

MARCH 2025

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

Answer: D

Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Missile Complex is a military missile research center in Hyderabad

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2106988>

2. Who is the incumbent Director General, Geological Survey of India?
 - a. G Kishan Reddy
 - b. Asit Saha
 - c. Joydeep Guha
 - d. Joyesh Bagchi

Answer: B

The Geological Survey of India (GSI), one of the oldest scientific organizations in the country, is set to celebrate its 175th year of geoscientific legacy. To mark this historic milestone, Union Minister of Coal & Mines, Shri G Kishan Reddy will inaugurate the Foundation Day celebrations on 4th March 2025 at Central Headquarters, Kolkata, in the esteemed presence of Shri **Asit Saha, Director General**, GSI, heads of organisations along with senior officials, geoscientists, and stakeholders.

Established in 1851 by Sir Thomas Oldham, GSI has played a pioneering role in geological mapping, mineral exploration, disaster studies, and geoscientific research, significantly contributing to India's industrial and economic growth.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2106867>

3. The National Awards for e-Governance 2025 will consist of (i) Trophy (ii) Certificate (iii) Incentive of Rs. _____ Lakh for the Gold Awardee/Incentive of Rs. _____ Lakh for the Silver Awardee
 - a. 20, 10
 - b. 50, 20
 - c. 10, 5
 - d. 20, 5

Answer: C

The National Awards for e-Governance 2025 will consist of (i) Trophy (ii) Certificate (iii) Incentive of Rs. 10 Lakh for the Gold Awardee/ Incentive of Rs. 5 Lakh for the Silver Awardee to be awarded to the Department/Organization which has to be utilized for implementation of a project/programme or bridging gaps in any area of Public Welfare.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107063>

4. Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025, one of the world's largest and most influential technology and telecommunications events, will be held in _____
- a. India
 - b. Spain
 - c. France
 - d. Japan

Answer: B

Shri Jyotiraditya Scindia, Hon'ble Union Minister for Communications, will represent India at the prestigious Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025, one of the world's largest and most influential technology and telecommunications events, scheduled from March 3-6, 2025 in Barcelona, **Spain**.

He will also unveil the curtain raiser of India Mobile Congress 2025 and inaugurate the 'Bharat Pavilion' at the Mobile World Congress (MWC).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107175>

5. Who is the incumbent Director General of the Archaeological Survey of India?
- a. Ravindra Singh Bisht
 - b. Anand Madhukar
 - c. Alok Tripathi
 - d. Y. S. Rawat

Answer: D

The **Director General of the ASI, Shri Y. S. Rawat**, along with other senior officials, had the privilege of guiding the Hon'ble President through the site, explaining the key discoveries and ongoing conservation and upgradation initiatives.

The ancient site of Dholavira was excavated by the Archaeological Survey of India during 1990-2005 under the supervision of Dr. Ravindra Singh Bisht and yielded habitation in seven cultural phases from 3000-1500 BCE, adding new facets in the understanding of the Harappan Civilization and its relation with other Bronze age civilizations during the 3rd Millennium BCE.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107386>

1. Who has recently chaired the 7th meeting of the National Board for Wildlife?
- a. Union Minister for Environment

- b. Environment Secretary
- c. Prime Minister
- d. Director General

Answer: C

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi visited Gir National Park in Gujarat earlier today, where he chaired the 7th meeting of the National Board for Wildlife.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107778>

2. Prime Minister has recently released the report of the first-ever riverine dolphin estimation conducted in the country, which estimated a total of _____ dolphins.
- a. 3,327
 - b. 4,327
 - c. 5,327
 - d. 6,327

Answer: D

During the meeting, Prime Minister released the report of the first-ever riverine dolphin estimation conducted in the country, which **estimated a total of 6,327 dolphins**. This pioneering effort involved surveying 28 rivers across eight states, with 3150 mandays dedicated to covering over 8,500 kilometers. Uttar Pradesh recorded the highest numbers, followed by Bihar, West Bengal, and Assam.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107778>

3. Population estimation of Asiatic Lions is carried out once every _____ years.
- a. 2
 - b. 3
 - c. 5
 - d. 10

Answer: C

Population estimation of Asiatic Lions is carried out **once every five years**. The last such exercise was carried out in 2020. Prime Minister announced the initiation of the 16th cycle of lion estimation to be conducted in 2025.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107778>

4. United Nations World Wildlife Day (WWD) is celebrated every year on _____ March to celebrate wild animals and plants
- a. 2
 - b. 3
 - c. 4
 - d. 1

Answer: B

United Nations World Wildlife Day (WWD) is celebrated every year on 3 March to celebrate wild animals and plants. Every year, we recognize the unique roles and contributions of wildlife to people and the planet.

The WWD2025 Theme is Wildlife Conservation Finance: Investing in People and Planet.

<https://wildlifeday.org/en>

5. At the initiative of the Prime Minister, the _____ of March is celebrated every year as “Jan Aushadhi Diwas” with a view to enhance awareness about the Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana (PMBJP) and promote generic medicines.
- 3rd
 - 4th
 - 6th
 - 7th

Answer: D

Presently, more than 15,000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras have been opened across the country covering all the districts of the country. Under the scheme, the Government has set a target to open 25000 Jan Aushadhi Kendras by 31st March, 2027 across the country.

At the initiative of the Prime Minister, the **7th of March** is celebrated every year as “Jan Aushadhi Diwas” with a view to enhance awareness about the scheme and promote generic medicines. As in earlier years, week-long events have been planned at various locations across the country from the 1st to the 7th of March 2025.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2107805>

1. The Prime Minister has recently inaugurated Vantara, a unique wildlife conservation, rescue and rehabilitation initiative in _____
- Uttar Pradesh
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Gujarat
 - Delhi

Answer: C

The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today inaugurated Vantara, a unique wildlife conservation, rescue and rehabilitation initiative in Jamnagar, **Gujarat**. Commending Shri Anant Ambani and his team for the compassionate efforts, he remarked that Vantara provides a safe haven for animals while promoting ecological sustainability and wildlife welfare.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108074>

2. Union Budget 2025 has set a target of 100 GW of nuclear capacity by _____
- 2030
 - 2047
 - 2070
 - 2035

Answer: B

Addressing a post-budget webinar organized by NITI Aayog, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology; Earth Sciences, and Minister of State for PMO, Department of Atomic Energy, Department of Space, Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, Dr. Jitendra Singh emphasized that Nuclear Energy is critical for India's Net Zero goal.

He highlighted the Union Budget 2024-25's vision for India's nuclear power expansion, which sets a target of achieving **100 GW by 2047**.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108130>

3. How many states have achieved replacement level of fertility as per National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), 2019-21?
- 33
 - 35
 - 32
 - 31

Answer: D

Reduction in Total Fertility Rate from 3.4 in 1992-93 to 2.0 in 2019-21. **31 states have** achieved replacement level of fertility as per National Family Health Survey (NFHS-5), 2019-21

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108121>

4. Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) is a deemed-to-be-university, headquartered in _____
- Mumbai
 - New Delhi
 - Bengaluru
 - Chennai

Answer: B

Indian Institute of Mass Communication (IIMC) is a deemed-to-be-university, established on 17 August 1965, Delhi. The Institute has five regional centers across India. The IIMC is an autonomous society under the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting

Location: New Delhi (HQ)

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108197>

5. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan ensures a minimum monthly pension of ₹_____ after the age of 60 for workers who belong to the unorganised sector and have a monthly income of up to ₹15,000.
- 3,000
 - 4,000
 - 5,000
 - 6,000

Answer: A

Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan (PM-SYM), is a voluntary and contributory pension scheme launched by the Government of India to provide social security to unorganised workers. This scheme ensures a **minimum monthly pension of ₹3,000** after the age of 60 for workers who belong to the unorganised sector and have a monthly income of up to ₹15,000. The scheme is a tribute to the workers in the Unorganized sectors who contribute around 50 per cent of the nation's Gross Domestic Product (GDP).

Unorganized Workers are mostly engaged as home-based workers, street vendors, mid-day meal workers, head loaders, brick kiln workers, cobblers, rag pickers, domestic workers, washer men, rickshaw pullers, landless laborers, own account workers, agricultural workers, construction workers, beedi workers, handloom workers, leather workers, audio-visual workers or workers in similar other occupations. As per the e-Shram portal, there are over 30.51 crore unorganised workers registered, as on 31 December 2024.

PM-SYM was introduced in the Interim Budget 2019. The scheme is administered by the Ministry of Labour and Employment in collaboration with Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) and Common Service Centres e-Governance Services India Limited (CSC SPV) for seamless implementation. LIC is the Pension Fund Manager and responsible for Pension pay out. The scheme is a part of the government's broader social security initiatives and aligns with the vision of universal pension coverage for workers in the unorganised sector.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108082>

1. Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) is a _____ disease which affects goats, sheep, and some wild relatives of domesticated small ruminants, as well as camels
- Bacterial
 - Fungal
 - Viral
 - Protozoal

Answer: C

Productivity of the livestock is impacted adversely due to diseases like Foot and Mouth Disease (FMD), Brucellosis, Peste des Petits Ruminants (PPR), Cerebrospinal Fluid (CSF), Lumpy Skin Disease,

etc. Implementation of the LHDCP will facilitate reduction in these losses by preventing diseases through immunization. The Scheme also supports door-step delivery of livestock health care through the subcomponents of Mobile Veterinary Units (ESVHD-MVU) and improving availability of generic veterinary medicine- Pashu Aushadhi through network of PM-Kisan Samriddhi Kendra and Cooperative Societies.

Peste des petits ruminants (PPR) is a **viral disease**, caused by a morbillivirus closely related to rinderpest virus, which affects goats, sheep, and some wild relatives of domesticated small ruminants, as well as camels. It was first reported in Ivory Coast in 1942.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108419>

2. Valley of Flowers, a national park recognized as the UNESCO World Heritage site, is located in the _____
- a. Garhwal Himalayas
 - b. Kumaon Himalayas
 - c. Himachal Himalayas
 - d. Nepal Himalayas

Answer: A

Hemkund Sahib Ji is a highly revered pilgrimage site situated at an elevation of 15,000 ft in Chamoli district of the State of Uttarakhand. The Gurudwara established at the holy site is open for about 5 months in a year between May and September and is visited by about 1.5 to 2 lakh pilgrims annually. The trek to Hemkund Sahib Ji also serves as the gateway to the famous Valley of Flowers, a national park recognized as the UNESCO World Heritage site, **located in the pristine Garhwal Himalayas.**

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108416>

3. India's first gene bank was set up in _____ by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBPGR) in New Delhi.
- a. 1991
 - b. 1996
 - c. 1986
 - d. 2002

Answer: B

India's first gene bank was set up in **1996** by the Indian Council of Agricultural Research-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (ICAR-NBPGR) in New Delhi. This bank is comprised of 12 regional stations across the country for collection and storage of vital crop germplasms. These germplasms are the genetic constituents of plants or animals that is used in research, conservation and crop breeding.

