

2025 JANUARY

1. Kattungal Subramaniam Manilal, who recently passed away, was associated with

-
- a. Zoology
 - b. Botany
 - c. Paleontology
 - d. Dermatology

Answer: B

Kattungal Subramaniam Manilal was an Indian botany scholar and taxonomist, emeritus professor of the University of Calicut, a botany scholar and taxonomist, who devoted over 35 years of his life to research, translation and annotation work of the Latin botanical treatise Hortus Malabaricus. This epic effort brought to light the main contents of the book, a wealth of botanical information on Malabar that had largely remained inaccessible to English-speaking scholars, because the entire text was in the Latin language.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089448>

2. DAP fertilizer was recently seen in the news. What is the full form of DAP?

- a. Dynamic Ammonium Phosphate
- b. Double Active Phosphate
- c. Dual Action Phosphates
- d. Di-Ammonium Phosphate

Answer: D

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the proposal of the Department of Fertilizers for extension of One-time Special Package on Di-Ammonium Phosphate (DAP) beyond the NBS subsidy @ Rs 3,500 per MT for the period from 01.01.2025 till further orders to ensure sustainable availability of DAP at affordable prices to the farmers. The tentative budgetary requirement for above would be approximately upto Rs. 3,850 cr.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089258>

3. The Export Inspection Council of India (EIC), which came into being on 1st January, _____, is a statutory body tasked with advising the government on quality control, pre-shipment inspection standards, and other related matters.

- a. 1964
- b. 1954
- c. 1974
- d. 1984

Answer: A

The Export Inspection Council of India (EIC), which came into being on 1st January, 1964, is a statutory body tasked with advising the government on quality control, pre-shipment inspection standards, and other related matters. Since its inception, the EIC has evolved to a key facilitator of

India's export trade apart from the regulatory responsibility, enabling exporters to meet the stringent quality demands of international markets.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089382>

4. India is the 2nd largest producer of tobacco in the world after _____
- a. Brazil
 - b. Zimbabwe
 - c. Pakistan
 - d. China

Answer: D

India is the 2nd largest producer of tobacco in the world after China. India is the 4th largest producer of FV tobacco in the world after China, Brazil and Zimbabwe. India is the 2nd largest exporter of unmanufactured tobacco (quantity terms) after Brazil. Tobacco exports contribute sizable foreign exchange to the Indian exchequer. During 2023-24 the value of Indian tobacco exports reached Rs.12005.89 crore (1449.54 in US dollars). Tobacco farmers income has also doubled over the last 5 years.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089182>

5. The Tobacco Board was established on 1st January _____ by an Act of Parliament for the overall development of the tobacco industry.
- a. 1975
 - b. 1976
 - c. 1965
 - d. 1966

Answer: B

The Tobacco Board has undertaken several strategic activities to ensure the sustainability and growth of the tobacco industry. These include crop planning and regulation of production to meet both domestic and export demands.

The Board supports farmers by providing handholding assistance to produce tobacco of requisite quality to meet the standards of importing countries. The Tobacco Board was established on 1st January 1976 by an Act of Parliament "Tobacco Board Act, 1975 (Act 4 of 1975)" for the overall development of the tobacco industry. The Board's primary role is to ensure the smooth functioning of the farming system and to ensure fair and remunerative prices for tobacco farmers and the promotion of exports. Financial assistance is extended to farmers through banks, along with the necessary inputs for the production of quality tobacco. The Board also engages in extension and developmental activities to promote sustainable tobacco cultivation practices.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089182>

1. Who among the following has recently released “Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report”?
 - a. TRAI
 - b. NITI Aayog
 - c. COAI
 - d. International Telecommunication Union

Answer: A

TRAI today has released the “Indian Telecom Services Performance Indicator Report” for the Quarter ending 30th September, 2024. This Report provides a broad perspective of the Telecom Services in India and presents the key parameters and growth trends of the Telecom Services as well as Cable TV, DTH & Radio Broadcasting services in India for the period covering 1st July, 2024 to 30th September, 2024 compiled mainly on the basis of information furnished by the Service Providers.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089361>

2. Who is the incumbent Chairman of the NABARD?
 - a. Ashish Kumar Bhutani
 - b. Pankaj Bansal
 - c. Minesh Shah
 - d. Shaji K.V.

Answer: D

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah chaired a review meeting of National Cooperative Organic Limited at the Ministry of Cooperation in New Delhi today. Minister of State for Cooperation Shri Murlidhar Mohol, Secretary to Ministry of Cooperation Shri Ashish Kumar Bhutani, Additional Secretary of Ministry of Cooperation Shri Pankaj Bansal, Chairman and Managing Director, National Cooperative Organic Limited Shri Minesh Shah and Chairman, NABARD Shri Shaji K.V. and senior officials of the Ministry were present on the occasion.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089421>

3. Ministry of Defence has recently declared 2025 as ‘Year of _____’
 - a. Progress
 - b. Transformation
 - c. Reforms
 - d. Change

Answer: C

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh chaired a meeting with all the Secretaries of the Ministry of Defence (MoD) on the eve of the New Year to review the progress on various schemes, projects, reforms and the way ahead. In order to give impetus to the ongoing and future reforms, it was unanimously decided to observe 2025 as the ‘Year of Reforms’ in the MoD. This would aim at transforming the Armed Forces into a technologically-advanced combat-ready force capable of multi-domain integrated operations. The following broad areas were identified for focussed intervention in 2025:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089184>

4. ONOS scheme, launched by the Government of India, is a groundbreaking initiative designed to provide nationwide access to the latest scholarly research articles and academic journals.

What is the full form of ONOS?

- a. One Network One Subscription
- b. One National Open Subscription
- c. Online Nationwide Open Subscription
- d. One Nation One Subscription

Answer: D

The One Nation One Subscription (ONOS) scheme, launched by the Government of India, is a groundbreaking initiative designed to provide nationwide access to the latest scholarly research articles and academic journals. This initiative aims to foster scientific research and innovation by offering affordable, country-wide access to high-quality academic content. Through ONOS, students, faculty, and researchers in universities, colleges, and research organizations will benefit from seamless access to valuable resources that drive innovation in various fields.

The scheme has been approved with a significant allocation of ₹6,000 crore for the years 2025 to 2027. This investment will enable the establishment of national licenses with leading STEM publishers and database producers globally, making it easier for India's academic community to access the latest research. The scheme will be managed digitally through a unified portal, allowing streamlined access for all eligible institutions and researchers.

The benefits of One Nation One Subscription scheme will be provided to all Higher Educational Institutions under the management of the Central or State Government and Research & Development Institutions of the Central Government, through a national subscription coordinated by a central agency, namely the Information and Library Network (INFLIBNET), an autonomous inter-university centre of the University Grants Commission (UGC). This list covers more than 6,300 institutions, translating into nearly 1.8 crore students, faculty and researchers, who will be able to potentially avail benefits of One Nation One Subscription.

<https://www.indiascienceandtechnology.gov.in/listingpage/one-nation-one-subscription-scheme>

5. Who is the Chief Executive Officer of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) at present?
- a. Bhuvnesh Kumar
 - b. Neelkanth Mishra
 - c. Mausam
 - d. Nilesh Shah

Answer: A

Shri Bhuvnesh Kumar assumed charge as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Unique Identification

Authority of India (UIDAI) on Wednesday. He is an officer of the 1995 batch IAS from the Uttar Pradesh cadre.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089406>

1. Which of the following is the recently launched e-auction portal for e-auction of properties as one-stop destination?
 - a. BAANET
 - b. BRANCHNET
 - c. BANKWEB
 - d. BAANKNET

Answer: D

DFS Secretary launches revamped 'BAANKNET' e-auction portal for e-auction of properties as one-stop destination

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089806>

2. Who among the following chaired the 7th meeting of the Island Development Agency (IDA)?
 - a. Amit Shah
 - b. D K Joshi
 - c. Praful Patel
 - d. Govind Mohan

Answer: A

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah, chaired the 7th meeting of the Island Development Agency (IDA) in New Delhi today. The meeting was attended by Admiral (Retd.) Shri D K Joshi, Lieutenant Governor of the Andaman and Nicobar Islands, Shri Praful Patel, Administrator of Lakshadweep, Union Home Secretary Shri Govind Mohan and secretaries from various union ministries, along with other senior officials.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089935>

3. World Braille Day, observed on January _____, commemorates the birthday of Louis Braille.
 - a. 2nd
 - b. 3rd
 - c. 4th
 - d. 5th

Answer: C

World Braille Day, observed on January 4th, commemorates the birthday of Louis Braille, the visionary who developed a tactile script that revolutionized communication for blind and partially sighted individuals. Celebrated globally since 2019, this day highlights the significance of Braille in empowering visually impaired individuals to access education, information, and opportunities, fostering their full participation in society.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089993>

4. MOIL is a PSU under which of the following ministries?
- Ministry of Coal
 - Ministry of Heavy Industries
 - Ministry of Public Enterprises
 - Ministry of Steel

Answer: D

MOIL, a PSU under the Ministry of Steel, has achieved best ever Q3 performance in October-December, 2024 with best ever production of manganese ore of 4.6 lakh tonnes and sale of 3.88 lakh tonnes, higher by 13% over corresponding period of last year (CPLY). Coming to the performance in the first nine months of the current financial year, MOIL has registered production of 13.3 Lakh manganese ore, which is 4.5 percent higher and sale of 11.39 Lakh tonnes which is 4 percent higher than the corresponding period of the last year. The PSU has also registered growth in its exploratory core drilling which stands at 72,340 metres, which is 19 percent higher than the CPLY.

MOIL is a Schedule "A" Miniratna Category-I Company. It was originally incorporated as Manganese Ore (India) Limited in the year 1962. Subsequently, name of the Company was changed from Manganese Ore (India) Limited to MOIL Limited during the financial year 2010-11.

<https://www.moil.nic.in/content/56/about-us>

5. The Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation (MBMC) has recently conceptualized a flagship initiative called 'Faral Sakhi', aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs in the city of Mira Bhayandar,_____.
- New Delhi
 - West Bengal
 - Maharashtra
 - Madhya Pradesh

Answer: C

The Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation (MBMC) has conceptualized a flagship initiative called 'Faral Sakhi', aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs in the city of Mira Bhayandar, Maharashtra. The program will provide comprehensive training and support to help women entrepreneurs engaged in traditional snack production to scale their ventures sustainably and effectively. MBMC collaborated with Women Entrepreneurship Platform (WEP) of NITI Aayog and formally launched 'Faral Sakhi' under Award to Reward initiative of WEP.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2089747>

1. Who is the incumbent Chief Minister of Uttarakhand?
- Pushkar Singh Dhami
 - Tirath Singh Rawat

- c. Trivendra Singh Rawat
- d. Harish Rawat

Answer: A

The Chief Minister of Uttarakhand, Shri Pushkar Singh Dhami met with Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in New Delhi today.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090483>

2. National Mission on Edible Oils-Oil Palm (NMEO-OP) aims to bring _____ lakh hectares under oil palm plantations by 2025-26
- a. 4.5
 - b. 5.5
 - c. 6.5
 - d. 7.5

Answer: C

The Minister of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan has urged all states to intensify their efforts under the National Mission on Edible Oils - Oil Palm (NMEO-OP). This mission serves as a cornerstone of India's vision to achieve self-sufficiency in edible oil production, reduce dependence on imports and enhance farmer incomes.

