony took place at the registered office of IREDA in New Delhi, where Shri Ajay Kumar Sahani, Chief Vigilance Officer, along with other senior officials graced the occasion

124. India's Newspaper Day is celebrated every year on _____ January to commemorate the launch of the country's first newspaper in 1780. Hicky's Bengal Gazette, also known as the Calcutta General Advertiser, was the name of the first weekly publication.

- a. 25
- b. 26
- c. 27
- d. 28

Answer:

D

India's Newspaper Day is celebrated every year on 28 January to commemorate the launch of the country's first newspaper in 1780. "Hicky's Bengal Gazette, also known as the Calcutta General Advertiser, was the name of the first weekly publication

125. Which of the following organizations in collaboration with the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), have recently unveiled the "India Ageing Report 2023?"

- a. World Bank
- b. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- c. United Nations Population Fund
- d. Population Council

Answer:

C

UNFPA (United Nations Population Fund) India, in collaboration with the International Institute for Population Sciences (IIPS), unveiled the highly anticipated "India Ageing Report 2023"

126. Satnam Singh Sandhu has been recently nominated to the Rajya Sabha. He is a noted _____

- a. Sports person
- b. Educationist
- c. Bureaucrat
- d. None of the above

Answer: B

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has expressed happiness as President of India nominated Chandigarh University Chancellor, Shri Satnam Singh Sandhu to Rajya Sabha.

In a X post, the Prime Minister said;

"I am delighted that Rashtrapati Ji has nominated Shri Satnam Singh Sandhu Ji to the Rajya Sabha. Satnam Ji has distinguished himself as a noted educationist and social worker, who has been serving people at the grassroots in different ways. He has always worked extensively to further national integration and has also worked with the Indian diaspora. I wish him the very best for his Parliamentary journey and am confident the Rajya Sabha proceedings will be enriched by his views.

127. The 'PM GatiShakti Summit: Towards Logistics Efficiency and Integrated Infrastructure Planning', has been organized by _____, in collaboration with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) in January 2024.

- a. NITI Aayog
- b. FICCI
- c. ASSOCHAM
- d. CII

Answer: B

The 'PM GatiShakti Summit: Towards Logistics Efficiency and Integrated Infrastructure Planning', organized by the Federation of Indian Chamber of Commerce & Industry (FICCI), in collaboration with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) took place in New Delhi today.

128. _____ in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and other Government Agencies has organized the National Conference on Strategic Trade Controls (NCSTC), focusing on India's Strategic Trade Control [related to Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET) and Export Controls] system and its International Best Practices, for ensuring compliance related to the export of dual-use (industrial and military) goods, software and technologies in January 2024.
- Directorate General of Foreign Trade
 - FICCI
 - Trade Policy Review Body
 - NaBFID

Answer: A

Directorate General of Foreign Trade(DGFT), Ministry of Commerce & Industry in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and other Government Agencies today organized the National Conference on Strategic Trade Controls (NCSTC), focusing on India's Strategic Trade Control [related to Special Chemicals, Organisms, Materials, Equipment and Technologies (SCOMET) and Export Controls] system and its International Best Practices, for ensuring compliance related to the export of dual-use (industrial and military) goods, software and technologies.

129. Who is the incumbent Chairperson of Digital Communications Commission?
- Surjit Bhujabal
 - Narayan Sethuramon
 - Muanpui Saiawi
 - Neeraj Mittal

Answer: D

Dr **Neeraj Mittal**, Chairman, Digital Communications Commission and Secretary, Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications (MoC), launched the “Bharat 5G Portal- an integrated portal” on the sidelines of ‘Bharat Telecom 2024 - An Exclusive International Business Expo’ being organized by Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (TEPC) in collaboration with DoT, at here from January 29-30, 2024.

The Telecom Commission was set up by the Government of India vide the Resolution dated 11th April, 1989 with administrative and financial powers of the Government of India to deal with various aspects of Telecommunications. The Government, vide Resolution dated 22nd October, 2018, has re-designated the 'Telecom Commission' as the 'Digital Communications Commission'.

The Digital Communications Commission consists of a Chairman, four full time members, who are ex-officio Secretaries to the Government of India in the Department of Telecommunications and four part time members who are the Secretaries to the Government of India in the concerned Departments. The Secretary to the Government of India in the Department of Telecommunications is the ex-officio Chairman of the Digital Communications Commission. The full-time Members of the Digital Communications Commission are Member (Finance), Member (Production), Member (Services) & Member (Technology). The part-time Members of the Digital Communications Commission are Chief Executive Officer, NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog, Secretary (Department of Economic Affairs), Secretary (Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology) and Secretary (Department of Industrial Policy & Promotion). The Chief Executive Officer, NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog has been nominated as a (part-time) Member of the Digital Communications Commission vide the Resolution of the Government of India dated 15th March, 2016

130. Who of the following Union Ministers handles Ministry of Cooperation?

- a. Nirmala Sitharaman
- b. Nitin Gadkari
- c. Amit Shah
- d. Dharmendra Pradhan

Answer:

C

The Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri **Amit Shah** launched the computerization scheme for the offices of the Registrar of Cooperative Societies (RCSs) and Agriculture and Rural Development Banks (ARDBs) of the states in New Delhi today. On this occasion, Union Minister of State for Cooperation Shri BL Verma, Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation and many dignitaries were present.