As on January 15, 2025, the bank currently stores 0.47 million accessions (plant material stored and used for breeding) — according to the database maintained by ICAR-NBPGR. These include cereals (0.17 million accessions), millets (more than 60,600 accessions), legumes (over 69,200 accessions), oilseeds (more than 63,500 accessions) and vegetables (nearly 30,000 accessions).

The Ministry of Finance has announced the establishment of a second National GenBank in the 2025-26 budget to safeguard India's agricultural biodiversity. This facility will house 10 lakh (1 million) germplasm lines, offering critical conservation support for both public and private sectors involved in genetic resource management.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108488>

4. Who has been recently appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Government e Marketplace (GeM)?
- a. V. Krishnamurthy
 - b. T. C. A. Rangaduri
 - c. Ashok Bhatia
 - d. Ajay Bhadoo

Answer: D

The Government of India has appointed Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce **Shri Ajay Bhadoo**, as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Government e Marketplace (GeM) with effect from March 3, 2025. He will assume this role in addition to his existing responsibilities in the Department of Commerce.

His appointment as CEO of GeM, India's largest e-marketplace for government procurement, comes at a pivotal time as the platform transitions to a next-generation digital marketplace powered by

Tata Consultancy Services (TCS). Currently, GeM has recorded a Gross Merchandise Value (GMV) of ₹4.58 lakh crore, reflecting a 28.65% year-on-year growth.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108344>

5. World Sustainable Development Summit 2025 was organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) with the theme "_____."
- a. Partnerships for Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Solutions
- b. Collaborative Action for Climate Resilience and Sustainability
- c. Strengthening Global Alliances for a Greener Future
- d. Collective Efforts for Climate Adaptation and Environmental Protection

Answer: A

"The Global South is driving the climate agenda, and the world now looks to India as a leader. In 2020 alone, India slashed its GHG emissions by 7.93%—a testament to its commitment to climate action," said Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Sh. Bhupender Yadav in his inaugural address today at the World Sustainable Development Summit 2025. The summit was organized by The Energy and Resources Institute (TERI) with the theme "**Partnerships for Accelerating Sustainable Development and Climate Solutions**." Prime Minister of Guyana, HE Brigadier Mark Phillip and HE Ms. Marina Silva, Minister of Environment and Climate Change, Brazil were present on this occasion.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108582>

1. Which of the following is an AI powered, indigenous, comprehensive, integrated cyber security platform for enterprises, including government & strategic sectors?
- a. TRIPADA
- b. KAVACH
- c. TRINETRA
- d. TRILOCHAN

Answer: C

Chief Minister of Kerala, inaugurated "Advanced Cybersecurity Operations Centre" (SOC) of the Kerala Police Cyber Division to strengthen cybersecurity for police systems and critical infrastructure through video conferencing

Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications, Government of India, has designed and developed TRINETRA a cyber security operation centre for Kerala police.

C-DOT's **TRINETRA** solution is an AI-powered, indigenous, integrated cybersecurity platform, tailored to meet the cyber security defence of enterprises and critical sectors. It facilitates the establishment of a comprehensive SOC within an enterprise to monitor endpoints, network traffic, and user behaviour, while proactively identifying vulnerabilities, detecting anomalies, and mitigating cyber

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108688>

2. Which ministry/body launched AIKosha, a secured platform that provides a repository of datasets, models and use cases to enable AI innovation?
 - a. Ministry of Electronics & IT
 - b. Ministry of Science and Technology
 - c. Ministry of Education
 - d. NITI Aayog

Answer: A

Union Minister for Electronics & Information Technology, Railways, and Information & Broadcasting, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw marked a major milestone in India's AI journey with the launch of several key initiatives under the IndiaAI Mission during its anniversary celebration in New Delhi today.

The newly introduced initiatives include **AIKosha: IndiaAI Datasets Platform**, the AI Compute Portal, the AI Competency Framework for Public Sector Officials, iGOT-AI Mission Karmayogi, the IndiaAI Startups Global Acceleration Program with Station F, the IndiaAI Application Development Initiative and IndiaAI FutureSkills all aimed at strengthening AI-driven research, innovation, and skill development.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108961>

3. The world's first government-funded multimodal Large Language Model (LLM) initiative, BharatGen was launched in _____ in Delhi.
 - a. 2023
 - b. 2022
 - c. 2025
 - d. 2024

Answer: D

BharatGen: The world's first government-funded multimodal LLM initiative, BharatGen was launched in **2024** in Delhi. It aims to enhance public service delivery and citizen engagement through foundational models in language, speech, and computer vision. BharatGen involves a consortium of AI researchers from premier academic institutions in India.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108810>

4. According to the Stanford AI Index 2024, India ranks _____ globally in AI skill penetration with a score of 2.8, ahead of the US (2.2) and Germany (1.9).
- First
 - Second
 - Third
 - Fourth

Answer: A

India Ranks 1st in Global AI Skill Penetration: According to the Stanford AI Index 2024, India ranks **first** globally in AI skill penetration with a score of 2.8, ahead of the US (2.2) and Germany (1.9). AI talent concentration in India has grown by 263% since 2016, positioning the country as a major AI hub. India also leads in AI Skill Penetration for Women, with a score of 1.7, surpassing the US (1.2) and Israel (0.9).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108810>

5. The International Women's Day is observed globally on March _____ each year to honour the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women
- 5
 - 6
 - 7
 - 8

Answer: D

The International Women's Day is observed globally on **March 8 each** year to honour the social, economic, cultural, and political achievements of women. The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG) has organized a virtual round-table webinar on March 6, 2025 on the theme "नारी शक्ति से विकसित भारत" to commemorate the International Women's Day 2025, celebrating the invaluable contributions of women and highlighting the ongoing efforts towards achieving gender equality and women's empowerment in India.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2108867>

1. Phuket Deep Sea Port is located in which country?
- Sri Lanka
 - Thailand
 - Myanmar
 - Bangladesh

Answer: B

The visit of First Training Squadron (1TS) - INS Sujata, INS Shardul and ICGS Veera to **Phuket Deep Sea Port, Thailand** concluded on a high note with coordinated tactical manoeuvres and exchange of sea riders during PASSEX with HTMS Huahin on 04 Mar 25. During the stay at harbour, bilateral

activities between the Indian Navy and Royal Thai Navy (RTN) included multiple professional exchanges, training visits and social interactions bolstering Navy-to-Navy connections.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109160>

2. The Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project is implemented by

- a. Ministry of Electronics & IT
- b. Department of Science and Technology
- c. NITI Aayog
- d. Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: A

The Information Security Education and Awareness (ISEA) Project, **implemented by MeitY**, aims to strengthen cybersecurity awareness and build skilled human resources in Information Security. The recently approved ISEA Phase-III (October 2023) seeks to develop 2.25 lakh trained individuals in cybersecurity over five years, including 45,000 skilled and certified cybersecurity professionals (CISOs, Deputy CISOs, and aspirants) and 2.3 lakh students and researchers in formal and non-formal courses. Additionally, the project aims to cover over 12 crore beneficiaries from diverse backgrounds—school children, teachers, college students, faculty, women, senior citizens, government employees, MSMEs, and NGOs—through mass awareness initiatives under the Cyber Aware Digital Naagrik campaign.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109132>

3. The Department of Fisheries is organizing a Fisheries Startup Conclave 2.0 on 8th March 2025 in _____

- a. Mumbai
- b. New Delhi
- c. Bengaluru
- d. Hyderabad

Answer: D

The Department of Fisheries, under the Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAH&D) is organizing a Fisheries Startup Conclave 2.0 on 8th March 2025 in **Hyderabad**, Telangana. The event will be graced by Union Minister, Shri Rajiv Ranjan Singh, MoFAH&D and Ministry of Panchayati Raj, along with Minister of State, Shri George Kurian, MoFAH&D and Ministry of Minority Affairs and Minister of State, Prof. S.P. Singh Baghel, MoFAH&D and Ministry of Panchayati Raj. The event will also witness participation from government officials, Fisheries Startups and Entrepreneurs.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109060>

4. The first World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES), a milestone event for the Media & Entertainment (M&E) sector, will be hosted by the Government of India in _____, from May 1 to 4, 2025.

- a. Mumbai
- b. Bengaluru
- c. Hyderabad
- d. New Delhi

Answer: A

The first World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES), a milestone event for the Media & Entertainment (M&E) sector, will be hosted by the Government of India in **Mumbai**, Maharashtra, from May 1 to 4, 2025.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109121>

5. According to the latest Global Wealth report by Knight Frank, what is India's rank globally in terms of the number of High Net-Worth Individuals (HNWIs)?
- a. 1st
 - b. 2nd
 - c. 3rd
 - d. 4th

Answer: D

India has emerged as a leading global wealth hub, with a current population of 85,698 High Net-Worth Individuals (HNWIs), **placing it fourth globally**, behind only the US, China, and Japan, according to the latest Global Wealth report by property consulting firm Knight Frank.

