

Website-  **edristi.in**

NAVATRA

Monthly Magazine on Current Events

Vol. - 5 >>> Issue - 8 >>> February, 2022



Dear readers, we have started edristi English edition as well since August, 2015. We are hopeful that it will help us to connect to the broader audience and amplify our personal bonding with each other.

While presenting Day-to-day current affairs, we are very cautious on choosing the right topics to make sure only those get the place which are useful for competitive exams perspective, not to increase unnecessary burden on the readers by putting useless materials. Secondly, we have also provided the reference links to ensure its credibility which is our foremost priority. You can always refer the links to validate its authenticity.

We will try to present the current affairs topics as quickly as possible but its authenticity is given higher priority over its turnaround time. Therefore it could happen that we publish the incident one or two days later in the website.

Our plan will be to publish our monthly PDF on very first day of every month with making appropriate modifications of day-to-day events. In general, the events happened till 31th day will be given place in the PDFs. The necessity of this is to ensure the contents factual authenticity.

Reader's satisfaction is our utmost priority so requesting you to provide your valuable feedback to us. We will warmly welcome your appreciation/criticism given to us. It will surely show us the right direction to improve the content quality. Hopefully the current affairs PDF (from 1st January to 31th January) will benefit our beloved readers.

Current affairs data will be useless if it couldn't originate any competitive exam questions. E-Dristi has been very successful in that direction. Almost all the questions from UPPCS and other examinations have been asked from our materials. You can verify that by matching the question papers and e-Dristi contents from yourselves.

National

Union Budget 2022-2023

Question – On February 1, 2022, Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister, Nirmala Sitharaman presented the Union Budget for the financial year 2022-23 in the Parliament. Consider the following statements concerning the union budget.

- (i) According to this, Digital Rupee will be launched by the Reserve Bank of India in the year 2022-23.
- (ii) The economic growth rate of the country is estimated to be 9.2 per cent in the current financial year.
- (iii) It is proposed to cover 1.5 lakh post offices 100% in the main banking system.
- (iv) It is proposed to increase the limit of deduction of tax on employer's contribution to the NPS account of state government employees from 10 per cent to 14 per cent.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

- (a) only (i), (ii) and (iii)
- (b) only (i) and (vi)
- (c) only (iii) and (iv)
- (d) All of the above

Answer—(d)

Related facts

- Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman on February 1 presented the Union Budget 2022.
- The government has projected growth at 8% to 8.5% compared with an estimated 9.2% for the current fiscal year and a 6.6% contraction the previous year.
- India's economy had been faltering even before the Covid-19 pandemic struck. The pace of growth had slowed down and output had started declining. The Covid-19 pandemic pushed gross domestic product (GDP) to its worst levels ever. India experienced its first-ever technical recession in the financial year 2020-21 with two successive quarters of negative growth.
- Major Highlights of Union Budget in a nutshell:
- There is no change in personal income tax slabs.
- " Virtual digital asset: The government has proposed to issue a Digital Rupee, or Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), in the fiscal year 2022-23.
- " Additionally, the Budget also proposed imposing a tax of 30 per cent on virtual assets, effectively legitimising trading of private cryptocurrencies and non-fungible tokens.
- " This is broadly in line with the Centre's plans to have a fiat digital currency, while disallowing use of private virtual coins as legal tender.
- A TDS of 1% will be levied for transactions above a certain threshold.
- No deductions and new scheme, titled PM Atma Nirbhar Swasthya Bharat Yojana, to be launched to develop primary, secondary and tertiary healthcare .
- Mission POSHAN 2.0: It is to improve nutritional outcomes across 112 aspirational districts .
- There will be operationalisation of 17 new public health units at points of entry .

- 100 new Sainik Schools is to be set up.
- 750 Eklavya schools are to be set up in tribal areas.
- A Central University will come up in Ladakh .
- There will be a Vehicle scrapping policy to phase out old and unfit vehicles – all vehicles to undergo a fitness test in automated fitness centres every 20 years (personal vehicles), every 15 years (commercial vehicles) .
- National Asset Monetising Pipeline launched to monitor asset monetisation process.
- National Rail Plan created to bring a future-ready Railway system by 2030 .
- 100% electrification of Railways to be completed by 2023.
- It is proposed to cover 1.5 lakh post offices 100% in the main banking system.
- It is proposed to increase the limit of deduction of tax on employer's contribution to the NPS account of state government employees from 10 per cent to 14 per cent.
- Metro services announced in 27 cities, plus additional allocations for Kochi Metro, Chennai Metro Phase 2, Bengaluru Metro Phase 2A and B, Nashik and Nagpur Metros .
- National Hydrogen Mission to be launched to generate hydrogen from green power sources .
- Recycling capacity of ports to be doubled by 2024 .
- Gas pipeline project to be set up in Jammu and Kashmir .
- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana (LPG scheme) to be extended to cover 1 crore more beneficiaries .
- No IT filing for people above 75 years who get pension and earn interest from deposits
- Reopening window for IT assessment cases reduced from 6 to 3 years. However, in case of serious tax evasion cases (Rs. 50 lakh or more), it can go up to 10 years .
- Affordable housing projects to get a tax holiday for one year .
- Compliance burden of small trusts whose annual receipts does not exceed Rs. 5 crore to be eased .
- Duty of copper scrap reduced to 2.5% .
- Custom duty on gold and silver to be rationalised .
- Duty on naphtha reduced to 2.5%.
- Duty on solar inverters raised from 5% to 20%, and on solar lanterns from 5% to 15% .
- All nylon products charged with 5% customs duty .
- Tunnel boring machines to attract customs duty of 7% .
- Customs duty on cotton raised from 0 to 10% .
- Agriculture infrastructure and development cess proposed on certain items including urea, apples, crude soyabean and sunflower oil, crude palm oil, kabuli chana and peas.
- Fiscal deficit stands at 9.5% of the GDP; estimated to be 6.8% in 2021-22
- Proposal to allow States to raise borrowings up to 4% of GSDP this year .
- A Unified Securities Market Code to be created, consolidating provisions of the Sebi Act, Depositories Act, and two other laws .
- Proposal to increase FDI limit from 49% to 74% .
- An asset reconstruction company will be set up to take over stressed loans .
- Deposit insurance increased from Rs 1 lakh to Rs 5 lakh for bank depositors .
- Proposal to decriminalise Limited Liability Partnership Act of 2008 .
- Two PSU bank and one general insurance firm to be disinvested this year .
- An IPO of LIC to debut this fiscal .
- Strategic sale of BPCL, IDBI Bank, Air India to be completed .
- Agriculture infrastructure fund to be made available for APMCs for augmenting their infrastructure .

- 1,000 more Mandis to be integrated into the E-NAM market place .
- Five major fishing hubs, including Chennai, Kochi and Paradip, to be developed .
- A multipurpose seaweed park to be established in Tamil Nadu .
- A portal to be launched to maintain information on gig workers and construction workers .
- Social security to be extended to gig and platform workers .
- Margin capital required for loans via Stand-up India scheme reduced from 25% to 15% for SCs, STs and women.
- 400 new generation Vande Bharat trains to be manufactured in next 3 years.

Reference: <https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/>
<https://www.thehindu.com/business/budget/watch-highlights-of-union-budget-2022-23/article38359129.ece>

Economic Survey

Question – On 31 January 2022, Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the “Economic Survey, 2021-22” in the Parliament. With reference to this, consider the following statements:

- (i) India’s growth rate is estimated to be 8.0 to 8.5 percent in the year 2022-23.
- (ii) A growth rate of 3.9 percent is expected in the agriculture sector in the year 2021-22.
- (iii) The US remained the top export destination during April-November 2021.
- (iv) Petroleum products topped the top ten exported items during April-November 2021.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

Code-

- (a) only (i) and (iii) (b) only (ii),(iii) and (iv) (c) only (i) and (iv)
- (d) all of the above

Answer—(d)

Related facts—



- On 31 January 2022, Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister Nirmala Sitharaman presented the “Economic Survey, 2021-22” in the Parliament.
- **Key points —**
- The Indian economy is estimated to grow by 9.2 percent in 2021-22 (1st AE) as against a decline of 7.3 percent in the year 2020-21.
- The GDP growth rate in the year 2022-23 is estimated to be 8 to 8.5 percent.
- Agriculture and allied sectors are expected to grow by 3.9 per cent, industry at 11.8 per cent and services sector by 8.2 per cent in 2021-22.
- With the increase in borrowing due to Covid-19, the central government’s debt increased to 59.3 percent of GDP in the year 2020-21 from the level of 49.1 percent of GDP in the year 2019-20.
- India’s external debt increased to \$593.1 billion at the end of September 2021 from \$556.8 billion a year ago.
- Foreign exchange reserves exceeded \$600 billion in the first half of 2021-22 and reached a level of \$633.6 billion as of December 31, 2021.
- At the end of November 2021, India was the fourth largest foreign exchange reserve country after China, Japan and Switzerland.
- India’s overall score on the NITI Aayog SDG India Index and Dashboard improved to 66 in 2020-21 from 60 in 2019-20 and 57 in 2018-19.

- India is the country with the tenth largest forest area in the world.
- India ranked third in the world in terms of increase in forest area during 2010 to 2021.
- India has become the third largest start-up ecosystem in the world after the US and China.
- The expenditure of the Center and states as a ratio of GDP on social services (health, education and others) which was 6.2 per cent in 2014-15 has increased to 8.6 per cent in 2021-22 (Budget Estimates).
- The US remained the top export destination during April-November 2021.
- Petroleum products topped the top ten exported items during April-November 2021.

Link:

<https://www.indiabudget.gov.in/economicsurvey/>

Swachhata Startup Challenge

QUESTION-Which ministry is associated with the launch of Swachhata Startup Challenge?

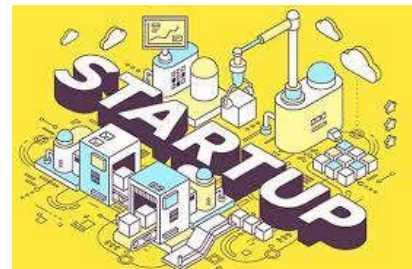
(a) MIN OF HOME AFFAIRS (b) MIN OF FINANCE

(c) MIN OF HOUSING AND URBAN AFFAIRS (MOHUA) (d) MIN OF EDUCATION

ANS-C

RELATED FACTS-

- MOHUA in partnership with the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) and Agence Française de Développement (AFD) FRANCE launched the Swachhata Start-Up Challenge .
- IT will provide an impetus to innovative start-ups to come forward and drive catalytic transformation in the sanitation and waste management sector.
- The challenge seeks to promote an enabling environment for enterprise development under Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0 (SBM-U 2.0).
- Swachh Bharat Mission-Urban 2.0, launched on 1st October 2021, aims to achieve the vision of 'Garbage Free Cities' over the next five years .
- It will be through remediation of legacy dumpsites, construction and demolition waste and plastic waste management
- Sustainable sanitation through faecal sludge and water management will be a key focus under SBM-U 2.0.



REFERENCE- <https://smartcity.eletsonline.com/mohua-afd-launches-swachhata-startup-challenge/>

Himachal Pradesh CM Launched Apna Kangra App

Question: Which of the following state government has launched the Apna Kangra app to promote local handicrafts and tourism?

(a) Himachal Pradesh (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Rajasthan (d) Maharashtra

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur launched 'Apna Kangra', an app to promote local handicrafts and tourism in Dharamshala, Himachal Pradesh.



- The motive of this app is to empower rural women and provide job opportunities to youth.
- Along with this, it also aims at boosting hospitality services like hotels, homestays and transport to travellers.
- This app is also bound to provide a unique experience for tourists on the one hand, on the other it will serve as an e-marketing platform for SHG products from the district.
- The Chief Minister also virtually inaugurated Radhe Krishna Cow Sanctuary at Luthan in Jawalamukhi Vidhan Sabha area of Kangra.
- The sanctuary is constructed at a cost of Rs 3.96 crore and can accommodate 1,000 cattle.

Reference: <https://www.india.com/travel/articles/himachal-pradesh-cm-launches-apna-kangra-an-app-to-promote-local-handicrafts-and-tourism-in-dharamshala-5200612/amp/>

DIGITAL SANSAD APP

QUESTION- Who launched the new app titled “Digital Sansad” on January 27, 2022 ?

- (a) Lok sabha secretariat (b) Rajya sabha secretariat (c) Home ministry
(d) Defence ministry

Ans-a

Related facts-

- The digital sansad app was launched to make it easier for people to follow proceedings in Parliament and their lawmakers.
- IT offers a 360-degree view of legislative activities and services for members.
- The app will help people in accessing archival data related to all Lok Sabhas. People would also be able to access speeches, debates, etc
- IT contains information on budget speeches since 1947 as well as House discussions from 12th Lok Sabha to 17th Lok Sabha
- IT is the brainchild of Lok Sabha Speaker, Om Birla. With this app, he sought to make parliamentary proceedings more accessible to people.



REFERENCE- <https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/parliament-launches-digital-sansad-app-to-make-live-proceedings-accessible-to-citizens/articleshow/89161716.cms>

India's first Graphene Innovation Centre

Question: At which of the following place India's first Graphene Innovation Centre is being setup?

- a) Thrissur b) Bangaluru c) Chennai d) Ahemdabad

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Digital University Kerala (DUK) will soon be establishing the country's first graphene innovation centre in Thrissur.



- It will be the India Innovation Centre for Graphene in the State to be set up by the DUK and Tata Steel Ltd. will be the industrial partner of the centre.
- The University for this Purpose has joined hands with the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET), Thrissur.
- The Ministry of Electronics and IT has accorded sanction for a ₹86.41-crore project in this regard.
- The centre is expected to offer students, researchers, established industries, and budding start-ups, an opportunity to test and experiment with new innovative products.
- It is bound to create a thriving environment for innovative graphene-based product development.
- University authorities point out that the project will be implemented with support from the State government.
- According to the university the programme holds the potential to accelerate the State's growth in the knowledge industry sector.
- The chief investigators of the project, A.P. James of DUK and A. Seema of C-MET Thrissur, are spearheading the initiative.
- They have an aim to bridge the gap between graphene academic research and industrial applications.
- According to DUK the main collaborators of the centre will include scientists from the National Graphene Institute and University of Manchester.
- The University said that the guidance from industry partners across the world will also be taken time to time.

Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/digital-varsity-to-establish-graphene-innovation-centre/article38321404.ece>

First State-level bird atlas in India

Question: Which of the following state has prepared the First State-level bird atlas in India?

a) Kerala b) Himachal Pradesh c) Madhya Pradesh d) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- First State-level bird atlas in India has been prepared by the south Indian state of Kerala.
- Known as Kerala Bird Atlas (KBA) is the first State-level bird atlas in India.
- It has solid baseline data about the distribution and abundance of bird species across all significant habitats.
- The new atlas will be helpful in giving momentum to futuristic studies.
- It is being executed as a citizen science-driven routine with over 1,000 volunteers of the bird watching community.
- KBA has been prepared supported by systematic surveys held twice over 60 days a year.
- KBA was prepared supported systematic surveys held twice over 60 days a year during the wet (July to September) and dry (January to March) seasons between 2015 and 2020.



Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/kerala-gets-its-first-ever-scientific-bird-atlas/article38307794.ece>

INDIAN MOVIE NOMINATIONS AT OSCARS 2022

QUESTION-Which Indian movies have been officially shortlisted for the Oscars 2022?

- (a) Jai Bhim and Marakkar: Arabikadalinte Simham (b)83 (c)BAHUBALI
(d)SARDAR UDHAM SINGH

ANS -A

RELATED FACTS-

- The Academy Awards, popularly known as the Oscars, are the most prestigious awards for artistic and technical merit in the film industry worldwide.
- Jai Bhim is the fourth Indian film to get nominated for Oscars after Mother India, Salaam Bombay, and Lagaan.
- Indian directors Rintu Thomas and Sushmit Ghosh's Writing with Fire, a film about a newspaper run by Dalit women, has also been shortlisted in the Best Documentary Feature category at the Oscars 2022.
- FIRST AWARDED: May 16, 1929; 92 years ago
- AWARDED BY-The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS)



REFERENCE- <https://www.hindustantimes.com/entertainment/tamil-cinema/suriyas-jai-bhim-and-mohanlal-s-marakkar-arabikadalinte-simham-officially-enter-oscars-2022-race-101642820338785.html>

AIR INDIA HANDED OVER TO TATAS AFTER 69 YEARS

QUESTION- The govt has transferred the full ownership of AIR INDIA along with its control and management to which Indian company?

- (a) Tata Sons subsidiary Talace (b) Reliance group (c) L &T (d) Birla group

Ans-a

Related facts-

- Tatas will get Air India's fleet of 141 planes, along with ownership of iconic brands like Air India, Indian airlines and the maharajah
- As many as 13,500 permanent and contractual employees will also move to the TATA fold.
- A consortium of lenders led by SBI will provide both term loans and working capital loans for the airline.
- Disinvestment means the market activity in which the government sells or liquidates government-owned assets.



REFERENCE- <https://www.businesstoday.in/latest/story/its-official-air-india-now-formally-handed-over-to-tata-group-320516-2022-01-27>

India's first graphene innovation centre

Question: India's first Graphene Innovation Centre will be established in which of the following South Indian State?

(a) Karnataka (b) Kerala (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- India's first Graphene Innovation Centre will be established at Thrissur, Kerala.
- The Digital University Kerala (DUK) has announced partnership with the Centre for Materials for Electronics Technology (C-MET) in Thrissur, Kerala to establish India's first Graphene Innovation Centre.
- The Ministry of Electronics and IT has accorded sanction for a ₹86.41-crore project in this regard.
- According to DUK Vice-Chancellor Saji Gopinath, the centre is expected to offer students, researchers, established industries, and budding start-ups, an opportunity to test and experiment with new innovative products.
- It is bound to create a thriving environment for innovative graphene-based product development.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/digital-varsity-to-establish-graphene-innovation-centre/article38321404.ece/amp/>

Magh Mela 2022

Question: Magh Mela-2022' is an annual religious fair held in which of the following state?

(a) Bihar (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Uttarakhand (d) Madhya Pradesh

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Magh Mela-2022' is an annual religious fair held in Uttar Pradesh.
- The 47-day annual religious fair 'Magh Mela-2022' has been inaugurated with thousands of pilgrims taking holy dip on the banks of the Sangam in Prayagraj.
- Sangam is a sacred confluence of the three rivers namely Ganga, Yamuna and the mythical Saraswati.
- The fair is usually held to mark the occasion of Makar Sankranti.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/news.abplive.com/news/india/magh-mela-2022-pilgrims-throng-sangam-for-holy-dip-70-covid-cases-emerge-at-annual-fair-in-prayagraj-1506319/amp>

Haryana, HP ink deal to build Adi Badri Dam

Question : Haryana, HP ink deal to build Adi Badri Dam At which River ?

a) Saraswati river b) Yamuna river c) Ganga river d) None of these

Ans : a

Related Facts :

- -Adi Badri Dam in Himachal Pradesh would be constructed near the Adi Badri area of Yamuna Nagar district of Haryana at Panchkula on 77 acres. Rs 215.35 crores would be spent on the rejuvenation of the Saraswati River..
- Adi Badri, situated in Haryana near the Himachal Pradesh border, is believed to be the river's origin point.
- The Saraswati river will be rejuvenated with the construction of Adi Badri dam.
- The religious beliefs will also be revived with the rejuvenation of the Saraswati river.
- The entire funding of the Project would be arranged by the Haryana Government.
- The Dam would get 224-hectare metre water from the Somb River of Himachal Pradesh that falls in Yamuna near Adi Badri in Yamunanagar district.
- The HPPCL would be executing agency for the construction of Adi Badri Dam and its related infrastructure.



Links :

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chandigarh/haryana-hp-ink-deal-to-build-adi-badri-dam-revive-saraswati-river-7736145/>

India Celebrated 73rd Republic Day

Question: Consider the following statements:

(1) India celebrated the 73rd Republic Day on 26 January 2022

(2) Republic Day marks the date on which the Constitution of India came into effect on 26 January 1950

(3) Beating Retreat ceremony held at Attari-Wagah border on 73rd Republic Day

Which of the above is/are correct?

(a) Only 1 (b) 1 and 2 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- India is celebrating the 73rd Republic Day on 26 January 2022.
- The celebrations this year are special as India is in the 75th year of Independence – being celebrated as 'Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav'.
- Republic Day marks the date on which the Constitution of India came into effect on 26 January 1950.
- It replaced the Government of India Act (1935) as the governing document of India.
- Beating Retreat ceremony held at Attari-Wagah border on 73rd Republic Day.
- According to the Ministry of Defence, for the first time, an Indian Air Force (IAF) will show grand flypast by 75 aircraft or helicopters.



- A drone show by 1,000 indigenously developed drones has been planned for the 'Beating the Retreat' ceremony, along with projection mapping will be shown for the first time.
- In another first, 480 dancers will perform during the cultural programme at the parade have been selected through a nationwide Vande Bharatam dance competition.

Reference: <https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/republic-day-live-updates-india-celebrates-73rd-republic-day-2730177/amp/1>

Largest exporter of cucumber and gherkins in the world

Question : Which country has emerged as largest exporters of cucumber and gherkins in the world ?

a. India b. Germany c. Australia d. Canada

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- India has emerged as the largest exporter of gherkins in the world.
- In 2020-21, India had shipped 2,23,515 Metric Tonnes of cucumber and gherkins with a value of USD 223 million.
- India has exported cucumber and gherkins to the tune of 1,23,846 Metric Tonnes with a value of USD 114 million during April-October, 2021.
- India has crossed the USD 200 million mark of export of agricultural processed product, – pickling cucumber, which is globally referred as gherkins or cornichons, in the last financial year.
- **Background —**
- Gherkin cultivation, processing and exports started in India during the early 1990s with a modest beginning in Karnataka and later extended to the neighbouring states of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Telangana.
- Nearly 15% production of the world's gherkin requirement is grown in India.
- Gherkins export destination — Major destinations being North America, European countries and Oceanic countries such as USA, France, Germany, Australia, Spain, South Korea, Canada, Japan, Belgium, Russia, China, Sri Lanka and Israel.
- **Contract Farming(CF) —**
- In India, cultivation of gherkins is carried out under CF by around 90,000 small and marginal farmers with an annual production area of 65,000 acres.
- Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority —
- It has played a significant role in promotion of export of processed vegetables and it has been providing financial assistance for development of infrastructure and enhancing quality of processed gherkins, products promotion in the international market and implementation of food safety management systems in the processing units.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1791893>

Delhi government's aggregator draft policy

Question : Delhi government has recently(January 2022) become the first state government to draft an cab aggregator policy to make EV fleet mandatory. Accordingly, by March 2023, what percentage of the total vehicles of companies like Ola-Uber will be electric ?

a. 20 percent b. 15 percent c. 10 percent d. None of the above

Ans. d.

Related facts —

- Delhi government has recently(January 2022) become the first state government to draft a cab/delivery aggregator policy to make EV fleet mandatory.
- Accordingly, by March 2023, 50 percent of the total vehicles of companies like Ola-Uber will be electric.
- The proposal would mandate apps providing transportation or delivery services, including cab operators such as Ola and Uber and food delivery apps Swiggy and Zomato, to register with the Delhi government as soon as the law comes into effect.
- The government has ordered all cab aggregators i.e. companies like Ola, Uber that by March 2023, 50 percent of all new two-wheelers and 25 percent of all new four-wheelers will be electric.



Link:

<https://zeenews.india.com/hindi/auto-news/delhi-government-to-order-cab-aggregators-for-electric-vehicle-fleet/1072054>

Airtel commissions 21-MW solar power unit in Buldhana

Question : In which state has Airtel recently(January 2022) commissioned 21-MW solar power unit in Buldhana district ?

a. Maharashtra b. Gujarat c. Rajasthan d. Telangana

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Telecom operator Bharti Airtel on January 2022 announced it has commissioned a new 21-megawatt solar power plant in Buldhana district of Maharashtra.
- Spread over 80 acres, this unit has been set up by Airtel in partnership with Avaada to supply clean energy to Airtel's Nxtra data centres and switching centres in Maharashtra.
- Airtel expects the solar-powered unit to reduce 25,517 tonnes in carbon emissions annually.
- It is notable that Airtel had already committed to reduce carbon footprint and contribute to the global efforts to curb the effects of climate change.
- Nxtra by Airtel has already commissioned two captive solar power units of 14 MW each in UP.
- **Largest network of data centres(LNDCs) in India —**



- Airtel claims to have the LNDs in India with 11 large and 120 edge data centres across the country and will invest over Rs 5,000 crore over the next four years to expand its capacity by three times.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/airtel-commissions-21-mw-solar-power-unit-in-maharashtra/articleshow/89110077.cms>

Mobile Reading Vans

Question : Which state has recently(January 2022) decided to roll out mobile reading vans ?

a. Jharkhand b. Madhya Pradesh c. Chhattisgarh d. Bihar

Ans.a

- In order to compensate for the loss of studies of students due to the corona pandemic especially in rural areas, Jharkhand has recently(January 2022) decided to roll out mobile reading vans.
- These mobile vans will be like mini libraries having books, magazines for all age groups of students.
- JEPC will run these mobile vans as a campaign for 100 days.
- **JEPC stands for —** Jharkhand Education Project Council.
- **Focus areas —**
- These mobile vans will be educationally backward areas where the students have failed to connect digitally with various educational teaching provided by 'Jharkhand Education Project Council'.
- **Duration —**
- This campaign will run till April 10.



Link:

<https://www.dailypioneer.com/2022/state-editions/mobile-vans-to-develop-reading-habits-among-students.html>

Internal Committee established by PTC India

Question : PTC India on January announced it has set up an internal committee to look into the governance issues in __ as alleged by the NBFC's outgoing independent directors.

a. PTC Financial Services b. PTC Logistic Services c. PTC Consultancy Services d. None of the above

Ans.a.

Related facts —

- PTC India on January announced it has set up an internal committee to look into the governance issues in PTC Financial Services as alleged by the NBFC's outgoing independent directors.



- For an issue pertaining to the appointment of a whole time director in PFS, PTC constituted a third party inquiry, which has submitted its report recently.
- There are six issues raised by independent directors.
- For the first issue pertaining to the appointment of a whole time director, PTC India has constituted a third party inquiry.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/ptc-india-sets-up-internal-committee-not-ruling-out-malafide/articleshow/89043481.cms>

Pro-Planet People or P3 movement

Question: Which of the following country proposed the 'P3 (Pro-Planet People) movement' during the WEF Davos Agenda 2022?

(a) India (b) Russia (c) USA (d) United Kingdom

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi introduced the "P3 (Pro-Planet People) movement" to underline India's climate change commitments at World Economic Forum's (WEF) Davos Agenda 2022 on January 17.
- Reiterating India's commitment to "clean, green, sustainable and reliable" energy, P3 movement would help India achieve its environmental goals.
- The PM highlighted that change in lifestyle is an important tool in the fight for climate change.
- India has been pushing developed countries into adopting lifestyle changes to deal with the climate crisis.
- India believes wasteful expenditure and high energy consumption in rich countries is the cause for global warming.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.cnbctv18.com/environment/davos-2022-all-you-need-to-know-about-pm-modis-pro-planet-people-or-p3-movement-12175532.htm/amp>

PM unveiled the Netaji's Hologram statue on his birth anniversary on 23rd January

Question: Consider the following statements:

(1) Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose's grand statue, made of granite, will be installed at India Gate

(2) Till the grand statue of Netaji Bose is completed, a hologram statue of his would be present at the same place

(3) Netaji birth anniversary is celebrated as Parakram Diwas every year

Which of the above is/are correct?

(a) 1 and 2 (b) 2 and 3 (c) 1 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- In order to commemorate the 125th birth anniversary of the great freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose and as part of the year long celebrations, the

government has decided to install a grand statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose at India Gate.

- The statue, made of granite, shall be a fitting tribute to the immense contribution of Netaji in our freedom struggle, and would be a symbol of the country's indebtedness to him.
- Till the work for the statue is completed, a hologram statue of Netaji will be present at the same place.
- Netaji's birth anniversary (23rd January) is celebrated as Parakram Diwas every year.
- Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi will unveil the hologram statue of Netaji at India Gate on 23rd January, 2022.
- The hologram statue will be powered by a 30,000 lumens 4K projector.
- An invisible, high gain, 90% transparent holographic screen has been erected in such a way so that it is not visible to visitors.
- The 3D image of Netaji will be projected on it to create the effect of a hologram. The size of the hologram statue is 28 feet in height and 6 feet in width.
- During the programme, Prime Minister will also confer the Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskars, for the years 2019, 2020, 2021 and 2022 in the investiture ceremony.
- A total of seven awards will be presented during the ceremony.
- Union government has instituted the annual Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar to recognize and honour the invaluable contribution and selfless service rendered by individuals and organisations in India in the field of disaster management.
- The award is announced every year on 23rd January.
- The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 51 lakh and a certificate in case of an institution and Rs. 5 lakh and a certificate in case of an individual.
- It has been the constant endeavour of the Prime Minister to honour the freedom fighters in a befitting manner.
- A special focus of these efforts has been on the legendary freedom fighter and visionary leader, Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- Several steps have been taken in this regard, including the announcement that his birth anniversary will be celebrated as Parakram Diwas every year.
- In this spirit, Republic Day celebrations will begin a day early, from 23rd January.



Reference: <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1791558>

PM Modi will Unveil 216-foot 'Statue of Equality' Dedicated to Ramanujacharya in Hyderabad

Question: PM Modi will unveil 216-foot statue of saint Ramanujacharya in which of the following city?

(a) Varanasi (b) Chennai (c) Hyderabad (d) Bengaluru

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- PM Narendra Modi will inaugurate a 216-foot statue of Ramanujacharya in a sitting position in Hyderabad on February 5, 2022, to celebrate the 1,000th birth anniversary of the saint.
- Ramanujacharya was a 11th century saint and a revolutionary social reformer.
- The statue will be called as the 'Statue of Equality'.
- It is located in a 45-acre complex at Shamshabad on the outskirts of Hyderabad in Telangana.
- The project is built at a cost of ₹1,000-crore, which was funded entirely by donations from devotees globally.
- President Ram Nath Kovind will unveil the inner chamber of the statue of Ramanujacharya on February 13, 2022.
- The Statue of Equality is the world's second-tallest statue in a sitting position.
- The Buddha statue in Thailand is considered as the world's tallest statue in a sitting pose.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.news18.com/amp/news/india/pm-modi-to-inaugurate-216-foot-statue-of-equality-in-hyderabad-on-february-5-4680401.html>

The government of India has merged the Amar Jawan Jyoti flame with the flame at the newly constructed National War Memorial

Question: Consider the following statements:

(1) Amar Jawan Jyoti was established in 1972, it was to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 War, which resulted in the creation of Bangladesh

(2) National War Memorial was inaugurated in 2019, it is around 400 meters from India Gate

(3) The government of India has merged the Amar Jawan Jyoti flame at India Gate with the flame at the newly constructed National War Memorial in the same complex

Which of the above is/are correct?

(a) Only 3 (b) Both 1 and 2 (c) Both 1 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Amar Jawan Jyoti was established in 1972, it was to mark India's victory over Pakistan in the 1971 War, which resulted in the creation of Bangladesh.
- The then Prime Minister Indira Gandhi had inaugurated it on Republic Day 1972, after India defeated Pakistan in December 1971.
- National War Memorial was inaugurated in 2019, it is around 400 meters from India Gate.
- The layout of the structure comprises four concentric circles, named :-
- The "Amar Chakra" or Circle of Immortality,
- The "Veerta Chakra" or Circle of Bravery,
- The "Tyag Chakra" or Circle of Sacrifice and



- The “Rakshak Chakra” or Circle of Protection.
- The proposal for a National War Memorial was first made in the 1960s.
- The memorial is dedicated to soldiers who laid down their lives defending the nation during the Sino-Indian war in 1962, Indo-Pak wars in 1947, 1965 and 1971, Indian Peace Keeping Force Operations in Sri Lanka and in the Kargil Conflict in 1999.
- The National War Memorial also commemorates the soldiers who participated and made supreme sacrifices in United Nations peace-keeping missions, Humanitarian Assistance Disaster Relief (HADR) operations, counterinsurgency operations and Low-Intensity Conflict Operations (LICO).
- The government of India has merged the Amar Jawan Jyoti flame at India Gate with the flame at the newly constructed National War Memorial in the same complex.
- The ceremony was led by the Integrated Defence Staff chief, Air Marshal Balabhadra Radha Krishna.
- The decision to merge the two flames was taken keeping in mind that flame at Amar Jawan Jyoti paid homage to the martyrs of 1971 operations that led to the freedom of Bangladesh, but none of their names are present there, while names of all Indian martyrs from all the wars, including 1971 and wars before and after it are housed at the National War Memorial.
- The India Gate memorial was built by the British government in memory of the British Indian Army soldiers who lost their lives between 1914-1921.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/indianexpress.com/article/explained/explain-ed-amar-jawan-jyoti-national-war-memorial-7735258/lite/>

Odisha Government, WFP to bolster food security of small farmers

Question : Who is Governor of Odisha ?

a) Ganeshi Lal b) P. S. Sreedharan Pillai c) Phagu Chauhan d) Mangubhai C. Patel

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- The United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the Government of Odisha have joined hands to improve the food security of small and marginal farmers in India by strengthening their resilience to climate change.
- An agreement was signed by Dr. Muthu Kumar, Director, Agriculture, and Food Production, Department of Agriculture and Farmers’ Empowerment, and Mr. Bishow Parajuli, Representative and Country Director, WFP in India at a virtual ceremony .
- WFP and the department will develop toolkits, modules, and guidelines during the project to provide climate services to smallholder farmers.
- **High light Points :**
- The United Nations World Food Programme is the 2020 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate.
- United Nations-World Food Programme are the world’s largest humanitarian organization, saving lives in emergencies and using food assistance to build a pathway to peace, stability and prosperity for people recovering from conflict, disasters and the impact of climate change.



Links :

<https://www.wfp.org/news/odisha-government-wfp-bolster-food-security-small-farmers-boosting-climate-resilience>

Amar Jawan Jyoti merged with National War Memorial flame

Question: When was national war memorial built ?

a) 25 February 2019 b) 26 January 2020 c) 15 August 2021 d) 2 October 1972

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- The flame of the Amar Jawan Jyoti at the India Gate in Delhi was on Friday(January 21,2022) merged with the eternal flame at the National War Memorial, in a move that the central government called “historic” for India.
- The ceremony was presided over by the Integrated Defence Staff chief Air Marshal Balabadhra Radha Krishna, who carried out the significant move of merging the two flames.
- The National War Memorial, which was built in the India Gate complex by the Narendra Modi government and was inaugurated in 2019, has the names of all the Indian defence personnel who have lost their lives in different operations from the 1947-48 war with Pakistan to the Galwan valley clash with Chinese troops.
- the flame at Amar Jawan Jyoti in the India Gate memorial paid tributes to the martyrs of 1971 and other wars.
- The India Gate memorial, on the other hand, was built by the British government in memory of the British Indian Army soldiers who lost their lives between 1914-1921.

**Links:**

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/in-historic-move-amar-jawan-jyoti-merged-with-national-war-memorial-flame-101642759893068.html>

Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura Statehood Day

Question: On which day Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura celebrate their statehood day?

(a) 2 January (b) 20 January (c) 21 January (d) None of the above

Ans: c

Recent Context

- On 21st January 2022 President Ram Nath Kovind and Prime Minister Narendra Modi greeted the people of Manipur, Meghalaya and Tripura on their Statehood Day.
- **Related Facts**

- Manipur, Meghalaya, Tripura were formed in 21 January 1972 Under the North-Eastern Areas (Re-organisation) Act, 1971.



- The princely states of Tripura and Manipur were merged with India in October 1949.
- After that they were granted UT status.
- In 1969, the Assam Reorganization (Meghalaya) Act was enacted. Under the act, Meghalaya was carved out of Assam and was made an autonomous state. This was done under the sixth schedule of Indian constitution.
- In 1972 Tripura, Meghalaya and Manipur was granted full statehood by the North East Reorganisation Act of 1972.

Reference:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/pm-modi-greets-people-of-manipur-meghalaya-tripura-on-statehood-day/articleshow/89030736.cms>

Koyla Darpan Portal

Question: Which ministry has launched Koyla Darpan Portal?

- (a) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change
(b) Ministry of Coal (c) Ministry of mines (d) None of the above

Ans: b

Related Facts

- On 21st January 2022 portal “Koyla Darpan” was launched by Dr. Anil Kumar Jain, Secretary, Ministry of Coal.
 - Portal has been launched to provide Key Performance Indicators (KPIs) related to the Coal Sector on a single online platform.
 - As an initial step, the portal has the following KPIs –
1. Coal/Lignite Production,
 2. Coal/Lignite Offtake,
 3. Exploration Data,
 4. Central Sector Schemes,
 5. Status of Coal Stock in Thermal Power Plants,
 6. Infrastructure Projects,
 7. Allocation of Blocks (CMSP/MMDR),
 8. Monitoring of Major Coal Mines(CIL),
 9. Coal Price.



Reference:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1791537>

Flame merging ceremony at National War Memorial

Question : On which date was National War Memorial inaugurated and dedicated to the Nation by the Prime Minister ?

- a. 25 February 2019 b. 25 February 2020 c. 25 April 2020 d. 25 April 2019

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Today(21 JAN 2022) in a befitting solemn ceremony, the flame at Amar Jawan Jyoti was merged with the eternal flame at National War Memorial with full military honours.
- National War Memorial(NWM) —
- It was inaugurated and dedicated to the Nation by the Hon'ble Prime Minister on 25 Feb 2019.
- NWM stands testimony to the sacrifices made by our gallant soldiers since Independence.
- NWM houses the eternal flame which exemplifies the supreme sacrifice made by a soldier in the line of duty thus making him immortal.
- Since its inauguration, all homage ceremonies are being conducted only at the National War Memorial, including those on National Days.



Reference:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1791535#:~:text=National%20War%20Memorial%20was%20inaugurated,Minister%20on%2025%20Feb%202019.&text=Today%20in%20a%20befitting%20solemn,Memorial%20with%20full%20military%20honours.>

SEBI launched ‘Saa ₹thi’ mobile app for investor education

Question: Which of the following has launched a mobile app “Saa₹thi” based on investor education in Mumbai, Maharashtra?

- (a) Securities and Exchange Board of India (b) Reserve Bank of India
(c) National Housing Bank (d) State Bank of India

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched a mobile app “Saa₹thi” based on investor education in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- The app will create awareness among the investors about the basic concepts of securities market, KYC process, trading and settlement, mutual funds, recent market developments and investor grievances redressal mechanism, among others.
- The app is available in Hindi and English.
- The Android and iOS versions of the app can be downloaded from Play Store and App Store respectively.
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India is the regulatory body for securities and commodity market in India under the ownership of Ministry of Finance, Government of India.
- It was established on 12 April 1988 and given Statutory Powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.livemint.com/news/india/sebi-launches-saa-thi-mobile-app-for-investor-education/amp-11642580748687.html>

Delhi Police launched its first podcast 'Kissa Khaki Ka'

Question: Which of the state/UT Police has launched its first podcast 'Kissa Khaki Ka'?

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Delhi (c) Bihar (d) Uttarakhand

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Delhi Police launches its first podcast 'Kissa Khaki Ka'.
- The Delhi Police is foraying into the world of podcasts with a series on unheard stories of crimes, its investigations, and tales of heart and humanity in an effort to connect with the masses.
- The first episode of the podcast, titled 'Kissa Khaki Ka', was air on social media handles of the Delhi Police at 2 pm on 16th January 2022.
- The Delhi Police also claimed that it will become the first police force in the country to have its own podcast.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.indiatoday.in/amp/india/story/delhi-police-launches-first-podcast-kissa-khaki-ka-1900689-2022-01-16>

United Nations Security Council resolution to stop nuclear war

Question – In January 2022, a resolution to stop nuclear war was taken by the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council. Which one of the following member countries is not included in the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council?

(a) China (b) Japan (c) France (d) Russia

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- In January 2022, a resolution to stop nuclear war was taken by the permanent members of the United Nations Security Council(UNSC).
- The resolution was jointly taken ahead of the latest review of the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons.
- The permanent member nations of the UNSC has called for the further prevention of NWs(Nuclear Weapons) stressing that a nuclear war will have far-reaching consequences, cannot be won, and must never be fought.
- **Permanent members urges for —**
- They affirm that a nuclear war cannot be won and must never be fought.
- As nuclear use would have far-reaching consequences, they also affirm that nuclear weapons—for as long as they continue to exist—should serve defensive purposes, deter aggression, and prevent war.
- They believe strongly that the further spread of such weapons must be prevented.