Launched to promote domestic oil palm cultivation, **the mission aims to bring 6.5 lakh hectares under oil palm plantations by 2025-26**. Special emphasis is being placed on leveraging the agro-climatic potential of the North-eastern region and other oil palm-growing states.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090654>

3. Who is the President of the Governing Council of the Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)?
- a. Secretary, Department of Consumer Affairs
 - b. Minister of State for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
 - c. Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
 - d. Director General, Bureau of Indian Standards

Answer: C

Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution >> President, Ex-officio

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090616>

4. HMPV virus was recently seen in the news. Which of the following accurately describes HMPV?
- a. Hybrid Metapathogenic Virus
 - b. Human Microbial Pathogenic Virus
 - c. Host-Mediated Pathogenic Virus
 - d. Human Metapneumovirus

Answer: D

There have been media reports of some Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) cases detected in Karnataka. The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) has detected two cases of Human Metapneumovirus (HMPV) in Karnataka. Both cases were identified through routine surveillance for multiple respiratory viral pathogens, as part of ICMR's ongoing efforts to monitor respiratory illnesses across the country.

It is emphasized that HMPV is already in circulation globally, including in India, and cases of respiratory illnesses associated with HMPV have been reported in various countries. Furthermore, based on current data from ICMR and the Integrated Disease Surveillance Programme (IDSP) network, there has been no unusual surge in Influenza-Like Illness (ILI) or Severe Acute Respiratory Illness (SARI) cases in the country.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090456>

5. BHARATPOL portal was developed by _____
- a. CBI
 - b. NIA
 - c. RPF
 - d. FIU-IND

Answer: A

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Shri Amit Shah will launch BHARATPOL portal developed by central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) in New Delhi on 07th January, 2025 in Bharat Mandapam in Delhi.

Under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, the central government has taken several important initiatives to strengthen the country's law enforcement agencies. BHARATPOL portal will significantly facilitate Indian LEAs enabling real-time information sharing for faster access to international police assistance.

CBI, as the National Central Bureau (NCB-New Delhi) for INTERPOL in India, facilitates international cooperation in criminal matters in collaboration with various agencies across the country, including law enforcement agencies. At the Central, State, and Union Territory levels, this coordination is executed through INTERPOL Liaison Officers (ILOs), who are further linked to Unit Officers (UO's) at the level of Superintendents of Police, Commissioners of Police and Branch Heads, within their respective organizations. Presently, communications among the CBI, ILOs, and UOs primarily relies on letters, emails and faxes.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090659>

1. National Water Awards were launched in _____ by the Department of Water Resources to recognize and encourage exceptional contributions towards water conservation and management across India.
 - a. 2017
 - b. 2016
 - c. 2015
 - d. 2018

Answer: D

National Water Awards: Launched in 2018 by the Department of Water Resources to recognize and encourage exceptional contributions towards water conservation and management across India. The awards aim to raise public awareness about the importance of water and motivate the adoption of best practices in water usage. For 6th National water Awards the date of submission of application has been extended till 31st January 2025.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090573>

2. Which of the following is the world's highest railway bridge?
 - a. Mala-Rijeka Viaduct
 - b. Beipanjiang Bridge
 - c. Balgarchuk Rail Bridge
 - d. Chenab Rail Bridge

Answer: D

The Chenab Rail Bridge, the world's highest railway bridge, is a steel and concrete arch bridge carrying a single-track railway line, located between Bakkal and Kauri in the Reasi district of the Jammu Division of Jammu and Kashmir, India. The bridge spans the Chenab River at a height of 359 m (1,178 ft) above the river, making it the world's highest rail bridge and the world's highest arch bridge. The bridge was fully completed and was inaugurated in August 2022. It is built between the Sangaldan Railway Station and the Reasi Railway Station.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090592>

3. The Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), launched in _____, provides financial assistance for purchasing agricultural machinery and establishing Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs), High-Tech Hubs, and Farm Machinery Banks.
 - a. 2015-16
 - b. 2014-15

- c. 2017-18
- d. 2018-19

Answer: B

Sub-Mission On Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM) Scheme: The Sub-Mission on Agricultural Mechanization (SMAM), launched in 2014-15, provides financial assistance for purchasing agricultural machinery and establishing Custom Hiring Centres (CHCs), High-Tech Hubs, and Farm Machinery Banks.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090993>

4. The Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA), was launched in September _____ by the Prime Minister of India during the G20 Summit.
- a. 2022
 - b. 2023
 - c. 2024
 - d. 2025

Answer: B

The Global Biofuels Alliance (GBA), launched in September 2023 by the Hon'ble Prime Minister during the G20 Summit, has seen remarkable growth, with 28 member countries and 12 international organizations joining the alliance and continues to expand.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090844>

5. India's Scheduled Tribe (ST) population, numbering 10.42 million people and representing _____% of the total population, spans over 705 unique groups and predominantly resides in remote regions of this country.
- a. 5.6
 - b. 12.6
 - c. 16.6
 - d. 8.6

Answer: D

India's Scheduled Tribe (ST) population, numbering 10.42 million people and representing 8.6% of the total population, spans over 705 unique groups and predominantly resides in remote regions of this country. The government has implemented numerous welfare schemes focused on socioeconomic empowerment, sustainable development, and preserving their vibrant cultural heritage to support these communities. These programs aim to enhance living conditions, promote education, and foster inclusive growth for tribal populations.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090883>

1. 2028 Summer Olympics will be held in _____
- a. Brisbane

- b. Paris
- c. Los Angeles
- d. Milan

Answer: C

The 2028 Summer Olympics, officially the Games of the XXXIV Olympiad and commonly known as Los Angeles 2028 or LA28, is an upcoming international multi-sport event scheduled to take place from July 14–30, 2028, in the United States. Los Angeles will be the host city, with various events also scheduled to be held at other cities spread across the Greater Los Angeles area, plus two subsites in Oklahoma City.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090986>

2. Which of the following countries has officially joined as 10th member of BRICS?
- a. Malaysia
 - b. Israel
 - c. Sri Lanka
 - d. Indonesia

Answer: D

On 6 January 2025, Indonesia joined BRICS officially as a full member, making it as the first Southeast Asian nation to join the bloc, as well as the 10th member of BRICS. Jakarta's bid got the green light from the bloc in 2023, but the Southeast Asian country asked to join following the presidential election held in 2024.

<https://indianexpress.com/article/world/indonesia-becomes-full-member-of-brics-brazil-confirms-9764158/>

3. Currently, India ranks _____ globally in operational Metro network length
- a. First
 - b. Second
 - c. Third
 - d. Fourth

Answer: C

On January 5, Prime Minister Narendra Modi took a giant leap in enhancing India's metro network, making it more powerful and advanced. He laid the foundation for multiple development projects worth over Rs 12,200 crore in Delhi, including the inauguration of the 13 km stretch of the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Namo Bharat corridor, which will greatly ease travel between Delhi and Meerut. In addition, the PM launched a 2.8 km stretch of Delhi Metro Phase-IV, benefiting West Delhi and laid the foundation for the 26.5 km Rithala-Kundli section, further strengthening connectivity between Delhi and Haryana.

These projects represent a major milestone in transportation, as metro systems now cover greater distances and serve over 1 crore passengers daily. With this growth, India has surpassed Japan in Metro Rail Projects in 2022. Currently, **India ranks third globally in operational Metro network length** and is on track to become the 2nd largest Metro network in the world.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090364>

4. Where is India's first organic fisheries cluster located?
 - a. Himachal Pradesh
 - b. Sikkim
 - c. Arunachal Pradesh
 - d. Assam

Answer: B

Union Minister Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh Launches **India's First Organic Fisheries Cluster in Sikkim**, Inaugurates/ Lays Foundation Stone of Projects Worth Rs. 50 Crores in Guwahati Today

The Union Minister, Department of Fisheries, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh alias Lalan Singh inaugurated and laid the foundation for 50 key projects worth Rs. 50 crores under Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) covering all North East Region States Except Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, today in Guwahati, Assam. The Northeastern States Meet to review the implementation of Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY) was also graced by Union Ministers of State, Prof. S P Baghel and Shri George Kurian, Ministers in-charge of Fisheries from other North Eastern Region States, Secretary Fisheries, Dr. Abhilaksh Likhi along with several eminent dignitaries.

To continue the efforts for sustainable development of fisheries in the North Eastern Region, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh notified and launched the Organic Fisheries Cluster in Soreng District of Sikkim, being First of Its Kind in India, for development of organic fisheries and aquaculture in the State of Sikkim under the PMMSY, at North Eastern Region State Meet-2025, today in Guwahati, Assam marking a significant step towards sustainable development of the fisheries in the State. The Government of Sikkim has already embraced organic farming, which has helped in building a strong reputation for sustainable and eco-friendly agricultural practices. Introducing organic fisheries and aquaculture will align with the state's broader vision of promoting organic, sustainable, and environmentally friendly practices across all sectors.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2090525#:~:text=Union%20Minister%20Shri%20Rajiv%20Ranjan,50%20Crores%20in%20Guwahati%20Today>

5. Who among the following has recently pledged a USD 1 million reward to decode the script of the Indus Valley Civilisation?
- a. Karnataka Chief Minister
 - b. Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister
 - c. Prime Minister of India
 - d. Tamil Nadu Chief Minister

Answer: D

Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin has pledged a USD 1 million reward to decode the enigmatic script of the Indus Valley Civilisation, which has remained undeciphered since its discovery.

The enigmatic script of the ancient Indus Valley Civilisation, which has remained undeciphered since its discovery in the early 1920s by archaeologists led by Sir John Marshall, now carries a USD 1 million reward for anyone who decodes it.

The substantial cash reward comes from Tamil Nadu CM MK Stalin, thousands of kilometres away from the geographical region of the Indus Valley Civilisation (3300 BCE to 1300 BCE), which flourished in the north and northwestern parts of the Indian Subcontinent some 5,000 years ago.

If the script is decoded, it could unveil the true history of the Indus Valley Civilisation, and its socio-economic connections. This could shed light on potential migration out of the Indus Valley civilisation southwards, coinciding with the decline of the late Harappan phase.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/tamil-nadu/story/tamil-nadu-cm-mk-stalin-usd-1-million-decode-decipher-indus-valley-civilisation-harappan-script-explained-why-2660891-2025-01-07>

1. GenomeIndia, a visionary national project funded by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, was launched in January_____.
- a. 2020
 - b. 2021
 - c. 2018
 - d. 2022

Answer: A

GenomeIndia, a visionary national project funded by the Department of Biotechnology, Government of India, was launched in January 2020. Its ambitious goal is to sequence 10,000 genomes from healthy Indian individuals spanning the length and breadth of the country.

The primary aim of GenomeIndia is to construct a comprehensive catalogue of genetic variations for India's population that will better capture our unique diversity. This initiative is not just about decoding our genes; it is about creating a detailed reference that encapsulates the Indian population's genetic makeup and enables a deeper understanding of its diversity.

<https://genomeindia.in/>

2. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on _____ January every year since 2003 to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian Community in the development of India.
- a. 10th
 - b. 11th
 - c. 9th
 - d. 8th

Answer: C

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) is celebrated on 9th January every year since 2003 to mark the contribution of Overseas Indian community in the development of India. January 9 was chosen as the day to celebrate this occasion since it was on this day in 1915 that Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, returned to India from South Africa, led India's freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.

Since 2015, its format has been revised to celebrate the PBD once every two years and to hold theme-based PBD Conferences during the intervening period with participation from overseas diaspora experts, policy makers and stakeholders. These conventions provide a platform to the overseas Indian community to engage with the government and people of the land of their ancestors for mutually beneficial activities. These conventions are also very useful in networking among the overseas Indian community residing in various parts of the world and enable them to share their experiences in various fields.

[https://www.mea.gov.in/pravasi-bharatiya-divas.htm#:~:text=Pravasi%20Bharatiya%20Divas%20\(PBD\)%20is,in%20the%20development%20of%20India.](https://www.mea.gov.in/pravasi-bharatiya-divas.htm#:~:text=Pravasi%20Bharatiya%20Divas%20(PBD)%20is,in%20the%20development%20of%20India.)

3. Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI) is a Government of India enterprise having its corporate headquarters at _____.
- a. Dhanbad
 - b. Singrauli
 - c. Korba
 - d. Ranchi

Answer: D

Union Minister for Coal and Mines, Shri G. Kishan Reddy, inaugurated the '5G Use Case Test Lab' today at the Central Mine Planning and Design Institute (CMPDI) in **Ranchi**. This cutting-edge facility,

aimed at advancing the coal sector's Digital Transformation and technological landscape. 5G Use Case Test Lab serves as a testbed for the development, testing and adaptation of various 5G-based applications, tailored to meet the needs of the coal industry. Ministry of Coal nominated CMPDI as Centre of Excellence (COE) for establishing 5G Use Case Test lab for Coal Industry to leverage 5G technology effectively.

Central Mine Planning & Design Institute Limited (CMPDI) is a Government of India enterprise having its corporate headquarters at Ranchi in India.

It is a fully owned subsidiary of Coal India Limited (CIL) and a Schedule-B company.

It is a Mini Ratna (Category I) company since June 2019 and ISO 9001 certified since March 1998. It is also on way for ISO 27001 certification for its information security management.

In 1972, CMPDI was originally conceived and proposed by a joint study group with Polish experts as a comprehensive planning set-up under one roof for entire Indian mining industry, which was then operating on a rudimentary planning system. This was also the time when Indian coal-industry was being nationalized to enable it to support the high growth of energy sector required for speedy industrial growth of the country in the coming years.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091546>

4. TraceNet 2.0 is an initiative of _____
- a. Spices Board of India
 - b. MPEDA
 - c. National Horticulture Board
 - d. APEDA

Answer: D

TraceNet 2.0: The upgraded online Organic traceability system for seamless operations and enhanced tools for regulatory oversight. It will ensure transparency, traceability, and compliance for organic agricultural and processed food products from farm to market. By integrating technology with agriculture, TraceNet empowers stakeholders to streamline operations and meet global organic certification standards. Link to the portal: tracenet.apeda.gov.in

TraceNet is an internet based electronic service offered by APEDA to the stakeholders for facilitating process certification for export of organic products

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091601>

5. Who is the incumbent Chief of the Army Staff (COAS)?

- a. Mahendra Tripathi
- b. Virendra Nivedi
- c. Yogendra Divedi
- d. Upendra Dwivedi

Answer: D

Chief of the Army Staff (COAS) General **Upendra Dwivedi** visited the NCC Republic Day Parade Camp at Delhi Cantt. on January 09, 2025. In his address, he encouraged the cadets to continue striving for excellence and emphasised on the fact that serving the nation goes beyond the Armed Forces. He also stated that the foundation laid by NCC equips them for leadership roles in every field.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091501>

1. Who is the incumbent Chairperson of the Animal Welfare Board of India?
 - a. Shrikrishna Deva Rao
 - b. Rajeev Gupta
 - c. Manilal Valliyate
 - d. Abhijit Mitra

Answer: D

The Animal Welfare Board of India (AWBI), a statutory body of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with NALSAR University of Law, in Hyderabad, today. The MoU was signed by Dr. **Abhijit Mitra, Chairman, AWBI** and Prof. Shrikrishna Deva Rao, Vice-Chancellor, NALSAR University.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091457>

2. Department of Investment & Public Asset Management (DIPAM) and Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) come under which of the following ministries?
 - a. Ministry of Heavy Industries
 - b. Ministry of Finance
 - c. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
 - d. Ministry of MSME

Answer: B

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet on Wednesday appointed Shri Pandey as the Secretary, D/o Revenue, Ministry of Finance. The Order also stated that Shri Pandey will continue to be designated as the Finance Secretary.

Previously, Shri Pandey, a 1987-batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of the Odisha cadre, held the charge of Secretary of three Departments, i.e., **Department of Investment & Public Asset Management (DIPAM)**, since 24.10.2019, **Department of Public Enterprises (DPE)** since 01.08.2024

and Department of Personnel and Training since 04.11.2024. Both the **DIPAM and DPE function under the Ministry of Finance.**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091449>

3. Right to Information (RTI) portal is an initiative of _____
- Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
 - PIB
 - Department of Personnel & Training
 - NITI Aayog

Answer: C

The **Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT)** has examined the concerns raised about the functioning of the **Right to Information (RTI) portal** and clarified that the system is operational and effective after the introduction of a new One-Time Password (OTP) feature. A comprehensive review by the DoPT has confirmed that the portal's newly implemented features, including an enhanced security protocol, are operational and user-friendly.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091415>

4. India has the _____ largest road network and its National Highways span a total length of 146,195 km, forming the primary arterial network of the country.
- Fifth
 - Third
 - Fourth
 - Second

Answer: D

1.1 Road Network in the Country: India has the second largest road network and its National Highways span a total length of 146,195 km, forming the primary arterial network of the country. The Government of India has undertaken several initiatives to enhance and strengthen the National Highways network through flagship programmes such as the Bharatmala Pariyojana which includes the subsumed National Highway Development Project (NHDP), the Special Accelerated Road Development Programme for the North-East Region (SARDP-NE), the Special Programme for the development of roads in Left Wing Extremism-affected Areas (LWE), including the development of the Vijayawada-Ranchi Road, and Externally Aided Projects (EAP).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091508>

5. The Sudarshan Setu is a cable-stayed bridge in India, connecting the Beyt Dwarka island in the Gulf of Kutch and Okha. The total length of the bridge is _____ metres
- 1,320
 - 3,320
 - 2,320
 - 4,320

Answer: C

The Sudarshan Setu is a cable-stayed bridge in India, connecting the Beyt Dwarka island in the Gulf of Kutch and Okha. The total length of the bridge is 2,320 metres (7,612 ft). It was inaugurated on 25 February 2024.

Gujarat - On 25th February 2024, Hon'ble **Prime Minister inaugurated 2,320-metre-long cable-stayed Sudarshan Setu Bridge** (Okha-Beyt Dwarka Signature bridge), built at the cost of around Rs. 980 crore connecting Okha mainland and Beyt Dwarka island. The completion of the bridge provides a vital link to Beyt Dwarka, eliminating dependence on boats and improving accessibility to the region. This iconic bridge will also serve as a major tourist attraction of Devbhumi Dwarka. He also laid the foundation stone for the widening of Dhoraji-Jamkandorna-Kalavad section of NH-927.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2091508>

1. Sonamarg Tunnel project is located in _____
 - a. Uttarakhand
 - b. Himachal Pradesh
 - c. Sikkim
 - d. Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: D

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will visit Sonamarg in Jammu & Kashmir on 13th January. At around 11:45 AM, he will visit the Sonamarg Tunnel which will be followed by its inauguration. He will also address the gathering on the occasion.

The Sonamarg Tunnel project, around 12 km long, has been constructed at a cost of over Rs 2,700 crore. It comprises of the Sonamarg main tunnel of 6.4 km length, an egress tunnel and approach roads. Situated at an altitude of over 8,650 feet above sea level, it will enhance all-weather connectivity between Srinagar and Sonamarg enroute to Leh, bypassing landslide and avalanche routes and ensuring safer and uninterrupted access to the strategically critical Ladakh region. It will also promote tourism by transforming Sonamarg into a year-round destination, boosting winter tourism, adventure sports, and local livelihoods.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092091>

2. The Haj Committee of India comes under _____
 - a. Ministry of External Affairs
 - b. Ministry of Tourism
 - c. Ministry of Minority Affairs
 - d. Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: C

The Haj Committee of India, functioning under the Ministry of Minority Affairs, Government of India, has announced the release of the 2nd waiting list for Haj 2025. Provisional seats have been allotted to 3,676 applicants from various states (as per Annexure-I).

According to Circular No. 25 dated 10 January 2025, these applicants must deposit ₹2,72,300/- (comprising the first instalment of ₹1,30,300/- and the second instalment of ₹1,42,000/-) towards the Haj amount on or before 23 January 2025. Additionally, applicants are required to submit the necessary documents, as detailed in Circular No. 25, to their respective State/UT Haj Committees by 25 January 2025. The details of the balance Haj amount (third instalment) will be communicated later, based on the finalisation of airfare and expenses in Saudi Arabia.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092007>

3. The National Youth Day or Rashtriya Yuva Divas is celebrated on _____ January every year in commemoration of the great spiritual leader, philosopher and thinker Swami Vivekananda.
- a. 12th
 - b. 11th
 - c. 10th
 - d. 9th

Answer: A

The National Youth Day or Rashtriya Yuva Divas is celebrated on 12th January every year in commemoration of the great spiritual leader, philosopher and thinker Swami Vivekananda, whose unwavering belief in potential of youth continues to resonate deeply with young citizens of the country. His inspiring life and empowering message urge the youth to nurture their dreams, unleash their energies, and shape a future worthy of his envisioned ideals. The youth, defined as those within the age group of 15-29 years, make up nearly 40% of India's total population. Representing the most vibrant and dynamic segment of society, this group constitutes the nation's most valuable human resource. With their limitless potential, the youth hold the power to propel India to new heights of progress and innovation. National Youth Day serves as a moment to acknowledge, celebrate, and harness this potential, inspiring young minds to contribute meaningfully to the nation's development.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092084>

4. Who among the following is the author of the work "Parliament: Powers, Functions & Privileges; a Comparative Constitutional Perspective"?
- a. K.S. Chauhan
 - b. P. B. Mukharji
 - c. Chittatosh Mookerjee
 - d. Leila Seth

Answer: A

Book "Parliament: Powers, Functions & Privileges; a Comparative Constitutional Perspective"
authored by Dr. K.S. Chauhan

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092428>

5. Lohri is a festival mainly celebrated in _____
- Southern India
 - Northeast India
 - Northern India
 - Western India

Answer: C

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.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092319>

1. The Dogras, or Dogra people, are an Indo-Aryan ethno-linguistic group living primarily in _____
- Jharkhand
 - Arunachal Pradesh
 - Jammu and Kashmir
 - Sikkim

Answer: C

The Dogras, or Dogra people, are an Indo-Aryan ethno-linguistic group living primarily in the Indian union territory of **Jammu and Kashmir** and speak their native Dogri language. They live predominantly in the Duggar region of the Jammu Division of Jammu and Kashmir, and in adjoining areas of the states of **Punjab and Himachal Pradesh**. Some also live in northeastern Pakistan.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092339>

2. Makar Sankranti is dedicated to which of the following deities?
- Chandra
 - Agni
 - Indra
 - Surya

Answer: D

Makar(a) Sankrānti also referred to as Uttarāyana, Makara, or simply Sankrānti, is a Hindu observance and a harvest festival. It is typically celebrated on 14 January annually (15 January on a leap year), this occasion marks the transition of the sun from the zodiac of Sagittarius (dhanu) to

Capricorn (makara). As this transition coincides with the sun's movement from south to north, the festival is dedicated to the solar deity, Surya, and is observed to mark a new beginning. Across India, the occasion is celebrated with numerous multi-day festivals.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092660>

3. What is the milestone being celebrated by the India Meteorological Department in January 2025?
- a. 100 years of foundation
 - b. 125 years of foundation
 - c. 150 years of foundation
 - d. 175 years of foundation

Answer: C

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will participate in celebrations of 150th Foundation Day of India Meteorological Department on 14th January, at around 10:30 AM, at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi. He will also address the gathering on the occasion.

Prime Minister will launch 'Mission Mausam' with the goal of making our country a 'Weather-ready and Climate-smart' nation. The Mission aims to achieve this by developing cutting-edge weather surveillance technologies and systems, implementing high-resolution atmospheric observations, next-generation radars and satellites, and high-performance computers. It will also focus on improving the understanding of weather and climate processes, provide air quality data that will help strategize weather management and intervention in the long run.