According to the latest wealth report, the number of HNWIs—defined as individuals with at least US\$1 million in investable assets—rose by 4.4% globally in 2024, reaching over 2.3 million people. Notably, the population of ultra-high-net-worth individuals (UHNWIs), those with assets exceeding US\$100 million, surpassed 100,000 for the first time, reflecting a broader trend of growing wealth across the world.

https://www.business-standard.com/finance/personal-finance/india-ranks-4th-globally-with-85-698-super-rich-behind-us-china-and-japan-125030500533_1.html

1. Who is the incumbent Chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC)?
- a. Manoj Kumar
 - b. Kishore Monnappa Chamundeshwari
 - c. Basavaraj Narayanapur
 - d. Kiran Kumar

Answer: A

To strengthen the 'New Khadi for New India' movement under the leadership of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, Chairman of the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC), Ministry of Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises, Government of India, Shri **Manoj Kumar**, distributed 2,050 bee boxes, honey colonies, and toolkits to 205 beekeepers across six states through video conference from KVIC's Rajghat office in Delhi.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109371>

2. Which state has launched 'Project Hifazat' on the eve of International Women's Day?
- Haryana
 - Odisha
 - Gujarat
 - Punjab

Answer: D

To empower women and children facing violence, **Punjab** minister for social security, women, and child development Baljit Kaur on Thursday unveiled 'Project Hifazat' on the eve of International Women's Day. The initiative aims to improve the response mechanism and create a safe environment for reporting domestic violence and harassment, with the 181 helpline readily available.

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/chandigarh/punjab-launches-project-hifazat-to-help-women-facing-violence/articleshow/118768873.cms>

3. Which state has launched 'RISE' app for digital monitoring of child vaccinations, enhancing training for health workers to improve immunisation coverage?
- Bihar
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Chhattisgarh

Answer: C

Uttar Pradesh launches 'RISE' app for digital monitoring of child vaccinations, enhancing training for health workers to improve immunisation coverage.

Routine vaccination among children will now be monitored digitally via 'Rapid Immunisation Skill Enhancement' (RISE) app, a platform to be used by nurses, ANMs and health workers engaged in vaccination in Uttar Pradesh.

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/rise-app-to-aid-health-workers-digitally-monitor-immunisation-prog-in-up-101741288465255.html>

4. A23a, recently seen in the news, is a/an
- Iceberg
 - Extra planetary object
 - Nanomaterial
 - Endothelial cell

Answer: A

Iceberg A23a is a large tabular iceberg which calved from the Filchner–Ronne Ice Shelf in 1986. It was stuck on the sea bed for many years but then started moving in 2020. As of January 2025, its area is about 3,500 square kilometres (1,400 sq mi), which makes it the current largest iceberg in the world. As of March 2025, it has run aground off South Georgia island.

<https://www.bas.ac.uk/media-post/worlds-largest-iceberg-grounds-near-sub-antarctic-island-of-south-georgia/>

5. Which of the following countries is **not** part of the Exercise Sea Dragon 2025?
- Australia
 - India
 - Japan
 - Philippines

Answer: D

Sea Dragon is a multinational exercise designed to enhance anti-submarine warfare (ASW) tactics in response to shared traditional and non-traditional maritime security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region. Sea Dragon 2024 brought Maritime Patrol and Reconnaissance Aircraft (MPRA) communities together from the Royal **Australian Air Force (RAAF), Indian Navy (IN), Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF), Republic of Korea Navy (ROKN), and the United States Navy.**

<https://www.navy.mil/Press-Office/News-Stories/Article/3662123/australia-india-japan-korea-and-the-us-complete-multilateral-exercise-sea-drago/>

1. Which country won the 2025 ICC Champions Trophy?
- India
 - New Zealand
 - Pakistan
 - UAE

Answer: A

The 2025 ICC Champions Trophy was the ninth edition of the ICC Champions Trophy. It was hosted by Pakistan and the United Arab Emirates from 19 February to 9 March 2025 and featured 15 matches played across four venues. Pakistan was the defending champions but was eliminated in the group stage itself. **India won their record third title** by defeating New Zealand in the final.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109721>

2. Which country partners with India for Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR-XII?
- Kazakhstan
 - Turkmenistan
 - Kyrgyzstan
 - Mongolia

Answer: C

The 12th edition of the **India-Kyrgyzstan** Joint Special Forces Exercise KHANJAR-XII is set to take place in Kyrgyzstan from 10 March to 23 March 2025. Since its inception in 2011, Ex KHANJAR XII has evolved into an annual training event. The alternating venues between India and Kyrgyzstan reflect the unique dimension of the thriving strategic relationship. The last edition of the same exercise was conducted in India in January 2024.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109604>

3. e-Toycathon 2025 is an initiative of _____
- a. FICCI
 - b. SIAM
 - c. NITI Aayog
 - d. Ministry of Electronics & IT

Answer: D

To boost the electronic toy sector, for the first time in India “e-Toycathon 2025” was organized by C-DAC under the **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology’s** (MeitY’s) research initiatives. e-Toycathon 2025 which successfully concluded at CDAC-Noida, aimed at fostering innovation in the toy sector by providing a platform for young researchers and innovators to develop indigenous, sustainable solutions.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109677>

4. The UN Peacekeepers are known as _____
- a. White Helmets
 - b. Blue Helmets
 - c. Yellow Helmets
 - d. Purple Helmets

Answer: B

The United Nations (UN) was founded in 1945 with the primary goal of maintaining international peace and security. Since its inception, UN peacekeeping has become a valuable tool to help countries navigate the challenging path from conflict to peace. India has been a key contributor to global peace and security, with over 2,90,000 peacekeepers serving in more than 50 UN missions. Currently, over 5,000 Indian peacekeepers are deployed in 9 active missions, working in challenging conditions to promote international peace.

The **UN Peacekeepers, known as Blue Helmets**, get their name from the light blue of the United Nations flag. In 1947, the UN decided on this colour because blue symbolizes peace, while red is often linked to war. This light blue shade has since become a symbol of the UN.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109587>

5. UN's highest peacekeeping honour is _____
- a. Lester B. Pearson Medal
 - b. Javier Pérez de Cuéllar Medal

- c. U Thant Medal
- d. Dag Hammarskjöld Medal

Answer: D

In 2023, India received the UN's highest peacekeeping honour, the **Dag Hammarskjöld Medal**, posthumously awarded to Indian peacekeepers Shishupal Singh and Sanwala Ram Vishnoi and civilian UN worker Shaber Taher Ali for their sacrifice in the Democratic Republic of Congo.

From 24th-25th February 2025, the Centre of United Nations Peacekeeping (CUNPK) hosted the 'Conference on Women Peacekeepers from the Global South' at the Manekshaw Centre in New Delhi. This two-day event brought together women peacekeepers from 35 nations to discuss the evolving role of women in peacekeeping operations and strategies to enhance their participation. The conference underscored India's commitment to gender equality and its leadership in promoting inclusive and effective peacekeeping operations.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109587>

1. Garimella Balakrishna Prasad, who recently passed away, was a/an
 - a. Singer
 - b. Dancer
 - c. Actor
 - d. Zoologist

Answer: A

Garimella Balakrishna Prasad (9 November 1948 – 9 March 2025) was an Indian classical devotional **singer** and composer

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110007>

2. The Government of India had established the National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities (NMMA) in _____ to prepare two national registers on monuments and antiquities
 - a. 2009
 - b. 2014
 - c. 2005
 - d. 2007

Answer: D

The Government of India had established the National Mission on Monuments and Antiquities (NMMA) in **2007** to prepare two national registers on monuments and antiquities. So far the NMMA has digitized 12,34,937 Antiquities and 11,406 Built Heritage & Sites.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109850>

3. Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) scheme comes under _____
- a. Ministry of Women and Child Development
 - b. Ministry of Minority Affairs
 - c. Ministry of Culture
 - d. Ministry of Tourism

Answer: B

Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) scheme is a flagship of the Ministry of **Minority Affairs** which converges five erstwhile schemes of the Ministry namely 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Nai Manzil', 'USTTAD', 'Nai Roshni', and Hamari Dharohar for the six notified minority communities. PM VIKAS scheme comprises of the following components:

- a. Skilling and Training component
- b. Women Leadership and Entrepreneurship component
- c. Education support component (for school dropouts)

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109860>

4. The Ministry of Labour and Employment launched e-Shram portal (eshram.gov.in) on 26th August _____ for creation of a comprehensive National Database of Unorganised Workers
- a. 2020
 - b. 2019
 - c. 2021
 - d. 2022

Answer: C

The Ministry of Labour and Employment launched e-Shram portal (eshram.gov.in) on 26th August **2021** for creation of a comprehensive National Database of Unorganised Workers (NDUW) seeded with Aadhaar. e-Shram portal is meant to register and support the unorganised workers by providing them a Universal Account Number (UAN) on a self-declaration basis. As on 3rd March 2025, over 30.68 crore unorganised workers have already registered on e-Shram portal, with more than half of them being female (53.68%).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109828>

5. Which of the following released the Annual Groundwater Quality Report 2024?
- a. CPCB
 - b. NITI Aayog
 - c. NWDA

d. CGWB

Answer: D

The Annual Groundwater Quality Report 2024 has been prepared by the Central Ground Water Board (**CGWB**) and released in December 2024. The report is based on the ground water sampling and analysis from 15,259 monitoring locations spread across the country. The major objective of the report is to study various water quality parameters like Electrical Conductivity (EC), Fluoride, Arsenic, heavy metals, Nitrate etc. in groundwater used for drinking and agriculture purposes. The key highlights of the report are:-

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2109942>

1. Dharambeer Gokhool is the incumbent President of the Republic of _____
 - a. Sri Lanka
 - b. Thailand
 - c. Mauritius
 - d. Nepal

Answer: C

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today called on H.E. Mr. Dharambeer Gokhool, President of the Republic of **Mauritius**, at the State House.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110242>

2. Soil & Land Use Survey of India comes under _____
 - a. Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare
 - b. Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
 - c. Ministry of Rural Development
 - d. Ministry of Earth Sciences

Answer: A

Soil & Land Use Survey of India (SLUSI), under **Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare** is generating of district/village-wise digital soil fertility maps through geo-spatial techniques using Soil Health Card (SHC) data. Soil Health Cards are generated under Soil Health & Fertility Scheme of Government of India. Soil Health & Fertility Scheme assists states in promoting Integrated Nutrient Management (INM) through judicious use of chemical fertilizers including secondary and micro nutrients, in conjunction with organic manures & bio-fertilizers for improving soil health and its productivity. Soil samples are processed following standard procedures and analyzed for various parameters viz, pH, electrical conductivity (EC), Organic Carbon, available Nitrogen, Phosphorus, Potassium, Sulphur and micronutrients (Zinc, Copper, Iron, Manganese & Boron). SHC provides information to farmers on soil nutrient status (low, medium & high) and recommendation on appropriate dosage of nutrients to be applied for improving soil health.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110419>

3. The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana, introduced in the country from Kharif _____ season, is available for all States/UTs and is voluntary for the States as well as farmers.
- a. 2015
 - b. 2014
 - c. 2017
 - d. 2016

Answer: D

Government has approved the continuation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) and Restructured Weather Based Crop Insurance Scheme (RWBCIS) till 2025-26 with total outlay of Rs. 69,515.71 crore for the period 2021-22 to 2025-26.