Link:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/world/us/unsc-permanent-members-call-for-further-prevention-of-nuclear-weapons/articleshow/88673820.cms>

PM inaugurates launch of 'Azadi Ke Amrit Mahotsav se Swarnim Bharat Ki Ore'

Question: 'Azadi Ke Amrit Mahotsav se Swarnim Bharat Ki Ore' is initiative of which of the following organization?

(a) NITI Aayog (b) Reliance Foundation (c) Brahma Kumaris (d) None of the above

Ans: c

Recent Context

- On 20th January 2022 PM Narendra Modi inaugurated various initiatives by Brahma Kumaris including 'Azadi Ke Amrit Mahotsav se Swarnim Bharat Ki Ore'.
- **Related Facts**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi delivered the keynote address at the national launch ceremony of 'Azadi Ke Amrit Mahotsav se Swarnim Bharat Ke Ore' today via video conferencing.
 - 'Azadi Ke Amrit Mahotsav se Swarnim Bharat Ke Ore' yearlong initiatives dedicated to Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav by the Brahma Kumaris, which include more than 30 campaigns and over 15000 programs and events.
 - During the event, Prime Minister flagged off seven initiatives of Brahma Kumaris.
 - These include My India Healthy India, Aatmanirbhar Bharat: Self Reliant Farmers, Women: Flag Bearers of India, Power of Peace Bus Campaign, Andekha Bharat Cycle Rally, United India Motor Bike Campaign and green initiatives under Swachh Bharat Abhiyan.
- **About Brahma Kumaris**
 - Brahma Kumaris is a worldwide spiritual movement dedicated to personal transformation and world renewal.
 - It is a women-led spiritual organization.
 - Founded in India in 1937, Brahma Kumaris has spread to over 130 countries.
 - The event is being held on the occasion of the 53rd Ascension Anniversary of Pitashree Prajapita Brahma, Founding Father of Brahma Kumaris.



Reference:

<https://www.brahmakumaris.com/>

Dharamshala Skyway

Question : On which date has Himachal Pradesh CM inaugurated Dharamshala Skyway(a 1.8-km ropeway from Dharamshala to Mcleodganj) ?

a. 20 January 2022 b. 19 January 2022 c. 17 January 2022 d. None of the above

Ans. b.

Related facts —

- Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Jai Ram Thakur on January 19th inaugurated Dharamshala Skyway, a 1.8-km ropeway from Dharamshala to Mcleodganj in Kangra district, constructed at Rs 207 crore.

- It is noteworthy that construction of this ropeway was started in 2018 and has been developed under DFBOT (design, finance, build, operate, transfer) mode as a public-private partnership project by Dharamshala Ropeway Limited and Himachal Pradesh tourism and civil aviation department.
- It will go a long way in solving the traffic problem of Mcleodganj and also establish it as a tourist attraction.
- This ropeway will carry more than 990 people in one hour in one direction and the total time taken to reach Mcleodganj from Dharamshala will be five minutes.
- It has 10 towers and two stations and Mono cable detachable gondola technology has been used in this ropeway.



Link:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chandigarh/himachal-pradesh-cm-jai-ram-thakur-inaugurates-dharamshala-mcleodganj-ropeway-7731880/>

A Handbook on Global Good Practices for Co-operatives

Question : On which date Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICAAP and Dilip Sanghani, President, NCUI released a Policy Recommendation Handbook on Global Good Practices for Co-operatives ?

a. 18 JAN 2022 b. 15 JAN 2022 c. 13 JAN 2022 d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Dr. Chandra Pal Singh Yadav, President, ICAAP and Dilip Sanghani, President, NCUI has recently (18 January 2022) released a Policy Recommendation Handbook on Global Good Practices for Co-operatives.
- In this regard, NCDC-LINAC and ICAAP signed an agreement intending to assimilate and develop further on the core strengths, experience and institutional objectives of the respective parties in the interest of advancement of research, study, documentation and training for development of the cooperative sector.
- **NCDC —**
- The National Cooperative Development Corporation (NCDC) was established by an Act of Parliament in 1963 as a statutory Corporation under the Ministry of Cooperation.
- **LINAC —**
- NCDC had set up its own training institution in 1985 through a World Bank project.
- This Institution over time has become a major facility for developing competencies of cooperative sector professionals in India and abroad.
- Building upon the strength of the training Institution and to promote research and development in the cooperative sector, the Government of India in February, 2018 upgraded the institute with a broader mandate for training, research and consultancy and renamed it Laxmanrao Inamdar National Academy for Cooperative Research and Development (LINAC).



- **ICAAP(International Co-operative Alliance Asia and Pacific) —**
- The International Co-operative Alliance[ICA] came to Asia Pacific Region with the establishment of the Regional Office & Education Center for South-East Asia in 1960 as a result of the discussions that had taken place at the various Congresses of the Alliance since 1948.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790731>

Government inaugurated India's first coal to methanol plant built by BHEL

Question: India's first 'coal to methanol' (CTM) pilot plant built by BHEL was inaugurated in which of the following city?

(a) Mumbai (b) Hyderabad (c) Pune (d) New Delhi

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- India's first coal to methanol plant built by BHEL inaugurated in Hyderabad.
- Union Minister for Heavy Industries Mahendra Nath Pandey on Saturday dedicated India's first BHEL-built 'coal to methanol' (CTM) pilot plant to the nation here, as part of the ongoing 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations.
- The 0.25 TPD (tonnes per day) capacity CTM pilot plant that has been indigenously designed, developed and installed by BHEL is currently producing methanol with purity of more than 99 per cent from high-ash Indian coal.
- This conversion of high-ash Indian coal to methanol through the gasification route is the first-of-its-kind technology demonstration in India.
- Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited is an Indian government owned engineering and manufacturing enterprise based in New Delhi, India.
- It is under the ownership of Ministry of Heavy Industries, Government of India.
- It was established in 1956, BHEL is India's largest power generation equipment manufacturer.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/wap.business-standard.com/article-amp/economy-policy/govt-inaugurates-india-s-first-coal-to-methanol-plant-built-by-bhel-122011500842_1.html

India's first, Coal to Methanol (CTM) pilot plant, dedicated to the Nation

Question: Which of the following PSU of India has built the India's first Coal to Methanol (CTM) pilot plant?

a) NTPC b) ONGC c) BHEL d) IOCL

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:



- On 15 January 2022; India's first, BHEL built Coal to Methanol (CTM) pilot plant, dedicated to the nation.
- Union Minister for Heavy Industries Dr Mahendra Nath Pandey dedicated the plant as part of the ongoing 'Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav' celebrations at BHEL, Hyderabad.
- It was a virtual ceremony held in the presence of BHEL's Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) Dr Nalin Shinghal, Ministry of Heavy Industries' Joint Secretary Jeetendra Singh.
- Functional Directors on the Board of BHEL and senior officials of the Ministry and BHEL were also present in this virtual ceremony.
- Notably, the 0.25 TPD capacity CTM pilot plant, indigenously designed, developed and installed by the BHEL.
- It is currently producing methanol with a purity of more than 99 percent from high ash Indian coals.
- Significantly, this conversion of high ash Indian coals to methanol through the gasification route is the first of its kind technology demonstration in India.

Links:-

<https://psuwatch.com/bhel-developed-india-first-coal-methanol-pilot-plant-inaugurated>

UP government renames Sainik School after General Bipin Rawat

Question: Which state government has announced to name of Mainpuri Sainik School after CDS General Bipin Rawat?

(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Himachal Pradesh (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The Uttar Pradesh government has renamed a Sainik School in the state after General Bipin Rawat, the country's first chief of defence staff (CDS), who died in a helicopter crash in Tamil Nadu last December.
- General Rawat, who was also the nation's incumbent CDS, was among 13 passengers who lost their lives when their chopper crashed in Tamil Nadu's Nilgiris district, on December 8 last year.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.hindustantimes.com/cities/lucknow-news/up-govt-renames-sainik-school-after-general-bipin-rawat-101641464685419-amp.html>

World's largest Khadi National Flag displayed in Jaisalmer

Question: World's largest Khadi National Flag has been displayed in which of the following City?

(a) Jaisalmer (b) Wagah (c) Amritsar (d) Mumbai

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The Monumental National Flag, which is the world's largest national flag made of Khadi fabric, will be put to a grand public display along the India – Pakistan Border in Jaisalmer to celebrate "Army Day".
- The Monumental National Flag is 225 feet long and 150 feet wide.
- It is approximately 1400 kgs in weight.
- 70 khadi artisans prepared this flag in 49 days.
- Its making has created about 3500 man-hours of additional work for Khadi artisans and allied workers.
- The Ashok Chakra in the flag has a diameter of 30 feet.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.livemint.com/news/india/225-feet-long-150-feet-wide-and-1400kg-world-s-largest-khadi-national-flag-to-be-displayed-in-jaisalmer/amp-11642207612989.html>

Indian Army unveiled new climate friendly combat uniform

Question: Which of the following defence organization introduced a light and more climate-friendly combat uniform for its personnel on Army Day?

(a) Indian Army (b) Indian Air force (c) Indian Navy (d) Boarder Security Force

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The Indian Army unveiled a new combat uniform that is comfortable, climate friendly and features a digital disruptive pattern.
- A contingent of commandos of Parachute regiment, wearing the new uniforms, took part in the Army Day parade that was conducted at the Cariappa ground.
- The uniform, which features a mix of colours including olive and earthen, has been designed taking into considerations aspects like areas of deployment of the troops and climatic conditions in which they operate.
- The new uniform has been designed after analysing combat uniforms of armies of various other countries, in association with National Institute of Fashion Technology.
- This uniform is more comfortable and it would be worn in all types of terrains.
- The digital disruptive pattern is designed with help of computer aid.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/wap.business-standard.com/article-amp/current-affairs/army-day-parade-indian-army-unveils-new-climate-friendly-combat-uniform-122011500758_1.html

First Mobile Honey Processing Van of India

Question: Recently in which of the following city of India First Mobile Honey Processing Van of the country has been launched?

a) Agra b) Prayagraj c) Kanpur d) Ghaziabad

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:-

- On 07 January 2022; Chairman KVIC (Khadi and Village Industries Commission) Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena launched the country's first Mobile Honey Processing Van at Village Sirora in Ghaziabad, UP.
- The Mobile Van has been designed in-house by KVIC at its Multi-disciplinary Training Centre, Panjokehra, at a cost of Rs 15 lakh.
- This mobile honey processing unit can process up to 300 KG of honey in 8 hours.
- The van is also equipped with a testing laboratory that would instantly examine the quality of honey.
- This facility under KVIC's Honey Mission aims at training beekeepers, distributing Bee Boxes to farmers and helping rural, educated as well as unemployed youth in earning extra income.
- KVIC has come up with this unique innovation to enable beekeepers and farmers to get fair price of their honey produce.
- The programme is in line with Prime Minister's dream of Sweet Kranti through honey production.
- The KVIC has designed the innovative Mobile Honey Processing Van that will process beekeepers' honey at their doorsteps and thus save them the hassle and the cost of taking the honey to processing plants.
- While this will make beekeeping a more profitable business for small beekeepers; this will also maintain purity and highest quality standards of honey.



Links:-

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1788375>

Sogaria railway station

Question – On January 5, 2022, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the redeveloped Sogaria railway station. This station is an important station of which railway zone?

- (a) South-Western Railway (b) North-Western Railway (c) West-Central Railway
(d) Western Railway

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- On January 5, 2022, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the redeveloped Sogaria railway(SR) station.
- Along with this, three new MEMU train services, Kota – Bina – Kota, Kota – Jhalawar City – Kota and Kota – Nagda – Kota will also be flagged off in the Kota Division of West Central Railways.
- SR station is an important station of West-Central Railway.
- It is noteworthy that various passenger facilities will be inaugurated at the redeveloped Sogaria Railway Station, Kota railway station, Bundi railway station, Dakaniya Talav railway station and Ramganj Mandi railway station.
- Besides, Kota – Bina – Kota, Kota – Jhalawar City, Kota – Nagda MEMU train services will be inaugurated and flagged off.



- The redeveloped SR station, well equipped with state-of-the-art facilities and beautified with Rajasthani art, is an important railway station of the West Central Railway zone.

Link:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/indian-railways-redeveloped-sogaria-station-to-be-inaugurated-along-with-various-other-facilities-memu-trains/2398739/>

Announcement of joint venture to provide satellite broadband service

Question – On January 5, 2022, Hughes Communications India and Bharti Airtel announced the launch of a joint venture Hughes Communications India Private Limited (HCIPL). What will be Bharti Airtel's stake in this joint venture?

(a) 49 percent (b) 45 percent (c) 40 percent (d) 33 percent

Answer—(d)

Related facts—

- On January 5, 2022, Hughes Communications India and Bharti Airtel announced the launch of a joint venture Hughes Communications India Private Limited (HCIPL).
- The joint venture has been formed after getting approval from the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) and the Department of Telecom.
- HCIPL combines the Very Small Aperture Terminal (VSAT) businesses of both companies to offer flexible and scalable enterprise networking solutions using satellite connectivity for primary transport, back-up and hybrid implementation.



Link:

<https://www.airtel.in/press-release/01-2022/hughes-and-airtel-form-joint-venture-to-provide-satellite-broadband-services-in-india>

New Title For Train Guards : Train Managers

Question: Indian Railways has changed the name of the post of 'Train Guard' to what?

(a) Train Instructor (b) Train Inspectors (c) Train Managers (d) Train Master

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Train guards will now be called 'Train Managers' but will retain their work profile and pay grade.
- The change in designation of guards, who are in charge of the safe running of a train, has been a long-standing demand of railway employees' unions.
- Assistant Guard has been redesignated as 'Assistant Passenger Train Manager' and Senior Passenger Guard as 'Senior Passenger Train Manager'.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.ndtv.com/india-news/train-guards-redesignated-as-train-managers-with-same-work-profile-pay-2708951/amp/1>

Assembly election 2022: 5 states to vote across 7 phases from February 10, counting of votes on March 10

Question: Election Commission announced the scheduled for Assembly elections for how many states?

(a) Three (b) Four (c) Five (d) Six

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Goa, Manipur, Punjab, Uttarakhand and Uttar Pradesh will go to polls in seven phases between February 10th and March 7th, 2022.
- The Assembly Election Results 2022 will be declared on March 10th.
- The Assembly Election Schedule was announced by Chief Election Commissioner Sushil Chandra along with Election Commissioners Rajiv Kumar and Anup Chandra Pandey.
- The Punjab Assembly Elections 2022 will take place on February 14, 2022.
- The Punjab Assembly Polls will take place in a single phase along with two other states- Goa and Uttarakhand.
- The Uttar Pradesh Assembly Polls 2022 will take place in seven phases from 10th February to 7th March, 2022.
- Only Uttar Pradesh elections will take place in seven phases.
- Manipur elections 2022 will take place in 2 phases.
- Remaining three states- Goa, Punjab and Uttarakhand will take place in a single phase.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/indianexpress.com/article/india/assembly-election-2022-live-updates-uttar-pradesh-punjab-go-manipur-uttarakhand-bjp-congress-pm-security-breach-reactions-7712566/lite/>

In first BrahMos missile export order, Philippines approves \$374-million contract

Question: Who is current president of Philippines ?

a) Rodrigo Duterte b) Scott Morrison c) Justin Trudeau d) None of these

Ans : a

Related Facts :

- The Philippines confirmed on Friday (January 14,2022) it will acquire three batteries of the BrahMos cruise missile jointly developed by India and Russia in a deal worth almost \$375 million.
- Philippine defence secretary Delfin Lorenzana said he had recently signed the “notice of award” – or the acceptance of India’s proposal for supplying the missile – for the Philippine Navy’s shore-based anti-ship missile acquisition project.
- The deal for the BrahMos was conceptualised as early as 2017 .
- The notice of award signed by Lorenzana on December 31 put the value of the BrahMos deal at \$374.962 million.



- According to the government, policy changes have resulted in defence exports increasing by more than 325% over the last five years.
- India has set an ambitious target of achieving defence exports of \$5 billion by 2024.
- The country exported defence gear worth ₹8,434.84 crore during 2020-21.

Links :

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/philippines-confirms-move-to-acquire-brahmos-cruise-missiles-in-375-mn-deal-101642173668935.html>

India's passport rank improves to 83 from 90

Question: The Henley Passport Index is based on which Data ?

- a) International Air Transport Association (IATA) b) Global Open Data Index
c) World Development Indicators d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- India's passport power has improved this quarter compared to 2021.
- It now ranks at 83rd position in the Henley Passport Index, climbing seven places from 90th rank last year.
- However, in 2020, its rank stood at 84 while in 2016, India was ranked 85th along with Mali and Uzbekistan
- Japan and Singapore top the index.
- About The Henley Passport Index :
- The Henley Passport Index is the original, authoritative ranking of all the world's passports according to the number of destinations their holders can access without a prior visa.
- The index is based on exclusive data from the International Air Transport Association (IATA)
- The Henley Passport Index compares the visa-free access of 199 different passports to 227 travel destinations .



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/indias-passport-rank-improves-to-83-from-90/article38241133.ece>

<https://www.henleyglobal.com/passport-index>

India's Oldest Sloth Bear Gulabo, 40, Dies At Van Vihar National Park

Question: Van vihar national park located at which district of Madhya Pradesh ?

- a) Bhopal b) Jabalpur c) Chhindwara d) Panna

Ans:a

Related Facts :

- India's oldest sloth bear, fondly named Gulabo, died at the age of 40 at the Van Vihar National Park and Zoo in Bhopal.
- The female sloth bear, who was rescued from a



Madaari or street performer in May 2006 at the age of 25 years, died on the intervening night of Sunday (January 9, 2022).

- The Van Vihar National Park, located on the banks of Bhopal's Upper Lake.
- Van Vihar National Park and Zoo is one of the most revered National Park and Zoo of Central India.
- The park which is more popularly known as just "Van Vihar" is considered as a "must see" destination for tourists visiting Bhopal.
- It is situated right next to the famous Upper Lake of Bhopal also known as the "Bada Talab" which is a Ramsar Site and one of the two lakes of Bhoj Wetland.

Links:

<https://www.ndtv.com/india-news/indias-oldest-sloth-bear-gulabo-40-dies-at-bhopals-van-vihar-national-park-2701006>

Gurugram to get India's first heli-hub with all aviation facilities

Question : Gurugram is capital of which state?

a) Hariyana b) Panjab c) New Delhi d) None of these

Ans: a

Related Facts:

- The Haryana government has proposed to set up the first heli-hub of the country in Gurugram designed to have many aviation facilities like heliport, hangars, repairs, and any other related services.
- Haryana Deputy Chief Minister Dushyant Chautala said this heli-hub is proposed to be the first of its kind in the country to have all the facilities at one place for helicopters.
- The place where the heli-hub is proposed to be built in Gurugram would be near the metro facility along with easy connectivity to industrial areas like Noida and Bhiwadi.



Links:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2022/jan/05/gurugram-to-get-indias-first-heli-hub-with-all-aviation-facilities-2403256.html>

9th edition of North East Festival concludes in Guwahati.

Question: Guwahati is capital of which state ?

a) Assam b) Manipur c) Meghalaya d) Nagaland

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- The three-day 9th edition of the North East Festival held at Radisson Blu here from January 7 ended on a high note on Sunday (January 9,2021)
- The main purpose of this festival is to promote and highlight the commercial and tourism potential of the North East region.
- Olympic Bronze medal winner Lovlina Borgohain walked the ramp with Assamese traditional mekhela chador designed by Bidyut Rakesh and got rave reviews.



- According to the organisers, only individuals that have proof of having received at least two COVID-19 vaccine jabs were allowed entry.
- The closing day was graced by Assam's Agriculture Minister Atul Bora, who interacted with entrepreneurs participating from across the North-East region.

Links:

<https://www.sentinelassam.com/guwahati-city/9th-edition-of-north-east-festival-concludes-in-guwahati-572440>

KVIC rolls out innovative “Mobile Honey Processing Van”

Question: When was KVIC established?

a) 1957 b) 1976 c) 1955 d) None of these

Ans: a

Related Facts:

- Chairman KVIC Shri Vinai Kumar Saxena launched the country's first Mobile Honey Processing Van at Village Sirora in Ghaziabad, UP (January 7,2022)
- The Mobile Van has been designed in-house by KVIC at its Multi-disciplinary Training Centre, Panjokehra, at a cost of Rs 15 lakh.
- This mobile honey processing unit can process up to 300 KG of honey in 8 hours. The van is also equipped with a testing laboratory, that would instantly examine the quality of honey.
- The Mobile Honey Processing Van comes as a major development under KVIC's Honey Mission which aims at training beekeepers, distributing Bee Boxes to farmers and helping rural, educated as well as unemployed youth to earn extra income through beekeeping activities.
- his Mobile Honey Processing Van is likely to benefit the beekeepers in rural areas of states like Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Delhi, Punjab and Rajasthan.
- **High light points:**
- The Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) is a statutory body formed in April 1957 (During 2nd Five Year plan) by the Government of India, under the Act of Parliament, 'Khadi and Village Industries Commission Act of 1956'.
- In April 1957, it took over the work of former All India Khadi and Village Industries Board. Its head office is in Mumbai.
- whereas its six zonal offices in Delhi, Bhopal, Bengaluru, Kolkata, Mumbai and Guwahati.



Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1788375>

<https://www.kvic.gov.in/aboutkvic.php#:~:text=Khadi%20and%20Village%20Industries%20Commission&text=The%20Khadi%20and%20Village%20Industries,as%20amended%20by%20act%20no.>

UJALA completes 7 years of energy-efficient and affordable LED distribution

Question: WHO launched Ujala scheme?

- a) Prime minister Narendra Modi b) Home minister Amit Shah
c) Energy minister Raj kumar singh d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts :

- Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) was launched by the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India on January 5, 2015.
- In a short span, the programme has evolved to be world's largest zero subsidy domestic lighting programme that addresses concerns like high electrification cost and high emissions that result from inefficient lighting.
- UJALA succeeded in bringing down the retail price of LED bulbs from INR 300-350 per bulb to INR 70-80 per bulb.
- As of today, 47,778 Million kWh per annum energy has been saved. 9,565 MW of peak demand has been avoided, along with 3,86 crore tonnes of reduction in CO2 emissions.
- Under the programme, the government has ensured transparency and encouraged competition by e-procurement of goods and services.
- Under the programme, the government has ensured transparency and encouraged competition by e-procurement of goods and services.
- With UJALA, the cost of LED bulb has come by down by 85 percent.
- High light points :
 - UJALA has been instrumental in delivering significant environmental benefits.
 - It provides an impetus to the domestic lighting industry.
 - It encourages Make in India as domestic manufacturing of LED bulbs has increased from 1 lakh per month to 40 million per month
 - UJALA provides economies of scale to manufacturers through regular bulk procurement.
 - The procured priced has been reduced by almost 90 percent between 2014 and 2017, from INR 310 to INR 38.



Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1787594>

India's TS Tirumurti assumes chair of United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee

Question: When establishment of united nations?

- a) 24 October 1945 b) 12 september 1942 c) 16 December 1946 d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts :

- TS Tirumurti, India's permanent representative to the United Nations was named the new Chair of the UN Counter-Terrorism Committee (CTC) on Tuesday (January 4, 2022).
- Prior to taking up his current position as Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations, in May 2020, Tirumurti served as Secretary in the Ministry of External Affairs.
- Tirumurti previously served at the Embassy of India to Egypt, in Cairo; at the Permanent Mission of India to the United Nations in Geneva; as the first Representative of India to the Palestinian Authority, in Gaza; as Counsellor in the Embassy of India to the United States, in Washington. DC; as Deputy Chief of Mission in the Embassy of India to Indonesia, in Jakarta; and as High Commissioner of India to Malaysia.
- India will chair the Counter-Terrorism Committee of the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) in January 2022.
- This Committee was formed in September 2001 soon after the tragic terrorist attack of 9/11 in New York, while India had chaired this Committee in the Security Council in 2011-12.
- **Highlight point:**
- The United Nations is an international organization founded in 1945.
- Currently made up of 193 Member States.
- The Secretary-General is Chief Administrative Officer of the UN.
- The Secretary-General is appointed by the General Assembly on the recommendation of the Security Council for a 5-year.
- The current Secretary-General, and the 9th occupant of the post, is António Guterres of Portugal, who took office on 1 January 2017.
- On the 18th of June, 2021, Guterres was re-appointed to a second term, pledging as his priority to continue helping the world chart a course out of the COVID-19 pandemic.



Links:

<https://www.zee5.com/articles/indias-ts-tirumurti-assumes-chair-of-united-nations-counter-terrorism-committee>

<https://www.un.org/en/about-us>

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the five-day National Youth Festival in Puducherry on January 12, 2022

Question : Who is Lt. Governors of Puducherry ?

- a) Shri Banwarilal Purohit b) Shri Praful Patel
c) Shri Anil Baijal d) Dr. Tamilisai Soundararajan

Ans : d

Related Facts :

- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports



Anurag Thakur on Wednesday (January 5,2022) said Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the five-day National Youth Festival in Puducherry on January 12.

- The Prime Minister has hand-picked Puducherry as the venue for the festival.
- The Centre will provide all assistance in whatever manner possible to the U.T.," the Minister said after unveiling the festival logo and mascot, "Saksham Yuva-Shashakt Yuva" along with Lt. Governor Tamilisai Soundararajan.
- Chief Minister N. Rangasamy and Home Minister A. Namassivayam were present.

Links :

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/puducherry/pm-modi-to-inaugurate-national-youth-festival-on-january-12/article38140029.ece>

India and Germany to focus on Green Energy and Climate Action Alliances

Question: Who is the new German Chancellor?

a) Olaf Scholz b) Angela Merkel c) Armin Laschet d) Annalena Baerbock

Ans a:

Related Fact:

- On January 5, 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi congratulated the Olaf Scholz the new German Chancellor.
- The two leaders also talked about and broadening the bilateral collaboration between India and Germany.
- India and the Germany agreed to give emphasis on green energy and climate action alliances.
- The two countries also agreed about possibility of continuing cooperation projects, such as boosting trade and investment.
- They clearly realised the fact that there is tremendous synergy in the governance priorities between new administration of Germany and India with its economic strategy.
- In particular leaders of both countries expressed the hope to commence new cooperation initiatives in the areas of Climate Action and Green Energy.
- Through present initiatives, they are thinking ahead to enable both countries to achieve their respective climate commitments.



Links:-

<https://indianexpress.com/article/india/pm-modi-discusses-ties-with-new-german-chancellor-olaf-scholz-7708613/>

India to chair Counter-terrorism Committee at UNSC in January 2022

Question: Which country will be chairing the Counterterrorism Committee in January 2022?

(a) India (b) Pakistan (c) China (d) Japan

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:



- India will be chairing the Counterterrorism Committee in January 2022 at United Nations Security Council.
- The committee stands for greater significance for India, as the country has been pitching pertinent measures to evict and fight terrorism on the global platform.
- The UNSC Committee on Counterterrorism will be chaired by India after 10 years, as India last chaired this committee in 2012.
- The United Nations Security Council is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations, charged with ensuring international peace and security, recommending the admission of new UN members to the General Assembly, and approving any changes to the UN Charter.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.republicworld.com/amp/world-news/global-event-news/india-to-chair-counter-terrorism-taliban-and-libya-sanction-committees-at-unscc-in-jan-2022.html>

Telangana tops in highest number of ODF villages

Question: Which of the following state stood first in the country in the list of the highest number of open defecation free (ODF Plus) villages under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II programme?

(a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Uttar Pradesh (c) Telangana (d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Telangana stood first in the country in the list of highest number of open defecation free (ODF Plus) villages under the Swachh Bharat Mission (Grameen) Phase-II programme till December 31, 2021.
- As many as 13,737 out of 14,200 villages in the State are in the ODF Plus list, which is 96.74%.
- This was followed by Tamil Nadu with 4,432 villages (35.39%) and Karnataka with 1,511 villages (5.59%).
- Gujarat took the 17th position with only 83 villages (0.45%).
- The State government has enacted a new Telangana Panchayat Raj Act to ensure holistic development of villages.
- A secretary has been posted in every panchayat for smooth execution of welfare programmes, close monitoring, digital reporting and to ensure the prevalence of good governance in villages.
- Multi-purpose workers have been appointed to maintain proper sanitation in villages.
- There are 12,769 dedicated compost sheds in all gram panchayats.
- Tankers have also been provided to water the plants for greenery in villages



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.thehindu.com/news/national/telangana/telangana-tops-in-highest-number-of-odf-villages/article38093734.ece/amp/>

National Youth Festival 2022

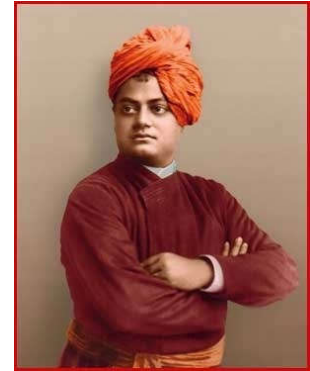
Question: In which state/UT 25th National Youth Festival 2022 will be organized ?

(a) Delhi (b) Chandigarh (c) Puducherry (d) Tamil Nadu

Ans: c

Recent Context

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the 25th National Youth Festival in Puducherry on January 12, 2022.
- **Related Facts**
 - The National Youth Festival will be organised by Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports in Puducherry, from January 12 to 16.
 - It is organized every year to commemorate the birth anniversary of great son of India Swami Vivekananda.
 - This year it also marks 75th year of India's independence.
 - More than 7,000 youth from across the country will take part in the events in Puducherry.
 - The Puducherry Technological University has been chosen as one of the venues to conduct this festival.



Reference:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/chennai/pm-modi-national-youth-festival-inauguration-2022-7707065/>

Caste certificate based on Single mother

Question: Which state/UT has recently issued its first caste certificate based on Single mother?

(a) UP (b) Delhi (c) Chandigarh (d) MP

Ans: b

Recent Context

- On January 4, 2022, deputy chief minister of Delhi Manish Sisodia handed over the first caste certificate based on Single mother.
- **Related Facts**
 - Previously, SC/ST caste certificates were issued only based on the fathers' caste certificate or paternal side certificates. This has been changed now in Delhi.
 - Circular to amend the procedure for issuance of 'SC/ST caste certificate' based on the caste certificate of single mother was issued on July 20, 2020, after getting approval from the Revenue Minister of GNCT Delhi.
 - Son of Geeta Devi a resident of Delhi was given this certificate.



Reference:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/cities/delhi/after-year-long-struggle-in-a-first-sc-certificate-made-for-boy-using-mothers-documents-7706697/>

IRDAI retains LIC, GIC, New India as D-SIIs

Question: Where located head office of IRDAI ?

a) Hyderabad b) New delhi c) Kolkata d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- Life Insurance Corporation of India, General Insurance Corporation of India and New India Assurance remain Domestic Systemically Important Insurers (D-SIIs) and consequently subject to enhanced regulatory supervision.
- Insurance regulator IRDAI said this while announcing LIC, GIC Re and New India have been identified, like in 2020-21, as D-SIIs for 2021-22.
- Given their nature of operations and systemic importance, the three insurers have to carry on efforts to raise the level of corporate governance besides identifying all relevant risks and promoting a sound risk management framework and culture.
- The D-SIIs refer to insurers of such size, market importance and domestic and global inter connectedness, whose distress or failure would cause a significant dislocation in the domestic financial system.
- D-SIIs are perceived as insurers 'too big or too important to fail.'



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/irdai-retains-lic-gic-new-india-as-d-siis/article38074520.ece>

Telangana stood first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM)

Question: Telangana stood first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM). What is main objective of Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission ?

- a) enhance basic services, and create well planned Rurban clusters.
b) Aims to promote efficient use of energy at the residential level.
c) Enhance the awareness of consumers about the efficacy of using energy-efficient appliances and aggregating demand to reduce the high initial costs.
d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- Telangana stood first in the implementation of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) that was launched 4 years in the past to stimulate native financial growth.
- Sangareddy and Kamareddy districts stood in the primary two positions among the many 300 clusters throughout the nation the place the programme was being applied.
- Tamil Nadu and Gujarat took the second and third positions respectively.



- In Telangana, in as many as 17 clusters (12 non-tribal and 5 tribal), the programme was being applied at an estimated price of ₹1,885.12 crore.
- Highlight points:
 - the Government of India has proposed the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM), aimed at developing such rural areas by provisioning of economic, social and physical infrastructure facilities.
 - The objective of the Shyama Prasad Mukherji Rurban Mission (SPMRM) is to stimulate local economic development, enhance basic services, and create well planned Rurban clusters.
 - Syama Prasad Mukherjee (6 July 1901 – 23 June 1953) was an Indian politician, barrister and academician, who served as the Minister for Industry and Supply in Jawaharlal Nehru's cabinet. After falling out with Nehru.
 - He was also the president of Akhil Bharatiya Hindu Mahasabha from 1943 to 1946.
 - He died in the custody of Jammu and Kashmir Police in 1953.
 - Mukherjee founded the Bharatiya Jana Sangh on 21 October 1951 in Delhi.

Links:

https://rurban.gov.in/index.php/public_home/about_us#gsc.tab=0

NEAT 3.0

Question: Consider the following statements:

- (i) On 3rd January 2022 Union Education Minister and Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched NEAT 3.0
- (ii) It is a single platform to provide the best-developed ed-tech solutions and courses to students of the country.

Which of the above are correct?

- (a) I (b) ii (c) Both i and ii (d) None

Ans: c



- On 3rd January 2022 Union Education Minister and Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched NEAT 3.0.
- **Related Facts**
 - NEAT 3.0 (National Educational Alliance for Technology 3.0) is a single platform to provide the best-developed ed-tech solutions and courses to students of the country.
 - It will provide online courses to students for skill development for increasing employability.
 - The platform will help in bridging the digital divide, especially among the economically disadvantaged students and also in fulfilling the knowledge-based requirement of India and the world.
 - So far 58 global and Indian start-up ed-tech companies are onboard NEAT and are offering 100 courses & e-resources.
 - It will help in bettering learning outcomes, developing employable skills and overcoming learning loss among its users.
 - It will also help in minimizing the cost for educating skill development related courses.
 - AICTE was also asked to integrate its learning resources with the platform.

Reference:

<https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=229418>

Rajnath Singh inaugurated Brahmos missile manufacturing unit in Lucknow

Question: Rajnath Singh inaugurated Brahmos missile manufacturing unit in which of the following city?

(a) Varanasi (b) Ghaziabad (c) Noida (d) Lucknow

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Rajnath Singh inaugurates Brahmos missile manufacturing unit in Lucknow.
- He also laid the foundation of DRDO Defence Technology and Test Centre in Lucknow.
- BrahMos Project will help in creating 5,500 fresh job opportunities.
- All the three wings of the Indian defence forces viz. Army, Air Force and Navy, have already inducted BrahMos advanced weapon system.
- BrahMos is a joint venture between the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India and the NPOM of Russia.
- BrahMos missile derives its name from the Brahmaputra river of India and the Moskva river of Russia.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/wap.business-standard.com/article-amp/current-affairs/rajnath-singh-inaugurates-brahmos-missile-manufacturing-unit-in-lucknow-121122600508_1.html

SEBI signs IOSCO's Enhanced Multilateral MoU

Question : On which date has SEBI signed the Enhanced Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding (EMMoU) of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) ?

a. December 22, 2021 b. December 20, 2021 c. December 18, 2021
d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- SEBI has signed the Enhanced Multilateral Memorandum of Understanding (EMMoU) of the International Organization of Securities Commissions (IOSCO) on December 22, 2021.
- Inception of IOSCO —
- Inception of IOSCO's Multilateral MoU (MMoU) —
- Since its inception in 2002, there has been a significant increase in globalisation and interconnectedness of financial markets, as well as advancements in technology that have changed the way the securities markets operate which have also given rise to new enforcement challenges.
- EMMoU —



- Accordingly, realizing the need to have a suitable cooperation arrangement, EMMoU was introduced by IOSCO to expand the range of enforcement powers that signatories may use to safeguard the integrity and stability of markets, protect investors and deter misconduct and fraud.
- It is notable that SEBI is already a signatory to MMoU since 2003.

Link:

<https://www.sebi.gov.in/media/press-releases/dec-2021/sebi-signs-iosco-s-enhanced-multilateral-mou-emmou-54931.html>

EWS Quota Committee Report

Question: Consider the following statements:

- (i) Special committee was created by government of India to review the eligibility criteria of 10% reservations for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS) in government institutes and jobs.
- (ii) Committee consist of 3 members namely Ajay Bhushan Pandey, Prof VK Malhotra and Sanjeev Sanyal.

Which of the above are correct?

- (a) I (b) ii (c) i and ii both (d) None

Ans: c

Recent Context



- On January 1, 2021, special committee appointed by central government of India has submitted its report to the Supreme Court on reservation for Economically Weaker Sections (EWS).
- **Related Facts**
 - Earlier SC has asked central government about logic behind Rs 8 lakh annual household limit for 10% EWS reservation.
 - Government had appointed a three-member committee comprising former union finance secretary Ajay Bhushan Pandey, member secretary ICSSR VK Malhotra, and principal economic advisor Sanjeev Sanyal, to look into the matter and submit its report.
 - Committee submitted its report to SC on 1st January 2022.
- **Recommendations of Committee**
 - It advocated the continuation of the existing annual income limit of ₹8 lakh for identification of economically weaker section (EWS).
 - It also recommended dropping the condition that kept people out of EWS quota if they have residential flat or plots of 1,000 square feet and above or residential plots of 100/200 square yards and above in notified/non-notified municipalities.
 - The panel has suggested to implement the recommendations only from the next admission cycle and not from the ongoing session.
 - This is so, because sudden change will cause major disruption across educational institutes as well as create complications for authorities and beneficiaries.

Reference:

India Semiconductor Mission Launched

Question: How much incentive is being given by the Central Government under the newly launched Semiconductor Mission?

a) Rs 50,000 b) Rs 66,000 c) Rs 76,000 d) Rs 56,000

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:-

- On December 29, 2021, Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw launched the India Semiconductor Mission.
- The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology announced this scheme on December 21, 2021.
- Interested companies will be able to apply for the scheme beginning on 01 January 2022.
- Central government through this scheme is providing the advantage of the Rs 76,000-crore incentives to the joining companies in the mission.
- This mission has been launched by the government for developing semiconductors and demonstrating India's manufacturing ecosystem.
- In order to receive applications for the scheme, a portal has been created.
- The India Semiconductor Mission is a government-led initiative to develop semiconductors in India (ISM)
- Digital India Corporation's ISM is a specialized and self-contained business division.
- The mission's goal is to create a thriving semiconductor and display ecosystem so that India can become a global leader in electronics manufacturing and design.
- It has the authority to negotiate with applicants for the semiconductor and display fab schemes.
- It also has the authority to choose the appropriate technology mix, node generation, applications, and capacity, among other things.
- The program was created in order to attract large investments in the production of AMOLED-based display panels or TFT LCDs.



Links:-

https://www.business-standard.com/article/economy-policy/semiconductor-mission-launched-by-it-minister-ashwini-vaishnaw-121123100044_1.html

International

World's largest canal lock inaugurated in Netherlands

Question: World's largest canal lock has been inaugurated in which of the following country?

(a) Spain (b) Netherlands (c) Portugal (d) Germany

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:



- The world's largest canal lock has been inaugurated at Ijmuiden, a small port city, in the Port of Amsterdam, The Netherlands.
- The sea lock was inaugurated by Dutch King Willen-Alexander on January 26, 2022.
- The Ijmuiden sea lock is 500-meter (1,640-feet) long and 70-meter wide.
- The overall cost of constructing the project is \$338 million.

Reference: <https://amp.dw.com/en/netherlands-unveils-worlds-largest-canal-lock/a-60564264>

TCS RANKED NO 2 WORLDWIDE

QUESTION- According to Brand Finance IT Services 25 2022 report which INDIAN company has become the second most valuable brand in the IT services sector globally?

(a)TCS (b)WIPRO (c)INFOSYS (d)MAHINDRA

ANS-a

RELATED FACTS

- Following TCS and Infosys (third spot), there are four more Indian brands now firmly established among the global elite – Wipro (7th), HCL (8th), Tech Mahindra (15th) and LTI (22nd).
- Accenture retained the title of world's most valuable and strongest IT services brand.
- Indian IT services brands made a leap with average growth from 2020 to 2022 at 51 per cent.