India Meteorological Department was established in 1875. It is the National Meteorological Service of the country and the principal government agency in all matters relating to meteorology and allied subjects.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092386>

4. Which of the following is the indigenously-developed third-generation Anti-Tank Fire-and-Forget Guided Missile?
- a. Agni Mk 2
 - b. Prithvi Mk 2
 - c. Akash Mk 2
 - d. Nag Mk 2

Answer: D

Field Evaluation Trials of indigenously-developed Nag Mk 2, the third-generation Anti-Tank Fire-and-Forget Guided Missile, were successfully conducted recently at Pokhran Field Range in the presence of senior officers of the Indian Army. During the three field trials, the missile systems destroyed precisely all the targets - maximum and minimum range, thus validating its firing range.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092585>

5. Which Article of the Constitution of India empowers the President to appoint the judges of the Supreme Court?
- Article 121
 - Article 124
 - Article 136
 - Article 142

Answer: B

In exercise of the powers conferred by clause (2) of Article 124 of the Constitution of India, the Hon'ble President of India is pleased to appoint Shri Justice Krishnan Vinod Chandran, Chief Justice, Patna High Court as a Judge of the Supreme Court of India, with effect from the date he assumes charge of his office.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092613>

1. Where is the headquarters of the National Turmeric Board located?
- Kolhapur
 - Guntur
 - Darjeeling
 - Nizamabad

Answer: D

Union Minister of Commerce & Industry, Shri Piyush today inaugurated the National Turmeric Board in New Delhi. Shri Goyal announced Shri Palle Ganga Reddy as its first Chairperson. The headquarters of the Board has been set up at Nizamabad.

The Minister noted that the launch of the National Turmeric Board is on an auspicious day of celebrations across the country. He highlighted that representatives from various ministries will also be a part of the National Turmeric Board. Representatives from exporters and producers bodies will also be added to the Board.

Adding that turmeric is also known as 'Golden Spice', he pointed out that the newly formed Board will pay special attention to the welfare of the turmeric farmers spread across 20 states, including Maharashtra, Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Madhya Pradesh, Meghalaya and others. He said that there is immense potential in increasing turmeric production in Andhra Pradesh and Telangana and formation of the Turmeric Board will boost income of turmeric producers in the country.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092719>

2. PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana comes under _____

- a. Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas
- b. Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
- c. Ministry of New And Renewable Energy
- d. Ministry of Power

Answer: C

Union **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy** has notified Scheme Guidelines for implementation of 'Payment Security Mechanism' Component and 'Central Financial Assistance' Component for RESCO Models/ Utility Led Aggregation Models under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2092717>

3. Neduntheevu Island, recently seen in the news, comes under the jurisdiction of _____
- a. Sri Lanka
 - b. India
 - c. Myanmar
 - d. Maldives

Answer: A

Neduntheevu or Nedunthivu is an island in the Palk Strait, northern **Sri Lanka**. This island is named as Delft in the Admiralty Chart unlike the other islands, whose names are Tamil. The island's area is 62 km and it is roughly oval-shaped. Its length is 11 km and its maximum width about 6 km.

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/17-fishermen-from-tamil-nadu-arrested-by-sri-lankan-navy/article68697212.ece>

4. R-360 Neptune is a subsonic cruise missile developed by _____
- a. Russia
 - b. Ukraine
 - c. USA
 - d. Israel

Answer: B

R-360 Neptune is a **Ukrainian** subsonic cruise missile with all-weather capabilities developed by the Luch Design Bureau in Kyiv as an anti-ship missile, with a later variant for land attack. Neptune's design is based on the Soviet Kh-35 subsonic anti-ship missile, with substantially improved range, targeting and electronics equipment. It has a range of over 200 kilometres.

<https://www.businessinsider.com/ukraine-attacked-russian-reconnaissance-drones-with-modified-neptune-missile-2025-1>

5. Mount Ibu is a stratovolcano at the north-west coast of Halmahera island, _____
- a. Philippines
 - b. Papua New Guinea
 - c. Indonesia
 - d. Italy

Answer: C

Mount Ibu is a stratovolcano at the north-west coast of Halmahera island, Indonesia. The summit is truncated and contains nested craters. The inner crater is 1 km (0.62 mi) wide and 400 m (1,312 ft) deep, while the outer is 1.2 km (0.75 mi) wide. A large parasitic cone is at the north-east of the summit and a smaller one at the south-west. The latter feeds a lava flow down the west flank. A group of maars are on the western and northern side of the volcano. Mount Ibu sits within the Pacific Ocean's "Ring of Fire" that has 127 active volcanoes.

<https://www.aninews.in/news/world/asia/indonesias-mount-ibu-erupts-spews-hot-lava20250112125655/>

1. National Startup Day is observed on _____ January
 - a. 12th
 - b. 13th
 - c. 15th
 - d. 16th

Answer: D

On **January 16**, 2025, India marks nine years of Startup India, a transformative journey that began in 2016. **Designated as National Startup Day**, this occasion celebrates the nation's strides in fostering a robust and inclusive entrepreneurial ecosystem. Launched as a flagship initiative of the Government of India, Startup India aimed to nurture innovation and catalyse the growth of startups across the country.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093125>

2. At present, India has established itself as the _____-largest startup ecosystem in the world
 - a. Second
 - b. Third
 - c. Fourth
 - d. Fifth

Answer: B

With more than 1.59 lakh startups recognised by the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) as of January 15, 2025, India has firmly established itself as the third-largest startup ecosystem in the world. This vibrant ecosystem, driven by over 100 unicorns, continues to redefine innovation and entrepreneurship on the global stage. Major hubs like Bengaluru, Hyderabad, Mumbai, and Delhi-NCR have led this transformation, while smaller cities have increasingly contributed to the nation's entrepreneurial momentum.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093125>

3. APAAR is a specialized identification system designed for all students in India. Which of the following accurately describes APAAR?
- a. Academic Performance Analysis and Accreditation Registry
 - b. Automated Permanent Administrative Account Registry
 - c. Academic Policy for Admission and Registration
 - d. Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry

Answer: D

APAAR, which stands for **Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry**, is a specialized identification system designed for all students in India. This initiative is part of the 'One Nation, One Student ID' program launched by the government, aligning with the new National Education Policy of 2020.

<https://apaar.education.gov.in/>

4. Gaan-Ngai is a festival celebrated in _____
- a. Northern India
 - b. Eastern India
 - c. Northeast India
 - d. Central India

Answer: C

Gaan-Ngai is a festival of the Zeliangrong people (indigenous Zeme, Liangmei and Rongmei tribes) of Assam, Manipur and Nagaland states in **North Eastern India**. Gaan-Ngai is a festival of light, celebrating the victory of light over evil and the commemoration of the coming of light or fire. It is a post harvest festival celebrated to thank the God Tingkao Ragwang for a good harvest season and heralds the beginning of a new year. The festival is celebrated for five days with various rituals, prayers and festivities such as music, dance and feast accompanying the same.

<https://assamtribune.com/north-east/gaan-ngai-festival-gets-off-to-a-colourful-start-in-manipur-1564679>

5. Jasprit Jasbirsingh Bumrah is associated with which sports?
- a. Cricket
 - b. Chess
 - c. Hockey
 - d. Table tennis

Answer: A

Jasprit Jasbirsingh Bumrah is an Indian **cricketer** who plays for the national team in all formats of the game. He is the vice-captain of India in the Test format. A right-arm fast bowler, he is widely regarded as one of the greatest bowlers in the history of the sport and the greatest fast bowler India has ever produced. Bumrah plays for Gujarat in domestic cricket and for Mumbai Indians in the Indian Premier League. Bumrah was a crucial member of the Indian team that won the 2024 T20

World Cup, where he was named the player of the tournament for his wicket taking with an economy of 4.17.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cricket/jasprit-bumrah-beats-pat-cummins-to-clinch-icc-player-of-the-month-for-december-101736850942023.html>

1. QS World Future Skills Index 2025 ranks India _____ for Digital Skills
 - a. First
 - b. Second
 - c. Third
 - d. Fourth

Answer: B

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has expressed his happiness as the QS World Future Skills Index ranks India **2nd** for Digital Skills, ahead of Canada and Germany. "This is heartening to see! Over the last decade, our Government has worked on strengthening our youth by equipping them with skills that enable them to become self-reliant and create wealth", Shri Modi remarked. Prime Minister Shri Modi stated that the insights from the QS World Future Skills Index are valuable as we move further on this journey towards prosperity and youth empowerment.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093499>

2. EEPC India is the trade and investment promotion organization for the engineering sector sponsored by the _____
 - a. Ministry of Science and Technology
 - b. Ministry of Education
 - c. Ministry of Finance
 - d. Ministry of Commerce & Industry

Answer: D

EEPC India is the trade and investment promotion organization for the engineering sector that sponsored by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry. Set up in 1955, EEPC India now has a membership base of over 12,000 out of whom 60% are SMEs.

As an advisory body it actively contributes to the policies of the Government of India and acts as an interface between the engineering industry and the Government.

Bharat Mobility Global Expo 2025 aims to unite the entire mobility value chain under one umbrella. This year's expo will have a special emphasis on the global significance with participation from across the globe as exhibitors and visitors. It is an industry-led and government-supported initiative and is being coordinated by Engineering Export Promotion Council of India with the joint support of various industry bodies and partner organizations.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093415>

3. Where is the Third Launch Pad (TLP) of ISRO going to be established?
- Sriharikota
 - Thumba
 - Chandipur
 - Kulasekarapattinam

Answer: A

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today approved the establishment of the Third Launch Pad (TLP) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre of ISRO at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.

The Third Launch Pad project envisages the establishment of the launch infrastructure at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh for the Next Generation Launch Vehicles of ISRO and also to support as standby launch pad for the Second Launch Pad at Sriharikota. This will also enhance the launch capacity for future Indian human spaceflight missions.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093358>

4. Who is the incumbent Chairman of the Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE)?
- Vineet Joshi
 - Rahul Singh
 - Himanshu Gupta
 - Antriksh Johri

Answer: B

Chairman, CBSE: Rahul Singh

<https://www.cbse.gov.in/cbsenew/contact-us.html>

5. Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram comes under _____
- Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - Ministry of Social Justice
 - Ministry of Tribal Affairs
 - Ministry of Minority Affairs

Answer: D

Pradhan Mantri Jan Vikas Karyakram

Background: The **Ministry of Minority Affairs**, GoI implemented Multi-Sectoral Development Programme started in the year 2008-09. During the FY 2018-19, the Ministry of Minority Affairs, GoI restructured/redesigned erstwhile centrally sponsored Scheme Multi-Sectoral Development Programme (MsDP), as PradhanMantri Jan Vikas Karyakram (PMJVK).

Funding: Centre 60% & State 40%

Objective: To develop socio-economic infrastructure and basic amenities in the identified minority concentrated areas. The areas have been identified on the basis of minority population and socio-economic and basic amenities data of Census 2011. 80% of the resources would be utilized for projects related to Education, Health and Skill development. Out of which at least 33-40% will be earmarked for creation of assets/ facilities for women/girls. As per old guidelines, the scheme was being implemented in the following districts:-

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093530>

1. Who among the following is **not** one of the awardees of Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2024?
 - a. D. Gukesh
 - b. Harmanpreet Singh
 - c. Praveen Kumar
 - d. Subhash Rana

Answer: D

Double Olympic medallist shooter Manu Bhaker, World chess champion D. Gukesh, two-time Olympic medallist and men's hockey captain **Harmanpreet** Singh, and Paralympic gold medal-winning high jumper **Praveen Kumar** were presented with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award by President Droupadi Murmu at the National Sports Awards ceremony held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan on Friday.