The PMFBY, introduced in the country from Kharif **2016** season, is available for all States/UTs and is voluntary for the States as well as farmers. States/UTs are free to subscribe under the scheme keeping in view their risk perception and financial considerations etc. Since inception of the scheme 27 States/ UTs have implemented the scheme in one or more seasons. At present, 23 States/UTs are implementing the scheme.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110413>

4. The principles for regulation of prices of drugs are laid down by the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy (NPPP),_____.
- a. 2012
 - b. 2013
 - c. 2014
 - d. 2016

Answer: A

The principles for regulation of prices of drugs are laid down by the National Pharmaceuticals Pricing Policy (NPPP), **2012**. The key principles of regulation of prices under the said policy are (i) regulation on the basis of essentiality of drugs, (ii) regulation of prices of formulations only, i.e., medicines used by consumers and not the upstream products such as bulk drugs or intermediates, and (iii) regulation through market-based pricing and not cost-based pricing. In accordance with the said policy, the National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority (NPPA) under the Department of Pharmaceuticals (DoP) fixes ceiling prices under the provisions of the Drugs (Prices Control) Order (DPCO), 2013.

The Integrated Pharmaceutical Database Management System (IPDMS) is a mechanism for collecting market-based data related to drugs as required under DPCO, 2013, which facilitates online submission of required returns/reports. Its current version, IPDMS 2.0, displays information regarding effective ceiling prices and retail prices. This data is updated from time to time for the information of all stakeholders.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110210>

5. The Cooperative Election Authority was notified on 11th March, _____ with a mandate to conduct free and fair election of Multi-State Cooperative Societies.
- 2022
 - 2023
 - 2024
 - 2021

Answer: C

The Cooperative Election Authority celebrated its First Annual Day, marking a significant milestone in its journey to promote democratic governance and transparency within cooperative societies election. The Cooperative Election Authority was Notified on 11th March, **2024** with a mandate to conduct free and fair election of Multi-State Cooperative Societies. At present there are three members in the Authority.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110436>

1. Which country has recently conferred the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (G.C.S.K) award on the Prime Minister of India?
- Maldives
 - Madagascar
 - Indonesia
 - Mauritius

Answer: D

Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi attended the 57th National Day celebrations of the Republic of Mauritius as the Chief Guest.

During the celebrations, President of the Republic of **Mauritius** H.E. Mr. Dharambeer Gokhool conferred the Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean (G.C.S.K) award, the highest civilian award of Mauritius, on Prime Minister Modi. This is the first time that an Indian leader is receiving this honour.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110752>

2. Which of the following organises a special programme for school children called YUVIKA - YUva Vigyani KARYakram (Young Scientist Programme)?
- DRDO
 - ISRO
 - CSIR
 - BARC

Answer: B

Indian Space Research Organisation is organising a special programme for School Children called "Young Scientist Programme" "YUva Vigyani KAryakram", YUVIKA, to impart basic knowledge on Space Technology, Space Science and Space Applications to the younger students in emerging trends in space science and technology amongst the youngsters, who are the future building blocks of our nation. ISRO has chalked out this programme to "Catch them young". The programme is also expected to encourage more students to pursue in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) based research /career

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110833>

3. ISRO is collaborating with space agency of which of the following countries for a joint satellite mission named 'TRISHNA (Thermal Infrared Imaging Satellite for High Resolution Natural Resource Assessment)'?
- USA
 - Japan
 - France
 - UK

Answer: C

Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is already working with the space agency of USA (NASA) for realizing a joint satellite mission, named 'NISAR (NASA ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar)' which is in the advanced stages of realization. ISRO is working with CNES (**French** National Space Agency) for realizing a joint satellite mission named 'TRISHNA (Thermal Infrared Imaging Satellite for High Resolution Natural Resource Assessment)', which is in the initial stages. ISRO and JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) have carried out a feasibility study to realize a joint lunar polar exploration mission.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110832>

4. 'Sangam: Digital Twin' initiative comes under _____
- Ministry of Communications
 - Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 - Ministry of Culture
 - NITI Aayog

Answer: A

Artificial Intelligence (AI)-driven Digital Twins can revolutionize infrastructure planning and design by addressing the challenges in traditional methods like siloed, static, incomplete data and manual interventions. Unlike conventional approaches that rely on fragmented datasets and periodic assessments, AI-driven Digital Twins integrate real-time, cross-sectoral data from various sources in a privacy preserving manner, ensuring a unified and dynamic planning process ensuring integrated planning and fostering a collaborative ecosystem. Digital Twins enable continuous real-time monitoring and predictive analytics. AI enhances data-driven decision making by simulating multiple

scenarios, optimizing resource allocation, and improving infrastructure resilience under various conditions.

The **Department of Telecommunications (DoT), Ministry of Communications** unveiled the 'Sangam: Digital Twin' initiative on 15.02.2024, by publishing Expressions of Interest (EoI) inviting industry pioneers, startups, MSMEs and academia to participate in the initiative. As a response to the EoI, 169 applicants were selected which included start-ups as well.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110691>

5. How many post offices (Head Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices and Branch Post Offices) are operational in India?
- 4,64,987
 - 3,64,987
 - 2,64,987
 - 1,64,987

Answer: D

There are 1,64,987 post offices (Head Post Offices, Sub-Post Offices and Branch Post Offices) operational in the country, out of which 15,823 post offices are functioning in urban areas and 1,49,164 post offices are functioning in rural areas.

All Departmental post offices in the country have been computerized and networked under the Information Technology (IT) Modernization Project. Under IT 2.0, Branch post offices functioning in rural areas of the country have been provided with mobile devices for carrying out online postal, financial and insurance transactions.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110687>

1. Who is the incumbent Chief Minister of Maharashtra?
- Eknath Shinde
 - Devendra Fadnavis
 - Uddhav Thackeray
 - Prithviraj Chavan

Answer: B

The Chief Minister of Maharashtra, Shri **Devendra** Fadnavis met the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111326>

2. Which festival commemorates the victory of Vishnu as Narasimha over Hiranyakashipu?

- a. Diwali
- b. Navaratri
- c. Holika Dahan
- d. Makar Sankranti

Answer: C

Holi is a major Hindu festival celebrated as the Festival of Colours, Love, and Spring. It celebrates the eternal and divine love of the deities Radha and Krishna. Additionally, the day signifies the triumph of good over evil, as it **commemorates the victory of Vishnu as Narasimha over Hiranyakashipu**. Holi originated and is predominantly celebrated in the Indian subcontinent, but has also spread to other regions of Asia and parts of the Western world through the Indian diaspora.

Holika Dahan, rendered Holika Dahanam in Sanskrit or Chotti Holi, is a Hindu festival in which a bonfire is lit to celebrate the burning of the demoness, Holika. This ritual is symbolic of victory of good over evil. It precedes Holi, the festival of colours, which celebrates the spring season. According to legend, Holika was the sister of Hiranyakashipu, who acquired a boon that rendered her invulnerable to fire. She then attempted to kill her nephew, Prahlada, by placing him on her lap in a bonfire. However, she was immolated while Prahlada was saved from the fire.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111271>

3. Naval Exercise Bongosagar 2025 is being held between India and _____
- a. Bangladesh
 - b. Sri Lanka
 - c. Mongolia
 - d. Japan

Answer: A

The India-**Bangladesh** Naval Exercise Bongosagar 2025 and Coordinated Patrol was conducted in Bay of Bengal this week. The exercise saw participation of INS Ranvir from Indian Navy and BNS Abu Ubaidah from Bangladesh Navy.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111292>

4. Prasar Bharati-Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination (PB-SHABD) was launched in March, _____ as a shared feed service
- a. 2025
 - b. 2023
 - c. 2024
 - d. 2022

Answer: C

Prasar Bharati-Shared Audio-Visuals for Broadcast and Dissemination (PB-SHABD) was launched in March, **2024** as a shared feed service to provide access to logo free, daily news items across various formats including video, audio, text, and photos to media organizations. Prasar Bharati is pleased to

announce that free access to SHABD will remain free till March 2026. This will help the media organization, especially the smaller ones, immensely.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111174>

5. PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana, the world's largest domestic rooftop solar initiative, has achieved a historic milestone with _____ lakh homes solar-powered as of 10th March 2025
- 5
 - 10
 - 15
 - 20

Answer: B

PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY), the world's largest domestic rooftop solar initiative, has achieved a historic milestone **with 10 lakh homes** now solar-powered as of 10th March 2025. Launched by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on 13th February 2024, this transformative scheme is rapidly reshaping India's energy landscape. With 47.3 lakh applications received, the initiative has already disbursed ₹4,770 crore in subsidies to 6.13 lakh beneficiaries, making solar energy more accessible than ever. The scheme's easy financing options, including collateral-free loans up to ₹2 lakh at a 6.75% subsidized interest rate through 12 Public Sector Banks, have further accelerated adoption. So far, 3.10 lakh loan applications have been received, with 1.58 lakh sanctioned and 1.28 lakh disbursed, ensuring financial inclusion for all. With a seamless 15-day subsidy transfer process and zero electricity bills for many beneficiaries, the scheme is not just powering homes but also empowering people. Every solar installation under PMSGMBY offsets carbon emissions equal to planting 100 trees, driving India towards a cleaner, greener, and self-reliant future.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111106>

1. World Consumer Rights Day is observed annually on March _____
- 10
 - 11
 - 13
 - 15

Answer: D

World Consumer Rights Day, observed annually on **March 15**, serves as an essential reminder of the need to uphold consumer rights and protection. The day is an opportunity to promote the basic rights of all consumers and encourage those rights to be respected and protected. World Consumer Rights Day was first observed in 1983. This date was chosen to commemorate President John F. Kennedy's address to the US Congress on March 15, 1962, where he became the first world leader to formally recognize consumer rights.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111397>

2. The theme for World Consumer Rights Day 2025 is _____
- a. Fair and Responsible AI for Consumers
 - b. Empowering Consumers Through Clean Energy Transitions
 - c. Fair Digital Finance
 - d. A Just Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles

Answer: D

The theme for World Consumer Rights Day 2025 is, '**A Just Transition to Sustainable Lifestyles.**' This theme reflects the urgent need to make sustainable and healthy lifestyle choices available, accessible, and affordable for all consumers – while ensuring that these transitions uphold people's basic rights and needs. This year's campaign highlights the pathways needed to achieve sustainable lifestyles and call for stronger consumer protection and empowerment worldwide.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111397>

3. North East Centre for Technology Application and Reach (NECTAR) is headquartered in _____
- a. Meghalaya
 - b. Assam
 - c. Sikkim
 - d. Manipur

Answer: A

NECTAR is an autonomous society, set up under Department of Science & Technology, Government of India with its **headquarter at Shillong, Meghalaya**. The Centre will look at harnessing and leveraging niche frontier technologies available with central scientific departments and institutions.