REFERENCE- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/gadgets-news/tcs-becomes-the-worlds-second-most-valuable-it-services-brand-heres-what-helped-the-company-beat-ibm/articleshow/89135218.cms>

Pakistan raises \$1 billion through Islamic bond

Question : Which country has recently(January 2022) raised 1 billion dollar through Islamic bond ?

a. Pakistan b. Bangladesh c. Iraq d. Afghanistan

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Pakistan has recently(January 2022) raised a whopping 1 billion dollar loan through the Sukuk bond at a record 7.95% interest rate, the highest cost that the cash-strapped country has agreed to pay in its history on an Islamic bond.
- Pakistan has also agreed to pledge a portion of the Lahore-Islamabad Motorway in return for the much-needed loan.
- Pakistan had to raise the loan to keep the official foreign exchange reserves at their levels ahead of some major foreign loans' repayments.
- Bond term is 7 year tenor.



Reference:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/cash-strapped-pakistan-raises-1-billion-through-islamic-bond-at-record-interest-to-keep-forex-reserves-afloat/article38324001.ece>

Barbados PM Mia Mottley sworn in after 2nd consecutive elections

Question: Which Prime Minister of Barbados has been sworn in for a second straight term in office in January 2022?

(a) Mia Mottley (b) Sandra Mason (c) Santia Bradshaw (d) Erna Solberg

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Barbados Prime Minister Mia Mottley was sworn in for a second term in office following a landslide victory by her party in the 2022 election.
- Mottley is serving as the Prime Minister of Barbados since 2018.
- She is the leader of the Barbados Labour Party (BLP) since 2008.
- Mottley is the first woman prime minister of the country as well as first PM under a republic system.
- Mottley's Barbados Labor Party seemed to have secured all 30 seats in the House of Assembly.
- The lower house of the island's Parliament, giving the island's first female leader a second term as prime minister.
- Santia Bradshaw is the deputy Prime Minister of Barbados.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/wap.business-standard.com/article-amp/international/barbados-pm-mia-mottley-sworn-in-after-2nd-consecutive-elections-122012001758_1.html

Theme of International Day Of Education 2022 : Changing Course, Transforming Education

Question: What is the theme of the International Day of Education in 2022?

- (a) Education: A Key Driver for Inclusion and Empowerment
(b) Teaching in Freedom, Empowering Teachers
(c) Changing Course, Transforming Education
(d) Respect the teachers and Transform the education

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The theme of the 4th International Day of Education in 2022 is Changing Course, Transforming Education.
- International Day of Education is observed every year on January 24 to celebrate the role of education for peace and development.
- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed the day as International Day of Education on January 24, 2018.
- National Education Day is an annual observance in India to commemorate the birth anniversary of Maulana Abul Kalam Azad.



- He was the first education minister of independent India.
- He served from 15 August 1947 until 2 February 1958.
- National Education Day of India is celebrated on 11 November every year.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.ndtv.com/education/international-day-of-education-2022-history-significance-and-theme/amp>

International Energy Agency (IEA) Report on India's Ethanol Consumption

Question: As per recent International Energy Agency (IEA) report India may surpass which of the following country as the world's third largest ethanol consumer?

a) China b) Brazil c) US d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- As per recent International Energy Agency (IEA) report India may surpass China as the world's third largest ethanol consumer after US and Brazil by 2026.
- It should be known that Ethanol demand has tripled in India between 2017 and 2021.
- Ethanol is one of the principal Biofuel which is naturally produced by fermentation of sugars by yeasts.
- Ethanol can also be produced by the petrochemical processes like ethylene hydration.
- **Advantage of using Bio-fuel:**
 - Meets the Energy security & cuts down the cost of Oil import bill.
 - Ethanol production in factories provides farmers with incentives.
 - It accelerates the transformation towards a clean energy ecosystem.
 - India in 2021 has brought forward its 20% ethanol blending target (current blending of ethanol with petrol is 8.5%) with gasoline from 2025 to 2030.
 - With these decisions India is looking forward of its objective of becoming carbon neutral by 2070.



Links:-

<https://theoutreach.in/india-on-track-to-surpass-china-as-third-largest-ethanol-consumer-by-2026/>

CAIT-Amazon dispute

Question : Traders' body CAIT has recently(January 2022) filed complaint with __ accusing Amazon of concealing facts for More Retail takeover nod.

a. National Company Law Appellate Tribunal b. Competition Commission of India
c. Industrial Tribunal d. None of the above

Ans. b.

Related facts —

- Traders' body CAIT has recently(January



2022) filed complaint with Competition Commission of India accusing Amazon of concealing facts for More Retail takeover nod.

- CAIT said that Amazon has taken over More Retail through Samara Alternate Investment Fund(Samara AIF) that owns 51 per cent equity in Witzig Advisory LLP that in-turns owns More Retail Limited.
- It further stated that Amazon has obtained approval from CCI for the takeover of More Retail Limited “by suppression and concealment”.
- **CAIT(Confederation of All India Traders) —**
- Vision of the organization is to bring glory of Indian Traders in main stream of economy and nation and to create a business friendly environment in the Country beside upgrading and modernising existing format of retail trade and development of skills of the traders in India.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/retail/cait-files-complaint-with-cci-accusing-amazon-of-concealing-facts-for-more-retail-takeover-nod/articleshow/89104648.cms>

International Day of Education

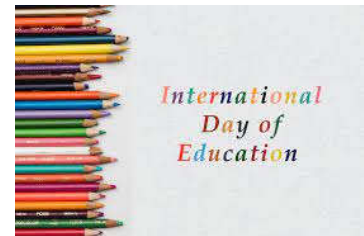
Question: When is the International Day of Education observed?

(a) 25 January (b) 20 January (c) 24 January (d) 18 January

Answer: (c)

Related facts:

- International day of Education is observed on January 24 every year.
- The day promotes universal education for peace and development.
- The day was declared by United Nations General Assembly on December 3, 2018.
- This year marks the fourth year of celebration, with the theme ‘Changing Course, Transforming Education’.



Link:

<https://indianexpress.com/article/education/why-world-celebrates-international-education-day-on-january-24-7738821/>
<https://www.un.org/en/observances/education-day>

2022 Syed Modi International

Question : Who clinched “2022 Syed Modi International” title ?

a. P. V. Sindhu b. Malvika Bansod c. Tanisha Crasto d. Anna Cheong

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- PV Sindhu clinched the 2022 Syed Modi International title after beating Malvika Bansod in the women’s singles final at the Babu BanarasiDas Indoor Stadium on January 23, 2022.



- It is notable that It was also Sindhu's first BWF title since winning the BWF World Championships in 2019, after losing twice in the finals last year — at the Swiss Open and the BWF World Tour Finals.
- **The mixed doubles title —**
- It went to seventh seeds Ishaan Bhatnagar and Tanisha Crasto, who defeated compatriots Nagendra Babu and Srivedya Gurazada 21-16, 21-12 in the 29 minutes final to claim their first Super 300 crown.
- **Men's singles final —**
- The men's singles final between Frenchman Arnaud Merkle and Lucas Claerbout was declared a 'no match'.
- One of the finalists tested positive for Covid-19 while the other was deemed a close contact and was also withdrawn.

Link:

<https://www.cnbctv18.com/sports/pv-sindhu-clinches-syed-modi-international-title-beats-malvika-bansod-12221222.htm>

Nusantara : New Capital of Indonesia

Question: “Nusantara” has been selected as the new capital of which of the following country?

(a) Malaysia (b) Indonesia (c) Brunei (d) Vietnam

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- “Nusantara” has been selected as the new capital of Indonesia.
- Indonesia passed a bill replacing its capital Jakarta with East Kalimantan, situated to the east of Borneo Island. The new capital city of the country will be called Nusantara.
- Indonesian President Joko Widodo had first announced the plan to move the capital city from Jakarta in 2019.
- Widodo had cited increasing environmental issues that Jakarta has been facing along with financial inequality while announcing the plan to change the capital in 2019.
- Jakarta has been the capital of Indonesia since 1949.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/indianexpress.com/article/explained/indonesia-capital-east-kalimantan-nusantara-explained-7731059/lite/>

First BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022 held on 18-19 Jan under Chinese chairship

Question: The first BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022 was held virtually on January 18-19 2022 under the chairship of which country?

(a) India (b) Brazil (c) China (d) Russia

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- First BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022 held under Chinese chairship.



- The first BRICS Sherpas meeting of 2022 was held virtually on January 18-19 2022, with the members thanking India for its BRICS chairship in 2021.
- China has taken on the rotating chairmanship of BRICS in 2022. BRICS is a grouping of five major emerging economies — Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
- Sanjay Bhattacharyya is the India's BRICS Sherpa.

Reference: <https://newsonair.com/2022/01/20/first-brics-sherpas-meeting-of-2022-held-on-18-19-jan-under-chinese-chairship/#:~:text=The%20first%20BRICS%20Sherpas%20meeting,chairmanship%20of%20BRICS%20in%202022.>

Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF) began in Dhaka

Question: Who directed the Indian film Koozhangal, which made entry in the recently held 20th Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF)?

a) PS Vinodraj b) Subhrajit Mitra c) Indranil Roychowdhury d) Shareef Easa

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- On 15 January 2022; the 20th Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF) began in Dhaka, Bangladesh.
- The festival will commence from 15th to 23rd of January 2022, and screen 225 films from 70 countries in ten categories at various venues throughout Dhaka.
- The film festival is going through in a hybrid format, with several films being broadcast live online throughout the event.
- During the festival, the DIFF will host the 8th edition of the Women in Cinema international conference and the 4th edition of the 'West Meets East' screenplay lab.
- The Rainbow Film Society, which was founded in 1977, organizes the Dhaka International Film Festival (DIFF).
- DIFF was established in 1992.
- There are ten sections of the festival, the Asian Competition Section, Retrospective, Tribute, Bangladesh Panorama, Wide Angle, Cinema of the World, Children's Film, Spiritual Film, Women Filmmakers section, and short and independent films.
- Koozhangal, directed by PS Vinodraj, Avijatrik, directed by Subhrajit Mitra, Mayar Jonjal, directed by Indranil Roychowdhury, and Aandaal, directed by Shareef Easa are among the 35 Indian entries to the 20th DIFF.



Links:-

<https://www.bssnews.net/news/38899>

Alikhan Smailov named Kazakhstan's Prime Minister

Question : What is currency of Kazakhstan ?

a) Kazakhstani tenge b) Rupay c) Dinar d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts :

- Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev nominated Alikhan Smailov for Prime Minister on January 11, 2022.
- Alikhan Smailov (49) served as the first Deputy Prime Minister in the previous cabinet.
- Kazakhstan officially the Republic of Kazakhstan is a country located mainly in Central Asia. It borders Russia in the north and west, China in the east, and Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, and Turkmenistan in the south. The capital is Nur-Sultan, formerly known as Astana.



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/alikhan-smailov-named-kazakhstans-prime-minister/article38231177.ece>

Russia- US Dialogue on Ukraine

Question: Who is US Deputy Secretary of State in the present Joe Biden Administration?

a) Wendy Sherman b) Kamala Harris c) Hillary Clinton d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- On January 10, 2022, the US and Russian officials met in Geneva to have the dialogue on tensions around Ukraine.
- A meeting of U.S. Deputy Secretary of State Wendy Sherman with Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Sergei Ryabkov, held said in Geneva.
- on 10 January Ms. Sherman offered to make reciprocal moves with Russia on missiles and exercises to de-escalate tensions but renewed warnings of major costs if Moscow invaded Ukraine.
- The two talked for more than seven hours and after it Ms. Sherman said the U.S. was ready to meet again.
- It should be noted that the US and other western countries are under the fear of Russian invasion of Ukraine.
- Ukraine is supported by US and other western countries. Ukraine was formed after the disintegration of Soviet Union.
- Russia denied attacking Ukraine during the talks, however, Russia has actually stationed thousands of troops in the Ukraine border.
- Russia also demanded several concessions from the US and NATO allies and this situation now triggered a cold war between US and Russia.



Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/todays-paper/tp-international/us-russia-hold-key-dialogue-on-ukraine/article38229495.ece>

Antigua and Barbuda joins India led International Solar Alliance

Question : Where located head quarter of International Solar Alliance?

a) Haryana b) New Delhi c) Gujrat d) Rajsthan

Ans: a

Related Facts :

- Antigua, Barbuda joins International Solar alliance in presence of Indian High Commission in Guyana.
- on Tuesday (Jan 4, 2022), the Government of Antigua and Barbuda joined the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- The International Solar Alliance (ISA) is an action-oriented, member-driven, collaborative platform for increased deployment of solar energy technologies as a means for bringing energy access, ensuring energy security, and driving energy transition in its member countries.
- The ISA strives to develop and deploy cost-effective and transformational energy solutions powered by the sun to help member countries develop low-carbon growth trajectories, with particular focus on delivering impact in countries categorized as Least Developed Countries (LDCs) and the Small Island Developing States (SIDS).
- The ISA was conceived as a joint effort by India and France to mobilize efforts against climate change through deployment of solar energy solutions.
- The initiative was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi at the India Africa Summit, and a meeting of member countries ahead of the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris in November 2015.
- The ISA is headquartered in Gurugram, India.[7] In January 2016, Narendra Modi, and the then French President François Hollande jointly laid the foundation stone of the ISA.



Links :

<https://isolaralliance.org/>

World's Longest Metro Line Opens In Shanghai

Question: World's Longest Metro Line Opens In Shanghai. What is total length of this metro line?

a) 813 km b) 790Km c) 819Km d) 820 Km

Ans:a

Related Facts :

- China's biggest city and a global financial hub, Shanghai is going to extend a new driverless and longest metro line on Thursday(December30,2021) reported by The Global Times.
- With the latest inclusion of metro lines, the total length of Shanghai's metro network will extend to 831 km, continuing to be the longest in the world.
- According to the metro official, the new line will connect a few of the popular areas of Shanghai including Jiading, Putuo, Jing'an, Huangpu districts and Pudong New.
- New metro line to reduce travel time by 80 minutes
- History of Indian Metro Train:



- The first rapid transits system in India was Kolkata Metro, which started operations i 1984.
- Elattuvalapil Sreedharan', popularly known as Metro Man was behind this great effort.
- Delhi Metro was India's first modern metro which began its operation in 2002.
- Rapid Metro Rail Gurgaon, which started operations in November 2013, is India's first privately owned & operated metro.
- Metro rail lines in India is composed of both standard gauges and broad gauges.
- Project likes in Delhi Metro used broad guage for their earliest lines but most of the new project in India are on Standard gauges as rolling stock is imported from Europe is on Standard Gauges.
- One exception is Ahemdabad Metro, which has planned to use broad gauges, as there is more space available inside the coaches.

Links :

<https://www.republicworld.com/world-news/china/china-worlds-longest-metro-line-opens-in-shanghai-total-length-extends-to-813-km-articleshow.html>

World's Longest Metro Line

Question: In which of the following country, World's Longest Metro Line recently inaugurated?

a) Russia b) USA c) China d) India

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:-

- On 30 December 2021; the World's longest metro line was inaugurated
- in China's Shanghai Province.
- Shanghai maintains its position as the world's largest metro network with this inauguration.
- There are the two new metro lines that the city has opened, line 14 and Phase one of Line 18
- The total length of Shanghai's metro network has now reached 831 kilometers and it remains as the world's longest network.
- With the addition of two new lines, Shanghai now has a total of five fully automatic metro lines with a total operating length of 167 kilometers.
- In Shanghai, there are now 20 metro lines and 508 stations. 83 of the 508 stations are transfer stations.
- Shanghai is one of China's four municipalities with direct administration.
- Shanghai is situated on the banks of the Yangtze River's southern estuary.
- The city of Shanghai is China's most populous urban area as well as the world's most populous city.



Links:-

<https://www.wionews.com/world/operation-commences-as-shanghai-opens-worlds-longest-metro-network-441289>

Economics

GOOGLE TO INVEST \$1 BN

QUESTION-Google has decided to invest \$1 bn in which Indian company on JAN 2022?

(a) TCS (b) WIPRO (c) BHARTI AIRTEL (d) BIRLA GROUP

ANS-C

RELATED FACTS-



- Google will invest \$1 billion in BHARTI AIRTEL to pick up a 1.28% stake in the country's second-largest telecom.
- This will be Google's second strategic investment in a telecom access firm.
- In July 2020, it had picked up a 7.73% stake in Jio Platforms for \$4.5 billion
- This is part of Google's India Digitisation Fund through which it has committed to invest \$10 billion over 5 to 7 years.

Reference- <https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/in-digital-push-google-to-invest-1-bn-in-bharti/2419039/>

India has paid USD 29.9 million in UN regular budget assessments-2022

Question: Assessments are shared among UN Member States to pay for the expenses of the Organization for which of the following?

a) Regular budget b) International tribunals c) Capital master plan
d) Peacekeeping operations e) All of the above

Answer :(e)

Related Facts:-



- India has paid USD 29.9 million in UN regular budget assessments for the year 2022.
- India has paid USD 29.9 million in United Nations regular budget assessments for the year 2022.
- India is a non-permanent member of the 15-nation Security Council and its two-year term will end on December 31, 2022.
- As of January 21, 2022, 24 Member States have paid their regular budget assessments in full.
- Iran, Guinea and Vanuatu paid sufficient dues to the UN regular budget to regain their voting rights.
- Only Venezuela and Papua New Guinea don't have the right to vote in the 193 member body.
- **Assessment:-**
- Assessment is the term used for the amount of money that the UN General Assembly determines should be assessed to finance the approved appropriation.
- This is shared among Member States to pay for the expenses of the Organization. Assessments are made to Member States for the following:

- I. Regular budget
- II. International tribunals

III. Capital master plan

IV. Peacekeeping operations

▪ **Regular Budget**

- In the resolution 76/238 of 24 December 2021, the General Assembly adopted the scale of assessments for the contributions of Member States.
- It was decided in this resolution the finance needed for regular budget and the contributions of Member States of the United Nations for 2022, 2023 and 2024.

Links:-

https://www.business-standard.com/article/international/india-pays-29-9-million-in-un-regular-budget-assessments-for-2022-122012401489_1.html

IMF lowered India's FY22 growth forecast to 9% from 9.5%

Question: What is the projected GDP growth rate of India in FY22 as per IMF's latest world economic outlook?

(a) 8 Percent (b) 8.5 Percent (c) 9 Percent (d) 9.5 Percent

Answer: (c)

Related Facts :

- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) has cut India's economic growth forecast for the current fiscal 2021-22 (FY22) to 9 percent, in its latest world economic outlook report, released on January 25, 2022.
- Earlier economic growth was estimated at 9.5%
- IMF has projected the growth forecast for India in 2022-23 (FY23) at 7.1%
- IMF has projected the global growth rate in 2022 to 4.4%, and in 2023 to 3.8%.
- The global growth is expected to slow to 3.8 per cent in 2023.
- The International Monetary Fund (IMF) is an international financial institution.
- It consists of 190 countries.
- Its mission is "working to foster global monetary cooperation, secure financial stability, facilitate international trade, promote high employment and sustainable economic growth, and reduce poverty around the world."



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.livemint.com/economy/imf-cuts-india-s-economy-growth-forecast-to-9-in-fy22/amp-11643115897097.html>

India ranked 85th out of 180 countries in Corruption Perceptions Index

Question: What is the rank of India in Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2021?

(a) 82th (b) 83th (c) 84th (d) 85th

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- India is ranked 85 out of 180 countries on the global Corruption Perceptions Index for 2021.
- With a score of 40, India stands at 85th position.
- Pakistan and Bangladesh fare worse in the global corruption index.



- Pakistan has dropped 16 spots and is ranked 140th out of 180 countries.
- Bangladesh's Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) is 26 and ranks at the 147th position.
- The CPI ranks 180 countries and territories by their perceived levels of public sector corruption on a scale of zero (highly corrupt) to 100 (very clean).
- The top-performing countries as per the report are Denmark, Finland and New Zealand "all having a corruption perceptions score of 88".
- These are followed by Norway, Singapore and Sweden with all of them scoring 85.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/zeenews.india.com/india/india-ranks-85th-out-of-180-countries-in-corruption-perceptions-index-report-2431005.html/amp>

India-China bilateral trade

Question : India-China trade grew to record __ in 2021 despite tensions in eastern Ladakh.

a. \$125 billion b. \$115 billion c. \$105 billion d. \$ 95 billion

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- India-China trade grew to record \$125 billion in 2021 despite tensions in eastern Ladakh.
- It crossing the USD 100 billion-mark in a year when the relations hit a new low due to the prolonged standoff by the militaries in eastern Ladakh.
- It is notable that each side currently has around 50,000 to 60,000 troops along the Line of Actual Control (LAC) in the mountainous sector.
- While India's trade deficit too mounted to over USD 69 billion.
- The total trade between both countries in 2021 stood at USD 125.66 billion, up 43.3 per cent from 2020.
- China's exports to our country from January to December rose 46.2 per cent to USD 97.52 billion, while our exports to China grew by 34.2 per cent to USD 28.14 billion.
- The trade deficit for India grew to USD 69.38 billion in 2021.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/economy/foreign-trade/india-china-trade-grows-to-record-125-billion-in-2021-despite-tensions-in-eastern-ladakh/articleshow/88900383.cms>

SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE BOARD OF INDIA (SETTLEMENT PROCEEDINGS) REGULATIONS, 2018

Question – In January 2022, SEBI reduced the time limit for filing settlement application from 180 days to how much?

(a) 50 days (b) 70 days (c) 60 days (d) 90 days

Answer—(c)

Related facts—



- In January 2022, SEBI reduced the time limit for filing settlement application from 180 days to 60 days.
- Under this amendment, the time limit for 'filing of settlement application' has been reduced to 60 days from 180 days earlier.
- Presently settlement application can be filed within 60 days from the date of receipt of show cause notice.
- However, applicants can avail additional 120 days if they pay an additional 25% on the settlement fee.
- The move is aimed at rationalizing the norms on settlement proceedings.
- Further, SEBI has rationalized the time period for submission of revised settlement terms form to 15 days after the internal committee meeting.

Link:

<https://www.sebi.gov.in/legal/regulations/jan-2022/securities-and-exchange-board-of-india-settlement-proceedings-regulations-2018-last-amended-on-january-14-2022-55387.html>

India-South Korea trade

Question – With which country did India hold bilateral trade talks in New Delhi in January 2022?

(a) South Korea (b) North Korea (c) China (d) Japan

Answer—(a)

Related facts—

- India held bilateral trade talks with South Korea in New Delhi in January 2022.
- The main points of this dialogue are as follows:
 - non-tariff barriers;
 - market access issues;
 - Trade deficit being faced by Indian exporters;
 - investment related issues;
- India has expressed its expectation to invest in sectors such as e-vehicles, semi-conductors and technology.
- The issue of upgrading the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement remained at the center during the talks.
- It is noteworthy that on August 7, 2009, the Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement was signed between the two countries, which facilitated the access of India's service sector to the South Korean market.
- During the summit in 2018, a target was set to increase bilateral trade from \$20 billion then to \$50 billion by 2030.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1789240>

Reliance Industries signed MoU for investment of Rs 5.95 lakh crore in Gujarat

Question: Reliance Industries Limited has signed an MoU with which state government for investment of Rs 5.955 lakh crore in various projects as part of the Investment Promotion Activity (IPA)?

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Himachal Pradesh (c) Gujarat (d) Rajasthan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) signed an MoU with the Government of Gujarat for investment of Rs 5.955 lakh crore in various projects as part of the Investment Promotion Activity (IPA) for Vibrant Gujarat Summit 2022.
- These projects are expected to create 10 lakh direct/ indirect employment opportunities in Gujarat.
- RIL will help in setting up 100 GW Renewable Energy Power Plant and Green Hydrogen Eco-System in Gujarat in a 10-15 years span.
- A 100 GW renewable energy power project started in Kutch, Banaskantha and Dholera of Gujarat.
- RIL will invest another Rs 60,000 crore in setting up New Energy Manufacturing- Integrated Renewable Manufacturing. **They are :-**



- 1) Solar PV Module (manufacture of Polysilicon, wafer, cell & module)
- 2) Electrolyzer
- 3) Energy-storage Battery
- 4) Fuel Cells

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.businessday.in/amp/latest/corporate/story/reliance-industries-signs-mou-for-investment-of-rs-595-lakh-crore-in-gujarat-318997-2022-01-13>

India Ratings and Research has projected India's FY23 real GDP growth at 7.6 %

Question: India Ratings and Research has projected India's FY23 real GDP growth at ____ .

(a) 6.6 Percent (b) 7.6 Percent (c) 8.6 Percent (d) 9.6 Percent

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Ind-Ra projected India's GDP growth at 7.6% in FY23.
- India Ratings & Research (Ind-Ra) estimated India's real Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth in FY23 at 7.6%, which will be 9.1% higher than the FY20 (pre-COVID-19) level.
- The size of the Indian economy was expected to be 10.2 percent lower than the FY23 GDP trend value.



- The investments estimates, as measured by gross fixed capital formation (GFCF), to grow 8.7 percent YoY in FY23.
- Ind-Ra expects fiscal deficit to be at 5.8-6.0 percent of GDP in FY23 and the merchandise exports to grow 18.3 percent YoY in FY23 due to a favourable global trade outlook.
- India Ratings and Research Pvt Ltd is a securities rating agency.
- The Company maintains coverage of corporate issuers, financial institutions, which includes banks and insurance companies. Finance & leasing companies and managed funds, Urban Local Bodies and Project Finance.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.thehindu.com/business/Economy/india-ratings-pegs-fy23-gdp-growth-at-76/article38299738.ece/amp/>

World Economic Situation and Prospects, 2022

Question – In January 2022, a report titled “World Economic Situation and Prospects” was released. With reference to this, consider the following statements:

- (i) This report was released by the International Monetary Fund.
- (ii) According to this, the global growth rate is estimated to be 4 percent in the year 2022.
- (iii) India’s growth rate is estimated to be 6.7 percent in the year 2022.

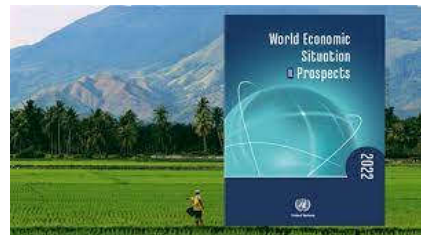
Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

- (a) only (i) and (ii) (b) only (ii) and (iii) (c) only (iii) (d) All of the above

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- In January 2022, the United Nations released a report titled ‘World Economic Situation and Prospects’.
- In this report, the United Nations has warned that the global economic recovery is slowing down.
- According to this, the global economic recovery is facing significant obstacles in the midst of new waves of Covid-19 infection, persistent labor market challenges, supply chain challenges and rising inflationary pressures.
- According to this report, the global growth rate has been estimated at 5.5 percent in the year 2021.
- It is forecast to be 4.0 percent in the year 2022 and 3.5 percent in the year 2023.
- The growth rate of developed economies was estimated at 4.8 percent in the year 2021.
- It is forecast to be 3.7 percent in the year 2022 and 2.5 percent in 2023.
- In which the GDP growth of USA, Japan and European Union is forecast to be 3.5 percent, 3.3 percent and 3.9 percent respectively in the year 2022.
- According to this, the growth rate of developing economies was estimated at 6.4 percent in the year 2021.
- Which is forecast to be 4.5 percent in the year 2022 and 4.7 percent in the year 2023.
- According to the report, India’s GDP growth rate was estimated at 9.0 percent in the year 2021.
- Which is forecast to be 6.7 percent in the year 2022 and 6.1 percent in the year 2023.



- At the same time, the GDP growth rate of China has been estimated at 7.8 percent in the year 2021.
- Which is forecast to be 5.2 percent in the year 2022 and 5.5 percent in the year 2023.

Link:

<https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/publication/world-economic-situation-and-prospects-2022/>

Keppel Data Centre Fund II (KDCF II)

Question : Which of the following has committed USD150 million to invest in the development of data centers that mostly serve emerging Asia through the Keppel Data Centre Fund II ?

a. AIIB b. IMF c. USAID d. World Bank

Ans. a.

Related facts –



- AIIB has recently(January 2022) committed USD150 million to invest in the development of data centers that mostly serve emerging Asia through the Keppel Data Centre Fund II(KDCF II).
- KDCF II is a closed-end private equity vehicle managed by Alpha Investment Partners Limited (Alpha).
- It is AIIB's first data center project.
- It is notable that AIIB has been investing in digital infrastructure in the past, but such investments are becoming more essential nowadays with the acceleration of 5G technology and other high-speed/supercomputing digital infrastructure due to the pandemic.
- AIIB's investment of USD100 million through a parallel fund structure and USD50 million through co-investments mark the final close of KDCF II.
- **Significance —**
- Many low- and mid-income countries lack their own domestic data infrastructure, and the disparities in data center penetration among countries with different income levels are wide.
- This reflects shortcomings in the investment climate where major global investors have largely shunned investing in emerging and frontier economies.
- KDCF II will enhance capital mobilization to develop data centers serving emerging Asia.
- **AIIB —**
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB) is a multilateral development bank whose mission is financing the Infrastructure for Tomorrow—infrastructure with sustainability at its core.
- **Keppel —**
- Keppel Capital is a premier asset manager in Asia.
- It is the asset management arm of Keppel Corporation, one of Singapore's flagship multinational companies with a presence in more than 20 countries.

Reference:

RBI's new fintech department

Question: Consider the following statements:

1. On January 4, 2022, the Reserve Bank of India set up the Department of Fintech.
2. The objective of this department is to facilitate innovation.

Which of the above statements is/are correct.

(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 2 (d) neither 1 nor 2

Answer—(c)

Related facts—



- On January 4, 2022, the Reserve Bank of India created a new Fintech division by incorporating the Department of Payment Settlement Systems (DPSS) and the Fintech Division of the Central Office (CO).
- This department will facilitate innovation in the fintech sector. It will also help in identifying challenges and opportunities and solving them.
- Ajay Kumar Choudhary has been appointed as the head of the FinTech department.
- The Department of Fintech will deal with matters relating to facilitating creative innovations and incubation in the fintech sector, which could have wide-ranging implications for the financial sector markets.

Link:

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/rbi-to-set-up-new-fintech-department-to-push-innovation/articleshow/88792612.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Oxfam India released 'Inequality Kills' Report

Question: Which of the following organization has recently released “Inequality Kills” report?

- (a) Oxfam India (b) World Economic Forum (c) Amnesty International
(d) United Nations Development Programme

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Oxfam India released 'Inequality Kills' Report.
- According to Oxfam India, “Inequality Kills” report, the wealth of India's richest families reached to a record high in 2021.
- In the report, India was described as a 'very unequal,' country, as the top 10 people in India holds 57 per cent of the wealth. On the other hand, the share of the bottom half is 13 per cent.
- The report states that 84% of Indian households witnessed an income decline amid the covid-19 pandemic.
- The richest 98 Indians own the same wealth as the bottom 552 million people. The number of Indian billionaires increased from 102 to 142, during 2021.

- The wealth of the top 100 families is Rs 57.3 trillion

Reference: https://www.oxfamindia.org/press-release/inequality-kills-india-supplement-2022?utm_campaign=fullarticle&utm_medium=referral&utm_source=inshorts

PFC-REC : Further reduction in lending rates

Question : Central government-owned non-banking financial companies, Power Finance Corporation and REC Ltd. have reduced their lending rates by how many Bps on all types of loans ?

a. 40 Bps b. 30 Bps c. 25 Bps d. 18 Bps

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- State-owned NBFCs, PFC and REC have recently(January 2022) further reduced their lending rates across all types of loans by 40 Bps.
- It is notable that continued reduction of lending rates by REC and PFC will help Power Utilities to borrow at competitive rates and invest in improving the power sector infrastructure, thereby benefitting the consumer by way of reliable and cheap power.
- In the last about one year, PFC and REC have reduced lending rates cumulatively by upto 3%.
- In order to give a boost to Renewable Energy, where long term funding is required, the rates have been revised to as low as 8.25%.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1790843#:~:text=In%20the%20last%20about%20one,to%20as%20low%20as%208.25%25.>

Extension of tenure of the NCSK

Question : Union Cabinet has recently(January 2022) approved extension of tenure of the National Commission for Safai Karamcharis for _.

a. Three years b. Four Years c. Two Years d. One year

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Union Cabinet has recently(January 2022) approved extension of tenure of the NCSK for three years.
- The total implication of the extension for above mentioned period would be approximately Rs.43.68 crore.
- Impact :
- The major beneficiaries would be the Safai Karamcharis and identified manual scavengers in the country since the NCSK for 3 more years beyond 31.3.2022.
- It is noteworthy that number of Manual Scavengers identified under the MS Act Survey as on 31.12.2021 is 58098.
- **NCSK(National Commission for Safai Karamcharis) —**
- It was established in the year 1993 as per the provisions of the NCSK Act 1993 initially for the period upto 31.3.1997.

- Later the validity of the Act was initially extended upto 31.3.2002 and thereafter upto 29.2.2004.
- After that the tenure of the NCSK has been extended as a non-statutory body from time to time through resolutions. The tenure of the present NCSK is upto 31.3.2022.
- The NCSK has been giving its recommendations to the Government regarding specific programmes for welfare of Safai Karamcharis, study and evaluate the existing welfare programmes for Safai Karamcharis, investigate cases of specific grievances etc.
- Also as per the provisions of the Prohibition of Employment as Manual Scavengers and their Rehabilitation Act, 2013, the NCSK has been assigned the work to monitor the implementation of the Act, tender advice for its effective implementation to the Centre and State Governments and enquire into complaints regarding contravention/non-implementation of the provisions of the Act.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790939#:~:text=The%20Union%20Cabinet%2C%20chaired%20by,43.68%20crore.>

Cabinet Approves Infusion of Rs.1,500 crore in IREDA

Question: IREDA is related to which of the following?

- a) Renewable Energy b) Rural Engineering c) Electric Rail Development
d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- On 19 January 2022; The Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) approved the equity infusion of Rs.1500 crore in IREDA.
- IREDA in full is known as Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited.
- It should be known that CCEA is chaired by the Prime Minister of India.
- This equity infusion will help in following way-
 - I. Employment generation of approximately 10200 jobs-year, and
 - II. CO2 equivalent emission reduction of approximately 7.49 Million Tonnes CO2/year.
- IREDA, a mini ratna (Category-1) company under the administrative control of MNRE was set up in 1987 to work as a specialised non-banking finance agency for the Renewable Energy (RE) sector.
- IREDA with more than 34 years of techno-commercial expertise, plays a catalytic role in the RE project financing which gives confidence to the FIs/banks to lend in the sector.



Links:-

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790943>

Acquisition of stake in Oyo

Question : Which of the following has acquired stake in IPO-bound Oyo ?

- a. Qatar Insurance Company & HNIs b. Kuwait Insurance Company
c. Al – Zumerah d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —



- A clutch of buyers, including Doha-based insurer Qatar Insurance Company (QIC) and a few high-net-worth individuals (HNIs) and family offices purchased stakes in Oyo during November and December last year.
- The secondary transactions were executed at a price of approximately Rs 110 per share, and include nearly 1.43 crore equity shares as well as 2,500 preference shares.
- This would work out to a valuation of around 9.56 billion dollar similar to the last round of funding by Microsoft for the company.
- It is noteworthy that Oyo's existing investors are – SoftBank Vision Fund, Sequoia Capital, Lightspeed Ventures, Greenoaks Capital, Airbnb, and Hindustan Media Ventures besides a 33% holding by founder Ritesh Agarwal.
- Qatar Insurance Company
- It is the largest insurance company in the MENA (Middle East and North Africa) region.
- It is listed on the Qatar Exchange with a market capitalisation of over 4 billion dollar.
- **Oyo's Employee Welfare Trust(OEWT) —**
- The purchases are secondary transactions, with the shares primarily being offloaded by OEWT, which holds them on the behalf of its employees, as a part of its ESOP programme.
- ESOP stands for — employee stock ownership plan.
- It is noteworthy that Oyo had recently expanded its ESOP pool by 41%.
- Over 80% of its current employees have been granted ESOPs.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/startups/qatar-insurance-company-hnis-family-offices-acquire-stake-in-ipo-bound-oyo/articleshow/88873900.cms>

Acquisition of 54% stake in robotics firm Addverb Technologies

Question : Which of the following has recently(January 2022) picked up a 54% stake in robotics company Addverb Technologies for \$132 million ?

- a. Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd b. Damani c. ArthoNet d. Infosys

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- The retail unit of Reliance Industries, Reliance Retail Ventures Ltd, has recently(January 2022) picked up a 54% stake in robotics company Addverb Technologies for 132 million dollar.
- With this strategic deal, the Addverb has raised 143 million dollar in all till date.
- The company is valued at 270 million dollar post this transaction.
- It had previously raised 11 million dollar in funding led by Jalaj Dani, co-promoter of Asian Paints.
- It is notable that Addverb Technologies provides warehouse and factory automation products powered by robotics, AI, machine learning, deep learning, computer vision and IoT.
- With the new manufacturing facility in FY 2022-23, the Addverb Technologies would have capacity to produce 50,000 robots in a year.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/startups/reliance-industries-acquires-54-stake-in-robotics-firm-addverb-technologies/articleshow/88966660.cms>

REC raised \$1,175 million from a consortium of seven banks

Question : From a consortium of how many banks has REC Ltd raised 1,175 million dollar recently ?

a. Seven b. Six c. Five d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- REC on January 2022 said it raised \$1,175 million from a consortium of seven banks in the single largest syndicated loan raised in the international bank loan market by any Indian NBFC.
- LIBOR(London Interbank Offer Rate), is the global reference rate for unsecured short-term borrowing in the interbank market and above mentioned deal, benchmarked to USD LIBOR, was anchored by seven Indian and international banks.
- **These banks are —** Axis Bank, Bank of Baroda, Bank of India, Canara Bank, DBS, MUFG and SMBC.
- The deal will be launched in the Asian loan syndication market shortly to capture interest from a wider investor community.
- The proceeds from this facility shall be utilised to fund infrastructure power sector projects as permitted under the ECB guidelines of the RBI.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/rec-raises-1175-mn-syndicated-loan-in-international-market/articleshow/88892965.cms>

CryptoWire introduces India's first global index of Cryptocurrencies IC15

Question: What is Cryptocurrencies ?

a) A cryptocurrency is a digital or virtual currency that is secured by cryptography

- b) A cryptocurrency is secured by RBI c) A cryptocurrency is a foreign currency
d) None of these

Ans: a

Related facts :

- Global cryptocurrency super app Cryptowire has launched a crypto index in India to monitor the performance of the 15 most traded cryptocurrencies, listed on leading exchanges in the world.
- The cryptocurrency index is known as IC15.
- Cryptowire is a special business unit of crypto statistics provided TickerPlant.
- the IC15 index comprises a governance committee (IGC) that includes domain experts, industry practitioners as well as academicians.



Links:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/business/story/india-first-ever-cryptocurrency-index-ic15-all-you-need-to-know-1896282-2022-01-05>

Apple becomes first company to hit \$3 trillion market value, then slips

Question : who is ceo of Apple company ?

- a) Tim Cook b) Andrew R. Jassy c) Rajesh Gopinathan d) Parag Agrawal

Ans : a

Related Facts:

- Apple Inc. on Monday(January 3,2022) became the first company with a \$3 trillion stock market value.
- The world's most valuable company reached the milestone as investors bet that consumers will continue to shell out top dollar for iPhones, MacBooks and services such as Apple TV and Apple Music.
- In China, one of Apple's biggest markets, it continued to lead the smartphone market for the second straight month, beating rivals such as Vivo and Xiaomi, recent data from CounterPoint Research showed.
- **HighLight points :**
- In 1976, Apple was founded by three men: Steve Jobs, Steve Wozniak and Ronald Wayne with the intention of selling Wozniak's hand-built Personal
- The Apple 1 was sold as a motherboard with CPU, RAM and basic textual-video chips.
- The iPhone was announced at the Macworld Expo on January 9, 2007. Jobs also announced that Apple Computer, Inc would thereafter be called Apple Inc.
- The App Store was launched by Apple in July 2008 to sell third-party applications for the iPhone and iPod-Touch.