Gukesh made headlines by becoming the youngest-ever World chess champion in December 2024, defeating China's Ding Liren. He is only the second Indian, after Viswanathan Anand, to achieve this feat. Gukesh also played a pivotal role in helping India secure a gold medal in the men's team event at the Chess Olympiad in September.

Dronacharya Award: **Subhash Rana** (Para-Shooting), Deepali Deshpande (Shooting), Sandeep Sangwan (Hockey), S Muralidharan (Badminton), Armando Agnelo Colaco (Football) Rashtriya Khel Protsahan Puraskar: Physical Education Foundation of India Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy for top-performing university in the Khelo India University Games: Chandigarh University, Lovely Professional University and Guru Nanak Dev University.

<https://sportstar.thehindu.com/other-sports/national-sports-awards-2024-full-list-of-winners-khel-ratna-arjuna-award-lifetime-manu-gukesh-harmanpreet-praveen-president-murmu/article69107893.ece>

2. Praful Khodabhai Patel is the incumbent administrator of _____
 - a. Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu
 - b. Andaman and Nicobar Islands
 - c. Ladakh

- d. Jammu and Kashmir

Answer: A

Praful Khoda Patel is an Indian politician, who is currently the administrator of the union territory of **Dadra and Nagar Haveli and Daman and Diu** and the union territory of **Lakshadweep**.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093841>

3. Indian startup Digantara was in the news in connection with Mission SCOT. Which field is this mission related to?
- Genomics
 - Plastic recycling
 - Space
 - Water management

Answer: C

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today lauded the Indian space startup Digantara at the success of Mission SCOT. He remarked that it was an important contribution of the growing Indian space industry towards enhancing space situational awareness.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093956>

4. Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)] Policy is associated with _____
- RBI
 - Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution
 - Ministry of Finance
 - Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Answer: B

The Union Minister of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution and New & Renewable Energy, Shri Pralhad Joshi today announced a significant revision in the Open Market Sale Scheme (Domestic) [OMSS(D)] Policy for the year 2024-25. This policy aims to enhance food security and ensure efficient distribution of rice to various stakeholders.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093933>

5. Launched in _____, Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) is a real-time, 24x7 electronic funds transfer service that facilitates quick transactions across banks and financial institutions
- 2016
 - 2007
 - 2014
 - 2010

Answer: D

As of recent data from the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), UPI has set a new record

by processing over 16.73 billion transactions, with a staggering transaction value of Rs 23.25 lakh crore. This is a notable jump from Rs 21.55 lakh crore in November. In 2024, UPI processed around 172 billion transactions, marking a 46% increase from 117.64 billion in 2023. This rise underscores a broader cultural shift toward financial inclusivity, with UPI being a central pillar.

While UPI has dominated the mobile transaction space, IMPS has long been a trusted service for instant payments between accounts. Launched in **2010**, Immediate Payment Service (IMPS) is a real-time, 24x7 electronic funds transfer service that facilitates quick transactions across banks and financial institutions. Its versatility in supporting transactions through multiple channels, including mobile, ATM, SMS, and the internet, has made it an essential tool for businesses and individuals alike. Recent data indicates that IMPS transactions have surged, with 441 million transactions recorded in December 2024, compared to 407.92 million in November 2024. The transaction value also saw a notable increase, touching Rs 6.01 lakh crore in December, up from Rs 5.58 lakh crore the previous month.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093795>

1. The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has recently issued a notification amending the Cable Television Network Rules, _____, to streamline the Local Cable Operator (LCO) registration process
 - a. 1994
 - b. 2001
 - c. 1998
 - d. 1974

Answer: A

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting has today issued a notification amending the Cable Television Network Rules, **1994** (the Rules), to streamline the Local Cable Operator (LCO) registration process. Effective from today, LCO registrations will be conducted entirely online with the Ministry itself as their registering authority.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093753>

2. The Upper Karnali Storage Hydropower Project is a proposed run-of-the-river hydroelectric plant on the Karnali river in _____
 - a. Bhutan
 - b. Sikkim
 - c. Nepal
 - d. Bangladesh

Answer: C

The Upper Karnali Storage Hydropower Project is a proposed run-of-the-river hydroelectric plant on the Karnali river in Nepal. It will have an installed capacity of 900 MW, making it the largest

hydropower plant in Nepal when achieved. However, most of the generated power is set to be exported to both Bangladesh (about 500 MW) and India (another 292 MW), via a 400 kV double circuit transmission line, with the only remaining 108 MW of total power dedicated to local consumption.

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) has finalized a Joint Venture Agreement with SJVN Ltd., GMR Energy Ltd., and Nepal Electricity Authority (NEA) for the development of the 900 MW Upper Karnali Hydro-electric Project in Nepal. This strategic initiative aims to strengthen regional energy security and accelerate renewable energy growth.

The joint venture agreement lays out a comprehensive framework for the project development, construction, operation, and maintenance under a Build-Own-Operate-Transfer (BOOT) model, with 25-years project term from the Commercial Operation Date (CoD).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093649>

3. National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) comes under _____
- a. Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
 - b. Ministry of Education
 - c. Ministry of Science and Technology
 - d. Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Answer: D

Union Minister for Social Justice and Empowerment, Dr. Virendra Kumar, today inaugurated the National Institute of Mental Health Rehabilitation (NIMHR) in Sehore, Madhya Pradesh. The institute, established under the aegis of the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment**, marks a landmark achievement in advancing mental health rehabilitation and empowering Divyangjan across the country. The ceremony was attended by esteemed dignitaries, including Madhya Pradesh Government Ministers, Shri Karan Singh Verma (Revenue) and Shri Narayan Singh Kushwaha (Social Justice and Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities), along with Shri Alok Sharma, Member of Parliament (Bhopal and Sehore), Shri Sudesh Rai, Member of Legislative Assembly, (Sehore), among other dignitaries from the Centre and State.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093813>

4. Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd (RINL) is under the administrative control of _____
- a. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
 - b. Ministry of Steel
 - c. Ministry of Public Enterprises
 - d. Ministry of Power

Answer: B

The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA), chaired by Hon. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the revival plan for RINL for a total of Rs 11,440 crores. The infusion includes

₹10,300 crore as equity capital into Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd. (RINL) and Conversion of ₹1140 crore working capital loan as 7% Non-cumulative Preference Share Capital redeemable after 10 years to keep RINL as a going concern.

RINL is a Schedule-A CPSE under the administrative control of **Ministry of Steel** with 100% ownership of Government of India. RINL operates the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant (VSP), the only offshore steel plant under Government sector in the state of Andhra Pradesh. It has an installed capacity of 7.3 Mtpa of liquid steel.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093843>

5. Lokpal of India was established by virtue of coming into force of Section 3 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, _____
- 2013
 - 2012
 - 2014
 - 2011

Answer: A

The Foundation Day of the Lokpal of India was held for the first time on 16th January at Manekshaw Centre, New Delhi in the august presence of the Chief Justice of India, Shri Justice Sanjiv Khanna.

It is this day, the Lokpal of India was established by virtue of coming into force of Section 3 of the Lokpal and Lokayuktas Act, **2013**, on 16.01.2014.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2093664>

1. The first Kho Kho World Cup took place in _____
- India
 - Nepal
 - Bangladesh
 - Pakistan

Answer: A

The Kho Kho World Cup is an international kho kho tournament. It is sanctioned by the International Kho Kho Federation.

The first Kho Kho World Cup took place in New Delhi, India from 13 to 19 January 2025. It witnessed the participation of 23 countries from six continents, featuring 20 men's and 19 women's teams. It was played under the seven-a-side fast format, which is used for Ultimate Kho Kho. India won both

the Men's and Women's titles in the inaugural edition, while staying unbeaten throughout the tournament.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094406>

2. Who is the incumbent Director General of the National Disaster Response Force?
- Ashish Tiwari
 - Dishiti Gupta
 - Adithi Brahmachari
 - Piyush Anand

Answer: D

DG NDRF: Piyush Anand

<https://www.ndrf.gov.in/>

3. 3rd National Mines Ministers' Conference was held in _____
- Jharkhand
 - Odisha
 - Chhattisgarh
 - Bihar

Answer: B

The Ministry of Mines, in collaboration with the Government of **Odisha**, is hosting the 3rd National Mines Ministers' Conference on January 20-21, 2025, at Konark. The two-day event aligns with the vision of "Viksit Bharat 2047" and will bring together more than 16 State Mining Ministers along with senior officials from the Central and Odisha Governments.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094308>

4. Who is the Chairperson of the Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB)
- Minister of Mines
 - Secretary of Mines
 - Prime Minister
 - Director General GSI

Answer: B

Secretary, Ministry of Mines: Chairman

The 64th meeting of the Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) was convened at the State Convention Centre, Lokseva Bhavan, Bhubaneswar, today. The event was chaired by Shri V.L. Kantha Rao, **Secretary, Ministry of Mines and Chairman CGPB**. Shri Asit Saha, Director General, GSI and Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines, were the other dignitaries gracing the occasion.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094300>

5. Which state of India leads in coffee production at present?

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

Answer: D

India's coffee is primarily grown in the ecologically rich Western and Eastern Ghats, areas famous for their biodiversity. **Karnataka leads in production**, contributing 248,020 MT in 2022-23, followed by Kerala and Tamil Nadu. These areas are home to shaded plantations that not only support the coffee industry but also play a vital role in preserving the natural environment, helping to maintain the ecological balance of these biodiversity hotspots.

To enhance coffee production and meet growing domestic and international demand the Coffee Board of India has launched several important initiatives. Through the Integrated Coffee Development Project (ICDP) the focus is on improving yields, expanding cultivation in non-traditional regions and ensuring the sustainability of coffee farming. These measures are part of a comprehensive strategy to strengthen India's coffee industry, increase productivity and improve its global competitiveness.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094542>

1. Who is the incumbent Chief Executive Officer of the Unique Identification Authority of India?
 - a. Bhuvnesh Kumar
 - b. Neelkanth Mishra
 - c. Radhika Suri
 - d. Kshitij Singha

Answer: A

Bhuvnesh Kumar, CEO, UIDAI

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094606>

2. Which of the following ministries developed "Entity Locker"?
 - a. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 - b. Ministry of Finance
 - c. Ministry of Science and Technology
 - d. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Answer: A

The National eGovernance Division (NeGD), under the **Ministry of Electronics** and Information Technology (MeitY) has developed Entity Locker, a cutting-edge digital platform designed to transform the management and verification of business/organisation documents.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094574>

3. SIAM recently hosted 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Circularity. Which of the following accurately describes SIAM?
- a. Society for Industrial and Applied Mathematics
 - b. Sustainable Innovations and Advanced Mobility
 - c. Scientific Institute for Advanced Materials
 - d. Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers

Answer: D

Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav, delivered the keynote address at the Special Ministerial Session of the 3rd International Conference on Sustainable Circularity, organized by the **Society of Indian Automobile Manufacturers (SIAM)**, in New Delhi today. Themed 'Nature Positive Recycling', the conference brought together key stakeholders from the automotive industry to discuss sustainable development and circularity.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094506>

4. International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) is located at _____
- a. Sanand
 - b. Neemrana
 - c. Pimpri-Chinchwad
 - d. Manesar

Answer: D

Union Minister for Heavy Industries, Shri H D Kumaraswamy, visited the International Centre for Automotive Technology (ICAT) in **Manesar** today. During his visit, the minister toured the state-of-the-art facility, which is a testament to India's growing prowess in automotive innovation and safety standards.