<https://www.nectar.org.in/>

4. 4th 'No Money for Terror' Conference was held in _____
- a. India
 - b. UK
 - c. Germany
 - d. Sweden

Answer: C

4TH 'NO MONEY FOR TERROR' CONFERENCE IN MUNICH (Germany)

During the 4th NMFT Conference India advocated that unity amongst nations is essential in the fight against Terrorism and India stands steadfast with the global community in this fight.

India raised concerns that Terror financing increasingly has cross border linkages in terms of flow of funds and due to the development of new digital technologies; the sources, methods and channels used for flow of assets by terrorists are becoming increasingly more complex, and pose a significant challenge to global security.

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2110807#:~:text=During%20the%204th%20NMFT,global%20community%20in%20this%20fight.>

5. Astrophysics observatory, SPHEREx, is an initiative of _____
- ISRO
 - NASA
 - ESA
 - JAXA

Answer: B

NASA's newest astrophysics observatory, SPHEREx, is on its way to study the origins of our universe and the history of galaxies, and to search for the ingredients of life in our galaxy. Short for Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer, SPHEREx lifted off at 8:10 p.m. PDT on March 11 aboard a SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket from Space Launch Complex 4 East at Vandenberg Space Force Base in California.

Riding with SPHEREx aboard the Falcon 9 were four small satellites that make up the agency's PUNCH (Polarimeter to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere) mission, which will study how the Sun's outer atmosphere becomes the solar wind.

The Spectro-Photometer for the History of the Universe, Epoch of Reionization and Ices Explorer (SPHEREx) mission will provide an all-sky spectral survey. Over a two-year planned mission, the SPHEREx Observatory will collect data on more than 450 million galaxies along with more than 100 million stars in the Milky Way in order to explore the origins of the universe.

<https://www.nasa.gov/news-release/nasa-launches-missions-to-study-sun-universes-beginning/>

1. Ramakanta Rath, who recently passed away, was one of the most renowned modernist poets in _____ literature
- Bengali
 - Gujarati
 - Odia
 - Marathi

Answer: C

Ramakanta Rath was one of the most renowned modernist poets in **Odia** literature

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111606>

2. The digital initiatives—Pravaah and Sarthi— are developed by _____
- RBI
 - SEBI

- c. Indian Railways
- d. TRAI

Answer: A

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi applauded **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** for Winning Digital Transformation Award 2025. RBI has been honored with the Digital Transformation Award 2025 by Central Banking, London, UK, recognizing its innovative digital initiatives—Pravaah and Sarthi—developed by its in-house developer team.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111602>

3. Hyperloop technology is associated with which field?
- a. Biotechnology
 - b. Transportation
 - c. Pest management
 - d. Chip manufacturing

Answer: B

Hyperloop is a **proposed high-speed transportation** system for both passengers and freight. The concept was published by entrepreneur Elon Musk in a 2013 white paper, where the hyperloop was described as a transportation system using capsules supported by an air-bearing surface within a low-pressure tube.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111564>

4. Which of the following is **incorrect** with respect to the Padma Awards?
- a. Instituted in 1954, these Awards are announced on the occasion of the Republic Day every year.
 - b. All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex are eligible for these Awards.
 - c. Government servants including those working with PSUs, except Doctors and Scientists, are eligible for Padma Awards
 - d. The Padma Awards Committee is headed by the Cabinet Secretary and includes Home Secretary, Secretary to the President and four to six eminent persons as members

Answer: C

The Padma Awards, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri, are amongst the highest civilian awards of the country. Instituted in 1954, these Awards are announced on the occasion of the Republic Day every year. The Award seeks to recognize 'work of distinction' and is given for distinguished and exceptional achievements/service in all fields/disciplines, such as Art, Literature and Education, Sports, Medicine, Social Work, Science and Engineering, Public Affairs, Civil Service, Trade and Industry etc. All persons without distinction of race, occupation, position or sex

are eligible for these Awards. Government servants including those working with PSUs, except Doctors and Scientists, **are not eligible for Padma Awards**.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111486>

5. UN led Second World Summit for Social Development will be held in _____
- a. Doha
 - b. Nairobi
 - c. Dubai
 - d. Geneva

Answer: A

India extended its support to ILO on the organization of the UN led Second World Summit for Social Development in **Doha, Qatar** later this year, as it aims at reinforcing the social dimension of the 2030 Agenda for Social Development. India's inspiring progress in promoting social justice and development was highlighted, as India has doubled its social protection coverage to 48.8 percent, increasing the average global social protection coverage by over 5 percent.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111473>

1. Who is the incumbent Prime Minister of New Zealand?
- a. Christopher Luxon
 - b. Chris Hipkins
 - c. Dame Jacinda Ardern
 - d. Sir Bill English

Answer: A

The Prime Minister of New Zealand, The Right Honourable **Christopher Luxon** called on the President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu at Rashtrapati Bhavan today (March 17, 2025).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111916>

2. Which ministry is the host for Raisina Dialogue 2025?
- a. Ministry of Defence
 - b. Ministry of Home Affairs
 - c. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
 - d. Ministry of External Affairs

Answer: D

The Raisina Dialogue is India's premier conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics committed to addressing the most challenging issues facing the global community. Every year, leaders in politics, business, media, and civil society converge in New Delhi to discuss the state of the world and explore opportunities for cooperation on a wide range of contemporary matters. The Dialogue is structured as a multi-stakeholder, cross-sectoral discussion, involving heads of state, cabinet ministers and local

government officials, who are joined by thought leaders from the private sector, media and academia.

The conference is hosted by the Observer Research Foundation in partnership with the Ministry of **External Affairs**, Government of India. This effort is supported by a number of institutions, organisations and individuals, who are committed to the mission of the conference.

<https://www.orfonline.org/forums/raisina-dialogue>

3. The Prime Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS Scheme) announced in the Budget _____, aims to provide internship opportunities to one crore youth in top 500 companies in five years.
- 2025-26
 - 2023-24
 - 2024-25
 - 2022-23

Answer: C

The Prime Minister's Internship Scheme (PMIS Scheme) announced in the Budget **2024-25**, aims to provide internship opportunities to one crore youth in top 500 companies in five years. As an initiation to this Scheme, the Pilot Project targeted at providing 1.25 lakh internship opportunities to the youth was launched on 03.10.2024 for the Financial Year 2024-25. Salient features of the Scheme are:

12-month paid internships in top companies of India.

This scheme provides an opportunity to the youth to get training, and gain experience and skills within the real-life environment (at least six months) of the businesses or organizations that help in bridging the gap between academic learning and industry requirements, in turn, assisting enhancement of her/his employability.

The scheme targets individuals aged 21 to 24 who are currently not enrolled in any full-time academic program or not in full-time employment, offering them a unique chance to kick-start their careers.

Each intern will be supported with monthly financial assistance of ₹5,000, supplemented by one-time financial assistance of ₹6,000.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112011>

4. 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Nai Manzil', 'Nai Roshni', 'Hamari Dharohar' and 'USTTAD' are schemes targeting which of the following sections?
- Tribal Communities
 - Transgender
 - Women and Children

d. Minority Communities

Answer: D

The Pradhan Mantri Virasat Ka Samvardhan (PM VIKAS) is a flagship Scheme of the Ministry of Minority Affairs which converges five erstwhile schemes viz. 'Seekho Aur Kamao', 'Nai Manzil', 'Nai Roshni', 'Hamari Dharohar' and 'USTTAD'; and focuses on upliftment of six notified **minority communities** through skill development; entrepreneurship and leadership of minority women; and education support for school dropouts. The scheme also provisions to facilitate credit linkages by connecting beneficiaries with loan programs offered by the National Minorities Development & Finance Corporation (NMDFC). Under the scheme, the Ministry has received some proposals and is in the process of shortlisting and finalising the projects.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111797>

5. Which of the following is **incorrect** with respect to Quantum Computing?
- Quantum computers use special units called qubits to store and process information
 - Qubits can only be 0 or 1
 - Qubits can be both 0 and 1 at the same time
 - Qubits in quantum computers are analogous to bits in classical computers.