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/markets/apple-becomes-first-company-to-hit-3-trillion-market-value-then-slips/article38104784.ece>

Airtel Payments Bank

Question: Consider the following statements :-

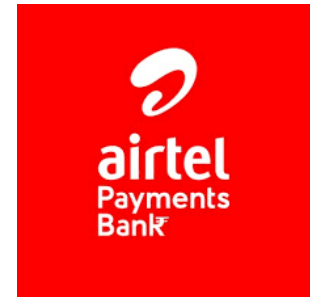
1. The banks included in the second schedule of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 are called scheduled banks.
 2. Airtel Payments Bank was classified as a 'Scheduled Bank' in January 2022.
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 only
- (b) 2 only
- (c) 1 and 2
- (d) neither 1 nor 2

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- RBI on January 2022 said Airtel Payments Bank (APB) Ltd has been included in the Second Schedule to the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934 which means it has been categorised as a Scheduled Bank.
- APB can now pitch for government-issued Requests for Proposals (RFP) and primary auctions and undertake both Central and State Government business participating in government-operated welfare schemes.



Link:

<https://www.thehindu.com/business/Industry/airtel-payments-bank-designated-as-scheduled-bank/article38118725.ece>

Systemically Important Banks

Question: Consider the following statements :-

1. Economically important banks are those whose total assets are more than 2% of the national gross domestic product (GDP).
2. SBI, ICICI and HDFC Bank will continue to be identified as domestic systemically important banks.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 2 (d) neither 1 nor 2

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- RBI on January 2022 said state-owned SBI, along with ICICI Bank and HDFC Bank continue to be Domestic Systemically Important Banks (D-SIBs) or institutions which are 'too big to fail'.
- SIBs are perceived as banks that are 'too big to fail (TBTF)'.
- This perception of TBTF creates an expectation of government support for these banks in times of distress. Due to this perception, these lenders enjoy certain advantages in the funding markets.
- It is notable that framework for dealing with D-SIBs was issued in July 2014.



Link:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/sbi-icici-bank-hdfc-bank-continue-to-remain-systemically-important-banks-rbi/articleshow/88695426.cms>

Reliance Retail holds 25.8% stake in Dunzo

Question: With reference to Dunzo, consider the following statements :-

1. The CEO of Dunzo is Kabir Biswas.
2. Reliance Retail acquires 25.8% stake in quick commerce firm Dunzo.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

(a) 1 only (b) 2 only (c) 1 and 2 (d) neither 1 nor 2

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- Reliance Retail will enter the burgeoning quick commerce space with an investment of more than 190 million dollar in Dunzo.
- Reliance Retail will own 25.8% stake in the quick commerce company.
- It led a \$240 million funding round in Dunzo, with participation from existing investors Lightbox, Lightrock, 3L Capital and Alteria Capital.
- The capital will be used to further Dunzo's vision to be the largest quick commerce business in the country while also expanding its B2B business, Reliance Retail said in a statement on January 2022.
- It is notable that Dunzo is backed by Google, Blume Ventures, Aspada Investments, Lightrock, LightBox Ventures, STIC Ventures, Alteria and 3L Capital. Dunzo and Reliance Retail will also enter into certain business partnerships.
- It will enable hyper-local logistics for the retail stores operated by Reliance Retail, further adding onto Reliance Retail's omni-channel capabilities. Dunzo will also facilitate last mile deliveries for JioMart's merchant network.



Link:

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/business/2022/jan/07/reliance-retail-picks-258-per-cent-stake-in-dunzo-2404089.html>

NTPC's 5% stake in PXIL

Question: Consider the following statements :-

1. Power Exchange of India Limited was formed in 2008.
2. National Thermal Power Corporation plans to acquire 5 percent stake in Power Exchange Limited.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

(a) only (1) (b) only (2) (c) (1) and (2) (d) neither (1) nor (2)

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- State-owned power company National Thermal Power Corporation plans to acquire 5 per cent equity stake in Power Exchange of India Ltd.
- **Background —**
- This decision has been taken in view of the government's intention to increase the share market to



25 per cent per cent of total electricity supply in India by 2023-24.

▪ **PXIL —**

- It is notable that PXIL is India's first institutionally promoted power exchange, which has been providing various electricity trading solutions and connecting buyers as well sellers since 2008.
- The authorised share capital of the PXIL is Rs 120 crore and paid-up capital is Rs 58.47 crore.
- It was incorporated on February 20, 2008.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/energy/power/ntpc-plans-to-acquire-5-equity-in-power-exchange-of-india-ltd/articleshow/88644979.cms>

IndusInd Bank's 'Green Fixed Deposits'

Question : Which bank has recently(December 2021) announced the launch of 'Green Fixed Deposits' where the deposit proceeds will be used to finance projects and firms supporting the UN SDGs ?

a. IndusInd Bank b. Axis Bank c. HDFC Bank d. SBI

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- IndusInd Bank has recently(December 2021) announced the launch of 'Green Fixed Deposits' where the deposit proceeds will be used to finance projects and firms supporting the UN SDGs.
- IndusInd Bank is amongst few banks globally, to bring forth this proposition, thereby integrating SDG into a regular fixed deposit product.
- These deposits, shall be offered to both retail and corporate customers.
- The Bank, will use the proceeds from these deposits to finance a wide array of sectors falling under the SDG category including, energy efficiency, renewable energy, green transport, sustainable food, agriculture, forestry, waste management, and greenhouse gas reduction.
- It is notable that IndusInd Bank is the only bank in India to secure 'band A' in the Carbon Disclosure Project and it has maintained its leadership capability over the last 5 years.

Link:

<https://www.indusind.com/in/en/about-us/mediabrand/FY/2021-2022/December/indusInd-bank-launches-green-fixed-deposits.html>

Changes in the rules related to the use of the capital raised from the IPO

Question : SEBI has recently(December 2021) made several important changes in the rules related to the use of the money raised from the IPO. Which of the following is one of them ?

a. Acquisitions will have to be disclosed b. Acquisitions will not have to be disclosed
c. Reserves will not be monitored for GCPs d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- SEBI has recently(December 2021) made several important changes in the rules related to the use of the money raised from the IPO.
- Which are aimed to tightened these rules.
- Under this, companies bringing IPO will have to disclose the acquisitions made through the money being raised from the market.
- SEBI has set a limit to use the proceeds from the IPO for any future acquisition 'target'.
- In addition, the reserves for the GCPs will also be monitored.
- Here GCPs stands for — General Corporate Purposes.



Link:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/hindi/business-news/sebi-board-tightens-rules-for-utilisation-of-ipo-proceeds/2392418/>

Govt keeps interest rates on small savings schemes unchanged for fourth quarter of FY'22

Question : Who is Finance minister of India ?

a) Piyush Goyal b) Nirmala Sitharaman c) Dharmendra Pradhan d) None of these

Ans : b

Related Facts :

- The Narendra Modi government on Friday(December 31 ,2021) kept the interest rates on small savings schemes, including NSC and PPF, unchanged for the fourth quarter of 2021-22 amid the COVID-19 pandemic.
- Public Provident Fund (PPF) and National Savings Certificate (NSC) will continue to carry an annual interest rate of 7.1 percent and 6.8 percent, respectively.
- The rates of interest on various small savings schemes for the third quarter of the financial year 2021-22 starting from January 1, 2022, and ending on March 31, 2022, shall remain unchanged from the current rates applicable for the third quarter (October 1, 2021, to December 31, 2021) for FY 2021-22.



Links:

<https://www.cnbctv18.com/news/govt-keeps-interest-rates-on-small-savings-schemes-unchanged-for-fourth-quarter-of-fy22-11983402.htm>

Odisha records 43% growth rate in GST collection during Dec '21

Question: Which of the following state has topped the GST collection in December 2021?

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Odisha (c) West Bengal (d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Odisha has touched a collection of ₹4080.14 crore during December 2021, as against Rs 2860.20 crore collected during December 2020 registering a growth of 43 per cent.

- This is also the second-highest ever gross collection of GST by the state since the launching of GST.
- The successful auction of iron ore mines last year by the State Government is contributing significantly to an increase in tax revenue this year.

Reference: https://wap.business-standard.com/article-amp/economy-policy/odisha-records-43-growth-rate-in-gst-collection-during-dec-2021-122010300066_1.html

Fourth edition of states health Index (2019-20) by NITI Aayog

Question: Which of the following state of India topped in the list of health Index (2019-20) among the large states, recently released by NITI Aayog?

a) Karnataka b) Uttar Pradesh c) Himachal Pradesh d) Kerala

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:-

- On December 27, 2021, government think tank NITI Aayog released the fourth edition of its health index for 2019-20.
- This health index has given the ranking to the states in the country on the basis of overall health performance.
- **The report was divided into three parts –**
 - Large states,
 - Small States and
 - Union territories.
- Among the smaller states, Mizoram was the best performing state while Nagaland remained at the bottom
- Among large states Uttar Pradesh ranks last in terms of overall health performance, while Kerala is at the top.
- According to the NITI Aayog report, Chandigarh tops the Union Territories, followed by Dadra and Nagar Haveli at number two and Delhi at number three.
- **Overall Health Performance among Large States:-**
- **Top three states in terms of overall health performance among 19 large states are as follows:-**

Health scores | The table shows the NITI Aayog's Health Index scores (out of 100) of the three 'large' States at the top and bottom in 2019-20 and 2018-19. The rank for the latter is mentioned in brackets

Rank	State	2019-20	2018-19
1	Kerala	82.2	81.6 (1)
2	Tamil Nadu	72.42	70.79 (2)
3	Telangana	69.96	65.74 (4)
19	U.P.	30.57	25.06 (19)
18	Bihar	31	30.24 (18)
17	M.P.	36.72	33.37 (17)

State	Score	rank
Kerala	82.20	1st
Tamil Nadu	72.42	2nd
Telangana	69.96	3rd

- Uttar Pradesh ranks last among 19 states in terms of overall health performance among large states with a score of 30.57
- Incremental Performance:-

- In terms of incremental performance by registering the highest incremental change from the base year (2018-19) to the reference year (2019-20) In Uttar Pradesh topped.
- NITI Aayog's Health Index is a weighted composite score consisting of 24 indicators covering key aspects of health performance.

Links:-

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=1785506>

RBI Framework on Offline Digital Payments

Question: What is the upper limit of transaction prescribed in RBI's framework on offline digital payments released on 3rd January 2022?

(a) Rs 100 (b) Rs 200 (c) Rs 300 (d) Rs 2000

Ans: b

Recent Context



- On 3rd January 2022 the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has released a framework for small-value offline transactions in the digital mode.
- **Related Facts**
 - An offline payment refers to a transaction which does not require internet or telecom connectivity to take effect.
 - It has been brought to increase digital connectivity of economy in the country especially in rural sector.
- **Key Points of Framework**
 - Offline payments may be made using any channel or instrument like cards, wallets or mobile devices, but they shall be made in proximity, or in the face-to-face mode only.
 - Offline payment transactions may be offered without an additional factor of authentication (AFA).
 - Payment instruments shall be enabled for offline transactions based on the explicit consent of the customer.
 - The upper limit of an offline payment transaction shall be 200.
 - The total limit for offline transactions on a payment instrument shall be 2,000 at any point in time.
 - Replenishment of the used limit shall be allowed only in online mode with additional factor of authentication (AFA).
 - Customers shall have recourse to the RBI's integrated ombudsman scheme, as applicable, for grievance redressal.

Reference:

<https://www.financialexpress.com/industry/banking-finance/rbi-releases-framework-on-offline-digital-payments/2397488/>

RBI Extended Card Tokenisation Deadline Till June 30, 2022

Question: The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently extended the tokenisation rules till which of the following date?

(a) 31 March, 2022 (b) 30 April, 2022 (c) 31 May, 2022 (d) 30 June, 2022

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Amid repeated requests from industry stakeholders, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) extended the deadline for cards tokenisation till June 30, 2022.
- Tokenisation means replacement of credit and debit cards details with an alternate code called a “token”.
- Tokenised cards are considered safe for online transactions, as the card details are not shared with the merchant during transaction processing.
- The earlier deadline set by the RBI was to expire on December 31, 2021.
- The main reason behind stakeholders seeking an extension of the tokenisation deadline was that many small and medium-sized merchants don't yet have the infrastructure to shift to the new system, though banks are more or less prepared for it.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.ndtv.com/business/rbi-extends-card-tokenisation-deadline-till-june-30-2022-2668126/amp/1>

Good Governance Index 2021 : Gujarat tops

Question: Which of the following state has topped the composite ranking in the Good Governance Index 2021?

(a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Gujarat (c) Maharashtra (d) Goa

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Gujarat tops the composite ranking in the 58 indicator index followed by Maharashtra and Goa.
- In the Union Territories category, Delhi has topped the composite rank registering a 14 per cent increase over the GGI 2019 indicators.
- In the North-East and Hill States category, Mizoram and Jammu and Kashmir registered an overall increase of 10.4% and 3.7% respectively over GGI 2019.
- Uttar Pradesh has registered an 8.9 per cent improvement in the GGI indicators in the period 2019 to 2021 which Jammu and Kashmir registered an improvement of 3.7 per cent in the same period.



Reference: <https://m.economictimes.com/news/india/amit-shah-launches-good-governance-index-2021-gujarat-tops-up-shows-incremental-growth/articleshow/88493548.cms>

CEBR: India to become 3rd largest economy in 2031

Question: Consider the following statements:

(1) The Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) has predicted that the Indian economy will become the world's third-largest by the year 2031

(2) CEBR, one of the USA's leading economics consultancies

Which of the above is/are correct?

(a) Only 1 (b) Only 2 (c) Both 1 and 2 (d) None

Answer: (a)
Related Facts:

- The Centre for Economics and Business Research (CEBR) has predicted that the Indian economy will become the world's third-largest by the year 2031.
- CEBR, one of the UK's leading economics consultancies, in its annual World Economic League Table also predicted that China will overtake the US in 2030, two years later than forecast a year ago.
- The London-based think tank said, over the next 15 years, India will see an improvement in its ranking in the World Economic League Table (WELT), rising from 7th place in 2021 to be the world's third-largest economy in 2036.
- India will again take over France to regain its 6th place in WELT ranking for 2022, which it briefly lost to France in 2021, the CEBR added.
- In the year 2020, India's GDP had witnessed a contraction of 7.3% due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent lockdown leading to constraints on economic activity.
- India has witnessed a large scale spread of infections and has the third-highest death toll worldwide, behind US and Brazil. However, with the help of emergency aid and prompt measures taken by the Indian government, the country has recovered from the second wave of COVID-19.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.livemint.com/economy/india-to-become-3rd-largest-economy-in-2031-says-cebr/amp-11640510927249.html>

World Economic League Table 2022

Question : British consultancy CEBR's 13th edition of 'World Economic League Table' released on December 2021. Accordingly, which of the following statement is correct ?

- a. World economy will exceed \$ 90 trillion in 2022
- b. World economy will exceed \$ 100 trillion in 2022
- c. World economy will exceed \$ 70 trillion in 2022
- d. None of the above

Ans. b.

Related facts —



- British consultancy CEBR's 13th edition of 'World Economic League Table' released on December 2021.
- According this, China will become the world's top economy in dollar terms in 2030 and it will take China a little longer than previously thought to overtake the United States as the No. 1 economy
- In last years's prediction, CEBR had said that China would overtake the US to become the world's largest economy by 2028.
- CEBR had said China's "skilful" management of Covid-19 would boost its relative growth compared to the US and Europe in coming years.
- While India looks to overtake France next year and then Britain in 2023 to regain its place as the world's sixth biggest economy.
- The World economy will exceed \$ 100 trillion for the first time next year.

- The important issue for the 2020s is how the world economies cope with inflation, which has now reached 6.8 per cent in the US.
- Other key predictions of the report —
- Germany was on track to overtake Japan in terms of economic output in 2033.
- Russia could be a Top 10 economy by 2036 and Indonesia looks on track for ninth place in 2034.

Link:

<https://www.businesstoday.in/latest/world/story/world-economy-to-hit-100-trillion-in-2022-india-to-overtake-france-study-316849-2021-12-26>

Scientific

Defense/Science Short Notes

ENTRY OF NEW TUGBOAT IN THE INDIAN NAVY

QUESTION: Bollard Pull Tugs, recently seen in news, has been constructed by?

- (a) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd (b) Cochin Shipyard Limited
(c) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (d) Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, Visakhapatnam

ANS -D

RELATED FACTS-

- Contract for construction of 50Ton Bollard Pull Tugs was concluded with M/s Hindustan Shipyard Ltd, Visakhapatnam in Feb 19.
- The Fourth tug in the series, “Balbir” has been delivered to Naval Dockyard, Mumbai on 24 Jan 22.
- Tugs “Veeran” and “Balraj” have been inducted on 22 Oct 21 and 31 Dec 21 at Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam respectively and “Balram” on 30 Oct 21 at Naval Dockyard, Mumbai.
- A tugboat is a secondary boat which helps in berthing operation of a ship by either towing or pushing a vessel towards the port.
- Tug boats can also be engaged in the purpose of providing essentials such as water, air, etc. to the vessel.



Reference- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1792265>

MARITIME EXERCISE PASCHIM LEHAR

QUESTION- A joint maritime exercise has been concluded by the INDIAN NAVY on 25 january (5jan-25jan) which is named as?

- (a)VARUNA (b)YUDH ABHYAAS (c)PASCHIM LEHAR (d)SAMUDRA SHAKTI

ANS-C

RELATED FACTS

- The exercise was conducted over a duration of 20 days
- It will enhance Inter-Service synergy among the Indian Navy, IAF, Indian Army and Coast Guard.

- The exercise was conducted under the aegis of FOC-in-C, Western Naval Command.
- IAF deployed SU 30 MKI & Jaguar maritime strike aircraft, Flight Refuelling Aircraft and AWACs.
- Indian Navy deployed maritime reconnaissance aircraft P8i, Dorniers, IL 38 SD, unmanned aerial systems and MiG 29K strike aircraft.
- Recently Indian Navy's indigenously designed and built guided missile destroyer, INS Kochi, exercised with Russian Federation Navy's RFS Admiral Tributs on 14 January 2022 in the Arabian Sea.



REFERENCE- <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/navy-undertakes-major-joint-exercise-in-arabian-sea/articleshow/89139277.cms>

INS KHUKRI MEMORIAL

QUESTION-'INS Khukri Memorial' is located in which state/UT?

(a) GOA (b) Diu (c) KERALA (d) TAMIL NADU

ANS-B

RELATED FACTS-

- 'INS Khukri Memorial' is an Indo-Pakistani War memorial commemorating a frigate attacked by a Pakistani submarine in 1976.
- INS Khukri, the lead ship of the Indian Navy's Khukri class corvettes, was handed over to Diu administration for public display in INS Khukri Memorial and is planned to be developed as a full scale museum.
- Built by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders, the ship was commissioned in 1989 and decommissioned in December 2021



REFERENCE- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/decommissioned-ins-khukri-to-be-converted-into-museum/article38324825.ece>

Taliban launched Suicide Bomber Army

Question: Which of the following launched Suicide Bomber Army?

(a) ISIS (b) Al-Qaida (c) Taliban (d) None of these

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Taliban has launched Suicide Bomber Army.
- The Taliban will officially recruit suicide bombers to become part of the army as the militant group tries to contain its biggest security threat from rival Islamic State since forming government in Afghanistan four months ago.
- The special forces that include martyrdom seekers will be used for more sophisticated and special operations.



- The militant group is building a “strong and organized army to bolster defense” nationwide and at the borders with the suicide bombers becoming a integral part of the strategy.
- Some 150,000 fighters will be invited to join the military.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.ndtv.com/world-news/afghanistan-taliban-takeover-taliban-adding-suicide-bombers-to-army-ranks-to-bolster-defenses-2692060/amp/1>

Joint Naval Exercise CHIRU 2Q22

Question: CHIRU 2Q22 was the joint naval exercise conducted between which countries?

- (a) Russia, China and India (b) Japan, USA, and Iran (c) Russia, China and Iran
(d) India, Russia and USA

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The Russian, Chinese and Iranian navies undertook naval exercises CHIRU-2Q22 in the Gulf of Oman from January 18 to 22, 2022.
- The maritime drills conducted in the northern parts of the Indian Ocean aimed at deepening practical cooperation among the navies of the three countries.
- The participants practiced various tactics and operations, such as rescuing ablaze vessels, saving hijacked vessels, shooting at targets, nocturnal shooting at aerial targets, and other tactical maneuvers as a part of the drill.
- At least 140 warships and over 60 aircraft with nearly 10,000 military personnel would be taking part in the military exercises.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.wionews.com/world/china-sends-destroyer-for-russia-iran-naval-drill-in-gulf-of-oman-446334/amp>

Development of OM : The RT-PCR kit for Omicron

Question : Which of the following has recently(January 2022) developed the OM(RT-PCR kit for Omicron) ?

- a. CSIR – CDRI b. AIIMS c. Torrent Pharma d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- CSIR – CDRI scientists have recently(January 2022) developed the OM(RT-PCR kit for Omicron).
- The kit named as ‘INDICoV-OmTM’.
- ‘INDICoV-OmTM’ kit is a first by any government institution for the omicron variant, will also make India self-reliant in RT-PCR diagnostics.
- It enables quick and cost-effective detection of omicron variant over genome sequencing for a large population.
- It was made within two months and will cost around Rs 150 and further, it will give the test results in around two hours.
- Once the kit gets approval from the ICMR, it will be launched by mid-February.



- ICMR stands for — Indian Council of Medical Research.

Link:

<https://newsonair.com/2022/01/24/csir-cdri-scientists-develop-om-the-rt-pcr-kit-for-omicron/>

AT4 anti-armour Weapon

Question: Which of the following defense company recently won the contract to supply AT4 anti-armour weapon to Indian defense forces?

a) Northrop Grumman b) Saab c) BDL d) None of these

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:-

- Indian Army and the Indian Air Force selected to induct AT4 anti-armour weapon manufactured by the Swedish defense company Saab.
- As the company announced on 19 January 2022; this weapon had been selected through a competitive programme for a single-shot weapon.
- The Indian armed forces are a new customer for AT4.
- This order includes the AT4CS AST, which can be fired from confined spaces such as from inside buildings, bunkers and other urban environments.
- It weighs around 9 kg and has an effective range of 200m.
- The AT4 systems are combat-proven across the world.
- They are lightweight, single-shot, fully disposable and truly characterised by its ease of use and handling.



Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/saab-wins-at4-anti-armour-weapon-contract-from-india/article38298354.ece>

Exercise Sea Dragon

Question: Recently at which of the following place two-week exercise Sea Dragon-22, from 5 to 20 January 2022; held?

a) Indian Ocean b) Guam c) Sea of Japan d) South China Sea

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:-

- From 5 to 20 January 2022; two-week exercise Sea Dragon-22 held at Guam in the U.S
- An Indian Navy P-8I long-range maritime reconnaissance aircraft participated in this multinational Anti-Submarine Warfare (ASW) Exercise.
- The exercise saw the participation of Quad countries, Canada and South Korea.
- The exercise was aimed to enhance interoperability among participating nations by evolving common tactics in response to emerging traditional and non-traditional security challenges in maritime domain.



- Naval aircrafts P8A, P8I, P1, CP140 Aurora and P3C Orion maritime reconnaissance aircraft from the U.S., India, Japan, Canada, Australia and South Korea, practiced high-end ASW skills.
- The exercise also saw the aircrew's professional interaction with other participants from friendly foreign countries.
- Sea Dragon is an annual, multi-national high-end exercise hosted by the U.S. Navy.
- This year, US had deployed two P-8A Poseidon aircraft.

Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/indian-navy-hones-anti-submarine-warfare-skills-in-exercise-sea-dragon/article38300399.ece>

Statement on Climate of India during 2021

Question : India Meteorological Department has recently(January 2022) released “Statement on Climate of India during 2021”. Accordingly, which of the following option is correct ?

- 2021 was the fifth warmest year in India
- 2020 was the fifth warmest year in India
- 2021 was the sixth warmest year in India
- 2021 was the fourth warmest year in India

Ans. a.

Related facts —



- India Meteorological Department has recently(January 2022) released “Statement on Climate of India during 2021”.
- Key points of the report —
- The year 2021 was the fifth warmest year in India since nation-wide records commenced in the country in 1901.
- India had reported loss of 1,750 lives due to extreme weather events last year with Maharashtra being the most adversely affected state reporting 350 deaths.
- Lightning & thunderstorms(L&T) —
- L&T took the highest 787 lives followed by heavy rains, floods and landslides that caused deaths of 759 people.
- **Cyclones —**
- It caused 172 deaths in different states in 2021.
- **Warming Phenomena —**
- Eleven out of fifteen warmest years in the country were during the recent fifteen years (2007-2021) with highest warming being observed during 2016 when it was 0.71 degree Celsius above the long period average (LPA) based on 1981-2010 period.
- The AMLSAT averaged over India during 2021 was 0.44 degree C above the LPA.
- AMLSAT stands for — annual mean land surface air temperature.
- The all-India mean temperatures during the other two seasons such as pre-monsoon(March to May) and monsoon (June to September) were also “above normal” with anomalies of +0.35 degree C and +0.34 degree C, respectively.
- **Rainfall —**
- the 2021 annual rainfall over the country as a whole was 105% of its LPA based on the 1961-2010 period.

- The SW monsoon season rainfall over the country as a whole was ‘normal’ at 99% of its LPA whereas the NE/ post monsoon season (October-December) rainfall over the country as a whole was ‘above normal’ at 144% of LPA.
- Standardized Precipitation Index —
- It is notable that Standardized Precipitation Index(SPI) is negative for dry, and positive for wet conditions.
- The cumulative SPI values of the past twelve months of 2021 indicate “extremely wet – severely wet conditions” over parts of A & N Islands, Gangetic West Bengal, Odisha, Jharkhand, Bihar, East Uttar Pradesh, Uttarakhand, Haryana, Chandigarh & Delhi, Punjab, East Rajasthan, West Madhya Pradesh, Gujarat Region, Konkan & Goa, Madhya Maharashtra, Marathwada, Andhra Pradesh state, Telangana, Tamil Nadu, North Interior Karnataka, South Interior Karnataka and Kerala.
- While, “extremely dry – severely dry” conditions were observed over parts of Arunachal Pradesh, Assam & Meghalaya, Nagaland, Manipur, Mizoram & Tripura, Sub Himalayan West Bengal & Sikkim, East Uttar Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh and Jammu & Kashmir.

Links:

https://internal.imd.gov.in/press_release/20220114_pr_1437.pdf

BrahMos supersonic cruise missile

Question : BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, with increased indigenous content and improved performance, was successfully test-fired from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha —

- a. On January 20, 2022 b. On January 19, 2022 c. On January 18, 2022
d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- BrahMos supersonic cruise missile, with increased indigenous content and improved performance, was successfully test-fired from Integrated Test Range, Chandipur off the coast of Odisha on January 20, 2022.
- It was conducted by Brahmos Aerospace in close coordination with the teams of DRDO(Defence Research and Development Organisation).
- In this text-book flight, the BrahMos followed the predicted trajectory meeting all mission objectives.
- This test is a major milestone in the way forward for BrahMos programme.
- BrahMos was equipped with the advanced indigenous technologies and followed a modified optimal trajectory for enhanced efficiency and improved performance.
- It is notable that BrahMos Aerospace, the joint venture between DRDO and NPOM, Russia, has been continuously upgrading the powerful, highly versatile BrahMos to increase its effectiveness and lethality against sea and land targets.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1791199#:~:text=BrahMos%20supersonic%20cruise%20missile%2C%20with%20increased%20indigenous%20content%20a>

India-Japan Maritime Partnership Exercise

Question: Which of following is a Japan Naval ship that took part in recent India-Japan Maritime Partnership Exercise

a) Shivalik b) Kadmat c) Uraga d) None of these

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:-

- On 13 January 2022; India and Japan came together to participate in a joint Maritime Partnership Exercise.
- Indian Naval Ships Shivalik and Kadmat undertook Maritime Partnership Exercise with Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force (JMSDF) Ships Uraga and Hirado.
- This Partnership Exercise was held in the Bay of Bengal in which both Japan JMSDF ships are part of Minesweeper Division One.
- These ships are on deployment to Indian Ocean Region with Captain Noguchi Yasushi, Commander Minesweeper Division One embarked onboard JS Uraga.
- The exercise was aimed at strengthening bilateral relations, promoting defense cooperation between the two countries.
- The exercise has been commenced for enhancing mutual understanding and inter-operability between the two navies and sharing best practices.
- The Maritime Partnership Exercise included a wide range of maritime operations viz. Flying Operations, Replenishment Approaches and Tactical Manoeuvres.
- The entire exercise was planned and conducted in a non-contact mode, thereby adhering to COVID safety norms.



Links:-

<https://www.indiannavy.nic.in/content/maritime-partnership-exercise-between-ships-indian-navy-and-jmsdf>

Arrow-3 ballistic Missile Interceptor

Question: Which of the following country with US jointly tested recently Arrow-3 ballistic missile Interceptor?

a) UAE b) India c) France d) Israel

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:-

- On 17 January 2022 Israel and the United States have completed a successful flight test of the Arrow-3 ballistic missile interceptor.
- The test was conducted at a test site in central Israel.
- The ballistic missile interceptor detected and destroyed a target in outer space.
- As per the Israel Ministry of Defence, the completion of the test was an important milestone for Israel to defend itself against existing and evolving threats in the region.
- Israeli Defense Minister Benny Gantz praised the test for equipping the State of Israel with the capabilities to defend itself against developing threats.



- He said that adding the Arrow-3 system provides Israel with the freedom to maneuver strategically.
- Missile Defense Agency (MDA) Director Jon Hill said in the statement that the test was designed to “challenge every element of the Arrow Weapon System.
- Mr. Hill informed that the MDA remains committed to assisting Israel in upgrading its missile defense capability.
- The Arrow-3 weapon system is part of Israel’s multi-layer defense system, which includes Iron Dome, a system aimed at intercepting short-range rockets from Gaza.
- In 2021, Israel said it was developing a new ballistic shield system, dubbed Arrow-4, jointly with the United States.

Links:-

<http://www.news.cn/english/20220118/52c36d24859c4456960c557adc077e8c/c.html>

India successfully test fires sea-to-sea variant of BrahMos Cruise Missile

Question: The of BrahMos Cruise missile was launched from the Indian Navy destroyer INS Vishakhapatna at which place ?

- a) off the Western coast b) Off the East Coast of India c) Off the Eastern Coast of India
d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) on Tuesday successfully test-fired the BrahMos supersonic cruise.
- The missile was launched from the Indian Navy destroyer INS Vishakhapatnam off the Western coast.
- The supersonic cruise missile is part of the BrahMos Aerospace, an India-Russian joint venture.
- It can be from submarines, ships, aircraft, or land platforms.
- The BrahMos missile flies at a speed of 2.8 Mach or almost three times the speed of sound.
- Recently the DRDO had extended the range of the missile system from the existing 298 km to around 450 km.
- The BrahMos supersonic cruise missile is the world’s fastest operational system in its class.
- **About Brahmos Supersonic cruise missile :**
- BrahMos is a supersonic cruise missile being developed by BrahMos Aerospace, a joint venture between Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) of India and NPO Mashinostroyeniya (NPOM) of Russia.
- In February 1998, India and Russia signed an inter-governmental agreement to establish BrahMos Aerospace for producing the BrahMos missiles.
- The first BrahMos missile was test fired from the integrated test range at Chandipur in Orissa Coast in June 2001.
- BrahMos has a flight range of up to 290km and can reach a maximum speed of Mach 3.
- Advanced satellite navigation systems from Russia’s Kh-555 and Kh-101 strategic long-range cruise missiles, and GPS-GLONASS technology were added to the existing doppler-inertial platforms of BrahMos missiles in 2013.



- A hypersonic version of the BrahMos, with a speed of Mach 7.

Links :

<https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/india-successfully-test-fires-sea-to-sea-variant-of-brahmos-cruise-missile-1898719-2022-01-11>

DRDO Flight Tests Final Deliverable Configuration of MPATGM

Question: When Was DRDO Formed?

a) In 1987 b) In 1958 c) In 1968 d) None of these

Ans:b

Related Facts :

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight tested the final deliverable configuration of Man Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) on January 11, 2022.
- The indigenously developed anti-tank missile is a low weight, fire & forget missile and is launched from a man portable launcher, integrated with thermal sight.
- The missile impacted the designated target and destroyed it.
- **About DRDO :**
- DRDO is the R&D wing of Ministry of Defence, Govt of India, with a vision to empower India with cutting-edge defence technologies and a mission to achieve self-reliance in critical defence technologies and systems
- DRDO was formed in 1958 from the amalgamation of the then already functioning Technical Development Establishment (TDEs) of the Indian Army and the Directorate of Technical Development & Production (DTDP) with the Defence Science Organisation (DSO)
- Current Secretary Department of Defence R&D and Chairman DRDO Dr G Satheesh Reddy.



Links:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1789153>

India joins Quad partners, Japan and South Korea for Sea Dragon exercise

Question: India joins Quad partners, Japan and South Korea for Sea Dragon exercise at which region?

a) Guam in the Western Pacific b) Dr. Abdul Kalam Island c) Bay of Bengal coast d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts :

- Sea Dragon is a US-led multi-national exercise designed to practice and discuss Anti-submarine warfare tactics to operate together in response to traditional and non-traditional maritime security challenges in the Indo-Pacific region.
- India and its partners in the Quadrilateral Security Dialogue or Quad along with Canada and South Korea are participating in the multinational exercise Sea Dragon at Guam in the Western Pacific.



- The exercise, primarily focused on anti-submarine warfare (ASW) training, will involve more than 270 hours of in-flight training and activities ranging from tracking simulated targets to tracking a US Navy submarine.
- Two P-8A Poseidon maritime patrol aircraft of the US Navy are participating in the drill.
- During classroom training sessions, pilots and flight officers from all the countries will build plans and discuss tactics incorporating the capabilities and equipment of their nations.

Links:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/world-news/india-joins-quad-partners-japan-and-south-korea-for-sea-dragon-exercise-101641496355667.html>

Russia test-fired around 10 new Tsirkon (Zircon) Hypersonic Cruise Missiles

Question: What is the expected range of the recently tested Tsirkon (Zircon) Hypersonic Cruise Missiles by the Russia?

a) 2000 km b) 3000 km c) 1000 km d) 500 km

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On 31 December 2021; Russia test-fired around 10 new Tsirkon (Zircon) hypersonic cruise missiles from a frigate and two more from a submarine.
- The present weapon tested by Russia is seen as part of the new generation of Arms Systems.
- Russian President Vladimir Putin has appreciated the efforts made by the engineers, technicians and scientists involved in developing this kind of powerful technology.
- President Putin described the missile test made a big event of the lifetime of the country.
- He said that it is an important step to increase the protection capabilities of the country.
- The missile can be accurate on almost any goal in the world and can also avoid American equipment.
- Russian Nationalist says that the purpose of this launch was to increase the security and defense capacity of Russia.
- Zircon missile will fly nine times faster at the speed of the sound and its scope is up to 1,000 kilometers.
- Significantly, this step has been raised on behalf of Russia when stress continues on the border of Ukraine.
- The present test has been conducted in the scenario when the US has been warned that Russia has deposited more than 100,000 soldiers on the Ukrainian border.



Links:-

<https://www.indiatoday.in/science/story/russia-hypersonic-missile-test-frigate-submarine-vladimir-putin-1894598-2021-12-31>

INS Khukri decommissioned after 32-year service

Question: Consider the following statements:

- (1) INS Khukri, the first of the indigenously built missile corvettes, was decommissioned after 32 years of service
- (2) It was decommissioned at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- (3) The warship was built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MSD)
- (4) It was commissioned on 23rd August 1989

Which of the above are correct ?

- (a) Both 1 and 2 (b) Both 1 and 3 (c) 1, 2 and 4 (d) 1,2,3 and 4

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- INS Khukri (Pennant number 49), the first indigenously built Missile Corvette, was decommissioned after 32 years of service at Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.
- The warship was built by the Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders (MSD).
- It was commissioned on 23rd August 1989 and had been part of both the Western and Eastern Fleets.
- The ship was commissioned in Mumbai by Shri Krishna Chandra Pant, the then Raksha Mantri and Mrs Sudha Mulla, wife of late Capt Mahendra Nath Mulla. Commander (now Retired Vice Admiral) Sanjeev Bhasin was the first Commanding Officer.
- At the solemn ceremony, the national flag, naval ensign and the decommissioning pennant were lowered at sunset in the presence of Vice-Admiral Biswajit Dasgupta, the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Naval Command and some serving and retired former commanding officers of the ship.
- The first INS Khukri with pennant number 149, which was a Type 14 Blackwood-class frigate, was built by J. Samuel White in England.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.newindianexpress.com/states/andhra-pradesh/2021/dec/25/ins-khukri-decommissioned-after-32-year-service-2399551.amp>

Sports

Tennis

Australian Open Mixed Doubles 2022

QUESTION- Who among the following won the AUSTRALIAN OPEN MIXED DOUBLES TITLE 2022?

- (a) Kristina Mladenovic & Ivan Dodig (b) David Goffin & Jessica Pegulla
(c) Hugo Gatson & Paula Badosa (d) Jordan Thompson & Naomi Osaka

ANS-a

RELATED FACTS-



- Kristina Mladenovic of France and Ivan Dodig of Croatia defeated Australians Jaimee Fourlis and Jason Kumbler to win the title.
- Mladenovic also won the title here in 2014 with Daniel Nestor.
- Dodig has three other Grand Slam mixed doubles titles.
- The 2022 Australian Open is a Grand Slam Tennis tournament that is taking place at Melbourne Park, from 17 to 30 January 2022.

REFERENCE-<https://www.newindianexpress.com/sport/tennis/2022/jan/28/kristina-mladenovic-ivan-dodig-w-in-australian-open-mixed-doubles-title-2412310.html>

Cricket

Lucknow's IPL team to be called Lucknow Super Giants

Question: What is the new name of the Lucknow IPL team?

- (a) Lucknow Super Giants (b) Lucknow Ke Nawab (c) Lucknow Blasters
(d) Lucknow daredevils

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The Lucknow franchise of the Indian Premier League will be called Lucknow Super Giants.
- The official IPL team of Lucknow, owned by RPSG Group decided to crowdsource its name from its fans.
- Sanjiv Goenka, Lucknow IPL Team owner and RPSG Group Chairman unveiled the new name of the Lucknow IPL team in a video message on January 24, 2022.
- The Lucknow IPL team had decided to crowdsource its name from the fans under 'Naam banao naam kamao'.
- The India opener KL Rahul has been chosen as the captain of the new Lucknow IPL team and will be paid ₹17 crore.



Reference: <https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/cricket/lucknows-ipl-team-to-be-called-lucknow-super-giants-7739672/lite/>

ACC Under-19 Asia Cup

Question – Which of the following is not a correct option regarding the ACC Under-19 Asia Cup held on 31st December 2021?

- (a) The ACC Under-19 Asia Cup was held in the United Arab Emirates from 23 to 31 December 2021.
(b) India won its title by defeating Sri Lanka.
(c) India has won the ACC Under-19 Asia Cup title for the 8th time.
(d) Shaik Rasheed of India was adjudged 'Player of the Tournament'.

Answer—(d)

Related facts—

- The ACC Under-19 Asia Cup was held in the United Arab Emirates from 23 to 31 December 2021.

- India won its title by defeating Sri Lanka.
- India has won the ACC Under-19 Asia Cup title for the 8th time.
- Participating teams — India, Pakistan, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Afghanistan, Kuwait, Nepal and United Arab Emirates.
- The final match took place at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium.
- Due to rain, the final was reduced to 38 overs instead of 50 overs.
- Sri Lanka scored 106 runs in 38 overs for the loss of 9 wickets.
- Under the Duckworth-Lewis method, India got a target of 102 runs, which they achieved in 21.3 overs for the loss of 1 wicket and won the Under-19 Asia Cup title.
- India has won the Under-19 Asia Cup title for the third time in a row and for the 8th time in total.
- Harnoor Singh of India was adjudged the 'Player of the Tournament'.



Link:

<http://www.asiancricket.org/index.php/tournaments/acc-u19-asia-cup-2021/3499>

West Indies great Clive Lloyd given knighthood for services to cricket

Question: In January 2022, who among the following has received Knighthood for his services towards the game of cricket?