The minister was given an in-depth overview of ICAT's advanced laboratories, testing tracks, and cutting-edge technologies, including crash tests, acoustic rooms for reverberation studies, and fuel flow testing mechanisms.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2094659>

5. Who is the author of the work 'How India Scaled Mt. G20'?
- a. Narendra Modi
 - b. Amitabh Kant
 - c. Suman Beri
 - d. Jagdeep Dhankar

Answer: B

Lauding the efforts of Shri **Amitabh Kant** to write a book about India's G20 Presidency and the Summit, 2023 as commendable, the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi remarked that he has given a lucid perspective on India's efforts to further human-centric development in pursuit of a better planet.

His book '**How India Scaled Mt. G20**'

https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pm-lauds-shri-amitabh-kant-for-his-book-about-indias-g20-presidency-and-the-summit/?comment=disable

1. National Voters' Day is celebrated annually in India on _____ January to mark the foundation day of Election Commission of India.
 - a. 23
 - b. 24
 - c. 25
 - d. 26

Answer: C

The 15th National Voters' Day (NVD) will be celebrated across the country on 25th January. This year's celebration comes soon after the historic and successful conduct of the 2024 Lok Sabha Elections, the largest democratic exercise in the world. The Election Commission also celebrates 75 years of its dedicated service to the nation.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095170>

2. BHASKAR, is envisioned as a one-stop digital platform where diverse startup ecosystem stakeholders can seamlessly connect and collaborate, catalysing the growth and success of the startup ecosystem across India. Which of the following accurately describes BHASKAR?
 - a. Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry
 - b. Business Hub for Advanced Startup Knowledge and Resources
 - c. Blockchain-Enabled Hub for Startups and Knowledge Aggregation
 - d. Bharat Hub for Accelerated Startup Knowledge and Research

Answer: A

Bharat Startup Knowledge Access Registry, BHASKAR, is envisioned as a one-stop digital platform where diverse startup ecosystem stakeholders can seamlessly connect and collaborate, catalysing the growth and success of the startup ecosystem across India.

Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Apna, India's leading jobs and professional networking platform, have entered into an alliance for talent hunt to equip DPIIT registered startups with the highly skilled manpower thus creating new job opportunities for the unemployed youth.

The partnership, formalized through a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU), brings a monetary value of Rs 2000 per entity registered on the Bharat Startup Registry (Bhaskar) platform in hiring credits on Apna's platform for each of the 7,00,000 entities. This will be currently valued at Rs 140 crore. As the startup ecosystem gradually grows, the initiative's value will scale up, touching an estimated Rs 300 crore.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095057>

3. Which of the following has recently released a comprehensive report titled 'Estimation and Measurement of India's Digital Economy.'?
- a. NITI Aayog
 - b. Ministry of Finance
 - c. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
 - d. Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Answer: D

The Indian economy has been digitalising at a remarkable pace over the last decade. Yet, there are no credible and up-to-date estimates on the contribution of the digital economy to national income and employment. Quantifying and understanding the role of the digital economy in driving economic growth, employment, and sustainable development are essential for both policymakers and the private sector.

Recognizing the need for this, the **Ministry of Electronics** and Information Technology (MeitY) has released a comprehensive report titled 'Estimation and Measurement of India's Digital Economy.' This can help align resources and adopt appropriate growth strategies.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095260>

4. What is methamphetamine, recently seen in the news?
- a. A type of opioid used for pain relief in medical treatments
 - b. A mild sedative used to treat anxiety and insomnia
 - c. A naturally occurring hallucinogen derived from certain plants
 - d. A potent central nervous system stimulant

Answer: D

Methamphetamine is a potent central nervous system stimulant that is mainly used as a recreational or performance-enhancing drug and less commonly as a second-line treatment for attention deficit hyperactivity disorder. It has also been researched as a potential treatment for traumatic brain injury.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095227>

5. The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined significantly from 130 per lakh live births in 2014-16 to _____ per lakh in 2018-20, marking a 25% reduction.
- 87
 - 97
 - 100
 - 94

ANSWER: B

India has also made impressive progress in key health indicators under NHM. The Maternal Mortality Ratio (MMR) has declined significantly from 130 per lakh live births in 2014-16 to 97 per lakh in 2018-20, marking a 25% reduction. It has declined by 83% since 1990, which is higher than the global decline of 45%. Similarly, the Under-5 Mortality Rate (U5MR) has decreased from 45 per 1,000 live births in 2014 to 32 in 2020 which demonstrates a higher decline of 75% in the reduction of mortality in comparison to the global reduction of 60% since 1990. The Infant Mortality Rate (IMR) has fallen from 39 per 1,000 live births in 2014 to 28 in 2020. Furthermore, the Total Fertility Rate (TFR) decreased from 2.3 in 2015 to 2.0 in 2020, according to the National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5). These improvements indicate that India is on track to meet its SDG targets for maternal, child, and infant mortality well ahead of 2030.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095062>

1. The National Rural Health Mission was launched in _____ with the objective of building public health systems to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population
- 2005
 - 2010
 - 2000
 - 2014

Answer: A

The National Rural Health Mission was launched in **2005** with the objective of building public health systems to provide accessible, affordable and quality health care to the rural population, especially the vulnerable groups, up to the District Hospitals (DH) level. In 2012, the National Urban Health Mission (NUHM) was conceptualized and the NRHM was rechristened as the National Health Mission (NHM) with the two Sub Missions viz. the NRHM and the NUHM.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095062>

2. Who is the incumbent Chairman & Managing Director of the IREDA?
- Nidhi Khare
 - Bijay Kumar Mohanty
 - Padam Lal Negi
 - Pradip Kumar Das

Answer: D

Shri **Pradip Kumar Das, Chairman & Managing Director, IREDA**, extended a warm welcome to Ms. Khare. During the meeting, Shri Das highlighted IREDA's notable achievements over the last five years and emphasized the company's commitment to supporting the Government of India's ambitious renewable energy targets. He outlined IREDA's plans to contribute to the target of generating 500 GW of non-fossil-based electricity by 2030, aligning with the Govt of India's vision of 'Viksit Bharat'.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095179>

3. Anubhav portal is an initiative of _____
- NITI Aayog
 - Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions
 - Ministry of Education
 - Ministry of Finance

Answer: B

On the behest of the Prime Minister, "Anubhav portal" [<https://pensionersportal.gov.in/Anubhav/>] was launched in March 2015 for retiring/retired central government officials to submit write-ups on their experiences while in Government. Till date, 59 Anubhav Awards and 19 Jury Certificates have been conferred to the outstanding write-ups.

The **Department of Pension & Pensioners' Welfare, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions** is conducting various activities under Anubhav Outreach Campaign, 2025 for maximizing the submission of write-ups under National Anubhav Awards Scheme, 2025. All write-ups published from 01.04.2024 up to 31.03.2025 are eligible to be considered for Anubhav Awards, 2025.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095112>

4. Who is the current Chairperson of the National Testing Agency?
- Pradeep Singh Kharola
 - Harish Shetty
 - Pradeep Kumar Joshi
 - None

Answer: C

Pradeep Kumar Joshi (Former Chairman, UPSC): Chairperson

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095131>

5. The Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN), launched on November 15, _____, to mark Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, is aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of PVTGs.
- 2024
 - 2022
 - 2020

d. 2023

Answer: D

The Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan (PM JANMAN), launched on November 15, **2023**, to mark Janjatiya Gaurav Divas, is a landmark initiative by the Government of India aimed at improving the socio-economic conditions of Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs). The scheme delivers essential amenities, including safe housing, clean drinking water, sanitation, healthcare, education, road and telecom connectivity, and sustainable livelihoods. It seeks to bridge development gaps in remote tribal areas through initiatives such as constructing pucca houses, deploying mobile medical units, establishing health and wellness centres, and setting up Van Dhan Vikas Kendras alongside skill development programs.

With a ₹24,000 crore budget allocated for three years (2023-24 to 2025-26), the program is executed through collaboration among nine line Ministries/Departments. PM JANMAN is designed to address the unique challenges faced by PVTGs while promoting their integration into the nation's socio-economic framework.

The Ministry of Tribal Affairs, as the nodal body, has been working closely with line Ministries and State Tribal Welfare Departments (TWDs) to identify and resolve implementation bottlenecks promptly. As the program enters its final year, efforts are concentrated on maximizing benefits for beneficiaries, accelerating progress, and achieving saturation of benefits in PVTG villages and habitations.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095019>

1. Uttar Pradesh Day is celebrated as foundation day of Indian state, Uttar Pradesh. It is observed on _____ January.
 - a. 23
 - b. 24
 - c. 25
 - d. 22

Answer: B

Uttar Pradesh Day is celebrated as foundation day of Indian state, Uttar Pradesh. It is observed on 24 January.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2096035>

2. Who is the incumbent Prime Minister of Ireland?
 - a. Micheál Martin
 - b. Dáil Éireann
 - c. Éamon de Valera
 - d. Frank MacDermot

Answer: A

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today congratulated H.E. Mr. Micheál Martin on assuming the office of Prime Minister of Ireland.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095694>

3. The National Girl Child Day is celebrated in India every year on January _____.
a. 23
b. 25
c. 24
d. 26

Answer: C

The National Girl Child Day is celebrated in India every year on January 24. It was initiated in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the Government of India, to spread public awareness about inequities that girls face in Indian society. The day is celebrated with organized programs including awareness campaigns about Save the Girl Child, child sex ratios, and the creation of a healthy and safe environment for girls. In 2019, the day was celebrated with the theme, 'Empowering Girls for a Brighter Tomorrow'.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095662>

4. Which year is declared as International Year of Cooperatives?
a. 2022
b. 2023
c. 2024
d. 2025

Answer: D

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah today addressed the inaugural function of **International Year of Cooperatives 2025** in Mumbai, Maharashtra. Shri Amit Shah also inaugurated the corporate office of the National Urban Cooperative Finance and Development Corporation (NUCFDC). On this occasion, Minister of State for Cooperation Shri Murlidhar Mohol, Maharashtra Deputy Chief Ministers Shri Eknath Shinde and Shri Ajit Pawar, along with the Secretary of the Ministry of Cooperation, Dr. Ashish Kumar Bhutani, and several other dignitaries were present.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095982>

5. The Miyawaki Project is a method of:
a. Developing fast-growing forests using native species
b. Building artificial ponds for water conservation
c. Establishing rooftop gardens for urban farming
d. Planting large-scale monoculture crops for economic purposes

Answer: A

The Miyawaki project is a forest-rewilding technique that uses **native trees to create self-sustaining ecosystems in urban areas**. The method is named after **Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki**.

Miyawaki Forests: A Green Initiative

In addition to sanitation measures, the government has implemented the Miyawaki afforestation technique to improve air quality and enhance the green cover in Prayagraj. The Miyawaki technique, developed by renowned Japanese botanist Akira Miyawaki in the 1970s, is a revolutionary method for creating dense forests in limited spaces. Often referred to as the "pot plantation method," it involves planting trees and shrubs close to one another to accelerate their growth. Plants grow 10 times faster with this technique, making it a practical solution for urban areas. Trees planted using the Miyawaki technique absorb more carbon, grow faster, and support richer biodiversity compared to traditional forests.