Answer: B

Quantum computers use special units called qubits to store and process information. **Unlike regular computers, where bits can only be 0 or 1, qubits can be both 0 and 1 at the same time.** This ability to be in multiple states at once makes quantum computers different and potentially much more powerful than traditional ones.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2111953>

1. Lok Sabha Secretariat has recently signed an MoU with which ministry to launch 'Sansad Bhashini' for AI-powered multilingual parliamentary operations?
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 - Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs
 - Ministry of Science and Technology
 - Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer: A

An MoU was signed between Lok Sabha Secretariat and **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MEITY)** for the development of Sansad AI solution in the presence of Lok Sabha Speaker Shri Om Birla and Union Minister for MEITY, Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw. The SANSAD BHASHINI initiative is envisioned to provide comprehensive In-House AI solutions for multilingual support and streamlined processes in parliamentary operations.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112542>

2. Who is the incumbent Governor of Gujarat?

- a. Om Prakash Kohli
- b. Margaret Alva
- c. Kamla Beniwal
- d. Acharya Devvrat

Answer: D

The Governor of Gujarat, Shri Acharya Devvrat, met Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi today.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112423>

3. Who is the incumbent Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh?

- a. Bhupesh Baghel
- b. Vishnu Deo Sai
- c. Raman Singh
- d. Ajit Jogi

Answer: B

Chief Minister of Chhattisgarh Shri Vishnu Deo Sai met Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi in New Delhi today.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112251>

4. Special Olympics World Winter Games 2025 was held in _____

- a. Italy
- b. Greece
- c. Germany
- d. Spain

Answer: A

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has lauded the outstanding performance of Indian athletes at the Special Olympics World Winter Games 2025 **held in Turin, Italy**. The Indian contingent brought home 33 medals, making the nation proud on the global stage.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112195>

5. Who is the incumbent Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency?

- a. Cornel Feruță
- b. Yukiya Amano
- c. Rafael Mariano Grossi
- d. Mohamed ElBaradei

Answer: C

The Director General of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), **Rafael Mariano Grossi**, inaugurated S N Bose Building at Global Centre for Nuclear Energy Partnership (GCNEP) at Sushma

Swaraj Bhavan in New Delhi today. He also introduced the Certificate Course on Nuclear Engineering during the event.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112360>

1. Who is the incumbent Governor of Uttarakhand?
 - a. Baby Rani Maurya
 - b. Krishan Kant Paul
 - c. Aziz Qureshi
 - d. Gurmit Singh

Answer: D

The Governor of Uttarakhand, Lieutenant General Gurmit Singh (Retd.) met Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi today in New Delhi.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112700>

2. Section 6(2) of the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act, 2010 lays down that the operator's maximum liability shall be Rs _____ crore
 - a. 1000
 - b. 1500
 - c. 2000
 - d. 2500

Answer: B

Addressing concerns about nuclear liability, Dr. Jitendra Singh stated that India's Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage (CLND) framework provides clear safeguards. The primary responsibility rests with the operator, and an **insurance pool of ₹1,500 crore** has been set up, with additional commitments from the government if required. Furthermore, India has aligned with global compensation mechanisms to ensure financial security in case of an incident.

How much compensation is payable under the CLND Act?

Ans. Section 6(1) of the CLND Act presently prescribes that the maximum amount of liability in respect of each nuclear incident shall be the rupee equivalent of three hundred million Special Drawing Rights (SDRs). As the current value of 1 SDR is about Rs 87, three hundred million SDRs are equivalent to about Rs 2610 crores. Section 6(2) of the Act lays down that the operator's **maximum liability shall be Rs 1500 crore**. In case the total liability exceeds Rs 1500 crores, as per Section 7 (1) (a) of the CLND Act, this gap of Rs 1110 crores will be bridged by the Central Government. Beyond Rs 2610 crores, India will be able to access international funds under the CSC once it is a party to that Convention.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112842>

3. Deep Ocean Mission was launched in _____ with a total budget outlay of Rs 4,077 crores to be implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences.
- a. 2021
 - b. 2020
 - c. 2022
 - d. 2023

Answer: A

Deep Ocean Mission was launched in **2021** with a total budget outlay of Rs 4,077 crores to be implemented by the Ministry of Earth Sciences. It is a multi-disciplinary programme with activities encompassing six verticals, namely a) Development of Technologies for Deep Sea Mining and Manned Submersible, Underwater Vehicles and Underwater Robotics for exploring and harnessing ocean resources, b) Development of Ocean Climate Change Advisory Services, c) Technological innovation for exploration and conservation of deep-sea biodiversity, d) Deep Ocean Survey and Exploration, e) Energy and Freshwater from the Ocean, and f) Advance Marine Station for Ocean Biology. Survey has been conducted at potential sites of multi-metal hydrothermal sulphide mineralization along the Indian Ocean mid-oceanic ridges using autonomous underwater vehicle (AUV) in March 2024 at ten locations, of which two locations of active and two locations of inactive vents showing sulphide mineralisation have been identified.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112795>

4. Who is the incumbent Chairperson of SEBI?
- a. Madhabi Puri Buch
 - b. U. K. Sinha
 - c. Ajay Tyagi
 - d. Tuhin Kanta Pandey

Answer: D

Tuhin Kanta Pandey took charge as Chairman, Securities and Exchange Board of India in Mumbai

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2112876>

5. Which of the following developed two cutting-edge 32-bit microprocessors, Vikram 3201 and Kalpana 3201?
- a. ISRO
 - b. CERT-In
 - c. C-DOT
 - d. DRDO

Answer: A

The **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** and the Semiconductor Laboratory (SCL) in Chandigarh have jointly developed two cutting-edge 32-bit microprocessors, Vikram 3201 and Kalpana 3201, specifically designed for space applications.

<https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/vikram-and-kalpana-isro-develops-high-speed-microprocessors-for-space-missions-2694875-2025-03-18>

1. The nuclear energy mission announced in the budget-2025 envisages deployment of _____ GWe of nuclear energy by 2047
- 200
 - 150
 - 100
 - 50

Answer: C

The nuclear energy mission announced in the budget-2025 envisages **deployment of 100 GWe** of nuclear energy by 2047, which is essential for NetZero by 2070. The mission aims to provide reliable energy alternative to fossil fuel energy sources with an objective to replace retiring thermal power-plants, set up captive plants for energy intensive industry & providing energy for remote as well as off-grid location with objective to decarbonize the energy sector.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113254>

2. In December _____, "Durga Puja in Kolkata" was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity.
- 2020
 - 2021
 - 2022
 - 2019

Answer: B

In December **2021**, "Durga Puja in Kolkata" was inscribed on the Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity. The various stakeholders are involved in the promotion of Durga Puja.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113290>

3. International Day of Happiness is on _____
- 15 March
 - 20 March
 - 22 March
 - 25 March

Answer: B

International Day of Happiness: 20 March

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113408>

4. Every year on _____, the world celebrates the International Day of Forests to celebrate all types of forests
- March 22
 - March 21
 - March 20
 - March 23

Answer: B

Forests are the lifelines of our planet, providing oxygen, food, medicine, and livelihoods to millions. Beyond their ecological significance, forests are pillars of global food security, offering essential resources such as fruits, seeds, roots, and wild meat, which support indigenous and rural communities. Every year on **March 21**, the world celebrates the International Day of Forests to celebrate all types of forests, recognize the importance of trees and forests, and take action to protect them.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113339>

5. What is the theme for the International Day of Forests 2025?
- Forests and Food
 - Forest Restoration: A Path to Recovery and Well-Being
 - Forests and Sustainable Production and Consumption
 - Forests and Innovation

Answer: A

In year 2012, the United Nations declared March 21 as the International Day of Forests (IDF) to celebrate and raise awareness about the vital role of forests. Every year a new theme is chosen by the Collaborative Partnership on Forests. The theme for this year is "**Forests and Food**," which emphasizes the deep connection between forests and global food security.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113339>

1. India has achieved a momentous milestone in coal production, surpassing _____ billion tonnes (BT) on March 20, 2025, in the fiscal year 2024-25.
- One
 - Two
 - Three
 - Four

Answer: A

India has achieved a momentous milestone in coal production, surpassing one billion tonnes (BT) on March 20, 2025, in the fiscal year 2024-25. This remarkable achievement comes 11 days ahead of last fiscal year's coal production of 997.83 million tonnes (MT), underscoring India's significant

progress in ensuring its energy demands and driving industrial, agricultural, and overall economic growth.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113669>

2. Sanchar Saathi Portal is an initiative of _____
- BSNL
 - Ministry of Communications
 - Ministry of Railways
 - Ministry of Civil Aviation

Answer: B

Department of Telecommunications (DoT) through its Sanchar Saathi portal facilitates citizens to report suspected fraud communications on Chakshu facility. Under Sanchar Saathi initiative, DoT carries out several analysis and takes action on such telecom resources that have been found linked to misuse. Outcomes of Sanchar Saathi are as under:

Sanchar Saathi is a citizen centric initiative of Department of Telecommunications (DoT) to empower mobile subscribers, strengthen their security and increase awareness about citizen centric initiatives of the Government. Sanchar Saathi is available in form of Mobile App and web portal (www.sancharsaathi.gov.in). Sanchar Saathi provides various citizen centric services.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113857>

3. Who is the incumbent President of the Sahitya Akademi?
- Madhav Kaushik
 - Kumud Sharma
 - Ranjana Chopra
 - Uma Nanduri

Answer: A

The Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi which met at Rabindra Bhavan, New Delhi, today, under the Chairmanship of its **President, Sri Madhav Kaushik** approved selection of 22 books (as given at Annexure 'A' attached) for the Sahitya Akademi Translation Prize 2024. The books were selected on the basis of recommendations made by the Selection Committees of three members each in the concerned languages in accordance with the rules and procedure laid down for the purpose. Translation Prize in Sanskrit will be declared at later stage. In Urdu no translation prize has been declared. The prize relates, to translations first published during the five years prior to the year immediately preceding the year of Prize for Translation (i.e. between 1 January 2018 and 31 December 2022).

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113771>

4. Who is the incumbent Chief of the Air Staff?
- Vivek Ram Chaudhari
 - Rakesh Kumar Singh Bhaduria
 - AP Singh

- d. Birender Singh Dhanoo

Answer: C

Air Chief Marshal **AP Singh, Chief of the Air Staff**, on 21 March 2025, felicitated the meritorious sportsmen of IAF who have excelled at Services, National and International arena, at a ceremony that was held at Air Force Station New Delhi. A total of 40 sportsmen and 11 Agniveervayu (Sports) who had brought laurels to the country by winning medals at Services/National/International forums and Seven teams of Indian Air Force as winners of Inter Services/National Championships/Games, were felicitated during the ceremony.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113736>

5. Launched in 2016, Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan provides pregnant women a fixed day, free of cost assured and quality antenatal care on the _____ day of every month
- 1st
 - 6th
 - 9th
 - 15th

Answer: C

Pradhan Mantri Surakshit Matritva Abhiyan (PMSMA): Launched in 2016, PMSMA provides pregnant women a fixed day, free of cost assured and quality Antenatal Care on **the 9th day of** every month. Further, Extended PMSMA (e-PMSMA) strategy is implemented to ensure quality ANC to pregnant women, especially to high-risk pregnancy (HRP) women and individual HRP tracking till a safe delivery is achieved by means of financial incentivization for the identified high risk pregnant women and accompanying ASHA for extra 3 visits over and above the PMSMA visit. As on March 21, 2025, more than 5.9 crore pregnant women have been examined under this scheme.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2113800>

1. World Tuberculosis Day is observed every year on March _____
- 22
 - 23
 - 24
 - 25

Answer: C

The President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu, in her message on the eve of World Tuberculosis Day, which is observed every year on **March 24**, has said:-

“On the occasion of World Tuberculosis Day, I commend the National Campaign being run by the National TB Elimination Programme under the aegis of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare to build awareness through public participation.