(a) Clive Lloyd (b) Brian Lara (c) Vivian Richards (d) GS Sobers

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Former West Indies Cricketer Clive Lloyd Receives Knighthood.
- The Former West Indies Captain Clive Lloyd received Knighthood from Prince William, the Duke of Cambridge at Windsor Castle, for his services towards the game of cricket.
- A knighthood is a title that is given to a man by a British king or queen for his achievements or his service to his country.
- A man who has been given a knighthood can put 'Sir' in front of his name instead of 'Mr'.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.republicworld.com/amp/sports-news/cricket-news/west-indies-great-clive-lloyd-given-knighthood-for-services-to-cricket-after-years-delay-articleshow.html>

AISCD Gets Approval To Hold First World Deaf T20 Cricket Championship In 2023

Question : when was The International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) established ?

a) 1925 b) 1924 c) 1936 d) 1939

Ans : b

Related Facts :

- The All India Sports Council of the Deaf said it has got the approval from the International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) to host the first World Deaf T20 Cricket Championship in Kerala from January 10 to 20, 2023.
- Honorary General Secretary, AISCD, G Suresh Kumar said the first World Deaf T20 cricket championship will be held in Thiruvanthapuram, Kerala from January 10 to January 20, 2023 .
- This championship was planned to be conducted in 2020-2021 but due to the sudden outbreak of coronavirus it was postponed first to 2022 and now fixed for January 2023.
- A minimum eight countries are expected to take part in the championship and this kind of international event is being held in India with the approval of the ICSD for the first time.
- About ICSD:
- The International Committee of Sports for the Deaf (ICSD) is the main governing body responsible for the organization of Deaflympics and other World Deaf Championships.
- Founded in 1924 and known as the CISS (Comité International des Sports des Sourds).



Links:

<http://www.ciss.org/icسد>

South African cricketer Chris Morris on Tuesday announced his retirement from all forms of cricket

Question : How many World Cup have South Africa won?

a) 2 b) 3 c) 1 d) None of these

Ans : d

Related Facts :

- South African cricketer Chris Morris on Tuesday announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- A right-arm pacer and explosive batter, Morris made his Test debut as late as 2016 and featured in only four games in the traditional format, making 173 runs and taking 12 wickets.
- He represented South Africa in four Tests, 42 ODIs and 23 T20 Internationals, picking up 48 and 34 wickets respectively.
- In February 2021, Rajasthan Royals doled out a record INR 16.25 crores to avail his services.
- Morris has also played for Delhi Capitals, Royal Challengers Bangalore and Chennai Super Kings franchises in the IPL.



Links:

<https://www.outlookindia.com/website/story/sports-news-chris-morris-south-african-all-rounder-announces-retirement-from-all-forms-of-cricket/409216>

Veteran Pakistan all-rounder Mohammad Hafeez retires from international cricket

Question: who is Current Caption of Pakistan cricket team?

a) Babar Azam b) Mohammad Rizwan c) Shoaib Malik d) Saqlain Mushtaq

Ans:a

Related fact:

- All-rounder Mohammad Hafeez has retired from international cricket after representing Pakistan in 392 matches over 18 years.
- He was recalled in 2020 for Twenty20 matches and finished the year as the world's leading run-scorer in the calendar year in the shortest format.
- The right-handed batsman scored 12,780 runs in international matches that included 55 Test matches, 218 ODIs and 119 T20s.
- During his long career, Hafeez, profoundly known as 'Professor,' represented Pakistan in three 50-over World Cups, six T20 World Cups and three ICC Champions Trophy tournaments.
- He was the member of the winning squad which won the ICC Champions Trophy in 2017 but missed the T20 World Cup in 2009 when Pakistan won the trophy in England.



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/sport/cricket/veteran-pakistan-all-rounder-mohammad-hafeez-retires-from-international-cricket/article38097250.ece>

Himachal Pradesh defeated Tamil Nadu to win their maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy

Question: Which state's team has won 'Vijay Hazare Trophy'?

(a) Himachal Pradesh (b) Maharashtra (c) Uttar Pradesh (d) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Himachal Pradesh defeated Tamil Nadu to win their maiden Vijay Hazare Trophy.
- The final against Tamil Nadu was the first major domestic final featuring Himachal Pradesh.
- Rishi Dhawan of Himachal Pradesh won the toss and elected to bowl first against Dinesh Karthik's Tamil Nadu.
- Due to poor light, the match was suspended at 5 pm, and Himachal has been declared the winner.
- The Vijay Hazare Trophy, also known as the Ranji One-Day Trophy, was started in 2002-03 as a limited-overs cricket domestic competition involving state teams from the Ranji Trophy plates.
- It is named after the legendary Indian cricketer Vijay Hazare.



Reference: <https://www.espncricinfo.com/story/vijay-hazare-trophy-2021-22-stats-himachal-pradesh-first-title-and-rishi-dhawan-all-round-brilliance-1294530?platform=amp>

Hockey

Women's Asia Cup Hockey 2022

QUESTION- Which country won the bronze medal at the 2022 Women's Hockey Asia Cup Tournament?

(a)INDIA (b)CHINA (c)NEPAL (d) MALAYSIA

ANS-a

Related facts-

- India defeated China, 2-0 to win the bronze medal at the 2022 Women's Hockey Asia Cup tournament.
- The 2022 Women's Hockey Asia Cup was the 10th edition of the quadrennial Women's Hockey Asia Cup.
- The tournament was held from January 21 to 28, 2022 at the Sultan Qaboos Sports Complex in Muscat, Oman.
- Japan defeated South Korea 4-2 in the final to win their third title at the Women's Hockey Asia Cup tournament.



Reference- <https://www.thehindu.com/sport/hockey/asia-cup-india-wins-consolation-bronze/article38341436.ece>

Football

Best FIFA Women's Player 2021 : Alexia Putellas

Question: Who won the Best FIFA Women's Player of the year 2021?

(a) Alexia Putellas (b) Jennifer Hermoso (c) Vivianne Miedema (d) Sam Kerr

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Spain and FC Barcelona midfielder Alexia Putellas was recognised as The Best FIFA Women's Player of the year 2021.
- Chelsea FC Women manager Emma Hayes was voted The Best FIFA Women's Coach for the first time in her career.
- Christine Sinclair, with 188 goals in 308 caps for Canada, received The Best FIFA Special Award for women's football.
- Alexia Putellas had been named the 2021 Ballon d'Or winner, the third woman to win the award since its inception in 2018.



Reference: <https://www.fifa.com/the-best-fifa-football-awards/media-releases/alexia-putellas-and-robert-lewandowski-crowned-the-best>

Chess

India's 73rd Chess Grandmaster

Question – Who has become the 73rd Chess Grandmaster of India in January 2022?

(a) M.R. Lalit Babu (b) Sankalp Gupta (c) Bharat Subramaniam (d) Mitrabha Guha

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- Bharat Subramaniam has become the 73rd Chess Grandmaster of India in January 2022.
- Chennai domiciled teenager completed his final GM Norm and crossed the requisite 2500 rating at Vergani Cup Open in Italy.
- Subramaniam finished seventh overall in the event held at Cattolica(itali) by scoring 6.5 points from nine rounds.
- To achieve the Grandmaster(GM) title, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points.



Link:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/sports/others/bharath-subramaniam-becomes-india-s-73rd-chess-gm-101641782965910.html>

Sports Miscellaneous

India's first multi-dimensional adventure sports

Question – In which country India's first multi-dimensional adventure sports expedition was organized in November 2021?

(a) Germany (b) France (c) Japan (d) Britain

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- On 7 January 2022, Defense Minister Rajnath Singh felicitated the team participating in India's first multi-faceted adventure sports campaign in New Delhi.
- India's first multi-dimensional adventure sports expedition conducted by National Institute of Mountaineering and Allied Sports (NIMAS) in France.
- The team was led by Director NIMAS Colonel Sarfaraz Singh, comprising 12 people – eight Army personnel and four youths of Arunachal Pradesh.
- **About expedition —**
- The expedition team carried out over 250 kilometres of winter trekking in the Alps Mountain Ranges, which included Tour De Mont Blanc trek covering the French, Swiss and Italian Alps.
- The paragliding team conducted 19 jumps/flights on the valley floor of the Alps from different mountain locations.



- It was followed by 975 kilometres of cycling from Alps Mountain Ranges to English Channel near Dunkirk via France, Switzerland and Belgium.
- The cycling activity was carried out in extreme cold weather condition where the team cycled on an average of 09-10 hours/day without any logistic vehicle.
- The Multi-dimensional Expedition culminated with 12 deep scuba dives in the Mediterranean Sea.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1788285>

Major Dhyan Chand Sports University

Question: On 2nd January 2022 PM Modi has laid foundation stone of Major Dhyan Chand Sports University at which place?

(a) Delhi (b) Rohatak (c) Meerut (d) None of the above

Ans: c

Recent Context

- On 2nd January 2022 Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of Major Dhyan Chand Sports University in Uttar Pradesh's Meerut.
- **Related Facts**
 - The sports university is being established at an estimated cost of ₹700 crore at the Salawa and Kaili villages of the Sardhana town in Meerut.
 - It has been planned with all the modern, state-of-the-art sports infrastructure – including a synthetic hockey ground, football ground, separate grounds for basketball, volleyball, handball, and kabaddi.
 - It will have the capacity of training 1,080 sportspersons, including 540 women and 540 men.
 - The university will also house facilities for shooting, squash, gymnastics, weightlifting, archery, canoeing, and kayaking, among other facilities.
- **About Major Dhyan Chand**
 - Major Dhyan Chand (29 August 1905 – 3 December 1979) was an Indian field hockey player.
 - He is widely regarded as the greatest field hockey player in history of the sport.
 - To honour him government has recently changed name of highest sports award in the country to Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna.



Reference:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/pm-modi-in-meerut-lays-foundation-of-major-dhyan-chand-sports-university-101641113163055.html>

Sports Personality

Hockey legend Charanjit Singh passes away

QUESTION-Which of the following former INDIAN hockey captain passed away recently?

(a) Charanjit Singh (b) Kishan Lal (c) Jaipal Singh Munda (d) K.D Singh

ANS-a

Related facts

- Charanjit Singh was the former Captain of India in 1964 Tokyo Olympics.
- India defeated Pakistan to win the gold medal.
- He was also part of the 1960 olympic games silver winning team and 1962 Asian games silver winning team.



Reference-<https://indianexpress.com/article/sports/hockey/hockey-legend-charanjit-singh-dies-7744031/>

Lilima Minz

Question – In January 2022, Indian women’s hockey team midfielder Lilima Minz announced her retirement from international career. How many goals has he scored in 156 matches for India?

(a) 25 (b) 22 (c) 15 (d) 12

Answer—(d)

RELATED FACTS – – –

- In January 2022, Indian women’s hockey team midfielder Lilima Minz announced her retirement from international career.
- She has scored 12 goals in 156 matches for India.
- Lillima made her international debut in the year 2011 with the Four Nations Hockey Tournament held in Argentina.



Reference:

<https://olympics.com/hi/news/lilima-minz-retirement-india-hockey-women-team>

Param Vishisht Seva Medal for Olympic champion Subedar Neeraj Chopra

Question: Neeraj Chopra to be awarded with which of the following award?

(a) Seva Medal (b) Uttam Seva Medal (c) Sarvootam Seva Medal
(d) Vishisht Seva Medal

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Subedar Neeraj Chopra was awarded Param Vishisht Seva Medal on 25th January 2022 for his distinguished service.
- Along with Chopra, 18 other serving and retired personnel of the Indian Army have been awarded Param Vishisht Seva Medal.
- Chopra was conferred with the Arjuna Award in 2018 and Vishist Seva Medal (VSM) in 2020 for his excellence in sports.



- Neeraj Chopra scripted history by bagging a gold in the final, throwing 87.58 metres in his second attempt. The effort made him the first Indian Olympian to win a gold medal in athletics.

Reference: <https://www.financialexpress.com/india-news/param-vishisht-seva-medal-for-olympic-champion-subedar-neeraj-chopra/2415857/>

ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year

Question : Who has recently(January 2022) been named as ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year ?

a. Smriti Mandhana b. Jhulan Goswami c. Sampa Guha d. Noel david

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Smriti Mandhana has recently(January 2022) won the Rachael Heyhoe-Flint Trophy for being the ICC's Women's Cricketer of the Year 2021.
- Smriti becomes only the second player, after Australia allrounder E. Perry, to win the highest individual distinction in the women's overall category of the annual ICC awards more than once.
- She was also nominated for the Women's T20I Player of the Year award, but that was won by England opener T. Beaumont.
- It is notable that Smriti was, named in the ICC Women's T20I Team of the Year.
- Smriti, who was named ICC Women's Cricketer of the Year and ODI Cricketer of the Year in 2018, pipped fellow opening batters Beaumont, L. Lee of South Africa, and G. Lewis of Ireland to the honour.
- Jhulan Goswami, who won the same award in 2007, is the only other Indian woman to ever win an ICC annual award.



Link:

<https://www.espnricinfo.com/story/icc-awards-smriti-mandhana-named-icc-womens-cricketer-of-the-year-1298658>

Sania Mirza: India tennis star to retire after 2022 season

Question : how much space do need for Tennis court ?

a) 7200 square feet b) 2500 square feet c) 7500 square feet d) None of these

Ans a

Related Facts :

- Former Wimbledon doubles champion Sania Mirza, one of India's most celebrated sports stars, has announced she will retire from tennis after 2022.
- Mirza, 35, became the first Indian to win a WTA singles title in 2005.
- The six-time Grand Slam winner also pointed out that as she was getting older, her knees were hurting a lot and it was not that easy to recover from the niggles.
- **Highlight Points :**



- After winning the first WTA doubles title with partner Liezel Huber; she received the prestigious “Arjuna Award” by the Government of India.
- **2005**- American news magazine “**Time**” named her amongst the “**50 Heroes of Asia**”. She gave notable performances in the Grand Slam Singles tournaments.
- **2006**- Received the fourth highest Indian civilian award “**Padma Shri**” by the Government of India
- **2005**– Honoured with the “**Rajiv Gandhi Khel Ratna Award**” after winning a total of ten WTA titles with two Grand Slams
- **2005**– Her name was inducted into the list of “**100 most influential people in the world**” by “**Time**” magazine. She also received the third highest Indian civilian award “Padma Bhushan”.

Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/sport/tennis/sania-mirza-to-retire-after-2022-season/article38291527.ece>

ICC’s ODI Team of the Year 2021

Question: Who has been announced as captain of the ICC’s ODI Team of the Year for 2021, recently announced by ICC?

(a) Virat Kohli (b) Babar Azam (c) Kane Williamson (d) None of the above

Ans: b

Related Facts

- International Cricket Council (ICC) has recently announced ICC men and women teams for the year 2021.
- Pakistan’s Babar Azam has been adjudged as captain of the ICC ODI Team-of-the-Year for 2021.
- No Indian player has found place on this team.
- In the women’s team Mithali Raj and Jhulan Goswami feature in the women’s ODI XI.
- Teams are as follows:
- Men’s ODI: Babar Azam (Capt.,) and Fakhar Zaman (Pak), Janneman Malan and Rassie van der Dussen (SA), Shakib Al Hasan, Mushfiquir Rahim (wk) and Mustafizur Rahaman (Ban), Wanindu Hasaranga and Dishmantha Chameera (SL), Paul Stirling and Simi Singh (Ire).
- Women’s ODI: Lizelle Lee (SA), Alyssa Healy (Aus), Tammy Beaumont (Eng), Mithali Raj, Heather Knight (Capt., Eng), Hayley Matthews (WI), Marizanne Kapp (SA), Shabnim Ismail (SA), Fatima Sana (Pak), Jhulan Goswami and Anisa Mohammed (WI).



Reference:

<https://www.thehindu.com/sport/cricket/three-indians-in-icc-test-team-of-the-year/article38298884.ece>

Three Indians in ICC Test Team-of-the-Year

Question: Who has been announced as captain of the ICC Test Team-of-the-Year for 2021, recently announced by ICC?

(a) Virat Kohli (b) Kane Williamson (c) Babar Azam (d) None of the above

Ans: b

Related Facts

- International Cricket Council (ICC) has recently announced ICC men and women teams for the year 2021.
- New Zealand's Kane Williamson has been adjudged as captain of the ICC Test Team-of-the-Year for 2021.
- 3 Indian players Rohit Sharma, Rishabh Pant & Ravichandran Ashwin have been included in this team.
- Team is as follows:
- Dimuth Karunaratne (SL), Rohit Sharma, Marnus Labuschagne (Aus), Joe Root (Eng), Kane Williamson (Capt. NZ), Fawad Alam (Pak), Rishabh Pant (wk), Ravichandran Ashwin, Kyle Jamison (NZ), Hasan Ali (Pak) and Shaheen Afridi (Pak).



Reference:

<https://www.thehindu.com/sport/cricket/three-indians-in-icc-test-team-of-the-year/article38298884.ece>

Short Notes

Personalities

Mrs World 2022: Mrs America Shaylyn Ford took the crown

Question: Recently Who won the Mrs World 2022 beauty pageant?

(a) Debanjali Kamstra (b) Shaylyn Ford (c) Navdeep Kaur (d) Jaclyn Stapp

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Mrs America, Shaylyn Ford, was crowned as 'Mrs World 2022' beauty pageant.
- Shaylyn Ford, a 37-year-old hails from Granville, Ohio and was the winner of Mrs American 2021.
- Mrs Jordan & Mrs UAE were the runner up.
- Mrs World 2022 pageant recently took place in Las Vegas, Nevada USA.
- Mrs World pageant is the first and the biggest beauty pageant for married women.
- It has been running since 1984 and features directors in 80 countries.
- Debanjali Kamstra, Mrs UAE, who was the second runner up in the pageant, scripted history as she represented UAE for the first time in the pageant.
- On the other hand, the second runner up, Mrs Jordan Jaclyn Stapp finished in second place.
- Mrs India Navdeep Kaur also made it to the top 15 and won the Best National Costume title.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.republicworld.com/amp/entertainment-news/others/mrs-world-2022-mrs-america-shaylyn-ford-takes-the-crown-uae-and-jordan-runner-ups-articleshow.html>

INDIAS FIRST FEMALE RAFALE PILOT

QUESTION-Who is INDIA'S first female rafale pilot who was also the part of Indian Air Force Tableau at the Republic Day celebrations 2022?

(a) BHAVANA KANTH (b) SHIVANGI SINGH (c) POOJA MISHRA (d) NIKITA SARKAR

ANS-(b)

RELATED FACTS-

- The country's first woman Rafale fighter jet pilot Shivangi Singh was part of the IAF tableau at the Republic Day parade.
- She is part of the IAF's Golden Arrows squadron based out of Ambala in Punjab.
- The IAF tableau was based on the theme — 'Indian Air Force transforming for the future'.
- The first batch of Rafale fighter jets arrived on July 29, 2020.
- India signed an inter-governmental agreement with France to procure 36 aircraft at a cost of Rs 59,000 crore.
- So far, 32 Rafale jets have been delivered to the IAF and four are expected by April this year.
- The Dassault Rafale is a French twin engine, multirole fighter aircraft designed and built by DASSAULT AVIATION.



Reference- <https://indianexpress.com/article/india/indias-first-woman-rafale-fighter-jet-pilot-part-of-iaf-tableau-7742439/>

Appointment of new chief economic advisor

QUESTION-Who has been appointed the new chief economic advisor to the GOVT OF INDIA in JAN 2022 ?

(a) K SUBRAMANIAN (b) V K GEORGE (c) Dr V ANANTHA NAGESHWARAN (d) ANIL SINGH

ANS-(c)

Related facts-

- Dr V A NAGESHWARAN has also been a part-time member of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister of India from 2019 to 2021.
- He holds a Post-Graduate Diploma in Management from the Indian Institute of Management, Ahmedabad and a doctoral degree from the University of Massachusetts in Amherst.
- The CEA is usually responsible for drafting the ECONOMIC SURVEY presented on the eve of the Budget.
- THE CEA is equivalent to rank of secretary to the GOVT OF INDIA.
- The CEA is head of Economic Division of the DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS ,MINISTRY OF FINANCE,GOVT OF INDIA.



Reference- <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetail.aspx?PRID=1793311>

Armen Sarkissian

Question : Armen Sarkissian resigned as the President of which country in January 2022 ?

(a) Belarus (b) Ukraine (c) Armenia (d) Ethiopia

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- Armenia's President Armen Sarkissian resigned in January 2022.
- He resigned from his post after a tenure of 4 years due to his inability to influence policy decisions in the country.
- He became the President of the country in the year 2018.



Link:

<https://www.aljazeera.com/news/2022/1/23/armenian-president-armen-sarkissian-resigns>

Wipro appointed Badrinath Srinivasan as the Managing Director for Southeast Asia

Question: Recently Who has been appointed as the Managing Director of Wipro Limited for Southeast Asia?

(a) Ramalingam Sudhakar (b) Pushp Kumar Joshi (c) Badrinath Srinivasan (d) V Muraleedharan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Wipro Limited has appointed Badrinath Srinivasan as the Managing Director for Southeast Asia.
- He will focus on Wipro's vision for business growth, revenue expansion, client and influencer relationships, talent development and brand building.
- He will also strengthen the key markets of Southeast Asia, focusing on large deals and strategic transformational engagements.



Reference: <https://www.wipro.com/newsroom/press-releases/2022/wipro-appoints-badrinath-srinivasan-as-managing-director-for-southeast-asia/>

Arun Purwar

Question : Former SBI boss Arun Purwar has recently(January 2022) been appointed as chairman of ____.

a. IIFL Finance b. Indiabulls Finance c. IFCL d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- IIFL Finance appointed former State Bank of India boss Arun Purwar as chairman of its board effective from April 1.
- The appointment was approved by the board of directors in a meeting held on January 2022.



- It is noteworthy that Purwar played an important role in starting SBI's life insurance company- SBI Life Insurance Company.
- IIFL Finance is a leading finance & investment services company in India, engaged in gold loans, business loans, personal loans and home loans etc.

Reference:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/iifl-finance-appoints-former-sbi-boss-as-chairman/articleshow/89162045.cms>

Highest-Paid Female Athlete

Question – In January 2022, the prestigious American magazine ‘Forbes’ released the list of the world’s highest paid female athletes. Which of the following options is not correct with respect to this list?

- (a) The list is topped by Japanese tennis player Naomi Osaka with a net worth of \$53.7 million.
- (b) American tennis player Serena Williams is at second place with earnings of \$ 45.9 million.
- (c) American gymnast Simone Biles is at the fourth position with a net worth of \$10.1 million.
- (d) Indian female badminton player PV Sindhu is at the eighth position with earnings of \$6.9 million.

Answer—(d)

Related facts—

- In January 2022, the prestigious American magazine ‘Forbes’ released the list of the world’s highest paid female athletes.
- Key points —
- The list is topped by Japanese tennis player Naomi Osaka with a net worth of \$53.7 million.
- American tennis player Serena Williams is at second place with earnings of \$ 45.9 million.
- American tennis player Venus Williams is in third place with earnings of \$11.3 million.
- American gymnast Simone Biles is at the fourth position with a net worth of \$10.1 million.
- Spanish tennis player Garbine Muguruza is in fifth place with earnings of \$8.8 million.
- South Korean golfer Jin Young is in sixth place with earnings of \$7.5 million.
- Indian female badminton player PV Sindhu is at the seventh position with earnings of \$7.2 million.
- Australian tennis player Ashleigh Barty is at the eighth position with earnings of \$6.9 million.
- American golfer Nelly Korda is in ninth place with earnings of \$5.9 million.
- American basketball player Candace Parker is at the tenth position with earnings of \$5.7 million.



Reference:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/sports/off-the-field/naomi-osaka-tops-forbes-list-of-highest-earning-female-athletes/articleshow/88883796.cms#:~:text=Japan's%20Naomi%20Osaka%2C%20a%20four,business%20magazine%20Forbes%20on%20Thursday.>

Question : Who was appointed as the new Ambassador of Russia to India in January 2022 ?

(a) Nikolay Kudashev (b) Davis Apalew (c) Denis Alipov (d) Nicolas Maduro

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- Denis Alipov has recently (January 2022) been named as Russia's new envoy to India.
- He will replace Nikolay Kudashev in this post.
- He is a career diplomat and dedicated India specialist with a lot of experience.



Reference:

<https://www.republicworld.com/india-news/general-news/denis-alipov-appointed-as-new-russian-ambassador-to-india-replacing-nikolay-kudashev-articleshow.html>

Nine of 12 Shaurya Chakra winners died in line of duty

Question : Who got the first Shaurya Chakra award?

a) Lieutenant Udhe Singh b) S Raja Manickam c) Lance Naik M Lakshmanan d) CQMH Ramakrishna Pillai

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- On the eve of the Republic Day 2022 the President approved awards of 384 Gallantry and other Defence decorations to Armed Forces personnel and others on the eve of 73rd Republic Day celebrations.
- These include 12 Shaurya Chakras, 29 Param Vishisht Seva Medals, 04 Uttam Yudh Seva Medals, 53 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals (AVSM), 13 Yudh Seva Medals, 03 Bar to Vishisht Seva Medals, 122 Vishisht Seva Medals, 03 Bar to Sena Medals (Gallantry), 81 Sena Medals (Gallantry), 02 Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry), 40 Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), 08 Nao Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty), and 14 Vayu Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty). Of the 12 Shaurya Chakras 6 have been awarded to the Central Reserve Police Force Personnel.
- Out of the 12 Shaurya Chakra awardees, six Indian Army officers were honoured with Shaurya Chakra for counter-terror operations in Jammu and Kashmir and Northeastern states.
- Out of the six, five were posthumously awarded. Naib Subedar Sreejith M. of the 17th battalion of Madras Regiment has been honoured posthumously for counter-terror operations in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Rifleman Rakesh Sharma of 5 Assam Rifles has also been honoured with Shaurya Chakra for counter-terror operation in Assam.
- Kashiray Bammanalli of Engineers Corps also received Shaurya Chakra posthumously.
- Anil Kumar Tomar of the Rajput Regiment has been honoured Shaurya Chakra posthumously for counter-terror operations in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Naib Subedar Sreejith M. of the 17th battalion of Madras Regiment has been honoured posthumously for counter-terror operations in Jammu and Kashmir.

Links :

<https://www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2022/jan/26/six-indian-army-soldiers-conferred-with-shaurya-chakra-2411332.html>

Badrinath Srinivasan

Question : Who has recently(January 2022) been appointed as Southeast Asia MD of Wipro ?

- a. Badrinath Srinivasan b. Raghunath Subramanian c. Vibha Jain
d. Maneesh Kharbanda

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Bengaluru-based IT services company Wipro has recently(January 2022) announced the appointment of Badrinath Srinivasan as the managing director for Southeast Asia.
- Badrinath will strengthen the key markets of Southeast Asia focusing on large deals and strategic transformational engagements as part of his mandate.
- In his most recent role, he was the Asia leader for the financial services and insurance verticals at Infosys.
- It is notable that Southeast Asia has been a strategic focus region for Wipro over the years and, even more so now, with the region's growing demand for comprehensive digital transformation solutions, agility and scale, specialised technology requirements and innovation.



Link:

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/information-tech/wipro-appoints-former-infosys-veteran-badrinath-srinivasan-as-southeast-asia-md/articleshow/89149045.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

Raghunath Subramanian

Question : Who has recently(January 2022) been appointed as global CEO in Enterprise SaaS platform Actyv ?

- a. Raghunath Subramanian b. Badrinath Srinivasan c. Mukul Verma d. Chandi Suresh

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Enterprise SaaS based platform Actyv.ai has recently(January 2022) appointed Raghunath Subramanian as its cofounder, global CEO and executive chairman.
- He has been an early investor in the company, will bring in technology, entrepreneurial and corporate expertise in his new role.
- Subramanian will be leading the firm's journey to take the BNPL x AI platform to enterprises, SMBs and banks/financial institutions across the world.
- **SaaS —**
- SaaS stands for — Software as a service.



- It is a software licensing and delivery model in which software is licensed on a subscription basis and is centrally hosted.
- **Actyv.ai** —
- It is an Enterprise SaaS platform with BNPL for B2B(business-to-business) embedded.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/enterprise-saas-platform-actyv-appoints-raghunath-subramanian-as-global-ceo/articleshow/89149470.cms>

Lt Gen Manoj Pande appointed as next Army Vice Chief

Question : Who is current Army chief ?

- a) General Manoj Mukund Naravane b) General Dalbir Singh Suhag
c) General Bipin Rawat d) None of these

Ans : a

Related Facts :

- By shortlisting Lieutenant General Manoj Pande as the Indian Army (IA)'s next Vice Chief of Staff.
- The Eastern Army Commander will be the next Army Vice Chief
- General Pande would be the successor to Lt Gen CP Mohanty who is scheduled to superannuate on January 31 ,2022
- General Pande was commissioned into the Corps of Engineers (The Bombay Sappers) in December 1982.
- He is a graduate of Staff College, Camberley (United Kingdom) and attended the Higher Command Course at Army War College, Mhow and National Defence College (NDC) at Delhi.
- During his 37 years of distinguished service, Pande hasPande has taken active part in Operation Vijay and Operation Parakram.



Links :

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/Lt-gen-manoj-pande-appointed-as-next-army-vice-chief-sources/articleshow/88969776.cms>

Vikram Dev Dutt Appointed As Chairman And Managing Director Of Air India

Question : When was Air India started in India ?

- a) 1937 b) 1938 c) 1932 d) 1943

Ans : c

Related Facts :

- Vikram Dev Dutt, an 1993-batch IAS officer of Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre, has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Air India.
- Dutt has been appointed the Air India CMD in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.



- Prior to this assignment, Dutt was serving as the Principal Secretary of the Services Department in March 2021.
- **History of Air India :**
- Air India will become a Tata-owned company this week as the government has decided to hand over the company to the Tata Group on January 27, 2021.
- Air India, formerly Air-India, airline founded in 1932 (as Tata Airlines) that grew into the flagship international airline of India.
- it serves southern and eastern Asia, the Middle East, Europe, Africa, Australia, the United States, and Canada. Headquarters are in Mumbai.
- The first scheduled service was inaugurated in 1932 by J.R.D. Tata, flying mail and passengers between Karachi, Ahmadabad, Bombay (now Mumbai), Bellary, and Madras (now Chennai).
- By 1939 routes had been extended to Trivandrum, Delhi, Colombo, Lahore, and intermediate points.
- After World War II, in 1946, Tata Airlines was converted into a public company and renamed Air-India Limited.

Links:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/airlines/-aviation/vikram-dev-dutt-takes-charge-as-air-india-cmd/articleshow/89043510.cms>

Chris Walker

Question : Ministry of Sports has recently(January 2022) approved the engagement of two-time World Squash Championships medalist __ as Foreign Coach for the Indian team for the Asian Games.

a. Chris Walker b. Tom Richards c. Alex Gough d. Adrian Grant

Ans.a.

Related facts —

- Ministry of Sports has recently(January 2022) approved the engagement of two-time World Squash Championships medalist Chris Walker as Foreign Coach for the Indian team for the Asian Games.
- He will be engaged for 16 weeks.
- He is a former England captain.
- His appointment was recommended by the Sports Authority of India' Selection Committee and officials of the SRFI.
- With Mark Cairns, Walker won the inaugural World Doubles Squash Championships in 1997.
- Walker won bronze medals in the 1993 and 1996 World Open Squash Championships and was part of the England teams that claimed silver medals in the World Team Championships in 1995 and 1997.
- **SRFI stands for** — Squash Racquet Federation of India.
- **Professional Squash Association world rankings of Indian players: —**
- Men: Saurav Ghoshal (16), Ramit Tandon (50), Mahesh Mangaonkar (51), Vikram Malhotra (71) and Velavan Senthilkumar (122).
- Women: Joshna Chinappa (10), Tanvi Khanna (77), Sunayna Kuruvilla (108), Akanksha Salunkhe (157), Urwashi Joshi (169).



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=230005>

Thounaojam Niranjay Singh

Question : Which record did Thounaojam Niranjay Singh break on January 2022 ?

- a. most push-ups (finger tips) in one minute
b. most chin-ups in one minute
c. most pull-ups in one minute
d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Thounaojam Niranjay Singh from Manipur broke the Guinness Book of World Records last week (in January 2022) for most push-ups (finger tips) in one minute.
- 24-year-old Niranjay improved on his old record of 105 push-ups, breaking Britain's Graham Malli's 13-year-old world record.
- Two-time Guinness World Record holder Niranjay did 109 push-ups in 1 minute in an effort in Imphal on January 15 last week.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/manipur-thounaojam-niranjay-breaks-guinness-book-of-world-records-for-most-push-ups-in-a-minute/video/89078074.cms>

Sierra Leone's President sacks Justice minister

Question: Who is of President Sierra Leone ?

- a) Julius Maada Bio b) Mohamed Juldeh Jalloh c) Justin Trudeau d) None of these

Ans : a

Related Facts :

- Sierra Leone's President Julius Maada Bio has sacked the attorney general who is also the justice minister.
- Anthony Yeiwoh Brewah has been replaced by Mohamed Lamin Tarawalley.
- The attorney general was then pictured at his house with Baimba Moi Foray – who had been convicted of the murder of a DJ – which sparked outrage.
- Yeiwoh Brewah who sat in a committee that made recommendations to the president for the pardoning of 160 inmates has since been replaced.



Links:

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Sierra-Leone%26%2339%3Bs-President-sacks-Justice-minister&id=433782#:~:text=Sierra%20Leone's%20President%20Julius%20Maada,one%20of%20the%20freed%20inmates.>

UNDP India's first youth climate champion

Question: Who has been appointed as UNDP India's first youth climate champion recently?

- (a) Virat Kohli (b) Manav Kohli (c) Prajakta Koli (d) None of the above

Ans: c

Related Facts

- Content creator and actress Prajakta Koli has become India's first UN Development Programme (UNDP) Youth Climate Champion under her partnership with the organisation.
- She has been appointed as Youth Climate Champion because of her contribution towards mental health, women's rights and girl child education through various global social campaigns.
- She will now have the responsibility of interacting with young minds to raise awareness around climate crisis, global warming and biodiversity loss and their impacts.
- About UNDP



- The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) is a United Nations organization tasked with helping countries eliminate poverty and achieve sustainable economic growth and human development.
- It is headquartered at New York, United States.

Reference:

https://www.business-standard.com/article/current-affairs/prajakta-koli-becomes-undp-india-s-first-youth-climate-champion-122012100472_1.html

Dileep Sanghani elected as IFFCO chairman

Question: Recently Who has been elected as the 17th Chairman of Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO)?

(a) Dileep Sanghani (b) Mangi Lal Danga (c) Balvinder Singh Nakai (d) Sambit Patra

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The board of Directors of the Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative (IFFCO) Limited has elected Dileep Sanghani, the former cabinet Minister of Gujarat as the 17th Chairman of IFFCO.
- He has been serving as the Vice-Chairman of IFFCO since 2019.
- The elections were held following the demise of incumbent Chairman Balvinder Singh Nakai.
- IFFCO is one of the major fertiliser companies in the country.
- It has also introduced Nano Urea in the country in liquid form.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/m.economictimes.com/industry/indl-goods/svs/chem/-/fertilisers/dileep-sanghani-elected-as-iffco-chairman/amp_articleshow/88995324.cms

Lt Gen Manoj Pande

Question : Sources in the government say that the proposal to appoint __ as the next Vice Chief of Army Staff has recently(January 2022) been approved.

a. Lieutenant General Manoj Pande b. Lieutenant General Bhavesh Jain
c. Lieutenant General CP Mohanty d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Sources in the government say that the proposal to appoint Lieutenant General Manoj Pande as the next Vice Chief of Army Staff has recently (January 2022) been approved.
- Manoj Pande would be replacing the incumbent Lieutenant General CP Mohanty who is due to superannuate on January 31.
- He has tenanted important staff assignments and was posted as Chief Engineer at the United Nations Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea.
- Pande was Director-General at Army Headquarters dealing with subjects of discipline, ceremonial and welfare.



Link:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/india/story/sources-say-govt-has-approved-proposal-to-appoint-lt-gen-manoj-pande-as-next-vice-chief-of-army-staff-1901413-2022-01-18>

Toshiki Kaifu, Former Japanese Prime Minister passes away at the age of 91

Question: Toshiki Kaifu passed away at the age of 91. He was the former Prime Minister of –

(a) China (b) South Korea (c) Japan (d) Indonesia

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- The former Prime Minister of Japan, Toshiki Kaifu passed away at the age of 91 years in Japan.
- He served as the PM from 1989 to 1991.
- He is known for sending the Maritime Self-Defense Force to the Persian Gulf in 1991.
- Kaifu who was born on January 2, 1931, in Nagoya City, began his political career as a lawmaker secretary.
- Kaifu was elected after Prime Minister Sosuke Uno, lost an election due to an extramarital affair.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.republicworld.com/amp/world-news/rest-of-the-world-news/toshiki-kaifu-former-japanese-prime-minister-passes-away-at-the-age-of-91-articleshow.html>

Narendra Kumar Goenka

Question – On January 17, 2022, who took charge as the new chairman of the Apparel Export Promotion Council?

(a) Dr. A. Sakthivel (b) Narendra Kumar Goenka (c) Rajeev Arora (d) G Sri Nivasan

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- Narendra Kumar Goenka took charge as the new chairman of the Apparel Export Promotion Council on 17 January 2022.
- Prior to this he was the Vice-Chairman of AEPC.
- He succeeded Dr. A. Sakthivel in this post.



- **AEPC —**
- It is the official body of garment exporters in India under the Ministry of Textiles.
- Which provides significant assistance to Indian exporters as well as importers/international buyers.
- It was incorporated in the year 1978.
- Headquarter – Gurugram Haryana.

Link:

<https://newsonair.gov.in/News?title=Narendra-Kumar-Goenka-appointed-as-new-chairman-of-AEPC&id=433680>

Power Ministry administers oath of office to New JERC Member

Question: Who has been appointed as new Member of JERC for Manipur and Mizoram ?

(a) Rengthanvela Thanga (b) Lal Chharliana Pachuau (c) Dr. T.C.A. Anant
(d) Dr. Lal Charan Singh

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- Union Minister for Power and NRE has administered Oath of Office and Secrecy to Shri Rengthanvela Thanga today(19 JAN 2022) as Member of JERC for Manipur and Mizoram.
- Prior to this, Rengthanvela Thanga was on the post of Registrar in High Court of Guwahati from 1999 to 2014.
- It is notable that Central Government constituted JERC for Manipur and Mizoram in pursuance of provisions of the Electricity Act, 2003 and the Memorandum of Agreement signed by the State Governments of Manipur and Mizoram, authorizing Government of India to constitute a JERC on their behalf.
- Joint Electricity Regulatory Commission (JERC) is a two-Member Commission, each Member representing the respective participating State.
- The major functions of the Commission under the Electricity Act, inter-alia, are to regulate the tariff for generation, supply, transmission and wheeling of electricity, whole sale, bulk or retail as the case may be within the State; to regulate the electricity purchase of distribution licensees, facilitate intra-state transmission and wheeling of electricity; issue licenses to transmission licensees, distribution licensees and electricity traders; promote cogeneration and generation of electricity from renewable sources of energy and adjudicate upon the disputes between the licensees and generating companies, etc.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1791023>

Kunal Tiwari

Question : GoKwik has recently(January 2022) appointed Amazon's __ as chief product officer.

a. Kunal Tiwari b. Gaurav Bansal c. Abhinav Chand d. Nakul Khanna

Ans. a.

Related facts

- GoKwik, an ecommerce enablement platform, has recently(January 2022) onboarded Amazon's Kunal Tiwari(KT) as its chief product officer.
- GoKwik aims to expand its product portfolio and further strengthen its existing product suite to offer support to D2C(direct to consumer) brands.
- KT has over 15 years of experience across banking, insurance, and e-commerce industries, will spearhead GoKwik's overall product strategy, execution and innovation.
- In past, he led multiple product portfolios, which ensured the safety and compliance of the Amazon's catalogue across 20+ marketplaces.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/technology/gokwik-appoints-amazons-kunal-tiwari-as-chief-product-officer/articleshow/88990702.cms>

Vikram Dev Dutt

Question : Who has recently(January 2022) been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Air India ?

a. Vishal Sharat Saxena b. Vikram Dev Dutt c. Mahesh Bhatt d. Nilesh Jain

Ans. b.

Related facts —

- Senior bureaucrat Vikram Dev Dutt has been appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Air India as part of a senior-level bureaucratic reshuffle effected by the Centre on January 18, 2022.
- He is a 1993-batch IAS officer of AGMUT (Arunachal Pradesh, Goa, Mizoram and Union Territory) cadre.
- Dutt has been appointed as the Air India chief in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/transportation/airlines/-aviation/vikram-dev-dutt-appointed-as-air-india-chief/articleshow/88977717.cms>

Umadevi

Question : Who has recently(January 2022) been appointed as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs as part of a major bureaucratic reshuffle ?

a. Shashank Goel b. B V Umadevi c. Shailesh Kumar Singh d. None of the above

Ans. b.