Around four years ago, in 2020-21, the Miyawaki Project was initiated in Prayagraj on a small scale. This project was significantly expanded in 2023-24 when 119,700 saplings of 63 different species were planted across a 34,200-square-meter area in Nevada Samogar, Naini Industrial Zone. Previously, this area was heavily polluted with industrial waste, as local factories routinely dumped their refuse there.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095922>

1. Which of the following is “The Battlefield Surveillance System” recently flagged-off by the Defence Minister?
 - a. SAGARA
 - b. SAHAY
 - c. SIPRA
 - d. SANJAY

Answer: D

Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh flagged-off ‘**SANJAY** - The Battlefield Surveillance System (BSS)’ from South Block, New Delhi on January 24, 2025. SANJAY is an automated system which integrates the inputs from all ground and aerial battlefield sensors, processing them to confirm their veracity, preventing duplication and fusing them to produce a Common Surveillance Picture of the battlefield over secured Army Data Network & Satellite Communication Network. It will enhance battlefield transparency and transform the future battlefield through a Centralised Web Application which will provide inputs to Command & Army Headquarters, and the Indian Army Decision Support System.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095712>

2. The Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium is a field hockey stadium in _____
 - a. Odisha
 - b. Maharashtra

- c. New Delhi
- d. Tamil Nadu

Answer: C

The Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium, commonly known by its former name National Stadium, is a field hockey stadium in New Delhi, India. The stadium is named after former Indian field hockey player, Dhyan Chand. It served as the venue for the 1st Asian Games in 1951.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095849>

3. The Bureau of Energy Efficiency and The Energy and Resources Institute have recently signed a MoU to jointly establish a Centre of Excellence for Energy Transition (CoEET) in _____
- a. Chennai
 - b. Mumbai
 - c. New Delhi
 - d. Hyderabad

Answer: D

The Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), Ministry of Power, Government of India, and The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) have signed a landmark Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to jointly establish a Centre of Excellence for Energy Transition (CoEET). The CoEET will be housed at TERI's Institute of Energy Transition (IoET) at its campus in **Hyderabad**.

The MoU signing ceremony took place at Hyderabad, in the esteemed presence of Shri Manohar Lal, Union Minister of Power and Housing & Urban Affairs, and Shri A. Revanth Reddy, Chief Minister of Telangana. Senior officials from the Ministry of Power, BEE, TERI, and the Government of Telangana were also in attendance.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095900>

4. "Payroll Reporting in India: An Employment Perspective –November, 2024" is a report released by _____
- a. Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation
 - b. Ministry of Finance
 - c. Ministry of Labour and Employment
 - d. NITI Aayog

Answer: A

Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation is releasing the employment related statistics in the formal sector covering the period September 2017 onwards, using information on the number of subscribers who have subscribed under three major schemes, namely the Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) Scheme, the Employees' State Insurance (ESI) Scheme and the National Pension Scheme (NPS).

The full report can be accessed at: [Payroll Reporting in India An Employment Perspective – November, 2024](#).pdf

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095801>

5. Which of the following launched “Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025”?
 - a. Ministry of Finance
 - b. RBI
 - c. NITI Aayog
 - d. Finance Commission

Answer: C

The Hon’ble Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission, Dr. Arvind Panagariya, launched the inaugural issue of **NITI Aayog’s report titled “Fiscal Health Index (FHI) 2025”** on 24th January 2025 in New Delhi, in the august presence of Shri Suman Bery, Hon’ble Vice Chairman, NITI Aayog; Dr. Arvind Virmani, Hon. Member, NITI Aayog; Shri BVR Subrahmanyam, CEO, NITI Aayog; Dr. Anoop Singh, Distinguished Fellow, NITI Aayog and other senior officials. The report provides a comprehensive assessment of the fiscal health of 18 major States, based on five key sub-indices: Quality of Expenditure, Revenue Mobilisation, Fiscal Prudence, Debt Index, and Debt Sustainability, along with insights into state-specific challenges and areas for improvement.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2095974>

1. Which of the following States has recently introduced Uniform Civil Code?
 - a. Uttarakhand
 - b. Haryana
 - c. Himachal Pradesh
 - d. Uttar Pradesh

Answer: A

In a historic move, **Uttarakhand** has become the first state in India to implement the Uniform Civil Code (UCC), effective from Monday.

Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami announced that the implementation of the UCC aims to bring uniformity in personal civil matters that have, in the past, discriminated based on caste, religion, gender, and other factors. He assured that all necessary preparations have been completed, including the approval of the Act’s rules and the training of relevant officials.

In a post on X, CM Dhami said, “Dear residents of the state, The Uniform Civil Code (UCC) will be implemented in the state from January 27, 2025, making Uttarakhand the first state in independent India where this law will come into effect. All the necessary preparations have been completed to

implement UCC, which includes approval of the rules of the Act and training of the concerned officials. UCC will bring uniformity in society and ensure equal rights and responsibilities for all citizens. The Uniform Civil Code is a significant offering from our state, contributing to the broader vision of Prime Minister Modi for a developed, organized, harmonious, and self-reliant nation. Under the UCC, we are attempting to bring uniformity in all laws relating to personal civil matters that discriminate on the basis of caste, religion, sex, etc.”

<https://ddnews.gov.in/en/uttarakhand-becomes-first-state-to-implement-uniform-civil-code/>

2. Donald J. Trump has recently assumed office as the _____ President of the United States of America.
- a. 46th
 - b. 49th
 - c. 47th
 - d. 48th

Answer: C

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi spoke with the President of the United States of America, H.E. Donald J. Trump, today and congratulated him on his historic second term as the 47th President of the United States of America.

The two leaders reaffirmed their commitment for a mutually beneficial and trusted partnership. They discussed various facets of the wide-ranging bilateral Comprehensive Global Strategic Partnership and measures to advance it, including in the areas of technology, trade, investment, energy and defence.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2096868>

3. The year 2025 celebrates _____ Republic Day of India
- a. 75th
 - b. 77th
 - c. 78th
 - d. 76th

Answer: D

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today thanked President of France, H.E Emmanuel Macron and Prime Minister of Ireland, H.E Micheal Martin for greetings on India's 76th Republic Day.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2096596>

4. The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an international financial institution and a specialised agency of the United Nations. Where is it headquartered?
- a. Geneva
 - b. Rome
 - c. Lisbon
 - d. New York

Answer: B

The International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) is an international financial institution and a specialised agency of the United Nations that works to address poverty and hunger in rural areas of developing countries. It is the only multilateral development organization that focuses solely on rural economies and food security.

Headquarters: Rome, Italy

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2096770>

5. As per astronomical calculations, the 2025 Mahakumbh Mela is unique in itself since its constellation alignment is witnessed once every _____ years.
- 121
 - 144
 - 12
 - 72

Answer: B

The 2025 Prayag Kumbh Mela, also referred to as the 2025 Maha Kumbh, is the ongoing iteration of the Maha Kumbh Mela. It is scheduled to take place from 13 January to 26 February 2025, at the Triveni Sangam in Prayagraj, Uttar Pradesh, India. This event marks the completion of a 12-Kumbh Mela cycle and is officially termed a Maha Kumbh Mela, spanning 45 days.

Since the Kumbh Mela has been organized for ages and its commencement date is unknown, calculating the exact 144-year cycle is not certain. However, as per astronomical calculations, the 2025 Mahakumbh Mela is unique in itself since its constellation alignment is witnessed once every **144** years. Thus, the most auspicious of all the Maha Kumbh in the past 144 years is in 2025.

The Kumbh Melas are a significant Hindu pilgrimage observed in cycles of three, six, 12, and 144 years, held in rotation among four sites: Prayagraj, Haridwar, Ujjain, and Nashik. The site of each Kumbh Mela is decided by the astrological alignment of Jupiter (Guru), Sun (Surya), and Moon (Chandra).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2096769>

1. 38th National Games will be held in _____
- Uttarakhand
 - Gujarat
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Odisha

Answer: A

The 2025 National Games of India, also known as the 38th National Games of India and informally as the Uttarakhand 2025, were held in the state of Uttarakhand.

Host city: **Dehradun**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097181>

2. According to the State of India's Digital Economy Report 2024, India is the _____ largest digitalised country in the world in terms of economy-wide digitalization, and 12th among the G20 countries in the level of digitalisation of individual users.
- Second
 - Third
 - Fourth
 - Fifth

Answer: B

The Indian economy has been digitalising at a remarkable pace over the last decade. Quantifying and understanding the role of the digital economy in driving economic growth, employment, and sustainable development are essential for both policymakers and the private sector. According to the State of India's Digital Economy Report 2024, India is the **third** largest digitalised country in the world in terms of economy-wide digitalization, and 12th among the G20 countries in the level of digitalisation of individual users.

India's digital economy has emerged as a significant contributor to its economic growth, accounting for 11.74% of the GDP (INR 31.64 lakh crore or USD 402 billion) in 2022-23. Employing 14.67 million workers (2.55% of the workforce), the digital economy is nearly five times more productive than the rest of the economy. The digitally enabling industries such as ICT services and manufacturing of electronic components, computers, and communication equipment, which form the core, contributed 7.83% of GVA (Gross Value Added), while digital platforms and intermediaries added another 2% of GVA. Furthermore, digitalisation in traditional sectors like BFSI, retail, and education added 2% of GVA, showcasing the pervasive impact of digital transformation. Projections indicate the digital economy's share will grow to 20% of GVA by 2029-30, outpacing agriculture and manufacturing. Key growth drivers include the rapid adoption of AI, cloud services, and the rise of global capability centers (GCCs), with India hosting 55% of the world's GCCs. GCCs are offshore centres established by multinational corporations to provide a variety of services to their parent organisations, including R&D, IT support, and business process management.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097125>

3. Which of the following has recently become the first North East State to sign an MoU with Digital India Bhashini Division for multi-lingual governance?
- Arunachal Pradesh
 - Assam
 - Meghalaya
 - Tripura

Answer: D

Tripura becomes first North East State to sign MoU with Bhashini for Multi-lingual Governance

The Government of Tripura, has signed a MOU agreement with Digital India Bhashini Division (DIBD) of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India, under the esteem guidance of Hon'ble Chief Minister Prof. Dr. Manik Saha, marking a significant milestone in the state's efforts to increase the usage of the rich regional languages of Tripura and to facilitate citizen's digital participation by using these languages in governance.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2096998>

4. In which year was the Indian Statistical Institute established?
- a. 1921
 - b. 1931
 - c. 1941
 - d. 1951

Answer: B

The Indian Statistical Institute, established in **1931** by the visionary statistician Prof. Prasanta Chandra Mahalanobis, has played a pivotal role in statistical research, education, training and its application. Having been declared as an institution of national importance through the Indian Statistical Institute Act of 1959, the Institute has been a leader in advancing statistical methods and their application across various disciplines. The ISI Council is the governing body of the Institute. In terms of the provision of the ISI Act and ISI Regulations, a newly constituted Council has been set up for the term 2024-26. During the 1st Meeting of the Council held on 26 October 2024, the members of the Council elected Dr. Koppillil Radhakrishnan, as the Chairman of the ISI, Council. Dr. Radhakrishnan is a Padma Bhushan awardee and an Indian Space Scientist, who headed the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) as Chairman of the Space Commission and Secretary of the Department of Space, Government of India.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2096926>

5. Who is the incumbent Chairperson of the ISRO?
- a. S. Somanath
 - b. K. Sivan
 - c. V. Narayanan
 - d. A. S. Kiran Kumar

Answer: C

With the first launch of the year, the Indian Space Research Organisation (Isro) Wednesday achieved a significant milestone of completing 100 launches by placing the second-generation navigational satellite in orbit from the Sriharikota space centre in Andhra Pradesh.

The Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV-F15) lifted off with the NVS-02 satellite, which is part of India's growing network of navigation systems. With this launch, Isro has placed in orbit 548 satellites weighing 120 tonnes. Of this, 433 satellites weighing 23 tonnes were from foreign nations.

This was the first launch under the **chairmanship of Dr V Narayanan** as well. After the historic launch, he recalled the greats like Vikram Sarabhai, Satish Dhawan, and A P J Abdul Kalam. He said: "On behalf of the present generation of Isro leaders, I salute all the previous generation of leaders, the past and present employees, and our family members."

<https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/science/isro-100th-mission-navigation-satellite-launch-9804820/>

1. The Union Cabinet has recently approved the launch of the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) with an expenditure of Rs. _____ crore
 - a. 26,300
 - b. 16,300
 - c. 6,300
 - d. 36,300

Answer: B

The Union Cabinet, chaired by the Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, has approved the launch of the National Critical Mineral Mission (NCMM) with an expenditure of Rs.16,300 crore and expected investment of Rs.18,000 crore by PSUs, etc.