This year’s world TB Day theme “Yes, we can end TB: Commit, Invest, and Deliver” reflects the understanding that ending TB requires a united and concerted global effort. Elimination of TB is a national and global health challenge. This infectious disease has socially and economically impacted millions of people worldwide. Our united efforts to end TB and awareness campaigns under the National TB Elimination Programme have resulted in a huge reduction in TB cases in the country over the last decade. I commend this remarkable achievement of the National TB Elimination Programme.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114205>

2. World Water Day is observed every year on March _____
- a. 22
 - b. 23
 - c. 25
 - d. 26

Answer: A

World Water Day: **22 March**

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day>

3. The theme of World Water Day 2025 is _____
- a. Glacier Preservation
 - b. Water for Peace
 - c. Accelerating Change
 - d. Groundwater - Making the Invisible Visible

Answer: A

The theme of World Water Day 2025 is ‘**Glacier Preservation**’.

<https://www.un.org/en/observances/water-day>

4. UN World Water Development Report 2025 is published by _____
- a. FAO
 - b. World Water Council
 - c. Global Water Partnership
 - d. UNESCO

Answer: D

The United Nations World Water Development Report (WWDR) is UN-Water’s flagship report on

water and sanitation issues. Launched on World Water Day, the report focuses on a different theme each year and gives policy recommendations to decision-makers by offering best practices and in-depth analyses. The **WWDR is published by UNESCO** on behalf of UN-Water and its production is coordinated **by** the UNESCO World Water Assessment Programme.

<https://www.unwater.org/publications/un-world-water-development-report>

5. Which of the following has become the first state in the country to broadcast key legislative proceedings in sign language during the Vidhan Sabha session?
- Haryana
 - Punjab
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Madhya Pradesh

Answer: B

“**Punjab** has become the first state in the country to broadcast key legislative proceedings in sign language during the Vidhan Sabha session,”

<https://theprint.in/india/sign-language-introduced-in-punjab-vidhan-sabha/2559872/>

1. Sri Nilamadhava Temple is a Lord Vishnu temple near to the bank of Mahanadi, in Kantilo, _____
- Odisha
 - Andhra Pradesh
 - Telangana
 - Chhattisgarh

Answer: A

Sri Nilamadhava Temple is very old and famous Lord Vishnu temple which is near to the bank of Mahanadi, in Kantilo, **Odisha**, India. It is present near to the twin hills with a surrounding forest. A permanent flow of holy water from the feet of Lord Nilamadhava is another attraction of the spot. Lord Siddheswar is also present which is another highlight of the place.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114496>

2. Umshiang Double-Decker Root Bridge is a living root bridge in _____
- Arunachal Pradesh
 - Sikkim
 - Assam
 - Meghalaya

Answer: D

Umshiang Double-Decker Root Bridge is a living root bridge in **Meghalaya**, India. It can be reached via trekking 45 kilometres (28 mi), or 6500 steps, from Cherrapunji. There is also a waterfall nearby.

In a fusion of tradition, nature, and well-being, yoga practitioners unrolled their mats at one of India's most astonishing natural marvels—the 'Double Decker Living Root Bridge' in Meghalaya. Against a backdrop of misty hills, gushing waterfalls, and the whisper of ancient roots, the North Eastern Institute of Ayurveda and Homoeopathy (NEIAH) organised a one-of-a-kind yoga session as part of the countdown to International Day of Yoga (IDY) 2025.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114396>

3. In 2020, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, granted the GI tag to Dalle Chilly, a unique and highly pungent variety grown in _____.
- Punjab
 - Telangana
 - Gujarat
 - Sikkim

Answer: D

In 2020, the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), under the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, granted the GI tag to Dalle Chilly, a unique and highly pungent variety grown in **Sikkim**. The North Eastern Regional Agricultural Marketing Corporation (NERAMAC) facilitated the GI registration, strengthening the identity and marketability of this specialty product.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114373>

4. Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the defence sector was liberalised in September 2020 to attract foreign investment, allowing up to _____% FDI through the automatic route
- 50
 - 90
 - 74
 - 100

Answer: C

Liberalized FDI Policy: Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) in the defence sector was liberalised in September 2020 to attract foreign investment, **allowing up to 74% FDI through** the automatic route and above 74% through the government route. Since April 2000, the total FDI in defence industries stands at \$21.74 million.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114546>

5. The bilateral naval exercise VARUNA 2025 was held between India and _____
- UK
 - France
 - Japan

d. Germany

Answer: B

The bilateral naval exercise VARUNA 2025, held from 19 to 22 Mar 25, brought together Indian Navy and the **French** Navy, underscoring their enduring partnership.

This edition of the Exercise included exercises ranging across multi domain environments. The structured drills were designed to further fine-tune tactical and operational proficiency in complex scenarios. Advanced Air defence drills with the participation of Rafale-M of the French Navy and MIG-29K of the Indian Navy, simulating realistic combat scenarios, honed the ability of participating units to counter aerial threats jointly. Anti-Submarine Warfare exercises involving Indian submarine and Anti-Submarine frigates of the two forces focused on deepening the understanding and proficiency in underwater domain awareness and tactics. Surface warfare operations involved complex coordinated manoeuvres and simulated engagements, showcasing the combined combat power of the participating fleets. Replenishment At Sea exercises by the two Fleet Tankers proved the logistical interoperability and enhanced mutual support and endurance for sustained operations. This edition of the exercise achieved a higher degree of operational coordination between the two navies than the previous editions.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114535>

1. The National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) has been launched on 15th August, _____ to enhance the surveillance and management of pest diseases across the country.
 - a. 2022
 - b. 2023
 - c. 2024
 - d. 2021

Answer: C

The National Pest Surveillance System (NPSS) has been launched on 15th August, **2024** by the Hon'ble Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare to enhance the surveillance and management of pest diseases across the country. The system utilizes latest digital technologies such as Artificial Intelligence and Machine Learning (AI and ML) to provide quick and instant solution regarding pest attacks, crop diseases, crop damages etc. by issuing real time crop protection advisory to the farmers. It includes a user-friendly mobile app and a portal for identification of pests and disease mitigation.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114896>

2. The National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission is a quasi-judicial body established under the Consumer Protection Act, _____.
 - a. 2016

- b. 2017
- c. 2019
- d. 2012

Answer: C

The Department of Consumer Affairs under Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution has invited applications to fill up two anticipated vacancies for the post of Members in the National Consumer Disputes Redressal Commission, which is a quasi-judicial body established under the **Consumer Protection Act, 2019**. The Commission is headquartered in New Delhi.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114703>

3. Swayamshakti Sahakar Yojna and Nandini Sahakar come under _____
- a. Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying
 - b. Ministry of Cooperation
 - c. Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare
 - d. Ministry of Corporate Affairs

Answer: B

National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC), **Ministry of Cooperation** is implementing the following two schemes exclusively for women cooperatives:

Swayamshakti Sahakar Yojna – The objectives of this scheme are to facilitate access to the affordable, cost-effective and reliable financial services to the poor, to facilitate women Self Help Groups (SHGs) to access adequate bank credit to undertake the common/collective socio-economic activities and to promote sustainable livelihood. Under this scheme, Primary Agricultural Credit Societies (PACS), District Central Cooperative Banks (DCCBs), State Cooperative Banks (StCBs) and SHGs Federated Cooperatives/Cooperative Federations are eligible for NCDC assistance.

Nandini Sahakar- Nandini Sahakar scheme of NCDC is a women focused framework of financial assistance, project formulation, hand-holding and capacity development aimed at assisting women cooperatives take up business model-based activities in any sector, except urban housing. The objectives of this scheme are aligned with the principles of Atmanirbhar Bharat. This initiative supports women cooperatives by fostering entrepreneurial dynamism through inputs like enterprise development, business planning, capacity building, and financial support via credit and interest subvention.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114746>

4. The Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (CPACE) is an initiative of _____
- a. FICCI
 - b. Ministry of Corporate Affairs
 - c. Ministry of Finance
 - d. Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Answer: B

The **Ministry of Corporate Affairs** has introduced several digital initiatives to enhance transparency, efficiency, quickness in service delivery for reducing compliance burden and enhancing user experience, a few are listed below:

The Centre for Processing Accelerated Corporate Exit (CPACE) for centralized processing of voluntary closure of Companies/LLPs.

The Centralized Processing Centre (CPC) streamlines the verification process for various Non-STP forms by consolidating operations at a single location, replacing multiple RoC locations.

The MCA Portal Mobile App offers stakeholders seamless access to various services available on the MCA21 website.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114940>

5. The first Livestock Census was conducted in the year 1919 and last census i.e. 20th Livestock Census was conducted in _____
- 2019
 - 2020
 - 2018
 - 2021

Answer: A

Livestock Census is a regular quinquennial exercise of Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD). The first Livestock Census was conducted in the year 1919 and last census i.e. **20th Livestock Census was conducted in 2019**. The 21st Livestock Census exercise has been launched across the country on 25th October, 2024 and is likely to be completed by 31st March, 2025. It includes enumeration of 15 species of domesticated animals namely, cattle, buffalo, goat, sheep, yak, mithun, dog, rabbit, pig, horse, pony, donkey, mules, camel, elephant and poultry birds. Assessing trends in livestock and breeds for better policymaking, collating data on indigenous and exotic breeds for their conservation and breeding programs, providing valuable inputs for various government planning and initiatives for development and welfare in the livestock sector are some aims and objectives of this exercise.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2114720>

1. Which of the following has created Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) to deal with cybercrimes in a coordinated and effective manner?
- Ministry of Finance
 - Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 - Ministry of Home Affairs
 - NITI Aayog

Answer: C

Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has created Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (I4C) to deal with cybercrimes in a coordinated and effective manner.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115416>

2. Which of the following has initiated Cyber Surakshit Bharat (CSB) programme in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode?
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
 - Ministry of Home Affairs
 - Ministry of Finance
 - NITI Aayog

Answer: A

The **Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY)** initiated Cyber Surakshit Bharat (CSB) programme in Public Private Partnership (PPP) mode to educate & enable the Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) & broader IT community of Central/State Governments, Banks and PSUs to address the challenges of cyber security.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115416>