Related Facts —

- Senior bureaucrat B V Umadevi(1987-batch IFS officer of Chhattisgarh cadre) has been appointed as Additional Secretary in the Ministry of Home Affairs as part of a major bureaucratic reshuffle brought into effect by the Centre on January 18, 2022.
- She is currently Additional Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change.
- **Other reshufflements —**

1. Shashank Goel(1990-batch IAS officer presently in the cadre) has been named as Additional Secretary, MoLE. MoLE stands for — Ministry of Labour and Employment.
 2. Shailesh Kumar Singh, presently in Jharkhand cadre, appointed as Additional Secretary and Development Commissioner, Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises.
 3. Manish Kumar Gupta, Principal Commissioner of Delhi Development Authority under Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, has been appointed as Vice Chairman in the same department in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.
 4. Chanchal Kumar has been appointed as MD, National Highways and Infrastructure Development Corporation Ltd, Ministry of Road Transport and Highways in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.
 5. Ashish Srivastava, Additional Secretary in Ministry of Women and Child Development, has been appointed as Additional Secretary and Financial Adviser in Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
 6. Hari Ranjan Rao, Additional Secretary in the Department of Telecommunications, has been appointed as Administrator in Universal Service Obligation Fund under the Department of Telecommunications in the rank and pay of Additional Secretary.
 7. V L Kantha Rao, Additional Secretary and Director General (Acquisition) in Ministry of Defence have been appointed as Additional Secretary, Department of Telecommunications vice Hari Ranjan Rao upon his appointment as Administrator, Universal Service Obligation Fund.
 8. Pankaj Agrawal, Additional Secretary in Cabinet Secretariat, will be Additional Secretary and Director General (Acquisition) in Ministry of Defence vice V. L. Kantha Rao upon his appointment as Additional Secretary, Department of Telecommunications.
 9. Anuradha Thakur, Additional Secretary in Cabinet Secretariat, has been appointed as Additional Secretary, Ministry of Corporate Affairs.
- The ACC has also approved an extension in the central deputation tenure of Ashutosh Jindal, Additional Secretary in Cabinet Secretariat for a period of one year.
- ACC stands for — Appointments Committee of the Cabinet.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/centre-effects-major-bureaucratic-reshuffle-bv-umadevi-appointed-as-additional-secretary-in-mha/articleshow/88979580.cms>

Padma Shri social activist Shanti Devi passed away

Question: Padma Shri social activist Shanti Devi passes away at 88. She was also known as-

(a) Padma Devi (b) Lugdi Devi (c) Shri Devi (d) Amrita devi

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Odisha-based social worker and Padma Shri awardee Shanti Devi, who was remembered as the voice of the poor, has passed away. She was 88.
- Shanti Devi was also known as Lugdi Devi.
- She was known for her dedication towards the underprivileged community and restoring peace in the Maoist-affected areas in Odisha.
- Shanti Devi received the prestigious Padma Shri award from President Ram Nath Kovind on November 9, 2021.



- Shanti Devi began social work at an early age and founded the Seva Samaj ashram at Gunupur in Odisha.
- She worked towards the education of tribal girls

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/padma-shri-shanti-devi-dies-at-88-pm-modi-odisha-cm-extend-condolences-101642398472915-amp.html>

Olympic Medallist Lovlina Borgohain Appointed as Deputy SP by Assam Government

Question: Which Olympic winner has been appointed as DSP of Assam Police on 12th January 2021?

(a) Tayabun Nisha (b) Lovlina Borgohain (c) Hima Das (d) All of these

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Champion boxer and Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Lovlina Borgohain was on 12th January 2021, appointed by the Assam government as a deputy superintendent (DSP) in the state police force.
- Assam chief minister Himanta Biswa Sarma presented the 24-year-old boxing star with an appointment letter at a ceremony in Guwahati.
- He assured her of a monthly sum of ₹100,000 – apart from her salary – that is meant to cover requirements for training.
- Borgohain is the second sportsperson from the state to be appointed a DSP in Assam Police as per a new sports policy. In February last year, top sprinter Hima Das was given the same honour.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/assam-police-s-new-joinee-packs-a-punch-it-s-olympic-star-lovlina-borgohain-101642073458320-amp.html>

Birju Maharaj, legendary Kathak dancer, died at 83

Question: Legendary Dancer Pandit Birju Maharaj has passed away. He was famous for –

(a) Kathakali (b) Kathak (c) Kuchipudi (d) Odissi

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Legendary Kathak maestro, composer and singer, Pandit Birju Maharaj has passed away, due to age-related ailments.
- He was born as Brij Mohan Nath Mishra and popularly known as Maharaj Ji or Pandit Ji.
- Maharaj Ji was the doyen of the Lucknow Gharana of Kathak
- He was the recipient of Padma Vibhushan, country's second-highest civilian award.
- A book based on his life, titled Nritya Samrat Pt. Birju Maharaj, was launched in 2021.
- Brij Mohan Nath Mishra was born on February 4, 1938, a descendant of the Maharaj family of kathak dancers that included his two uncles, Shambhu Maharaj and Lachhu Maharaj, and his father and guru, Acchan Maharaj



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/wap.business-standard.com/article-amp/specials/a-life-in-dance-remembering-kathak-maestro-pandit-birju-maharaj-122011701334_1.html

Alikhan Smailov

Question: Recently, Mr. Alikhan Smailov elected as the new Prime Minister of which of the following country?

a) Kazakhstan b) Turkmenistan c) Uzbekistan d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- On January 11, Kazakhstan's President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev named Alikhan Smailov for Prime Minister.
- Kazakhstan's parliament has unanimously accepted the election of Alikhan Smailov as the country's new Prime Minister.
- Kazakh President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev nominated Smailov on 11 January, 2022.
- It should be noted that Smailov, 49, served as the country's finance minister from 2018 until 2020.
- In 2019, he was appointed as the Cabinet's first deputy prime minister.
- Smailov was the first deputy prime minister in Tokayev's last administration, which was dissolved last week amid protests in the oil-rich Central Asian country.



Links:-

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/alikhan-smailov-named-kazakhstans-prime-minister/article38231177.ece>

Viresh Kumar Bhawra

Question : Who has recently(January 2022) been named as DGP of Punjab ?

a. Viresh Kumar Bhawra b. Jayant Kuamr Banerjee c. Jaspal Malik
d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Viresh Kumar Bhawra has recently(January 2022) been named as DGP of Punjab.
- Beside this, Punjab govt transferred seven IPS officers including Senior Superintendent of Police, Ferozepur.
- IPS officer Harmandeep Singh Hans, SSP Ferozepur, has been posted as Commandant 3rd IRB, Ludhiana.
- Narinder Bhargav will be the new SSP Ferozepur. Hans was Ferozepur SSP during the recent "security lapse" in which Prime Minister Narendra Modi's convoy was stranded on a flyover.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/politics-and-nation/punjab-viresh-kumar-bhawra-appointed-as-new-dgp-9-cops-including-ssp-ferozepur-transferred/vedioshow/88776541.cms>

David Bennett : World's first human received a Pig Heart Transplant

Question: Who is the World's 1st person to have a Pig Heart transplant?

(a) David Bennett (b) David Ben (c) David Thomas (d) David Brown

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- David Bennett, a US man has become the first person in the world to get a heart transplant from a genetically-modified pig.
- David Bennett, 57, is doing well three days after the experimental seven-hour procedure in Baltimore.
- The transplant was considered the last hope of saving Mr Bennett's life, though it is not yet clear what his long-term chances of survival are.
- Pigs are increasingly becoming popular candidates for organ transplantation. This is because their organs are anatomically similar to those of humans. What's more, porcine components are more tuned for genetic engineering.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.bbc.com/news/world-us-canada-59944889.amp>

Ayesha Malik : First Woman Judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan

Question: Who has been appointed as the first woman judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan?

(a) Ayesha Haider (b) Ayesha Malik (c) Ayesha khan (d) Ayesha Gujjar

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Ayesha Malik has been appointed as the first woman judge of the Supreme Court of Pakistan.
- She will also be the senior-most serving judge and likely to become the Chief Justice of Pakistan in January 2030.
- She will work as a Supreme Court judge until June 2031 before retiring at the age of 65.
- The Judicial Commission of Pakistan (JCP), headed by Chief Justice Gulzar Ahmed, approved Malik's elevation by a majority of five votes against four.
- Justice Ayesha Malik was a partner at a leading corporate and commercial law firm before her elevation to the Lahore High Court as a judge in 2012.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.indiatoday.in/amp/world/story/pakistan-first-woman-supreme-court-judge-justice-ayesha-malik-1896935-2022-01-06>

Raghuvendra Tanwar has been appointed as chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research

Question : Where located head office of Indian Council of Historical Research(ICHR) ?

a) Maharashtra b) New Delhi c) Karnataka d) Uttar Pradesh

Ans:b

Related Facts :

- Raghuvendra Tanwar, a professor emeritus and former registrar of the Kurukshetra University, has been appointed as chairman of the Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) .
- As per a January 5, 2022 notification issued by Union ministry of education, Prof Tanwar's appointment is for three years.
- Prof Tanwar, who joined KU as lecturer in August 1977, has an outstanding academic record, with two gold medals in MA history.
- He was appointed as director of the Haryana Academy of History and Culture in 2016.
- Prof Tanwar is known for his study of India's Partition, particularly Punjab.
- About ICHR:
- The Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR) is an autonomous organization under the Ministry of Education Government of India
- It was established by the Ministry of Education & Social Welfare, Govt. of India (now, Ministry of Education) on 27th March 1972.
- The objectives of the Council as laid down in the Memorandum of Association (MoA) are as under:



- a) To foster objective and scientific writing of history such as to inculcate an informed appreciation of the country's national and cultural heritage
- b) To review the progress of historical research from time to time and indicate neglected or new areas where research needs to be especially promoted.
- c) To sponsor historical research programmes and assist institutions and organizations engaged in historical research.
- d) To maintain a National Register of research workers in history and their fields of specialization.
- e) To provide technical assistance for the formulation of historical research programme by individuals or institutions and to support institutional arrangements for training in research methodology.

Links:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/ku-historian-appointed-as-ichr-chairman-101641844771977.html>

Alka Mittal is interim ONGC head for six months

Question: Where located head office of ONGC ?

- a) New Delhi b) Kolkata c) Bihar d) None of these

Ans: a

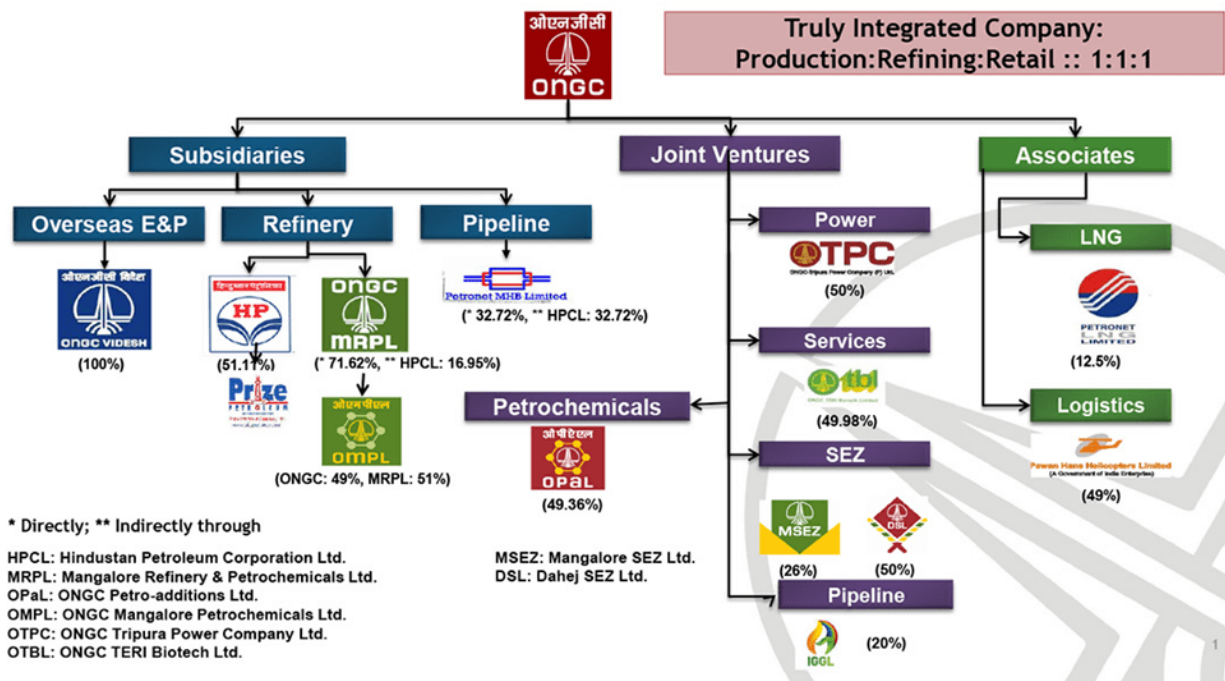
Related Facts :

- Alka Mittal has been appointed interim chairman and managing director of Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)—the first woman to head the country's largest oil and gas producer.
- The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the proposal of the Ministry



of Petroleum and Natural Gas for entrustment of additional charge of the post of Chairman and Managing Director (CMD), ONGC to Alka Mittal, Director (HR), ONGC for a period of six months with effect from January 1, 2022, or till the appointment of a regular incumbent to the post.

- Ms. Mittal is the first woman to head an oil and gas exploration and production company.
- **High light points :**
- ONGC was set up under the visionary leadership of Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru. Pandit Nehru reposed faith in Shri Keshav Dev Malviya who laid the foundation of ONGC in the form of Oil and Gas division, under Geological Survey of India, in 1955.
- A few months later, it was converted into an Oil and Natural Gas Directorate. The Directorate was converted into Commission and christened Oil & Natural Gas Commission on 14th August 1956.
- In 1994, Oil and Natural Gas Commission was converted in to a Corporation, and in 1997 it was recognized as one of the Navratnas by the Government of India. Subsequently.
- it has been conferred with Maharatna status in the year 2010.
- Maharatna ONGC is the largest crude oil and natural gas Company in India, contributing around 71 per cent to Indian domestic production.
- ONGC subsidiary HPCL is a Maharatna CPSE. HPCL has the second largest share of product pipelines in India .
- **ONGC Group of Companies:**



Links:

<https://www.ongcindia.com/wps/wcm/connect/en/about-ongc/ongc-at-a-glance/corporate-profile/>

NIMF launches Nippon India Nifty Auto ETF – India's first Auto ETF

Question: Who is CEO of NIMF ?

a) Mr. Sundeep Sikka b) Rupesh Patel c) Parekh Ashvin d) None of these

Ans: a

Related Facts:

- Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited (NAM India), asset manager of Nippon India Mutual Fund (NIMF), has announced the launch of Nippon India Nifty Auto ETF.
- The Auto ETF is an open-ended scheme replicating/ tracking Nifty Auto Index.
- The NFO will open on January 5, 2022 and close on January 14, 2022.
- The minimum investment amount required during New Fund Offer (NFO) is Rs 1,000 and in multiples of Re 1 thereafter.
- The ETF is fully designed to reflect the behaviour and performance of the Automobiles sector.
- It will be benchmarked against Nifty Auto TRI.

Links:

<https://www.cnbctv18.com/market/nippon-india-mf-launches-countrys-first-auto-etf-11997502.htm>

S Somanath

Question : Who has recently(January 2022) been appointed as the new chairman for India's space agency ?

a. S Somanath b. Mali Arun c. C Carlos d. Raman Dhami

Ans. a.

- S Somanath has recently(January 2022) been appointed as the new chairman for India's space agency.
- Somanath, a rocket scientist will replace K Sivan, who led the push to get private firms into India's space sector during his four-year term.
- He is currently director of Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), India's rocket development lab in Trivandrum.
- He led the development of country's most powerful rocket GSLV Mk-3, which will be used for the country's human space mission. He also worked on the workhorse PSLV rocket.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/science/senior-rocket-scientist-s-somanath-appointed-as-chief-of-isro/articleshow/88858617.cms>

Ittira Davis

Question : RBI has recently(January 2022) approved the appointment of Ittira Davis as managing director & chief executive officer of —

a. Ujjivan SFB b. Sjjivan SFB c. Magnum SFB d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- RBI has recently(January 2022) approved the appointment of Ittira Davis as managing director & chief executive officer of Ujjivan SFB for a period of one year.



- Newly appointee MD & CEO has been associated with Ujjivan since March 2015 and taken charge on January 14, ending a three-month vacuum at the top executive slot at the bank following the sudden exit of Nitin Chugh.
- It is notable that SC(Special Committee) of directors of the bank board which was formed to oversee the operations and administration in the absence of a managing director, was dissolved with effect from January 13.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/banking/finance/banking/rbi-approves-appointment-of-ittira-davis-as-md-ceo-of-ujjivan-sfb/articleshow/88874813.cms>

ICC Player of the Month (December 2021)

Question – On January 10, 2022, which of the following cricketers was chosen as the ICC Men’s Player of the Month for December 2021 ?

(a) Ejaz Patel (b) Mayank Agarwal (c) Mitchell Starc (d) David Warner

Answer—(a)

Related facts—

- On January 10, 2022, Ejaz Patel chosen as the ICC Men’s Player of the Month for December 2021.
- Ejaz Patel created history by taking 10 wickets in an innings against India while playing for New Zealand at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai in December.
- He has become the third player after Jim Laker and Anil Kumble to achieve this feat in Test Cricket.



Links :

<https://www.icc-cricket.com/media-releases/2443592>

Chris Morris

Question – Which IPL franchise team bought Morris for a record Rs 16.25 crore in the year 2021?

(a) Chennai Super Kings (b) Rajasthan Royals (c) Delhi Capitals
(d) Royal Challenger Bangalore

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- South Africa allrounder Chris Morris has recently(January 2022) announced his retirement from all forms of cricket.
- It is notable that Rajasthan Royals bought Morris for a record Rs 16.25 crore in the year 2021.
- During his 12-year old career Morris last represented South Africa during the 2019 ODI World Cup, a tournament where he was South Africa’s highest wicket-taker.
- Morris turned out for his country 69 times across the three formats, taking 94 wickets in all.
- In ODIs, he played 42 matches and took 48 wickets at an average of 36.58 and an economy rate of 5.56.



- His batting average of 20.30 perhaps did not reflect his skills as a batter, but significantly his strike-rate of 100.43 with the bat showed his abilities to be a gamechanger.

Links :

<https://www.espncriinfo.com/story/chris-morris-retires-from-all-cricket-at-34-1296354>

Jhulan Goswami

Question – Which Indian woman cricketer has been appointed by the Legends League Cricket(LLC) as its ambassador, in January 2022 ?

(a) Anjum Chopra (b) Jhulan Goswami (c) Smriti Mandhana (d) Harmanpreet Kaur

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- Jhulan Goswami has been appointed by the Legends League Cricket(LLC) as its ambassador, in January 2022.
- Jhulan will be the face of the League and also launch a special initiative to enhance women's participation in cricket.
- LLC also announced an All Women Match Official Team for the League.
- This is for the first time in cricket that an all-women Match Officials team would be officiating an entire men's league.



Link:

<https://sports.ndtv.com/cricket/legends-league-cricket-all-women-team-of-match-officials-announced-jhulan-goswami-rope-in-as-ambassador-2694189>

Tata Group to replace Vivo as IPL title sponsors from 2022

Question: Who is chairman of Indian Premier League ?

a) Brijesh Patel b) Sourav C Ganguly c) Jay shah d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- Tata Group will replace Chinese mobile manufacturer, Vivo as the title sponsor of the Indian Premier League from 2022.
- The Tata Group's association as title sponsors of IPL was discussed during the league's Governing Council meeting earlier in the day.
- VIVO had signed a 5-year deal in 2018 worth Rs 440 crore annually until 2022.
- However, the Chinese mobile manufacturer had a year of its contract paused in 2020 due to border tensions.
- Till the end of the 2023 edition, Tata Group will replace Vivo as the title sponsor of the cash-rich league.
- **High light points :**
- The Indian Premier League (IPL) is a professional men's Twenty20 cricket league, contested by ten teams based out of ten Indian cities.
- The league was founded by the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) in 2007.
- There have been fourteen seasons of the IPL tournament. The current IPL title holders are the Chennai Super Kings, winning the 2021 season.



- The venue for the 2020 season was moved due to the COVID-19 pandemic and games were played in the United Arab Emirates.
- The 15th edition of the Indian Premier League will have as many as 10 teams as two new teams, one from Ahmedabad and the other from Lucknow, are all set to join the cash-rich league.
- The Ahmedabad team will be owned by CVC Capital
- the RPSG Group won the Lucknow franchise with a bid of Rs 7090 crore.

Links:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/sports/cricket/story/tata-group-to-replace-vivo-chinese-mobile-maker-as-ipl-title-sponsors-from-2022-1898661-2022-01-11>

European Parliament President David Sassoli dies

Question: Who is New President of the European Parliament ?

a) Roberta Metsola b) Charles Michel c) Ursula von der Leyen d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts:

- European Parliament President David Sassoli has died in Italy on January 11, 2022.
- Sassoli, an Italian center-left politician, was also treated in a French hospital for pneumonia in September, Reuters reported, citing his office.
- Sassoli, has been president of the 705-seat parliament since 2019.
- Sassoli began his career as a journalist, becoming a household name when he joined Italian state broadcaster RAI.



Links:

<https://edition.cnn.com/2022/01/10/europe/david-sassoli-death-eu-parliament-intl-hnk/index.html>

IMF Managing Director Names Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas as IMF Economic Counsellor and Head of Research Department

Question : Who is Managing Director of IMF ?

a) Kristalina Georgieva b) Anshula Kant c) Warwick Brady d) None of these

Ans :a

- Kristalina Georgieva, Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund (IMF), announced today (January 10, 2022) her intention to appoint Pierre-Olivier Gourinchas as the Fund's Economic Counsellor and Director of the Research Department (RES).
- Mr. Gourinchas has had a long and distinguished career in academia.
- He joined UC Berkeley in 2003 and is currently the University of California at Berkeley's Faculty Director of the Clausen Center for International Business & Policy, and the S.K. and Angela Chan Professor of Global Management. Mr. Gourinchas was also assistant professor of economics at Princeton University from 1998 to 2003.
- Mr. Gourinchas, a French national, received a BA in Physics from École Polytechnique.



- He received his PhD in 1996 from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.
- High light point:
- The IMF was conceived in July 1944 at the United Nations Bretton Woods Conference in New Hampshire, United States.
- The 44 countries in attendance sought to build a framework for international economic cooperation
- The International Monetary Fund, or IMF, promotes international financial stability and monetary cooperation.
- The IMF is governed by and accountable to its 190 member countries.

Links:

<https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2022/01/10/pr2201-imf-managing-director-names-pierre-olivier-gourinchas-economic-counsellor-head-research-dept>

Marilyn Bergman: Oscar-winning lyricist dies at 93

Question: Marilyn Bergman: Oscar-winning lyricist dies .He was belong from which country ?

a) America b) Japan c) Australia d) England

Ans:a

Related Facts :

- Marilyn Bergman, the Oscar winning lyricist who collaborated with her husband Alan on The Way We Were and hundreds more songs, has died aged 93.
- She died on Saturday (January 8,2022)at her Los Angeles home.
- The Bergmans were nominated for 16 Academy Award nominations, winning three times – for The Way We Were from the 1973 Barbra Streisand film of that name, Windmills of Your Mind from The Thomas Crown Affair in 1968 and for their score for Streisand's Yentl in 1983.
- the Bergmans wrote a swarm of durable popular standards, including Fred Astaire's That Face (1957), Dean Martin's Sleep Warm (1958) and the laidback title track of Frank Sinatra's album Nice 'n' Easy (1960), all of these in collaboration with the composer Lew Spence.
- Marilyn was born in New York, in the same Brooklyn hospital where Alan had been born three years earlier.



Links:

<https://www.theguardian.com/music/2022/jan/12/marilyn-bergman-obituary>

Ex-RBI Governor Urjit Patel Appointed AIIB Vice President

Question : Who is President of AIIB?

a) Jin Liqun b) Carmen M. Reinhart c) Jérôme Jean Haegeli d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts:

- Former Reserve Bank of India (RBI) governor Urjit Patel has been appointed as a vice president of the Beijing-based multilateral funding institution Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) on Sunday(January 9,2022).
- India is a founding member of AIIB with the second highest voting share after China.



- Mr Patel, will be one of the five Vice Presidents of the AIIB with a three-year tenure.
- Mr Patel had taken over as the 24th Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) succeeding Raghuram Rajan on September 5, 2016.
- **Highlight Points:**
- The Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB) is a multilateral development bank that aims to improve economic and social outcomes in Asia.
- The bank currently has 104 members, including 17 prospective members from around the world.
- The bank was proposed by China in 2013 and the initiative was launched at a ceremony in Beijing in October 2014. It received the highest credit ratings from the three biggest rating agencies in the world.
- AIIB Headquarters in Beijing.

Links:

<https://www.ndtv.com/business/ex-rbi-governor-urjit-patel-appointed-vice-president-of-aiib-2697677>

China's veteran diplomat Zhang Ming takes over as new Secretary General of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)

Question : How many permanent member state of SCO ?

a) 9 b) 8 c) 7 d) 6

Ans : b

Related Facts :

- Veteran Chinese diplomat, Zhang Ming, has taken over as the new secretary-general of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) on 1st January 2022.
- Zhang, 65, took over the reins of Beijing based SCO from Vladimir Norov, a former diplomat from Uzbekistan who completed his term on 31st December.
- Before joining SCO, Zhang served for four years as the head of the Chinese mission to the European Union.
- The SCO comprises nine member states: India, Kazakhstan, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan, Iran.
- India joined SCO at the Astana summit in 2017.
- 2022 will be an important year for India at SCO as, for the first time, it will assume the presidency of SCO, after Uzbekistan, for the period 2022-2023 which will culminate with the SCO Summit to be hosted by the Indian side in 2023.



Links :

<https://ddnews.gov.in/international/china%E2%80%99s-veteran-diplomat-zhang-ming-takes-over-new-secretary-general-shanghai>

Captain Harpreet Chandi

Question: Which of the following is the first woman of colour, who recently completed a solo expedition to the South Pole?

a) Captain Harpreet Chandi b) Meenakshi Wadhwa c) Aditi Pant d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- On 3 January 2022; Captain Harpreet Chandi, a British-born Indian Sikh woman, reached the South Pole.
- With this achievement Chandi has become the first woman of colour to complete a solo expedition to the South Pole.
- Chandi, who has named herself as Polar Preet, was the part of her 700-mile solo trek across the Antarctic wilderness.
- She completed the amazing feat on the 40th day after having started the journey in the month of November, according to reports.
- The trip started on 7 November 2021, Chandi flew to Chile before embarking on the historic solo trek in Antarctica.
- During the trek, she had to carry a heavy holding kit, food, and also the fuel for 40 days.



Links:

<https://www.timesnownews.com/the-buzz/article/sikh-army-officer-harpreet-chandi-makes-history-becomes-first-woman-of-color-to-make-solo-trip-to-south-pole/846223>

France To Take Over EU Presidency in The New Year

Question: who is Current president of France?

a) Emmanuel Macron b) Jean Castex c) Dr. Olivier Véran d) Gabriel Attal

Ans:a

Related Facts:

- France takes over the presidency of the council of the European Union for six months, starting today January 1, 2022, until June 30th
- This presidency comes at a key period for French President Emmanuel Macron who is expected to run for re-election in April.
- The Council of Europe, founded in 1949, is an intergovernmental organisation made up of 47 member states, aimed at upholding human rights, democracy, and the rule of law in Europe.
- Emmanuel Macron has clearly announced that his main aim is to place Europe as a key and powerful global player within the international arena, “fully sovereign, free of its choices, and a master of its destiny.”



Links:

<https://impakter.com/france-eu-presidency-in-new-year/>

Ex-UK PM Tony Blair now ‘Sir Tony’, joins top royal order

Question: Who is current PM of UK ?

a) Boris Johnson b) Justin Trudeau c) Scott John Morrison d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts:

- Former British Prime Minister Tony Blair, the Duchess of Cornwall, and Baroness Amos are to be appointed as members of the Order of the Garter, England’s oldest and



- most senior order of chivalry.
- The former prime minister now will be known as 'Sir Tony', the BBC reported on Saturday (January 1,2022).
- Sir Tony led his party to a landslide victory in 1997 and won two subsequent general elections.
- Under Sir Tony's leadership, the UK joined the US-led invasions of Iraq and Afghanistan

Links:

<https://www.timesnownews.com/international/article/ex-uk-pm-tony-blair-now-sir-tony-joins-top-royal-order/845586>

Indian-origin Ashok Elluswamy was first employee to be hired for Tesla's Autopilot team

Question : who is founder of Tesla, Inc.?

- a) Elon Musk b) Lee Byung-Chull c) Fredrik Idestam
d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts:

- Tesla founder and CEO Elon Musk, who has been using social media to recruit people, has disclosed that Indian-origin Ashok Elluswamy was the first employee to be hired for his electric vehicle company's Autopilot team.
- Ashok was the first person recruited from my tweet saying that Tesla is starting an Autopilot team.
- Mr. Elluswamy was associated with Volkswagen Electronic Research Lab and WABCO Vehicle Control System.
- He holds a bachelor's degree in Electronics and Communication Engineering from the College of Engineering Guindy, Chennai and a Master's degree in Robotics System Development from Carnegie Mellon University.



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/international/indian-origin-ashok-elluswamy-was-first-employee-to-be-hired-for-teslas-autopilot-team-elon-musk/article38097322.ece>

V.S. Pathania takes over as Coast Guard Director General

Question : V.S. Pathania takes over as Coast Guard Director General what is motto of Indian Coast Guard ?

- a) Vayam Rakṣāmaḥ b) Strength's Origin is in Science
c) Space technology in the Service of mankind d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts:

- V.S. Pathania took over as the 24th Director General (DG) of the Indian Coast Guard on December 31 from Krishnaswamy Natarajan who retired from service.
- The Flag Officer is an alumni of the Defence Services Staff College, Wellington, and the National Defence College, New Delhi.



- He is a qualified helicopter pilot and holds a master's degree in defence & strategic studies from the University of Madras.
- In a career of over 36 years, Mr. Pathania has held several key appointments afloat and ashore and has also commanded all classes of Coast Guard ships namely Inshore Patrol Vessel 'Ranijindan', Offshore Patrol Vessel (OPV) 'Vigraha' and advanced OPV 'Sarang'.
- Mr. Pathania is the recipient of President's Tatrakshak Medal for Distinguished service.
- High light points :
- The Indian Coast Guard (ICG) is a maritime law enforcement and search and rescue agency of India with jurisdiction over its territorial waters including its contiguous zone and exclusive economic zone.
- The Indian Coast Guard was formally established on 1 February 1977 by the Coast Guard Act, 1978 of the Parliament of India
- The Coast Guard works in close cooperation with the Indian Navy, the Department of Fisheries, the Department of Revenue (Customs) and the Central and State police forces.
- Vice Admiral V. A. Kamath of the Indian Navy was appointed the founding Director-General. Prime Minister Morarji Desai inspected the Guard of Honour at the service's inauguration.

Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/vs-pathania-takes-over-as-coast-guard-director-general/article38086977.ece>

Indian Forest Service Officer CP Goyal appointed DGF&SS

Question: Who is Forest Minister of India?

a) Bhupender Yadav b) Hardeep Singh Puri c) Pralhad Joshi d) Arjun Munda

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- Indian Forest Service officer Chandra Prakash Goyal has been appointed as the Director-General of Forests & Special Secretary (DGF&SS), Ministry of Environment, Forests & Climate Change.
- The Appointments Committee of the Union Cabinet approved the appointment of the IFoS officer, according to an order dated December 27, 2021.
- He had returned to UP after being on central deputation as Joint Secretary in the Indian Department of Biotechnology
- 1986 batch IFS officer, was previously the Principal Chief Conservator of Forest in Uttar Pradesh Department of Forest



Links:

<https://thetimesbureau.com/cp-goyal-an-indian-forest-service-officer-has-been-named-dgfss-202112/>

PETA: Alia Bhatt India's 2021 Person of the Year

Question: Which of the following Bollywood actor has been named PETA's 2021 Person of the Year?

(a) Alia Bhatt (b) Katrina Kaif (c) Sara Ali Khan (d) Janhvi Kapoor

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Bollywood actor Alia Bhatt has been named PETA's 2021 Person of the Year for her work in support of an animal-friendly fashion industry.
- The actor had recently invested in Phool, the company behind Fleather, which makes vegan leather out of discarded temple flowers.
- Alia is known to advocate support for cats and dogs, and often uses her voice to call for stronger animal protection laws.
- People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals is an American animal rights organization based in Norfolk, Virginia, and led by Ingrid Newkirk, its international president.
- The nonprofit corporation claims that PETA entities have more than 9 million members and supporters globally.



Reference: <https://www.petaindia.com/blog/alia-bhatt-named-peta-indias-2021-person-of-the-year/>

Fossil hunter Richard Leakey dies at 77

Question: Consider the following statements:

(i) Richard Leakey's groundbreaking discoveries helped prove that humankind evolved in Africa.

(ii) He was national of Kenya.

Which of the above are correct?

(a) I (b) ii (c) Both i and ii (d) None

Ans: c

Related Facts

- Richard Leakey, Kenyan conservationist who campaigned against ivory trade has died at age of 77.
- He was also a fossil hunter who had found oldest near-complete human skeleton in 1984, dating from 1.5m years ago.
- The near-complete Homo erectus skeleton nicknamed Turkana Boy, it dated from approximately 1.5m years ago was dug by him in Africa and paved the for better understanding of human evolution.



Reference:

<https://www.theguardian.com/science/2022/jan/02/fossil-hunter-richard-leakey-who-showed-humans-evolved-in-africa-dies-at-77>

Places

SOUTH MAUBUANG BECOMES MIZORAM'S FIRST ODF PLUS VILLAGE

QUESTION-Which village in Mizoram has been declared its first ODF plus village ?

(a) Lunglei (b) Lawangtalai (c) South Maubuang (d) Lungsan

Ans-c

Related facts-

- South Maubuang in Aibawk block of Aizawl district in Mizoram has fulfilled all the criteria as per SBM-G Phase II guidelines.
- In 2021, the village was awarded the National Panchayat Award which entailed a prize money of Rs. 5 lakhs. which was used to improve solid waste management in every household.
- 98 per cent of the total households have arrangements for biodegradable waste material.
- The village constructed community compost pits, with SBM-G and MGNREGS funds at various institutions and schools.
- ODF plus village is defined as “a village which sustains its Open Defecation Free (ODF) status, ensures solid and liquid waste management and is visually clean.



REFERENCE- <https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1792971>

World's oldest living man, Saturnino de la Fuente, passed away at 112 in Spain\

Question: Saturnino de la Fuente García, the world's oldest person has died recently at the age of 112 years. He hailed from which country?

(a) Portugal (b) France (c) Spain (d) Argentina

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Guinness World Records holder for oldest person living (male), Saturnino de la Fuente García (Spain) has passed away at the age of 112 years and 341 days.
- The record holder was announced as the oldest man living at exactly 112 years and 211 days.
- He was born on February 11, 1909, in the Puente Castro neighbourhood of León in Spain.
- Thanks to his short height, only 1.50 m (4.92 ft), Saturnino recounts that he avoided being enlisted into the 1936 Spanish Civil War and, instead, established a flourishing shoemaker business.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.guinnessworldrecords.com/amp/news/2022/1/worlds-oldest-man-saturnino-de-la-fuente-garcia-dies-aged-112-689403>

Fossil “Omo I”

Question : Recently(January 2022) in which country archaeologists have discovered the world's oldest human fossil ?

a. Iraq b. Egypt c. Kango Dem. Rep. d. None of the above

Ans. d.

Related facts —

- Ancient human fossils discovered in Ethiopia may be 230,000 years old. Experts have claimed this in a recent(January 2022) study.



- These fossils are known as Omo I.
- The fossils were discovered in the late 1960s.
- These are believed to be one of the earliest examples of Homo sapiens fossils. So far, in previous studies, they were reported to be less than 200,000 years old.
- A new study from the University of Cambridge suggests that the fossils probably predate a massive volcanic eruption in the region that occurred 230,000 years ago.

Link:

<https://navbharattimes.indiatimes.com/world/science-news/archaeologist-discovers-oldest-human-fossils-in-ethiopia-dated-230000-year-old/articleshow/89011336.cms>

Darvaza Gas Crater

Question: Which country to close Darvaza Gas Crater which is popularly known as “Gateway to Hell”?

(a) Pakistan (b) Uzbekistan (c) Turkmenistan (d) Afghanistan

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Turkmenistan President orders closure of Gateway to Hell.
- Gateway to Hell is actually the Darvaza gas crater, and it is also called by names like ‘Door to Hell’ or ‘Gates to Hell’.
- It is located near Darvaza, Turkmenistan, and it is a popular tourist attraction in the country.
- The “Gates of Hell” is roughly 260 kilometers (160 miles) north of the Turkmen capital Ashgabat.
- The site is 60 meters (190 feet) wide and 20 meters (70 feet) at its depth.
- Gateway to Hell is a natural gas crater. It used to be a natural gas field which then collapsed into a cave and became a crater.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/travel-tourism/turkmenistan-president-orders-closure-of-gateway-to-hell-everything-to-know-about-the-tourist-attraction-near-darvaza/2404829/lite/>

Awards & Honors

Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve bags TX2 award

QUESTION- Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) which has been given the prestigious TX2 award is located in which state ?

(a)TAMIL NADU (b)KERALA (c)MADHYA PRADESH (d)GOA

ANS-a

RELATED FACTS-

- Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR) in Erode district has been given the prestigious TX2 award after its tiger numbers doubled to 80 since 2010.
- The awards are presented by the Conservation Assured Tiger Standards (CA|TS), Fauna and Flora International (FFI), Global Tiger Forum (GTF), IUCN's Integrated Tiger Habitat



- Conservation Programme (ITHCP), Panthera, UNDP, The Lion's Share, Wildlife Conservation Society (WCS) and WWF.
- Apart from the STR, the Bardia National Park in Nepal has won this year's TX2 award for doubling the population of wild tigers.
- Sathyamangalam wildlife sanctuary was declared a tiger reserve in 2013.
- The reserve is spread across 1,411.60 sq km and is an important link between the Nilgiris and Eastern Ghats landscape.
- In 2019, STR bagged the national award for showing the highest increment in the Management Effectiveness Evaluation (MEE) for registering the growth of over 30% in tiger population.
- **Project Tiger:**
- IT is a tiger conservation programme launched in April 1973 by the Government of India.
- The initiative is funded by the Union Govt. of India and administrated under the Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change.
- National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA) is the immediate supervising agency.
- It was launched from the Jim Corbett National Park of Uttarakhand.
- INDIA hosts more than 70% of the total Tigers in the world.

Reference- <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/sathyamangalam-tiger-reserve-bags-tx2-award/article38324024.ece>

29 Children Won Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2022

Question: Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2022 has been given to how many children?

(a) 27 (b) 29 (c) 31 (d) 25

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- A total of 29 children have been conferred the Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar this year for their achievements.
- In innovation (7), social service (4), scholastic (1), sports (8), art and culture (6) and bravery (3) Puraskar have been conferred.
- There are 15 boys and 14 girls among the awardees belonging to 21 states and union territories.
- In addition to the digital certificates, a cash prize of Rs 1 lakh each has been transferred to the bank accounts of the winners.
- Winners of last year's Bal Puraskar also received their certificates and cash prizes during the online event.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.ndtv.com/education/29-children-win-pradhan-mantri-rashtriya-bal-puraskar-2022-heres-list/amp>

PADMA AWARDS 2022

QUESTION-Which MINISTRY is associated with the distribution of PADMA AWARDS ?