As part of the Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative, and recognizing the indispensable role of critical minerals in high-tech industries, clean energy, and defense, the Government of India has undertaken several initiatives over the past two years to address challenges in the critical minerals sector.

There is a need to establish an effective framework for India's self-reliance in the critical mineral sector. In line with this vision, the Finance Minister announced the setting up of the Critical Mineral Mission in the Union Budget for 2024-25 on 23rd July 2024.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097308>

2. Which of the following is the 100th launch from India's spaceport Sriharikota?
 - a. GSLV-F10
 - b. GSLV-F25
 - c. GSLV-F15
 - d. GSLV-F18

Answer: C

GSLV-F15 is the 17th flight of India's Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV) and 11th flight with Indigenous Cryo stage. It is the 8th operational flight of GSLV with an indigenous Cryogenic stage and 100th Launch from the India's Spaceport Sriharikota. GSLV-F15 payload fairing is a metallic version with a diameter of 3.4 meters.

https://www.isro.gov.in/GSLV-F15_NVS-02_Mission.html

3. Martyrs' Day is recognised nationally on _____ January to mark the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi in 1948.
- a. 28
 - b. 29
 - c. 30
 - d. 31

Answer: C

Martyrs' Day is recognised nationally on 30 January to mark the assassination of Mahatma Gandhi in 1948, by Nathuram Godse.

On the occasion of Martyrs' Day, the National Archives of India (NAI) and the National Gandhi Museum (NGM) in collaboration with the National Film Archives of India, and Prasar Bharati Archives, are announcing a special exhibition titled "Journey of the Mahatma: Through His Own Documents". The exhibition will be inaugurated by Ms. Tara Gandhi Bhattacharjee, Grand-daughter of Mahatma Gandhi and Chairman, National Gandhi Museum on 30th January 2025 at 3:00 PM in the Exhibition Hall of the National Gandhi Museum, Rajghat, New Delhi.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097303>

4. Manufacturing sector currently comprises _____% of the nation's GDP and over 27.3 million workers.
- a. 17
 - b. 27
 - c. 37
 - d. 10

Answer: A

Manufacturing sector currently **comprises 17%** of the nation's GDP and over 27.3 million workers. Hon'ble Prime Minister's has given a call for 'Make in India, Make for the World' and has signalled that India is ready and keen to increase the share of manufacturing to 25% of GDP. The Mutual Credit Guarantee Scheme for MSMEs (MCGS-MSME) is expected to facilitate the availability of credit for purchase of Plant and Machinery / Equipment by MSMEs and give a major boost to manufacturing and thereby to Make in India.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097455>

5. Occupational Shortage Index is an initiative of _____
- a. Ministry of Labour & Employment
 - b. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
 - c. Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship

d. RBI

Answer: A

In a bid to match labour market demand and supply and enhance employment outcomes, the **ministry of labour and employment** on Wednesday launched the Occupational Shortage Index (OSI).

“Based on ILO methodology and quarterly PLFS data, the OSI will provide data-driven insights into occupations facing shortages, helping align job seekers' skills with industry demands, while also supporting policymakers, training institutions, and businesses in bridging skill gaps in high-demand sectors,” the labour ministry said in a statement after the conclusion of the first day of the labour minister’s conference.

https://www.business-standard.com/economy/news/centre-launches-occupational-shortage-index-to-boost-job-opportunities-125012901490_1.html

1. In how many Indian languages Sahitya Akademi Awards 2025 are given?
 - a. 22
 - b. 23
 - c. 24
 - d. 25

Answer: C

A new system is being introduced this year for inviting books for selection procedure of the country's most prestigious literary awards given by the Sahitya Akademi annually. For the first time, in order to select books in **24** Indian languages recognised by the Akademi for its main award for the year 2025, Sahitya Akademi has invited books directly from the authors, publishers and their well-wishers.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097806>

2. World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day is observed every year on _____ January
 - a. 28
 - b. 29
 - c. 30
 - d. 31

Answer: C

World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day is observed every year on 30 January

On World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day 2025, the World Health Organization (WHO) is calling on everybody, including leaders and communities, to unite, act and eliminate neglected tropical diseases (NTDs) by making bold, sustainable investments to free the estimated 1.5 billion people, in the world’s most vulnerable communities, from a vicious cycle of disease and poverty.

<https://www.who.int/campaigns/world-ntd-day/2025>

3. Who is the editor of the recently released work "Indian Renaissance: The Modi Decade"?
- Manohar Lal
 - Kartikeya Sharma
 - Dishiti Gupta
 - Aishwarya Pandit

Answer: D

Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation Shri Amit Shah today released "Indian Renaissance: The Modi Decade" book in New Delhi. On this occasion, Union Minister for Housing and Urban Affairs Shri Manohar Lal, Rajya Sabha MP Shri Kartikeya Sharma, the book's editor Dr. **Aishwarya Pandit**, and several other distinguished personalities were present.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097768>

4. ASPEX is a payload associated with which of the following missions?
- Aditya-L1
 - SpaDeX
 - Chandrayaan-3
 - PSLV-C53/DS-EO

Answer: A

Wageesh Mishra said, "We are looking forward to utilizing single-point in situ observations from the Aditya Solar wind Particle EXperiment (ASPEX) onboard the Aditya-L1 spacecraft, India's first space-based solar observatory, with implementing our non-conventional approach, to understand CMEs expansion."

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097599>

5. "Household Consumption Expenditure Survey: 2023-24" is released by _____
- RBI
 - Ministry of Finance
 - NITI Aayog
 - Ministry of Statistics & Programme Implementation

Answer: D

The **Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI)** published the summary findings of the second of the two consecutive surveys on household consumption expenditure planned to be conducted during 2022-23 and 2023-24 on 27th December 2024 in the form of a factsheet. Prior to this, the detailed report and the unit level data of the survey of 2022-23 was released in June 2024. The detailed report of the **Household Consumption Expenditure Survey: 2023-24 (HCES:2023-24)** along with the unit level data is being released now.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097601>

1. The National Commission for Women was set up as statutory body in January _____ under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990
- 1990
 - 1991
 - 1993
 - 1992

Answer: D

The National Commission for Women was set up as statutory body in January 1992 under the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 (Act No. 20 of 1990 of Govt.of India) to :

review the Constitutional and Legal safeguards for women ;

recommend remedial legislative measures ;

facilitate redressal of grievances and

advise the Government on all policy matters affecting women.

In keeping with its mandate, the Commission initiated various steps to improve the status of women and worked for their economic empowerment during the year under report. The Commission completed its visits to all the States/UTs except Lakshdweep and prepared Gender Profiles to assess the status of women and their empowerment. It received a large number of complaints and acted suo-moto in several cases to provide speedy justice. It took up the issue of child marriage, sponsored legal awareness programmes, Parivarik Mahila Lok Adalats and reviewed laws such as Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961, PNDT Act 1994, Indian Penal Code 1860 and the National Commission for Women Act, 1990 to make them more stringent and effective. It organized workshops/consultations, constituted expert committees on economic empowerment of women, conducted workshops/seminars for gender awareness and took up publicity campaign against female foeticide, violence against women etc. in order to generate awareness in the society against these social evils.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097969>

2. The Economic Survey 2024-25 highlights that in the fiscal year FY24, the value of agri-food exports, which includes processed food exports, reached USD 46.44 billion, constituting roughly _____ per cent of India's total exports.
- 13.7
 - 12.7
 - 11.7
 - 10.7

Answer: C

The Economic Survey highlights that in the fiscal year FY24, the value of agri-food exports, which includes processed food exports, reached USD 46.44 billion, constituting **roughly 11.7 per** cent of India's total exports. Notably, the share of processed food exports within agri-food exports has risen from 14.9 per cent in FY18 to 23.4 per cent in FY24. Pradhan Mantri Kisan Sampada Yojana (PMKSY) aims to promote the overall advancement of the food processing industry. As of 31 October 2024,

1,079 PMKSY projects have been completed. Under Production Linked Incentive Scheme for Food Processing (PLISFPI), by 31 October 2024, 171 applications had been approved, with beneficiaries investing ₹8,910 crore and receiving ₹1,084.01 crore in incentives. Pradhan Mantri Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) scheme has received 407,819 applications, with loans totaling ₹8.63 thousand crore sanctioned to 108,580 applicants, as of 31 October 2024. Additionally, the programme has successfully trained 672 Master Trainers, 1,120 District Level Trainers, and 87,477 beneficiaries across 36 states and union territories.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097960>

3. As per the Economic Survey 2024-25, agriculture sector in India has shown robust growth, averaging _____ per cent annually from FY17 to FY23.
- a. 3
 - b. 5
 - c. 6
 - d. 4

Answer: B

India's agricultural sector has demonstrated remarkable resilience in recent years, marked by consistent growth rates, which can be largely attributed to various government initiatives to enhance productivity, promote crop diversification, and increase farmers' income, states the Economic Survey 2024-25, tabled by Union Minister of Finance and Corporate Affairs, Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman in the Parliament today.

The Economic Survey highlights that the 'Agriculture and Allied Activities' sector has long been the backbone of the Indian economy, playing a vital role in national income and employment. In recent years, the agriculture sector in India has shown robust growth, **averaging 5 per cent** annually from FY17 to FY23, demonstrating resilience despite challenges. In the second quarter of the 2024-25 fiscal year, the agriculture sector recorded a growth rate of 3.5 per cent. The Gross Value Added (GVA) of agriculture and related sectors, have improved from 24.38 per cent in the fiscal year FY15 to an impressive 30.23 per cent by FY23. Consistent and stable growth of agriculture at around 5 per cent, with a 20 per cent share of overall GVA in the economy, will contribute 1 per cent growth to GVA.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097960>

4. In the Union Budget of 2018-19, the government decided the principle of fixing MSP at a level of at least _____ times the weighted average cost of production for these crops.
- a. 1.5
 - b. 2.5
 - c. 2.0
 - d. 3.5

Answer: A

The Economic Survey states that in the Union Budget of 2018-19, the government decided the principle of fixing MSP at a level of at **least 1.5 times** the weighted average cost of production for these crops. The government has raised the MSP for nutri cereals (Shree Anna), pulses, and oilseeds as part of these initiatives. For the fiscal year FY25, the MSP for arhar and bajra has been increased by 59 per cent and 77 per cent over the weighted average cost of production, respectively. Moreover, the MSP for Masur has risen by 89 per cent, while rapeseed has seen an impressive increase of 98 per cent.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097960>

5. Financial assistance is provided at _____ per cent of the total project cost for small and marginal farmers and 45 per cent for other farmers for installation of micro irrigation under Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) initiative.
- a. 50
 - b. 55
 - c. 60
 - d. 65

Answer: B

The Economic Survey states that the government has prioritised irrigation development and water conservation practices to enhance access to irrigation facilities. Since the FY16 fiscal year, the government has been implementing the Per Drop More Crop (PDMC) initiative, a component of the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (PMKSY), to promote water efficiency. Financial assistance is **provided at 55 per cent** of the total project cost for small and marginal farmers, and 45 per cent for other farmers for installation of micro irrigation under PDMC. From FY16 to FY25 (end of Dec. 2024), ₹ 21968.75 crore was released to states for implementation of PDMC Scheme and an area of 95.58 lakh ha has been covered under which is about 104.67 per cent higher as compared to the Pre-PDMC period. The micro irrigation Fund (MIF) supports innovative projects through 2 per cent interest subvention to states on loans availed under MIF. Loans amounting to ₹4709 crore has been approved of which ₹3640 crore has been disbursed so far.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2097960>