3. India is the world's _____ mobile manufacturing country.
- Largest
 - Second largest
 - Third largest
 - Fourth largest

Answer: B

India has made significant progress in mobile and electronics manufacturing and become the **world's 2nd largest** mobile manufacturing country. In 2014, India had only 2 mobile manufacturing units but fast forward to today, the nation boasts over 300 manufacturing units, underscoring a significant expansion in this vital sector.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115171>

4. Launched in _____ with a financial outlay of ₹76,000 crore, the Semicon India program is structured to promote the domestic semiconductor industry through incentives and strategic partnerships
- 2021
 - 2020
 - 2019
 - 2018

Answer: A

Launched in 2021 with a financial outlay of ₹76,000 crore, the Semicon India program is structured to promote the domestic semiconductor industry through incentives and strategic partnerships. This initiative supports various sectors of the semiconductor industry, extending beyond just fabrication facilities (fabs) to include packaging, display wires, Outsourced Semiconductor Assembly and Testing (OSATs), sensors, and other critical components, creating a comprehensive ecosystem.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115171>

5. As per Article 246(3) of the Constitution of India, Animal Husbandry is a _____ subject
- Union
 - Concurrent
 - Inter-State
 - State

Answer: D

As per Article 246(3) of the Constitution of India, Animal Husbandry is a **state subject**. Article 243(W) of the Constitution of India allows State legislatures to empower local bodies to perform functions and implement schemes, including those related to matters in the Twelfth Schedule. Hence, the local bodies are responsible for taking care of stray dogs including providing shelters. The Animal Birth Control Rules, 2023, require local bodies to manage stray dog populations through sterilization and anti-rabies vaccination programs. Rule 16(6) specifies that if a dog is not rabid but is sick or aggressive, it should be handed over to an Animal Welfare Organization for treatment and observation. After recovery, the dog must be returned to its original location as outlined in Rule 11(19). The rules emphasize that dogs can only be sheltered temporarily for treatment or observation, not for long-term care unless they are ill or aggressive.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115191>

1. Who is the incumbent Director General of Foreign Trade?
- Ashwani Kumar
 - Angkrish Raghuvanshi
 - Govind Mohan
 - Santosh Kumar Sarangi

Answer: D

The 3rd edition of Sourcex India 2025, organized by the Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) with support from the Ministry of Commerce & Industry, Government of India, was inaugurated on 26th March, 2025 at the Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, New Delhi. The event was officially inaugurated by Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT), Government of India, Shri **Santosh Kumar Sarangi**.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115619>

2. Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), frequently seen in the news, is associated with _____
- a. UNESCO
 - b. UNHCR
 - c. UN Women
 - d. UNFCCC

Answer: D

The Government of India is committed to address challenges from climate change with firm adherence to multilateralism keeping in mind the national circumstances and based on equity and the principle of Common but Differentiated Responsibilities and Respective Capabilities (CBDR-RC), as enshrined in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (**UNFCCC**) and its Paris Agreement.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115837>

3. Forest Survey of India (FSI), an organization mandated with forest survey under Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change publishes "India State of Forest Report" (ISFR) _____.
- a. Annually
 - b. Biennially
 - c. Triennially
 - d. Quadrennially

Answer: B

Mangrove forests in India are found along the coastline of 9 States and 4 Union Territories. Forest Survey of India (FSI), an organization mandated with forest survey under Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change (MoEFCC) publishes "India State of Forest Report" (ISFR) **biennially**.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115836>

4. As per recent India State of Forest Report 2023, India has a total Mangrove cover of 4,991.68 sq. km which is _____ % of the country's total geographical areas.
- a. 0.55
 - b. 0.75
 - c. 0.35
 - d. 0.15

Answer: D

As per recent ISFR 2023, India has a total Mangrove cover of 4,991.68 sq. km; **which is 0.15 % of the country's total geographical areas**. There has been net increase of 363.68 Sq.km (7.86%) in Mangrove cover area of the country in 2023 as compared to 2013 and net increase of 509.68 Sq.km (11.4%) between 2001 and 2023.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115836>

5. Coastal Zone Regulation Notification of 2019 (CRZ) was issued under which Act?
- The Environment (protection) Act, 1986
 - The Forest (Conservation) Act, 1980
 - The Biological Diversity Act, 2002
 - The Water (Prevention and Control of Pollution) Act, 1974

Answer: A

Coastal Zone Regulation Notification of 2019 (CRZ) under **The Environment (protection) Act, 1986** classifies Mangroves as Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESAs) Very limited activities are allowed in these areas. Additionally, provision of a 50-meter buffer zone along mangroves is also specified as CRZ-IA in case the Mangrove cover is greater than 1,000 square meters. Activities permitted in Mangrove buffer is limited to laying of pipelines, transmission lines, conveyance systems or mechanisms and construction of road on stilts, etc. that are required for public utilities. In such instances, if any mangroves are likely to be affected during the developmental process, three times the number of mangroves lost must be replanted as per the provision of CRZ regulation.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2115836>

1. The National Gene Bank (NGB) at ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi is the _____ Gene Bank globally with 4,71,561 accessions of 2157 species
- Largest
 - Second Largest
 - Third Largest
 - Fourth Largest

Answer: B

The Government has announced the establishment of the second National Gene Bank to conserve 10 lakh crop germplasm for future food and nutritional security. This announcement is one of the initiatives under the theme “Investing in innovations” of Union Budget 2025-26.

The National Gene Bank (NGB) at ICAR-National Bureau of Plant Genetic Resources (NBPGR), New Delhi is the **second largest** Gene Bank globally with 4,71,561 accessions of 2157 species. The plant genetic resources conserved in the NGB are available for use by both public and private sector agencies involved in crop improvement and management of genetic resources in the country. Establishment of the Second Gene Bank with state-of-art infrastructure with the capacity of conserving 10 lakh germplasm is aimed at strengthening India’s position as a leader in global biodiversity conservation.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116216>

2. ADB-funded SMILE Program is related to which field?
- Logistics
 - Education
 - Electronics
 - Climate change

Answer: A

The Asian Development Bank (ADB) funded Strengthening Multimodal and Integrated Logistics Ecosystem (SMILE) Program has the objectives of improving **India's logistics infrastructure**, reducing logistics costs, and increasing efficiency. It supports the implementation of the National Logistics Policy and PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan by strengthening multimodal logistics, standardizing warehousing, and promoting digitalization in trade logistics.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116204>

3. Bilateral naval exercise INDRA is being held between India and _____
- France
 - UK
 - Russia
 - Japan

Answer: C

The 14th edition of the Indian - Russia bilateral naval exercise INDRA, a cornerstone of the enduring maritime partnership between India and **Russia**, is set to take place off Chennai from 28 Mar to 02 Apr 25.

Since its inception in 2003, Exercise INDRA epitomises the long-term strategic relationship between the two Navies.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116181>

4. Established on 19th June _____, the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is a not-for-profit (Section 8) company under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- 2007
 - 2005
 - 2009
 - 2003

Answer: D

Established on 19th June **2003**, the National Internet Exchange of India (NIXI) is a not-for-profit (Section 8) company under the aegis of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Government of India. It is tasked with increasing Internet penetration and adoption in India by facilitating various infrastructure aspects to enable the Internet ecosystem to be managed and used

by the masses. The four services under NIXI include Internet Exchange Points (IXPs) for building Internet Exchange Points, the .IN Registry for establishing the .in domain digital identity, and IRINN for the adoption of IPv4 and IPv6 addresses.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116337>

5. Who is the incumbent Chairperson of the National Green Tribunal?
- Bhupender Yadav
 - Prakash Shrivastava
 - Vikram Nath
 - R. Venkataramani

Answer: B

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) will be organizing two-day National Conference on 'Environment – 2025' on 29th and 30th March 2025 at Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi. This conference will be inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu. The inaugural ceremony will also feature the presence of Shri Bhupender Yadav, Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Hon'ble Justice Vikram Nath, Judge, Supreme Court of India, Shri R. Venkataramani, Attorney General of India, and Shri Justice **Prakash Shrivastava**, Chairperson of NGT.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116251>

1. Ugadi is a festival mainly celebrated in _____
- Andhra Pradesh
 - Punjab
 - Assam
 - Jharkhand

Answer: A

Ugadi or Yugadi also known as Samvatsarādi (meaning "beginning of the year"), is New Year's Day according to the Hindu calendar and is celebrated by the Telugus and Kannadigas in the Indian states of **Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Karnataka**, Tamil Nadu and others, and Mauritius

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116713>

2. Sajibu Cheiraoba festival is mainly celebrated in _____
- Mizoram
 - Tripura
 - Nagaland
 - Manipur

Answer: D

Sajibu Nongma Pānba (Meitei for 'First day of Sajibu month'), also called Meitei Cheiraoba (Meitei for 'Meitei New Year') or **Sajibu Cheiraoba** (Meitei for 'Sajibu New Year'), is the lunar new year

festival of the Meitei people who follow Sanamahism (traditional Meitei religion), celebrated predominantly in the Indian state of **Manipur**.

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116713>

3. Gudi Padwa is mainly celebrated in _____
- a. Gujarat
 - b. Maharashtra
 - c. Madhya Pradesh
 - d. Chhattisgarh

Answer: B

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

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116713>

4. Chettri Chandra is a festival that marks the beginning of the Lunar Hindu New Year for _____
- a. Marwari Hindus
 - b. Konkani Hindus
 - c. Kannada Lingayats
 - d. Sindhi Hindus

Answer: D

Chettri Chandra is a festival that marks the beginning of the Lunar Hindu New Year for **Sindhi** Hindus

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=2116713>

5. Which of the following is called Kashmiri New Year?
- a. Losoong
 - b. Thingyan
 - c. Navreh
 - d. Tazaungdaing

Answer: C

Navreh or Kashmiri New Year is the celebration of the first day of the Kashmiri new year by Kashmiri Hindus, with the largest Kashmiri Hindu community being the Kashmiri Pandits. Kashmiri Pandits dedicate Navreh festival to their Goddess Sharika, a form of Goddess Durga or Shakti, and pay

homage to her during the festival. It takes place on the first day of the bright half (Shukla Paksha) on the month of Chaitra (March–April) of the Kashmiri Hindu calendar.

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