(a) MIN OF HOME AFFAIRS (b) MIN OF DEFENCE (c) MIN OF SPORTS
(d) MIN OF CULTURE

ANS -A

RELATED FACTS

- Padma Awards – are conferred in three categories, namely, Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri.
- The Awards are given in various disciplines/ fields of activities, viz.- art, social work, public affairs, science and engineering, trade and industry, medicine, literature and education, sports, civil service, etc.
- 'Padma Vibhushan' is awarded for exceptional and distinguished service; 'Padma Bhushan' for distinguished service of high order and 'Padma Shri' for distinguished service in any field.
- The list comprises 4 Padma Vibhushan, 17 Padma Bhushan and 107 Padma Shri Awards. 34 of the awardees are women and the list also includes 10 persons from the category of Foreigners/NRI/PIO/OCI and 13 Posthumous awardees.
- General Bipin Rawat and Kalyan Singh were selected for PADMA VIBHUSHAN posthumously.
- Ghulam Nabi Azad and Buddhadeb Bhattacharjee were awarded with Padma Bhushan.
- Serum Institute of India's Cyrus Poonawalla was accorded with Padma Bhushan along with Natarajan Chandrasekaran, Chairman of Tata Sons.
- Olympian Neeraj Chopra, gold medallist at 2021 Tokyo paralympics Avani Lakhera and singer Sonu Nigam were given Padma Shri.
- Satya Narayana Nadella and Sundararajan Picha were accorded with Padma Bhushan.



REFERENCE- <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1792640>

The Assam government conferred 'Asom Baibhav' to Ratan Tata

Question: Who has been awarded with 'Assam Baibhav 2021'?

(a) Ratan Tata (b) Mukesh Ambani (c) Azim Premji (d) Gautam Adani

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The state government of Assam has conferred its highest civilian award 'Assam Baibhav' for the year 2021 on industrialist and philanthropist Ratan Tata.
- Ratan Tata has been awarded for "his exceptional contribution towards furthering cancer care in Assam".
- The award was presented by Assam Governor Jagdish Mukhi on January 24, 2022.
- Assam Baibhav is the highest civilian award in the State of Assam.
- The award carries a cash prize of ₹5 lakh (\$6,600).
- The recipient can avail medical treatment throughout his life at government expense.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.republicworld.com/amp/india-news/general-news/assam-to-confer-states-highest-civilian-award-asom-baibhav-to-ratan-tata-on-jan-24-articleshow.html>

Bantwal: 'Tunnel Man' Amai Mahalinga Naik to receive Padma Shri award

Question : Tunnel Man' Amai Mahalinga Naik, to receive Padma Shri Award. Amai Mahalinga Naik belongs from which state of India ?

a) Karnataka b) Tamil Nadu c) Odisha d) None of these

Ans : a

Related Facts :

- The Dakshina Kannada district administration on Wednesday felicitated Mahalinga Naik from Amai village in Bantwal taluk who has been chosen for the Padma Shri Award 2022 during the Republic Day celebrations.
- District in-charge Minister V. Sunil Kumar felicitated Mr. Naik in the presence of people's representatives and other dignitaries.
- Working as an agriculture labour plucking arecanuts and coconuts in and around Adyanadka, Mr. Naik, now 77, was gifted a two-acre barren land by landlord Amai Mahabala Bhat in 1978.
- Learning about the benefits of rainwater harvesting, Mr. Naik also dug over 300 pits in the government land abutting his farm to increase groundwater levels.
- **High light points:**
- The Padma Awards are one of the highest civilian honours of India announced annually on the eve of Republic Day.
- The Awards are given in three categories: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order) and Padma Shri (distinguished service).
- The Padma Awards are conferred on the recommendations made by the Padma Awards Committee, which is constituted by the Prime Minister every year
- The Government of India instituted two civilian awards-Bharat Ratna & Padma Vibhushan in 1954.
- The latter had three classes namely Pahela Varg, Dusra Varg and Tisra Varg. These were subsequently renamed as Padma Vibhushan, Padma Bhushan and Padma Shri vide Presidential Notification issued on January 8, 1955.

Links :

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/cities/Mangalore/mahalinga-naik-felicitated/article38330938.ece>

India's Koozhangal won best film award at 20th Dhaka International Film Festival

Question: Which Indian film has won the Best Film Award at the 20th Dhaka International Film Festival?

(a) Koozhangal (b) Semkhor (c) Shahrbano (d) Sunny

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Koozhangal from India won the best film award in the Asian Film Competition section at the 20th Dhaka International Film Festival which concluded in Dhaka.
- Apart from this, four more Indian entries were included among the 17 awards given away for the films during the concluding session.
- The 9-day long international festival featured over 225 films drawn from 70 countries around the globe.
- The best actor award was given to Jayasurya for Ranjith Sankar-directed film Sunny.



- Bangladesh's Information and Broadcasting Minister Hasan Mahmud gave away the awards as Chief Guest during the concluding session, which was organised at the National Museum auditorium in Dhaka and concluded on 23th January 2022.

Reference: <https://newsonair.com/2022/01/24/indias-koozhangal-wins-best-film-award-at-20th-dhaka-international-film-festival/>

FIFA The Best 2022 awards results: Lewandowski beats Messi, Ronaldo gets trophy, Puskas top goal named

Question : When was first fifa world cup held ?

a) 1930 b) 1935 c) 1936 d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- Lewandowski was voted the best men's player in the world on Monday (January 17 ,2022) retaining the FIFA award he won last year despite being left off the ballot paper filed by runner-up Lionel Messi.
- The Bayern Munich forward overturned the result last month of the Ballon d'Or prize where he placed second behind Messi, who finally led Argentina to a senior title at the 2021 Copa América. Mohamed Salah of Liverpool placed third.
- Lewandowski was the overwhelming choice of national team captains and coaches plus selected media in more than 200 countries, yet was almost caught by Messi, who got more than double the number of votes from fans worldwide than the Poland captain.
- **Highlight points :**
- In 1929, it was decided that the first ever World Cup would take place in Uruguay from 13 July to 30 July 1930.
- Thirteen nations would be participating after accepting invitations – no qualifications took place. In 18 matches, 70 goals would be scored including the first hat-trick in World Cup history by Guillermo Stábile
- All the matches would be played in the capital Montevideo at three different stadiums. The final would be played at Estadio Centenario with a capacity of 90,000.



Links :

<https://www.footballhistory.org/world-cup/1930-uruguay.html>

Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar 2021 – 2022

Question – On 12 January 2022, the Union Minister of State for Education, Subhash Sarkar started the Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar through virtual medium. When was this award first started?

(a) Year 2014-15 (b) Year 2016-17 (c) Year 2019-20 (d) Year 2015-16

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- On 12 January 2022, the Union Minister of State for Education, Subhash Sarkar started the Swachh Vidyalaya Puraskar(SVP) through virtual medium.
- It is notable that the award was started in year 2016-17.
- **Aim —**
- to create self-motivation and awareness about sanitation.

- **Categories —**
- The SVP 2021-22 is open to all categories of schools. i.e. Government, Government aided and Private schools in both rural and urban areas.
- The schools will be assessed through an online portal & mobile app in 6 sub-categories: Water, Sanitation, Hand Washing with soap, Operation and Maintenance, Behaviour Change and Capacity Building and the newly added category on COVID-19 Preparedness and Response and the system will generate the overall score and rating automatically.
- The schools have been given sufficient time till March 2022 to apply for the awards so that they can do so at an appropriate and safe time.
- **Internationally recognized five star rating system(IRFSRS) —**
- Schools shall be awarded at the District, State and National level based on an IRFSRS.
- Also, every school will get a certificate of participation showing the category-wise scores and overall rating of the school.
- At the National level, 40 schools will be selected for awards this year under the overall category.
- **Award money(AM) —**
- The AM for the schools has been enhanced this year from Rs. 50,000/- to Rs. 60,000/- per school, under Samagra Shiksha scheme.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1789429>

Robert Lewandowski won The Best Men's Player of the Year for 2021

Question: Who has won the Award of Best FIFA Men's Player 2021?

(a) Cristiano Ronaldo (b) Robert Lewandowski (c) Lionel Messi (d) Mohamed Salah

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Poland/Bayern Munich striker Robert Lewandowski was awarded the Best FIFA Players in men's football.
- Lewandowski won the Best FIFA Men's Player Award for the second straight year, after getting the first one in 2020.
- The Best FIFA Football Awards 2021 ceremony was held virtually in Zurich on January 17, 2022 to crown outstanding players for excellent achievement in football.
- The finalists for the 2021 Best Men's Player award are: Robert Lewandowski, Lionel Messi and Mohamed Salah.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/en.as.com/en/2022/01/17/soccer/1642436927_282404.amp.html

Navdeep Kaur won the award for the Best National Costume at Mrs World 2022

Question: Which Indian won Best National Costume at the prestigious Mrs World 2022 pageant?

(a) Navdeep Kaur (b) Navdeep Singh (c) Navdeep Malhotra (d) Navdeep Chopra

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- India's Navdeep Kaur has won the award for the Best National Costume at the prestigious Mrs World 2022 pageant in Nevada, Las Vegas on January 15, 2022.
- Navdeep Kaur, who is the winner of Mrs India World 2021, was representing the country at the Mrs World 2022.
- Navdeep wore a striking gold Avant Garde outfit inspired by the Kundalini Chakra. It was designed by Eggie Jasmin.
- 'Kundalini Chakra' symbolizes the movement of energy in chakras of the body from the base to the spine up through the crown.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.indiatoday.in/amp/lifestyle/celebrity/story/who-is-navdeep-kaur-india-s-representative-at-mrs-world-2022-1900668-2022-01-16>

National Startup Awards 2021

Question : Which state has topped in “National Startup Awards 2021” ?

a. Karnataka b. Maharashtra c. Gujarat d. Tamil Nadu

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Karnataka has bagged 14, the most by any state, of the 46 national startup awards that were announced and given away by the Ministry of Commerce & Industry on January 15, 2022.
- Ministry received 459 nominations from the state's startups.
- There were 2,177 applications from all over the country across several sub-sectors.
- **Karnataka's performance —**
- In 2021, the state has attracted Rs 1.60 lakh crore in FDI which was more than half of what flowed into the entire country.
- Of the 57,000 startups in the country, Karnataka is home to about 13,000.
- Bengaluru more than doubled its venture capital funding to 21.3 billion dollar in 2021.
- Karnataka is home to the highest number of agri-tech startups in the country and there is still a mountain of hard problems to solve for innovative entrepreneurs — the opportunity in agri-tech is huge.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/startups/karnataka-tops-in-national-startup-awards-walks-away-with-14-of-46-honours/articleshow/88939762.cms>

Satish Adiga got ICMR national award “Dr Subhas Mukherjee Award”

Question: Who has received ICMR national award “Dr Subhas Mukherjee Award”?

(a) Satish Adiga (b) Satish Mukherjee (c) Subhas Mukherjee (d) Subhas Adiga

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Dr Satish Adiga, a professor in the clinical embryology department at Kasturba Medical College (KMC), under Manipal Academy of Higher Education (MAHE), has been selected by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) for its national award.
- Adiga will receive Subhas Mukherjee Award from ICMR in



- recognition for his outstanding contribution to the field of in-vitro fertilization (IVF).
- He has contributed significantly to both clinical IVF and fertility research.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.thehindubusinessline.com/news/mahe-professor-gets-icmr-award/article38166946.ece/amp/>

Billie Eilish & Finneas and Hans Zimmer Win 2022 Golden Globes

Question: The Golden Globe Awards is conferred by Hollywood which Association ?

- a) Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA)
- b) Indian Film makers Association (IFMA) c) London Film Academy
- d) None of these

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- Billie Eilish and her brother Finneas have won the Golden Globe for best original song. The song is title track from the James Bond film "No Time to Die."
- Hans Zimmer won Best Original Score for his work on Dune.
- Lady Gaga was nominated for Best Performance By an Actress in a Motion Picture.
- The latter award was won by newcomer Rachel Zegler, who played Maria in the film.
- **High light points:**
- The Golden Globe Awards is conferred by Hollywood Foreign Press Association (HFPA) to personalities in the film and television industry for their outstanding work.
- In 1950, the foundation created a special honourary award for outstanding contributions to the entertainment industry as well and was presented to director Cecil B. DeMille.
- After the Oscars and the Grammy Awards, it is the third most-watched show, telecast in 167 countries.
- For The Golden Globe Awards The movie must be at least 70 minutes long and released for a seven-day run in the Greater Los Angeles area, while a TV programme must air in the US between the prime time hours of 8 p.m. and 11 p.m. The reality and non-scripted shows are not eligible.
- The qualifying period for all nominations is from January 1 through December 31.



Links:

<https://www.billboard.com/music/awards/2022-golden-globes-billie-eilish-hans-zimmer-win-1235016971/>

Union Jal Shakti Minister Announced 3rd National Water Awards

Question: Consider the following statements:

- (1) Uttar Pradesh has been adjudged as the Best State in water conservation efforts in the National Water Awards 2020
 - (2) The first National Water Award was launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti in 2018
 - (3) Ministry of Jal Shakti has presented 57 awards in 11 different categories
- Which of the above is/are correct?**

- (a) Only 2 (b) 1 and 2 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Union Minister of Jal Shakti Shri Gajendra Singh Shekhawat announced 3rd National Water Awards-2020.
- In the Best State category, Uttar Pradesh has been awarded first prize, followed by Rajasthan and Tamil Nadu.
- The award comes with a citation, trophy and cash prize.
- Muzaffarnagar in Uttar Pradesh received the best district award in the northern zone followed by Shahid Bhagat Singh Nagar in Punjab.
- Thiruvananthapuram in Kerala received the best district award in the southern zone.
- East Champaran in Bihar received the best district award in the eastern zone.
- Indore in Madhya Pradesh received the best district award in the western zone.
- The National Water Award was launched by the Jal Shakti Ministry in 2018 to recognise and motivate individuals and organizations doing exemplary work in the field of water resources management.
- Overall 57 awards have been announced in 11 categories.
- These include: Best State, Best District, Best Village Panchayat, Best Urban Local Body, Best Media (Print & Electronic), Best School, Best Institution/RWA/Religious organization for Campus usage, Best Industry, Best NGO, Best Water User Association, and Best Industry for CSR Activity.
- India's current water requirement is estimated to be around 1,100 billion cubic meters per year, projected to go up to 1,447 billion cubic meters by 2050.



Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1788293>

Danish Siddiqui Posthumously Gets Mumbai Press Club's RedInk Award

Question: Danish Siddiqui Posthumously Gets Mumbai Press Club's RedInk Award Instituted in which years ?

a) 2010 b) 2011 c) 2015 d) 2018

Ans: a

Related Facts :

- Chief Justice of India N V Ramana on Wednesday(December30,2021) presented the annual 'RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism', instituted by the Mumbai Press Club, in a virtual event.
- He presented the prestigious award to Siddiqui "for his spectrum of investigative and impactful news photography".
- Danish Siddiqui's wife Frederike Siddiqui received the award.
- Apart from Siddiqui and Jha, various other journalists were awarded in 12 categories as part of the 10th edition of the award event.
- Senior journalist Prem Shankar Jha, 83, was bestowed with the lifetime achievement award "for his long and distinguished career of incisive and analytical writing".
- **Highlight points:**
- The Red Ink Awards, also known as the Red Ink Awards for Excellence in Indian Journalism, are a set of annual awards given by the Mumbai Press Club in India to recognize excellence in journalistic achievements as assessed by a special jury. Instituted in 2010.
- Media professionals have been awarded under 12 major categories at the annual RedInk Awards for Excellence in Journalism, held by the Mumbai Press Club
- Photojournalist Danish Siddiqui, who was killed in Afghanistan while he was reporting earlier this year, was posthumously honoured as the 'journalist of the year'.

Links:

<https://mumbaiexpressclub.com/pages/aboutus>

Viral Desai bagged Global Environment And Climate Action Citizen Award 2021

Question: Who bagged the Global Environment And Climate Action Citizen Award 2021?

(a) Viral Desai (b) Viral Kapoor (c) Vijay Desai (d) Vijay Kapoor

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Surat's noted industrialist Viral Desai, popularly known as Greenman for his love for the environment, has been awarded the prestigious Global Environment and Climate Action Citizen Award in Dubai.
- Among the 28 personalities from 11 countries (which includes the United Kingdom(UK), the United States(US), New Zealand, France, and Malaysia,) who were honoured with this award, Viral Desai was the only Indian to win the honour for climate change.
- It is an environmental award, established by "Harvard Medical School Centre for Health and Global Environment".
- It is bestowed annually to an individual who is working to restore and protect global environment.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/theprint.in/ani-press-releases/greenman-viral-desai-honoured-with-global-environment-and-climate-action-citizen-award/788676/%3famp>

Global Entrepreneur of the Year Award

Question : Who has recently(December 2021) received the “Global Entrepreneur of the Year Award- Business Transformation” from The Indus Entrepreneurs(TiE) ?

a. K M Birla b. Ratan Tata c. Mukesh Ambani d. Adi Godrej

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Aditya Birla Group's chairman, Kumar Mangalam Birla received the Global Entrepreneur of the Year Award- Business Transformation from The Indus Entrepreneurs (TiE) based out of Silicon Valley on December 16, 2021.
- He is the first Indian Industrialist to receive the award for global entrepreneurship along with top global business leaders Satya Nadella, Elon Musk, and Jeff Bezos.
- **TiE —**
- It is a Silicon Valley non-profit supporting start-ups through networking and the raising of capital for new and experienced entrepreneurs.
- It was founded in 1992 by the trio of an Indian-American businessman and angel investor, Kanwal Rekhi; an MIT professor and founder of Cirrus Logic, Suhas Patil; and the founder of Gateway Design Automation, Prabhu Goel.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/company/corporate-trends/kumar-mangalam-birla-receives-global-entrepreneur-of-the-year-award-from-tie/articleshow/88323326.cms>

Operations & Campaign

Twitter launches “JagrukVoter” campaign to empower voters ahead of assembly elections

Question: Which technology platform launched the ‘JagrukVoter’ campaign?

(a) Facebook (b) Google (c) Microsoft (d) Twitter

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Twitter launched “JagrukVoter” campaign to empower voters ahead of assembly elections.
- The ‘JagrukVoter’ campaign aims to empower citizens with the “right knowledge before they cast their vote”.
- These initiatives are directed towards not just ensuring a high voter turnout, but also ensuring voters are involved, engaged and informed throughout the election cycle.
- The initiatives taken by Twitter include the launch of a customized emoji further supported with a “notification and reminder mechanism”.
- This will allow the voters to voluntarily sign-up for the reminders on the day voting starts.
- Twitter has launched a special emoji to support the conversation around #AssemblyElections2022.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/m.timesofindia.com/india/twitter-launches-jagrukvoter-campaign-to-empower-voters-ahead-of-assembly-elections/amp_articleshow/88876134.cms

Operations SardHawa : BSF

Question: BSF has launched “Operation SardHawa” in which State/Union Territory?

(a) Rajasthan (b) Jammu and Kashmir (c) Uttarakhand (d) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The Border Security Force, BSF launches Operation SardHawa in Rajasthan.
- Under the operation, the BSF increases the surveillance in the Pakistan border.
- It is usually launched in the Rajasthan border, especially in the Jaisalmer region.
- It is a regular annual exercise.
- It is launched in the month of January.
- The Operation SardHawa is conducted during winters.



- Operation GaramHawa is conducted during summers.
- This year, the Operation SardHawa is to be conducted between January 23 and January 28.
- With 186 battalions and over 2.4 lakh military personnel, the BSF is the largest border security unit in the world.
- The BSF also holds one of the largest women regiments in the world.
- BSF is the only paramilitary force in India that has its own marine, air and artillery regiments.
- It also has a unique Camel wing, specifically trained for desert combat.
- BSF is a Union Government Agency under the administrative control of the Ministry of Home Affairs.

Reference: <https://newsonair.com/2022/01/22/ahead-of-republic-day-bsf-launches-operation-sard-hawa/>

Commission & Committee

Panel to commemorate 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose

Question: who will be the chairman of committee formed to commemorate 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose?

a) Amit Shah b) PM Narendra Modi c) Prahlad Singh Patel d) None of the above

Answer: b)

Related Facts

- A high-level committee has been formed for commemoration of the 125th birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- Committee will be headed by PM Narendra Modi.
- The committee will decide on the activities for a year-long commemoration, beginning on January 23, 2021.
- Committee members consist of distinguished citizens, historians, authors, experts, family members of Subhas Chandra Bose, as well as eminent persons associated with the Azad Hind Fauj (INA).
- Committee will provide guidance for the commemoration activities in Delhi, Kolkata and other places associated with Netaji and the Azad Hind Fauj, both in India as well as overseas.



Reference: <https://theprint.in/india/modi-to-head-panel-to-commemorate-125th-birth-anniversary-of-netaji-subhas-chandra-bose/582567/>

Planning & Project

Grama One Programme launched by Karnataka

Question: Which government has launched 'Grama One', a technology-driven programme in rural areas?

(a) Andhra Pradesh (b) Kerala (c) Karnataka (d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Karnataka government has launched 'Grama One', a technology-driven programme.
- It would offer services of various government departments in rural areas of 12 districts.
- The services will be extended to all districts across Karnataka by the end of March.
- It enables access to a host of services offered by the departments of Agriculture, Horticulture, Revenue, Women and Children Development.
- March Grama One centre at gram panchayat would be linked to Tahsildar, Assistant Commissioner offices and Atal Seva Kendras to provide services.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.deccanherald.com/amp/state/top-karnataka-stories/karnataka-government-launches-grama-one-in-12-districts-centres-to-come-up-by-march-1074968.html>

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2022

Question : Which of the following statement is correct regarding Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar ?

- a. It is awarded in six categories b. It is awarded in five categories
c. It is awarded in seven categories d. It is awarded in eight categories

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi interacted with Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar (PMRBP) awardees on 24th January, 2022 via video conferencing.
- This year, 29 children from across the country, under different categories of Bal Shakti Puraskar, have been selected for PMRBP-2022.
- Each awardee is given a medal, a cash prize of Rs. 1,00,000/- and a certificate.
- The Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar is a civilian honour in India.
- It is given as recognition to children residing in India, above the age of 5 years and not exceeding 18 years (as on 31st August of respective year) with exceptional abilities and outstanding achievement in 6 fields of Innovation, Scholastic achievements, Sports, Arts & Culture, Social Service and Bravery, which deserve recognition.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1791598>

Madhya Pradesh: Naveen Rashtriya Pashudhan Mission Yojana

Question – In January 2022, in the meeting of the Madhya Pradesh cabinet, it was decided to implement the “Naveen Rashtriya Pashudhan Mission Yojana” of the Government of India in the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the state. Under this, how many sub-missions have been made in the “Naveen Rashtriya Pashudhan Mission” ?

- (a) 2 (b) 3 (c) 4 (d) 5

Answer—(b)
Related facts—

- In January 2022, in the meeting of the Madhya Pradesh cabinet, it was decided to implement the “Naveen Rashtriya Pashudhan Mission Yojana” of the Government of India in the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying in the state.
- The main objective of this scheme is cattle breed development, employment generation, increasing the productivity of animals and entrepreneurship development.
- Including the above activities in the “Rashtriya Pashudhan Mission”, three sub-missions have been formed.
- These three sub missions are – Submission on Breed Development of Livestock and Poultry, Fodder Development Submission and Innovation and Extension Submission.
- With the implementation of the “Rashtriya Pashudhan Mission”, the breed of animals will improve in the state, the productivity of the animals will increase, which will increase the income of the livestock owners.



Reference:

<https://www.bhaskarhindi.com/city/news/approval-for-formation-of-anand-department-name-of-spiritual-department-also-changed-328440>

Inauguration and foundation stone laying of various projects in Mauritius through virtual medium

Question : PM Modi and his Mauritius counterpart Pravind Kumar Jugnauth recently(January 2022) inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various projects in Mauritius through virtual medium. Which of the following is one of them ?

- a. 8 MW Solar PV Farm project b. 6 MW Solar PV Farm project
c. 4 MW Solar PV Farm project d. 3 MW Solar PV Farm project

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- PM Modi and his Mauritius counterpart Pravind Kumar Jugnauth recently(January 2022) inaugurated and laid foundation stone of various projects in Mauritius through virtual medium. These projects are —



1. The Social Housing Units Project(implemented as part of the vibrant development partnership between India and Mauritius)
2. Construction of a state-of-the-art Civil Service College(Prime Minister acknowledged the importance of Civil Service College project in nation building and offered to share learnings of Mission Karmayogi)
3. 8 MW Solar PV Farm (it involves the installation of 25,000 PV cells to generate approximately 14 GWh of green energy annually)

Key fact —

It is notable that Government of India in May 2016 had extended a grant of US\$ 353 mn to the Government of Mauritius as Special Economic Package (SEP) to execute five priority projects identified by Government of Mauritius, among others.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1791265>

Acquisition of Hungary's Starschema

Question : Which of the following has recently(January 2022) agreed to acquire Budapest-based Starschema for 42.5 million dollar ?

a. HCL Technologies b. TCS c. Infosys d. Tech Mahindra

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- HCL Technologies has recently(January 2022) agreed to acquire Budapest-based Starschema for 42.5 million dollar.
- This move aims to to bolster its data engineering services and presence in Central and Eastern Europe.
- The transaction is expected to close in March 2022.
- Acquirer will now be able to offer data engineering consulting and near-shore access to digital engineering services to a wider base of clients.
- **Starschema —**
- It provides consulting, technology and managed services in data engineering to Global 2000 companies in the US and Europe.

Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/information-tech/hcl-technologies-acquires-hungarys-starschema-for-42-5-million/articleshow/88899726.cms>

New Integrated Terminal Building inaugurated at Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport

Question – On January 4, 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new Integrated Terminal Building at Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport. In which state is this airport located?

(a) Tripura (b) Sikkim (c) Madhya Pradesh (d) Uttarakhand

Answer—(a)

Related facts

- On January 4, 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the new Integrated Terminal Building at Maharaja Bir Bikram Airport.
- The construction cost of this new integrated terminal building is approximately Rs 450 crore.
- Supported by the latest IT network-integrated system, the terminal building is spread over 30,000 square meters.
- On the occasion, the Prime Minister also launched two major development initiatives – Tripura Gram Samridhi Yojana and Project Mission of 100 Vidyaajyoti Schools.
- Tripura Gram Samridhi Yojana has been launched with the objective of achieving benchmark standards for service delivery in key areas of development at the village level.
- The areas selected under this scheme include household tap connections, domestic electricity connections, all-weather roads, toilets for each household, recommended vaccinations for each child, participation of women in self-help groups, etc.



- 100 Vidyajyoti Schools Project Mission aims to improve the quality of education in the state.
- Under this scheme, 100 existing higher/higher secondary schools are being converted into Vidyajyoti schools with state-of-the-art facilities and quality education.
- Around 1.2 lakh students from nursery to class 12 will be covered under the project and Rs 500 crore will be spent on this project in the next three years.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1787443>

In-principle approval for implementation of STARS (Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States) project

Question – In which state in January 2022, in-principle approval has been given for the implementation of the STARS (Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States) project?

(a) Madhya Pradesh (b) Maharashtra (c) Odisha (d) Rajasthan

Answer—(a)

Related facts—

- In the Madhya Pradesh cabinet meeting held in January 2022, in-principle approval was given for the implementation of STARS (Strengthening Teaching-Learning and Results for States) project.
- In the same meeting, approval was also given to constitute Anand Department and change the name of Spirituality Department.
- 'STARS' is a program sponsored by the Government of India, which has been approved in 6 states of Madhya Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Maharashtra, Odisha, Rajasthan and Kerala.
- The objective of this program is to improve the quality and governance of school education.
- Such activities and innovations are proposed under this project, which cannot be provisioned in the Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan.
- The STARS project consists of — Education for All, Samagra Shiksha Abhiyan, Sustainable Development Goals and National Education Policy 2020 Whole School Approach.



Link:

<https://www.ncrsamacharlive.in/news-details.php?more=3044>

Inauguration and foundation stone laying of various projects in Manipur by PM

Question – On January 4, 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various projects in Manipur. Which of the following is not correct in this regard ?

- (a) The Prime Minister inaugurated 13 projects in Imphal, Manipur costing about Rs 1850 crore.
- (b) Layed the foundation stone of 9 projects costing about Rs 2950 crore.
- (c) Layed the foundation stone of a state-of-the-art



cancer hospital in Kiyamgei.

(d) Laid the foundation stone of Manipur Institute of Performing Arts to be built at an additional cost of Rs 240 crore in Gurgaon, Haryana.

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- On January 4, 2022, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of various projects in Manipur. Some of these are –
 - a. The Prime Minister inaugurated 13 projects in Imphal, Manipur costing about Rs 1850 crore.
 - b. Laid the foundation stone of 9 projects costing about Rs 2950 crore.
 - c. Laid the foundation stone of a state-of-the-art cancer hospital in Imphal.
 - d. Laid the foundation stone of Manipur Institute of Performing Arts to be built at an additional cost of Rs 240 crore in Gurgaon, Haryana.
 - e. PM inaugurated the Steel Bridge built over the Barak River on NH-37, at a cost of over Rs 75 crore, which would decongest traffic between Silchar and Imphal.
 - f. PM also dedicated to the people of Manipur 2387 mobile towers built at a cost of around Rs 1100 crores.
 - g. He inaugurated ₹280 crore worth 'Water Transmission system of Thoubal Multi-purpose project', which will provide drinking water supply to the Imphal city; the Water Supply Scheme project built at the cost of Rs 65 crore, to provide safe drinking water to residents of ten habitations of Tamenglong district and the 'Augmentation of Senapati District Headquarter Water Supply Scheme' built at a cost of Rs 51 crore to provide a regular water supply to the residents of the area.

Reference:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1787385>

Mission Jeewan Raksha

Question: Mission Jeewan Raksha is associated with which of the following institution?

(a) Indian Army (b) Indian Navy (c) Railway Police Force (d) National Security Guard

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Mission Jeewan Raksha is associated with Railway Police Force.
- During the year 2021, RPF personnel saved 601 persons without any care for their own safety, going far beyond their call of duty.
- RPF has been saving lives in mission mode under "Mission Jeewan Raksha".



- RPF personnel have saved 1650 lives from the wheels of the running trains at railway stations in last four years under this mission.
- RPF personnel have been awarded with 09 Jeewan Raksha medals and one Gallantry Medals by Hon'ble President of India in recognition to their efforts in saving lives in last 4 years.

Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1787959>

Tamil Nadu CM launched 'Meendum Manjappai' scheme

Question: Which of the following state government has launched the 'Meendum Manjappai' campaign?

(a) Karnataka (b) Kerala (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Tamil Nadu

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Tamil Nadu Chief Minister K. Stalin on 23rd December, launched the 'Meendum Manjappai' campaign aimed at creating awareness on the usage of cloth bags instead of single-use plastic bags.
- The campaign is being organised by the state pollution control board.
- The Tamil Nadu government has taken a policy decision after Stalin assumed office as Chief Minister to promote use of cloth bags for shopping, and to stop the usage of plastic bags.
- The chief minister further added that electricity has been disconnected from 130 factories so far due to violations of the single-use plastics ban.
- The Tamil Nadu government has already banned 14 types of plastic materials.

Reference: <https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/tamil-nadu/stalin-goes-green-by-launching-meendum-manjappai-scheme/article38024068.ece>

Multiproduct Pipeline Project

Question: Which of the following place of should be filled in the blank in the statement given below?

On 28 December 2021; Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated Bina (MP) ——— (UP)

a) Varanasi b) Prayagraj c) Panki d) Jasra

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- On 28 December 2021; Prime Minister Narendra Modi dedicated Bina (MP)-Panki (UP) Multiproduct Pipeline Project to the nation.
- He has inaugurated the 356-kilometer Bina Refinery (Madhya Pradesh)-POL Terminal at Panki (Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh) Multiproduct pipeline project.
- It has a capacity of 45 million metric tonnes per annum, which cost Rs 1524 crore Rs. 1227 crores in UP and Rs. 297 crores in MP.
- The project was completed and commissioned one month ahead of schedule, in December 2021 (3 years after PNGRB approval), and on budget.
- It will allow for the safe and efficient evacuation of products from the Bina Refinery, as well as increased product availability in Eastern Uttar Pradesh, Central Uttar Pradesh, Northern Bihar, and Southern Uttarakhand.



- On this occasion PM also rode the Kanpur Metro Rail Project's completed section and took a metro ride from the IIT metro station to Geeta Nagar.

Links:-

<https://www.psuconnect.in/news/PM-inaugurates-Multiproduct-pipeline-project/30743/>

Treaty & Agreements

Reciprocal Access Agreement b/w Japan and Australia

Question: Japan signed 'Reciprocal Access Agreement (RAA)' with which of the following country?

(a) Australia (b) Austria (c) India (d) China

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:



- Japan has signed a historic Defence Agreement with Australia, to ensure a secure and stable Indo-Pacific region.
- It establishes a defence cooperation framework that will allow the stationing of troops in each other's countries along with the staging of joint training exercises and disaster support.
- The "quasi-alliance" between Japan and Australia has blossomed in recent years amid heightened geopolitical tensions and rising competition in the Indo-Pacific.
- Both countries share concerns over China's assertiveness and expanding maritime activities in the East and South China Seas.
- Australia-China relations have deteriorated in recent times, with China imposing economic and diplomatic sanctions, particularly in response to Australia's call for an inquiry into the origins of the Covid-19 virus.
- The Reciprocal Access Agreement is a bilateral defense and security pact between the governments of Australia and Japan that provides for shared military training and military operations.

Reference: <https://www.lowyinstitute.org/the-interpreter/japan-and-australia-ties-blossom#:~:text=Japan%20and%20Australia%20this%20month,training%20exercises%20and%20disaster%20support.>

Jio inks partnership with Finnish university to accelerate 6G research, standardization

Question: Jio has tied up with which country's University of Oulu to accelerate 6G research?

(a) Finland (b) Switzerland (c) Denmark (d) Sweden

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:



- Jio Platforms (JPL) signed a pact with the University of Oulu, Finland, to accelerate research and standardization in 6G technology.
- JPL and the University of Oulu will collaborate in Research and Development (R&D) of aerial and space communication, holographic beamforming, 3D-connected intelligence in cybersecurity, microelectronics, and photonics.

- The collaboration will develop competency with 6G enabled products in the defence, automotive, white goods, industrial machinery, consumer goods, efficient manufacturing, novel personal smart device environments, and experiences such as urban computing and autonomous traffic settings.
- JPL, established in October 2019 as a wholly owned unit of Reliance, houses the Mukesh Ambani-owned group's telecom business Reliance Jio Infocomm, the largest in the country, and other digital properties and investments. Reliance Jio though makes up the bulk of JPL's numbers.

Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/m.economictimes.com/industry/telecom/telecom-news/jio-inks-partnership-with-finnish-university-to-accelerate-6g-research-standardization/amp_articleshow/89020510.cms

Reliance Jio Rolls Out UPI Autopay, Partners NPCI

Question : when was Reliance Jio Launched in India ?

a) 2007 b) 2009 c) 2006 d) 2014

Ans : a

Related Facts :

- Telecom major Reliance Jio has become the first telecom company to launch UPI autopay facility for both prepaid and postpaid subscribers.
- Jio on Thursday (January 20, 2022) tied up with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) and become the first telecom firm to roll out this service in India.
- Jio users can now recharge or pay bills by setting standing instructions on the MyJio App using autopay feature.
- This new feature of Jio has made it the first player in the telecom industry to go live with the unique e-mandate feature that was launched by the NPCI.
- History of Reliance Jio :
- Reliance Jio Infocomm Limited, doing business as Jio, is an Indian telecommunications company and a subsidiary of Jio Platforms, headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.
- It does not offer 2G or 3G service, and instead uses only voice over LTE to provide voice service on its 4G network.
- The company was registered in Ambawadi, Ahmedabad, Gujarat on 15 February 2007 as Infotel Broadband Services Limited (IBSL)



Links :

<https://news.abplive.com/business/personal-finance/reliance-jio-rolls-out-upi-autopay-partners-npci-1504625>

Africa's first transmission PPP project in Kenya

Question – In January 2022, who has signed a joint development agreement with the All-Africa infrastructure investment platform 'Africa 50' to develop the Kenya transmission project on a public-private partnership basis?

(a) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (b) NTPC Limited (c) Adani Power Limited (d) NLC India Limited

Answer—(a)

Related facts—

- POWERGRID has recently(January 2022) signed a Joint Development Agreement with Africa50(an infrastructure investment platform), the pan-African infrastructure investment platform to continue to develop the Kenya Transmission Project on a ppp basis.
- Kisumu – Musaga transmission lines(KMTL) —
- The project entails the development, financing, construction, and operation of the 400kV Lessos – Loosuk and 220kV KMTL under a public-private partnership (PPP) framework.
- Significance —
- Once completed, it will be the first Independent Power Transmission(IPT) in Kenya and will set a reference point in Africa as the first financing of transmission lines on a PPP basis.
- It will also improve both the supply and reliability of power transmission in Western Kenya and further create a demonstration effect to help increase private sector investments into the expansion of Africa's power transmission networks, which is critical to bridging the continent's electricity access gap.
- Role of Powergrid —
- It will provide technical and operational know-how to the project, while Africa50 will bring its project development and finance expertise and will act as a bridge between the Kenyan government and private investors.
- This move underscores POWERGRID and Africa50's commitment to continue to dedicate resources to accelerate development activities on the project until financial close.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1789463>

REC : 'Perfect' scorer on MoU parameters for FY21

Question : Which of the following recently achieved a 'Perfect' score(best amongst all CPSEs) on MoU parameters for FY21 ?

a. REC b. NTPC c. PFC d. STC

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- REC Ltd recently achieved a 'Perfect' score(best amongst all CPSEs) on MoU parameters for FY21.
- It is Non-Banking Financial Company and a 'Navratna' enterprise under administrative control of the Ministry of Power.
- It has been evaluated as the highest score of 100 for FY21 for the targets and milestones set by the Department of Public Enterprises, Ministry of Finance under the rigorous and aspirational 'MoU' framework prescribed for the CPSEs.
- REC is the only Central Public Sector Enterprise to secure a Perfect score amongst the 123 CPSEs across 32 sectors(including power, railways, steel, mines, heavy industries, petroleum, defence among others) which were a part of the MoU evaluation exercise for the FY 21.
- REC is pertinent to mention that the power sector behemoth had registered its highest ever Net Profit of ₹8,362 crores in FY21, which was a 71% jump over the previous financial year.
- Its Net Worth also climbed by 24% to reach its highest ever at ₹43,426 crores as on 31st March 2021.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1792457#:~:text=REC%20is%20the%20only%20CPSE,exercise%20for%20the%20FY%2021.>

Haryana-Himachal signed MoU for construction of dam to revive Saraswati river

Question: Haryana state government has partnered with which state to revive the Saraswati river?

(a) Himachal Pradesh (b) Uttarakhand (c) Rajasthan (d) Uttar Pradesh

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Haryana and Himachal Pradesh government have signed MoU to revive the Saraswati River in Panchkula.
- Under this, Haryana Government will construct a dam and a reservoir in Adi Badri area near Yamunanagar district, which is situated on the border of Himachal Pradesh.
- Adi-Badri is considered as the origin of Saraswati river.
- The area will also get developed as a pilgrimage site.
- The cost of the project is estimated at Rs 215.33 crores and will be borne entirely by Haryana government.
- Dam will be delivered 224 hectares meter water from Som River.
- Saraswati River is a deified river mentioned in the Rig Veda and later Vedic and post-Vedic texts.
- It played an important role in the Vedic religion, appearing in all but the fourth book of the Rigveda.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.hindustantimes.com/cities/chandigarh-news/haryanahimachal-sign-mou-for-construction-of-dam-to-revive-saraswati-river-101642793379028-amp.html>

MoU between IEPFA-IGNOU

Question – On 12 January 2022, an MoU was signed between IEPFA and Indira Gandhi National Open University through whom to promote investor education and financial literacy among youth?

(a) Gyanvani Channel (b) Gyan Darshan Channel (c) Shiksha Vani Program (d) Diksha Portal

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- On 12 January 2022, an MoU was signed between IEPFA and Indira Gandhi National Open University through Gyan Darshan Channel to promote investor education and financial literacy among youth.
- The proposed lecture series of 75 episodes will be a live tele-lecturing series on 24×7 Gyan Darshan TV channel.
- Experts for the lecture series would come from renowned professional institutions and senior officials from Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority.
- Many other regulators would also deliver lectures on various investment-related topics.



- This tele-lecturing series is a part of the ongoing celebration of the 75th anniversary of India's Independence – “Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav”.
- It is notable that 26 episodes of the tele-lecturing series were earlier rolled out last year which were appreciated by all stakeholders.

Link:

<https://newsonair.com/2022/01/12/iepfa-signs-mou-with-ignou-for-promoting-investor-education-and-financial-literacy-through-gyan-darshan-channel/>

Adani Group-Posco MoU

Question: In January 2022, at which place Adani Group and POSCO have signed an agreement to set up an eco-friendly integrated steel mill?

(a) Mundra (b) Vapi (c) Bangalore (d) Kendrapara

Answer—(a)

Related facts—

- In January 2022, the Adani Group signed a non-binding MoU with South Korean company POSCO to explore business opportunities in areas including steel, renewable energy, hydrogen and logistics.
- This agreement has been made to cooperate in response to carbon reduction requirements.
- An investment of up to US\$ 5 billion is expected under this MoU.
- POSCO and the Adani Group have agreed to explore business collaboration opportunities including setting up of an eco-friendly integrated steel mill at Mundra, Gujarat and other ventures.
- Under this, the two sides will take advantage of the technical, financial and operational strengths of each company as well as explore other options for cooperation.
- It is noteworthy that POSCO and Adani have also signed an MoU with the Government of Gujarat for cooperation.



Link:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/business/india-business/adani-group-posco-sign-agreement-to-develop-steel-mill/articleshow/88868070.cms>

TCS Becomes Title Sponsor and Technology Partner of Toronto Waterfront Marathon Through 2026

Question: When was founded TCS ?

a) 1968 b) 1976 c) 1987 d) 1965

Ans :a

Related Facts :

- January 18, 2022: Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) (BSE: 532540, NSE: TCS) has partnered with Canada Running Series (CRS) to become the new title sponsor and official IT services and technology consulting partner of the Toronto Waterfront Marathon and Virtual Race through November 2026.



- TCS and CRS aim to modernize marathon running in Canada through a new official race app.
- The official race app will offer unlimited tracking of both in-person and virtual runners on the same racecourse map and let spectators create digital cheer cards to share messages of encouragement on social media.
- Runners will be able to share a link to friends and family that automatically initiates the app download with them already selected to be tracked.
- In addition, the app will incorporate augmented reality features that became popular during the pandemic to support both in-person and virtual runners, along with offering surprise-and-delight experiences.
- High light points :
- Tata Consultancy Services is an IT services, consulting and business solutions organization that has been partnering with many of the world's largest businesses in their transformation journeys for over 50 years.
- TCS offers a consulting-led, cognitive powered, integrated portfolio of business, technology and engineering services and solutions.
- TCS has over 556,000 of the world's best-trained consultants in 46 countries.
- TCS is the second largest Indian company by market capitalisation and is among the most valuable IT services brands worldwide. In 2015.
- It is a subsidiary of the Tata Group and operates in 149 locations across 46 countries.
- The TCS Toronto Waterfront Marathon is Canada's premier running event and the grand finale of the Canada Running Series (CRS). Since 2017.
- the race has served as the Athletics Canada national marathon championship race and has doubled as the Olympic trials. During the 2021 event.

Links :

<https://www.tcs.com/tcs-becomes-title-sponsor-technology-partner-toronto-waterfront-marathon-through-2026>

India-Israel Industrial R&D & Technological Innovation Fund (I4F)

Question : Experts from India and Israel has recently(January 2022) suggested expanding scope of I4F. Accordingly, I4F stands for —

- India-Israel Industrial R&D & Technological Innovation Fund
- India-Israel Industrial R&D & Technological Innovation Foundation
- India-Israel Industrial R&D & Technological Integrated Fund
- None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Experts from India and Israel has recently(January 2022) suggested expanding scope of I4F.
- Both countries approved 3 joint R&D projects worth 5.5 million \$ and suggested measures to create a broader India-Israel collaborative ecosystem.
- **I4F stands for —** India-Israel Industrial R&D & Technological Innovation Fund.
- It is actually a cooperation between the Department of Science and Technology (DST), Government of India, and the Israel Innovation Authority, Government of Israel to promote, facilitate and support joint industrial R&D projects between companies from India and Israel to address the challenges in the agreed 'Focus Sectors'.
- **Objectives —**



- It is aimed to promote, facilitate and support joint industrial R&D between India & Israel, which would lead to the co-development and commercialization of innovative technologies benefiting both countries.
- Global Innovation & Technology Alliance (GITA) is appointed to implement the I4F program in India, while Israel Innovation Authority is the implementing agency in Israel.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=1790952>

Partnership between RITES and CSIR-CRRI

Question : On which date has RITES signed an MoU with CSIR-CRRI to explore opportunities for cooperation in the infrastructure sector ?

a. 17 January 2022 b. 15 January 2022 c. 12 January 2022 d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- RITES has recently(17 January 2022) signed an MoU with CSIR-CRRI to explore opportunities for cooperation in the infrastructure sector.
- Under this agreement, RITES and CSIR-CRRI will collaborate for technical services, including consultancy assignments, knowledge sharing, and research & development etc.
- The partnership foresees the development of innovative and sustainable solutions that will drive the sector forward and can deliver significant value to associated stakeholders.
- RITES Limited is a Miniratna (Category – I) Schedule ‘A’ Public Sector Enterprise and a leading player in the transport consultancy and engineering sector in India, having diversified services and geographical reach.
- CSIR-Central Road Research Institute (CRRI), a premier national laboratory established in 1952, is engaged in carrying out research and development projects on design, construction and maintenance of roads and runways, traffic and transportation planning, utilization of industrial waste, landslide control, road traffic safety, pavement performance monitoring/evaluation, service life assessment of bridges.



Link:

https://rites.com/Upload/MediaGallery/PDF/3/MOU-RITES-CRRI_pdf-2022-Jan-18-12-0-39.pdf

MoU between HARERA & Jupitice Justice Technologies Private Limited

Question : For which purpose has HARERA recently(January 2022) signed an MoU with Jupitice Justice Technologies ?

a. For digitalization of complaint redressal system
b. For setting up of HARERA Headquarter's building
c. Both a. & b d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- HRERA(Haryana Real Estate Regulatory Authority), Gurugram has recently(January 2022) signed an MoU with Jupitice Justice Technologies for digitalization of complaint redressal system.
- **Objective —**
- Jupitice will design and build an exclusive digital RERA Court along with other technological expertise to HARERA to facilitate the dispute resolution.
- With this platform, the user will be provided with end-to-end abilities to plead and conduct entire proceedings under the Quasi-Judicial Mechanism, from filing of disputes to decision making, all on a single platform.
- Digital RERA Court will also support AI-enabled self-representation, while all the useful documents related to respective cases will be safely secured through the Blockchain-enabled digital locker.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/services/property/-cstruction/haryana-rera-signs-mou-with-jupitice-justice-technologies-for-digitalization-of-complaint-redressal-system/articleshow/89016496.cms>

Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship signs an MoU with IGNOU

Question : Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship has recently(January 2022) signed an MoU with IGNOU to link vocational education and training with higher education. Accordignly, which of the following is correct ?

- Under the partnership, 32 NSTIs will be associated with IGNOU
- Under the partnership, 42 NSTIs will be associated with IGNOU
- Under the partnership, 52 NSTIs will be associated with IGNOU
- None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship has recently(January 2022) signed an MoU with IGNOU to link vocational education and training with higher education.
- Under the partnership, 32 NSTIs, more than 3,000 Government ITIs, 500 PMKKs and nearly 300 JSS will be associated with IGNOU as Registration Centres, Examination Centres and Work Centres for hands on training.
- Initiative will benefit the trainees attached to National Skill Training Institutes, Industrial Training Institutes, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Kendras and Jan Shikshan Sansthans.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790778>

Scheme for grant of ex-gratia payment of difference between compound interest and simple interest

Question : Union Cabinet has recently approved Scheme for grant of ex-gratia payment of difference between compound interest(CI) and simple interest(SI) to borrowers in specified loan accounts. Accordingly, which of the following statement/s is/are correct ?

Statements —

1. The difference between CI and SI for six months(1.3.2020 to 31.8.2020) is considered.
2. Union Cabinet was chaired by PM.
3. The payment of ex-gratia amounting to Rs.973.74 crore has been approved.

Options

a. Only 1 b. Only 2 c. Only 3 d. All of the above

Ans. d.

Related facts



- The Union Cabinet chaired by Hon'ble Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has recently(January 2022) approved the payment of ex-gratia amount of Rs. 973.74 crore pertaining to remaining claims submitted by Lending Institutions (LIs) under Scheme for grant of ex-gratia payment of difference between compound interest and simple interest for six months to borrowers in specified loan accounts (1.3.2020 to 31.8.2020).
- **Benefits:**
 - By granting ex-gratia payment of difference between compound interest and simple interest during the six month moratorium period to distressed/vulnerable category of borrowers, irrespective of whether the borrower had availed of moratorium or not, the scheme would equitably help small borrowers bear the stress on account of the pandemic and get back on their feet.
 - Operational guidelines for the scheme are already issued with the approval of the Cabinet.
 - It is noteworthy that "Scheme for grant of ex-gratia payment of difference between compound interest and simple interest for six months to borrowers in specified loan accounts (1.3.2020 to 31.8.2020)" was approved by the Cabinet in October, 2020, envisaging therein an outlay of Rs 5,500 crore.
 - This was in context of COVID-19 pandemic. SBI is the nodal agency under this scheme.
 - SBI has disclosed that it has received consolidated claims of Rs 6,473.74 crore approx from lending institutions.
 - As Rs 5,500 crore has already been disbursed to SBI, approval of the Cabinet is now being sought for balance amount of Rs 973.74 crore.
 - Following category of borrowers were eligible for ex-gratia payment under the scheme:—
 - MSME loans up to Rs. 2 crore
 - Education loans up to Rs. 2 crore
 - Housing loans up to Rs. 2 crore
 - Consumer durable loans up to Rs. 2 crore
 - Credit card dues up to Rs. 2 crore
 - Auto loans up to Rs. 2 crore
 - Personal loans to professionals up to Rs. 2 crore
 - Consumption loans up to Rs. 2 crore

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790935>

India & Denmark agreed to initiate joint research and development on green fuels

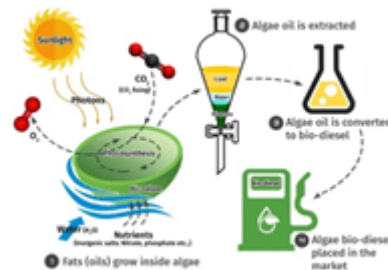
Question: the energy generated from which of the following source is not green energy?

a) Wind b) Water c) Coal d) Sunlight

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:-

- On 14 January 2022; India & Denmark agreed to initiate joint research and development on green fuels including green hydrogen.
- It should be noted that Green energy is any energy type that is generated from natural resources, such as sunlight, wind or water.
- The decision regarding this came out during the virtual Joint S&T Committee meeting between the representatives of the two countries.
- The Joint Committee discussed national strategic priorities and developments in Science, Technology and Innovation of both countries.
- The virtual meeting concluded with a special focus on green solutions of the future – strategy for investments in green research, technology, and innovation.
- The committee emphasized on development of bilateral collaboration on mission-driven research, innovation, and technology development.
- The discussion included matters like climate and green transition, energy, water, waste, food, and so on.
- It was in accordance with the Green Strategic Partnership – Action Plan 2020-2025 as agreed by the two Prime Ministers.
- They agreed to organise 3-4 webinars for partnership development and stressed on promoting call for proposals in green fuels, including green hydrogen.
- The Joint Committee also reviewed the progress of the ongoing projects of last two joint calls.
- These ongoing projects are being implemented in the areas of energy research; water; cyber-physical systems, and bio-resources & secondary agriculture.
- The meeting was co-chaired by Mr. S. K. Varshney, Adviser & Head, International Cooperation, Department of Science & Technology (DST), Govt. of India, and Dr. Stine Jørgensen, Deputy Director of the Danish Agency for Higher Education and Science, Govt. of Denmark.
- H.E Ms. Pooja Kapur, Ambassador of India in Denmark, and H.E. Mr. Freddy Svane, Ambassador of Denmark in New Delhi, also addressed the Joint Committee.
- On the Indian side, representatives from the Department of Science & Technology, Department of Biotechnology, Ministry of Earth Sciences, and Council of Scientific & Industrial Research participated in the deliberations.



Links:-

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1790951>

Acquisition of Israeli app CallHero

Question : Which of the following has recently(January 2022) entered into an agreement to acquire the Israeli company CallHero ?

a. Truecaller b. Whoscall c. Showcaller d. ViewCaller

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Sweden-headquartered Truecaller on January announced it has entered into an agreement to acquire the Israeli company CallHero.
- It is noteworthy that CallHero has developed a unique technical solution for both Android and iPhone, with an AI-enabled assistant.
- Truecaller's assistant can answer calls, take messages and even block your calendar and the feature will be integrated into Truecaller in a phased manner.
- The agreed purchase price amounts to \$4.5 million, of which \$2.6 million will be paid in cash upon completion of the acquisition and \$1.9 million through newly issued shares in Truecaller, the company announced.
- The acquisition, which will be financed through existing cash and newly issued shares in Truecaller AB, is subject to customary closing conditions and the acquisition is expected to be completed during the first quarter of 2022.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/tech/startups/truecaller-acquires-israeli-app-callhero-for-4-5-million/articleshow/88895829.cms>

New Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of NLC India

Question : Minister Pralhad Joshi Launched New Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of NLC India Ltd on January 17, 2022. NLC India Ltd is a —

a. Navratna PSU b. Maharatna PSU c. Mini Ratna Grade A d. Mini Ratna Grade B

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Minister Pralhad Joshi Launched New Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of NLC India Ltd on January 17, 2022.
- NLC India Ltd is a Navratna PSU.
- **New Rehabilitation & Resettlement Policy of NLC —**
- The new policy has provisions for enhanced amenities to project affected families.
- Under the new policy compensation to the affected villagers will be based on fair and transparent process.
- This policy will pave the way for sustainable livelihood and make every village Atma Nirbhar.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1790481>

Hero Future Energies – Ohmium collaboration

Question – On 6 January 2022, Hero Future Energies and Ohmium International have announced a strategic agreement to set up green hydrogen production plants of how much capacity in India, UK and Europe?

(a) 800 MW (b) 1000 MW (c) 1200 MW (d) 1500 MW

Answer—(b)
Related facts—

- On 6 January 2022, Hero Future Energies and Ohmium International have announced a strategic agreement to set up 1000 MW green hydrogen production plants in India, UK and Europe.
- Hero Future Energies is a leading developer of Solar, Wind and Hybrid/BESS projects.
- Ohmium International is a company specializing in the design, manufacturing and installation of PEM electrolyzers.
- It is noteworthy that hydrogen is used in steel and chemical production, fertilizer production, refinery and many other processes.
- This causes carbon emissions on a very large scale.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/industry/renewables/hero-future-energies-ties-up-with-ohmium-to-set-up-1gw-green-hydrogen-facilities/articleshow/88729565.cms>

Acquisition of shares in Sutherland Global Holdings

Question – On January 11, 2022, Competition Commission of India approved the acquisition of shares in ‘Sutherland Global Holdings Inc.’ by Coral Blue Investment Pte Ltd (“GIC Investor”). GIC Investor is a special purpose company incorporated as a private limited company in which country?

(a) America (b) Sweden (c) Singapore (d) Mauritius

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- The Competition Commission of India recently (January 2022) approved acquisition of shares in Sutherland Global Holdings Inc by Coral Blue Investment Pte Ltd (GIC Investor).
- GIC Investor is wholly-owned by GIC Blue Holdings Pte Ltd, an entity which is in turn wholly-owned by GIC (Ventures) Private Limited.
- GIC Investor is a special purpose vehicle organized as a private limited company in Singapore.
- Sutherland is a privately held holding company, incorporated in the United States of America.
- Sutherland operates as a holding company and is a global information technology service provider specializing in the provision of integrated business process outsourcing (BPO), business transformation, cloud, back office, and front office services, business process and technology management services.



Competition Commission of India

Links :

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1789125>

Agreement to facilitate electricity trade between India and Nepal

Question – Nepal Power Exchange Limited has signed a business agreement with which Indian power company on January 10, 2022 ?

(a) JSW Energy Limited (b) Manikaran Power Limited (c) Torrent Power Limited
(d) Tata Power Company Limited

Answer—(b)

Related facts—

- Nepal Power Exchange Limited(NPEL) has recently(January 2022) signed a business agreement with Manikaran Power Limited.
- Aim — to facilitate electricity trade between India and Nepal.
- Under this agreement, NPEL will sell electricity generated by the domestic private sector to India through Manikaran Power Limited(MPL).
- This is for the first time that the private sector of Nepal and India have signed an agreement to facilitate power trading between the two countries.
- The agreement will allow Nepal to sell more than 490 MW of electricity to India in the initial phase.
- Under the agreement, MPL will invest in 15 per cent of shares belonging to Nepal Power Exchange, which is equivalent to NRs 300 million.
- Once the agreement comes into effect, it will pave the way for the Nepal Power Exchange to sell electricity produced by the private sector via MPL.
- The Nepal Power Exchange now has to receive a licence from the government.



Links :

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/nepal-power-exchange-ltd-signs-deal-with-indias-manikaran-power-to-sell-electricity/articleshow/88816773.cms>

India-UK Joint Media Statement on Launch of FTA Negotiations

Question : On which date have India and United Kingdom formally launched negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement ?

a. 13 JAN 2022 b. 12 JAN 2022 c. 11 JAN 2022 d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- India and United Kingdom formally launched negotiations for a Free Trade Agreement(FTA) on 13 JAN 2022.
- Both countries have agreed that the first round of negotiations will begin on 17 January, and future rounds of negotiations will take place approximately every five weeks.
- This announcement has been made by Piyush Goyal and UK Trade Secretary, Anne-Marie Trevelyan.
- A India-UK Free Trade Agreement would be a substantial opportunity for both of our economies and a significant moment in the India-UK bilateral relationship.
- This FTA would be a substantial opportunity for both of our economies and a significant moment in the India-UK bilateral relationship.
- Background —
- The India-UK bilateral trading relationship is already significant, and both sides have agreed to double that bilateral trade by 2030, as part of Roadmap 2030 announced by the PM Narendra Modi and Prime Minister Boris Johnson in May 2021.



- India and the UK will seek to agree a mutually beneficial agreement supporting jobs, businesses and communities in both countries.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1789653>

Conference

National Conference on Agriculture for Summer Campaign

QUESTION- What is the other name of 'National Conference on Agriculture for Summer Campaign?

- (a) Rabi Conference (b) Zaid Conference (c) Kharif Conference
(d) Cash Crop Conference

ANS-b

RELATED FACTS-

- Recently, Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare has conducted the 4th National Conference on Agriculture for Summer Campaign 2021-22
- He emphasised upon the production of zaid crops.
- Zaid or summer crops are grown in the short season between kharif and rabi crops, between march and july
- These crops are mostly grown on irrigated lands and therefore, the farmers do not wait for the monsoon.
- Area under cultivation of zaid crops including rice has increased progressively 2.7 times from 29.71 lakh hectares in 2017-18 to 46 lakh hectares in 2020-21.
- Zaid season crops: Paddy, corn; pumpkin, cucumber, tomato; almonds, peanuts, cashews; Gram, lentil, etc



Reference- https://agricoop.nic.in/sites/default/files/Minutes-07-Feb-2020%20_0.pdf

Fourth Asia Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation

Question – The “Fourth Asian Ministerial Conference” on Tiger Conservation was held virtually from 19 to 21 January 2022. Who represented India in this?

- (a) Rajnath Singh (b) Piyush Goyal (c) Bhupendra Yadav (d) Dr. S. Jaishankar

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- The “Fourth Asian Ministerial Conference on Tiger Conservation” was held virtually from 19 to 21 January 2022.
- It was organized by Malaysia and Global Tiger Forum.
- This conference is an important event to review the progress of the global tiger recovery program and commitments towards tiger conservation.
- Union Environment, Forest and Climate Change Minister Bhupendra Yadav represented India in this meeting through virtual medium.



- Speaking on the occasion, he said that India will facilitate tiger range countries in the course of finalizing the New Delhi Declaration for the 'Global Tiger Conference' to be held in Vladivostok, Russia later this year.

Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1791473>

Conference on PM-Gati Shakti for South Zone

Question – Recently on which date the conference on PM-Gati Shakti was organized virtually for the South Zone?

- (a) January 16, 2022 (b) January 19, 2022 (c) January 17, 2022
(d) January 15, 2022

Answer—(c)

Related facts—

- A virtual conference on PM-Gati Shakti for the South Zone was organized by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways on 17 January 2022.
- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Nitin Gadkari inaugurated the conference.
- In this conference, the Ministry deliberated on its action plans and projects for PM-Gati Shakti for South Zone.
- The conference aims to achieve a roadmap for the State Master Plan along with creation of PM-Gati Shakti institutional framework at State level in order to have proper planning, management and scheduling of projects of all the infrastructure Ministries in coordination with the State Governments, which in turn will result in efficient implementation and time-bound project completion.
- It is to be known that Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'PM-Gati Shakti-National Master Plan' for multi-modal connectivity in New Delhi on 13 October 2021.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaselframePage.aspx?PRID=1790205#:~:text=Shri%20Nitin%20Gadkari%20to%20inaugurate,Zone%20on%2017th%20January%202022&text=Ministry%20of%20Road%20Transport%20and,its%20action%20plans%20and%20projects.>

Law & Justice

Khuntkatti Law

Question: Khuntkatti' law, which was seen in the news, is practised in which Indian of the following state?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh (b) Uttarakhand (c) Bihar (d) Jharkhand

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- A man was beaten by some villagers for allegedly cutting off trees illegally and selling them. The man was burned alive in front of police, for violating the 'Khuntkatti' law practised in Jharkhand.
- Khuntkatti' system is joint ownership or holding of land by tribal lineage.



- Under the system, Munda tribals usually clear the forests and make the land fit for cultivation. The cultivable land is then owned by whole clan and not a particular individual.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.newindianexpress.com/nation/2022/jan/04/jharkhand-man-brutally-thrashed-burnt-alive-for-violating-khuntkatti-laws-2403052.amp>

MoHUA Climate Change Awareness Campaign

Question: Which ministry is organizing a MoHUA Climate Change Awareness Campaign as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav?

- (a) Ministry of Home Affairs (b) Ministry of Environment and Climate Change
(c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs(MoUHA) (d) None of the above

Ans: c

Recent Context

- MoUHA has recently announced its Climate change awareness campaign to be held under the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- **Related Facts**
 - Ministry is also organizing a photography competition under the campaign.
 - Both the events will be held in Surat, Gujarat on February 4th and 5th 2022. Events will be held as a part of ministry's preparatory activities under the Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.
 - Both the event are open for participation till 26th January 2022.
 - Both the events aim to raise concerns regarding climate change, advance climate action in cities and inform the participants of alternative approaches.

Reference:

<https://www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/ministry-of-housing-and-urban-affairs-organises-climate-change-awareness-campaign-and-national-photography-competition20220103202545/>

Year, Day & Week

74th Martyrs' Day observed on 30 January 2022

QUESTION- Martyr's Day is observed every year on 30 JAN in the memory of _?

- (a)MAHATMA GANDHI (b)INDIRA GANDHI (c)SUBHASH CHANDRA BOSE
(d)RAJIV GANDHI

ANS-a

Related facts-

- Martyr's Day is observed every year on 30 JAN in the memory of MAHATMA GANDHI .
- The day is observed to remember the sacrifices made by freedom fighters in the struggle for India's independence and to pay our respect to them.
- Other Martyrs' Day observances in India



- March 23: The anniversary of the deaths of Bhagat Singh, Sukhdev Thapar and Shivaram Rajguru in 1931.
- May 19: Language Martyrs Day (Bhasha Shahid Diwas). The day commemorates the Bengali Language Movement of Barak Valley in the state of Assam.
- October 21: Police Martyrs Day. The day marks the ambush of a Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) patrol party at the Indo-Tibetan border in Ladakh by the Chinese forces.
- November 17: The anniversary of the death of Lala Lajpat Rai in 1928.
- November 19: The birth anniversary of Rani Lakshmibai of Jhansi.

REFERENCE- <https://www.timesnownews.com/the-buzz/article/martyrs-day-2022-quotes-to-share-on-shaheed-diwas/854047>

Data Privacy Day : 28 January

Question: On which of the following date Data Privacy Day is observed?

(a) 24 January (b) 26 January (c) 28 January (d) 30 January

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Data Privacy Day is an international event that occurs every year on 28 January.
- The purpose of Data Privacy Day is to raise awareness and promote privacy and data protection best practices.
- It is currently observed in the United States, Canada, Nigeria, Israel and 47 European countries.
- The theme for this year is 'Privacy Matters'.
- It instills a sense of accountability that Privacy is integral to every individual's life. We must become conscious towards it and be more responsible towards our data – as after all #PrivacyMatters.



Reference: <https://www.dsci.in/content/data-privacy-day-2022>

NATIONAL TOURISM DAY CELEBRATED IN INDIA

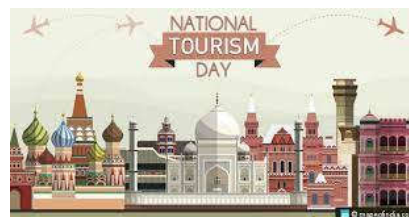
QUESTION: National Tourism Day is celebrated each year on which date ?

(a) 20 DECEMBER (b) 25 JANUARY (c) 20 MARCH (d) 15 SEPTEMBER

ANS -B

RELATED FACTS

- The National Tourism Day in India is observed on January 25 every year by the Ministry of Tourism.
- According to a FICCI- YES Bank report of 2019, the tourism industry generated 247.3 billion dollars in 2018 contributing to 9.2 percent of the GDP of India.
- According to World economic Forum report 2019 India has moved to 34th rank on the World travel and tourism competitiveness index.
- The country is home to 40 UNESCO heritage sites. The last site to be added to the World Heritage Site list is Dholavira, a Harappan city that is located in the city of Gujarat.



Reference – <https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/travel/destinations/national-tourism-day-facts-about-india-you-might-not-know/photostory/89108649.cms>

INTERNATIONAL HOLOCAUST REMEMBRANCE DAY 2022

QUESTION-The theme of International Holocaust Remembrance Day 2022 is___?

- (a)Dignity before self (b)Memory, Dignity and Justice (c)Liberty for self
(d)Dignity for Life

ANS-B

RELATED FACTS-

- The United Nations marked the International Holocaust Remembrance Day on 27th Jan.
- It is observed in honour of six million Jews killed in the Holocaust, and millions of other victims of Nazism.
- On this day, the UN urges every member state to develop educational programs to help prevent future genocides
- The UN organises Holocaust commemorative and educational activities to draw attention to the actions taken by the survivors to reclaim their rights, history, cultural heritage and traditions, and their dignity.



HEADQUARTERS-NEW YORK

SECRETARY GENERAL- Antonio Guterres

FOUNDED- 24 OCT 1945

Reference- <https://www.indiatoday.in/world/photo/international-holocaust-remembrance-day-world-remembers-victims-of-nazi-genocide-in-pics-1905669-2022-01-28>

International Holocaust Remembrance Day : 27 January

Question: On which of the following date International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed?

- (a) 7 January (b) 17 January (c) 27 January (d) 7 February

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust (International Holocaust Remembrance Day) is observed on 27 January.
- The objective of the day is to commemorate the anniversary of the tragedy of the Holocaust that occurred during the Second World War.
- A genocide occurred during World War II in which Nazi Germany, aided by its collaborators, systematically murdered some six million European Jews, around two-thirds of the Jewish population of Europe, between 1941 and 1945.
- Theme for 2022 is “Memory, Dignity and Justice”.



Reference: <https://en.unesco.org/commemorations/holocaustremembranceday>

International Customs Day

Question: What is theme of International Customs Day (ICD) 2022?

- (a) Customs Digital Transformation by Embracing a Data Culture and Building a Data Ecosystem
- (b) Customs Digital Transformation
- (c) Customs bolstering Recovery, Renewal and Resilience
- (d) Customs fostering sustainability for People, Prosperity and the Planet

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- The Theme of International Customs Day 2022 is “Customs Digital Transformation by Embracing a Data Culture and Building a Data Ecosystem.
- The International Customs Day (ICD) is observed on 26 January every year.
- The objective of this day is to recognise the role of customs officials and agencies and focus on the working conditions and challenges that customs officers face in their jobs.
- In 2021, the theme was ‘Customs bolstering Recovery, Renewal and Resilience’.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.news18.com/amp/news/lifestyle/international-customs-day-2022-theme-history-and-significance-4695368.html>

Martyr's Day/Shahed Diwas 2022

Question: Consider the following statements:

- (1) 30 January is observed as Martyrs' Day
 - (2) 30 January was chosen as it marks the assassination of Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi in 1948
 - (3) In India, Martyr's Day, also known as Shahed Diwas, is commemorated mainly on two occasions one on 30th January and the second one on 23rd March
- Which of the above is/are correct?**

- (a) 1 and 2 (b) 1 and 3 (c) 2 and 3 (d) 1, 2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Every year on January 30, India commemorates Martyrs' Day, also known as Shahed Diwas.
- Mahatma Gandhi was shot and killed by Nathuram Godse during his evening prayers in the Birla House on January 30, 1948.
- As a result, the country commemorates Mahatma Gandhi's death anniversary on January 30th as Martyr's Day.
- The President, Vice President, Prime Minister, Defense Minister, and the three Service Chiefs (Army, Air Force, and Navy) lay multi-colored floral wreaths at his Samadhi at Raj Ghat in Delhi on this day.
- A two-minute silence is held across the country at 11 a.m. in honor of Indian martyrs.
- Martyrs' Day is an annual commemoration of soldiers who died in the line of duty while preserving their country's sovereignty.
- In India, Martyr's Day, also known as Shahed Diwas, is commemorated mainly on two occasions one on 30th January and the second one on 23rd March.
- The 23rd of March is observed as Martyrs' Day to commemorate the sacrifice of three heroic Indian independence warriors.



- The British hung three heroes of our country, Bhagat Singh, Shivaram Rajguru, and Sukhdev Thapar, on March 23rd.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/krishijagran.com/blog/shaheed-diwas-2022-history-significance-important-facts-about-martyrs-day/%3famp=1>

World Leprosy Day : Last Sunday of January

Question: On which of the following date World Leprosy Day 2022 is celebrated?

(a) 28 January (b) 29 January (c) 30 January (d) 31 January

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- World Leprosy Day (WLD) is celebrated on the last Sunday of January.
- In 2022, World Leprosy Day is 30 January.
- This international day is an opportunity to celebrate people who have experienced leprosy, raise awareness of the disease, and call for an end to leprosy-related stigma and discrimination.
- The “United for Dignity” campaign calls for unity in honoring the dignity of people who have experienced leprosy.



Reference: <https://www.who.int/news-room/events/detail/2022/01/30/default-calendar/united-for-dignity-wld-2022>

Himachal Pradesh statehood day : 25 January

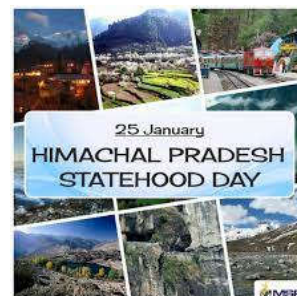
Question: Himachal Pradesh Statehood Day is celebrated every year on –

(a) 15 January (b) 20 January (c) 25 January (d) 30 January

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Himachal Pradesh celebrated its 52nd full statehood day on 25 January 2022.
- On December 18, 1970, the State of Himachal Pradesh Act was passed by Parliament, and the new State came into being on January 25, 1971.
- Himachal Pradesh became the 18th State of the Indian Union with Dr Yashwant Singh Parmar as its first chief minister.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.aninews.in/news/national/general-news/pm-modi-greets-people-of-himachal-pradesh-on-its-statehood-day20220125111104%3famp=1>

Data Privacy Day

Question : Data Privacy Day (known in Europe as Data Protection Day) is an international event that occurs every year on ____.

a. 28 January b. 29 January c. 30 January d. 31 January

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Data Privacy Day (known in Europe as Data



- Protection Day) is an international event that occurs every year on 28 January.
- Aim — to raise awareness and promote privacy and data protection best practices.
- It is currently observed in the United States, Canada, Nigeria, Israel and 47 European countries.
- It was first observed in the year 2007.

Link:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/data-privacy-day-how-users-can-protect-their-privacy-check-details-101643177841361.html>

Uttar Pradesh Day

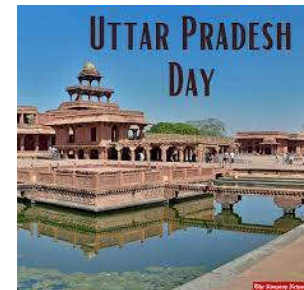
Question : On which date was United Provinces renamed as Uttar Pradesh ?

a. 24 January 1950 b. 24 January 1949 c. 24 January 1948 d. 24 January 1951

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Uttar Pradesh Day or Uttar Pradesh Diwas is celebrated as foundation day of Uttar Pradesh. It is observed on 24 January.
- It is notable that United Provinces was renamed as Uttar Pradesh on January 24, 1950.
- In May 2017, the Government of Uttar Pradesh declared to celebrate UP Day on 24 January every year.



Link:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/uttar-pradesh-foundation-day-2022-date-history-and-significance-1903732-2022-01-24>

National Voters Day

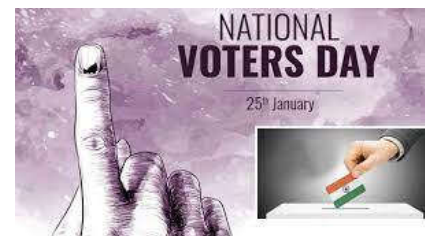
Question: When is the National Voters Day celebrated?

(a) 25 January (b) 25 May (c) 24 January (d) 18 January

Answer: (a)

Related facts:

- 12th National Voters Day was celebrated across the India on 25 January 2022.
- National Voters Day(NVD)is celebrated to encourage the voter enrolment, spread awareness among voters for promoting informed participation in the electoral process.
- The theme for this year is 'Making Elections Inclusive, Accessible and Participative'.
- The National Voters' Day has been celebrated on January 25 every year since 2011, all across the country to mark the foundation day of Election Commission of India, i.e. 25th January 1950.



Link:

<https://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/eci-to-celebrate-national-voters-day-today/articleshow/89106929.cms>

National Girl Child Day

Question: When is the 'National Girl Child Day'(NGCD) celebrated?

(a) January 21 (b) January 22 (c) January 24 (d) January 25

Answer:(c)

Related facts:

- **NGCD**
- The **NGCD** is celebrated in India every year on January 24th.
- It was initiated in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development and the government of India, in order to spread public awareness about inequities that girls face in Bhartiya Samaj.
- It is celebrated with organized programs including awareness campaigns about Save the Girl Child, child sex ratios, and the creation of a healthy and safe environment for girls.
- In the year 2021, the theme for the National Girl Child Day was 'Digital Generation, Our Generation.
- 'The government has not announced any theme for this year's girl child day.



Link:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/national-girl-child-day-2022-history-significance-theme-celebration-quotes-and-wishes-1903634-2022-01-24>

The National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Raising Day : January 19

Question: National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) celebrates its Raising Day every year on which date?

(a) 15 January (b) 17 January (c) 19 January (d) 21 January

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) celebrates its Raising Day every year on January 19, since it came into existence on January 19, 2006.
- In 2022, the NDRF is observing its 17th Raising Day.
- The National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) is the parent body of NDRF, which currently consists of 15 battalions from the Border Security Force (BSF), Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF), Central Industrial Security Force (CISF), Indo Tibetan Border Police (ITBP), Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and Assam Rifles.
- With more than 13,000 personnel, the battalions of the NDRF have been equipped to respond to natural as well as man-made disasters.
- They are also trained to respond during chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear (CBRN) emergencies.
- Each battalion has 18 self-contained specialist search and rescue teams including engineers, technicians, electricians, dog squads and medical/paramedics.
- NDRF is an Indian specialized force under the National Disaster Management Authority, constituted under the Disaster Management Act, 2005, to carry out the special responses in situations of threatening disaster.



- The NDRF has rescued more than 6.7 lakh people during its 3100 operations and saved more than 1 lakh lives.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.news18.com/amp/news/lifestyle/national-disaster-response-force-raising-day-2022-history-significance-and-all-you-need-to-know-about-ndrf-4673786.html>

Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti : 23 January

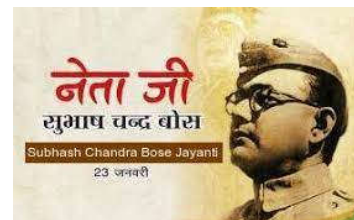
Question: On which of the following date Parakram Diwas is observed?

(a) 25 December (b) 09 January (c) 23 January (d) 15 January

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Netaji Jayanti, also known as “Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose Jayanti” or officially “Parakram Divas” or “Parakram Diwas”, is a national event celebrated in India to mark the birthday of a prominent Indian freedom fighter Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose.
- It is celebrated annually on 23 January.
- It was introduced by the Government of India in 2021 ahead of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose’s 125th birth anniversary.
- From 2022, Republic Day celebrations will start on January 23rd instead of January 24th to include the birth anniversary of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose, in line with the Prime Minister Narendra Modi government’s “focus to commemorate important aspects of our history and culture.”



Reference: <https://www.officeholidays.com/amp/holidays/india/netaji-subhas-chandra-bose-jayanti>

Statehood Day of Meghalaya, Manipur and Tripura

Question : On which date has Statehood Day been celebrated of Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura ?

a. 21 January 2022 b. 20 January 2022 c. 18 January 2022 d. 16 January 2022

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Statehood Day of Manipur, Meghalaya, and Tripura has been celebrated on January 21, 2022.
- On January 21, 1972, they got full statehood.



Link:

https://www.pmindia.gov.in/en/news_updates/pm-greets-the-people-of-meghalaya-manipur-and-tripura-on-their-statehood-day/?tag_term=meghalaya&comment=disable

National Startup Day : 16 January

Question: Prime Minister Narendra Modi has announced that _ will be celebrated as National Startup Day.

(a) 16 January (b) 18 January (c) 20 January (d) 24 January

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that January 16 will be celebrated as National Startup Day.
- India is celebrating Startup India Innovation Week between January 10, 2022 and January 16, 2022.
- The week celebrations are organized by Department of Promotion Industry and Industrial Trade.
- In 2022, the National Startup Day is celebrated on six themes: 'Growing from Roots'; 'Nudging the DNA'; 'From Local to Global'; 'Technology of Future'; 'Building Champions in Manufacturing'; and 'Sustainable Development'.
- The announcement was made by PM Modi on January 15, 2022, via video conferencing during a week-long event "Celebrating Innovation Ecosystem" as a part of Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav.



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.livemint.com/v/s/www.livemint.com/news/india/national-start-up-day-to-be-celebrated-on-january-16-pm-modi-calls-start-ups-backbone-of-new-india/amp-11642228490545.html%3famp_js_v=0.1&usqp=mq331AQKKAFAQrABIIACAw%253D%253D#ampf=

Indian Army Celebrated 74th Army Day

Question: Army Day is being observed every year in India on which date?

(a) 12 January (b) 13 January (c) 14 January (d) 15 January

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- Every year, 15 January is commemorated as "Army Day" to remember the occasion when General (later Field Marshal) KM Cariappa took over the command of the Indian Army from General Sir FRR Bucher, the last British Commander-in-Chief in 1949 and became the first Indian Commander-in-Chief of Independent India.
- The Indian Army's theme for the year 2022, "In Stride with the Future", is an acknowledgement of the increasingly critical role played by niche and disruptive technologies in modern warfare.
- The Indian Army confronts a plethora of security challenges, conventional and non-traditional, and is looking at Artificial Intelligence (AI), 5G, Robotics and Quantum Technology to find innovative solutions to these emerging challenges.



Reference: <https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseIframePage.aspx?PRID=1790154>

World Hindi Day : 10 January

Question: Consider the following statements:

(1) World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 every year to promote the language across the world

(2) The first World Hindi Day conference was organised on January 10, 1975, in

Nagpur, Maharashtra

(3) The National Hindi Diwas is celebrated on September 14

Which of the above is/are correct?

(a) Only 1 (b) 1 and 2 (c) 1 and 3 (d) 1,2 and 3

Answer: (d)

Related Facts:

- World Hindi Day is celebrated on January 10 every year to promote the language across the world.
- The first World Hindi Day conference was organised on January 10, 1975, in Nagpur, Maharashtra.
- The day is observed in India from the year 2003.
- The Ministry of External Affairs began the tradition of celebrating World Hindi Day in other nations in 2006 with an aim to promote this language across the world.
- The theme of the day is to make Hindi a part of public opinion, although it doesn't necessarily mean that one has to leave their mother tongue.
- The National Hindi Diwas is celebrated on September 14.
- Hindi day is celebrated in some parts of India to commemorate the date 14 September 1949 on which a compromise was reached—during the drafting of the Constitution of India—on the languages that were to have official status in the Republic of India.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.news18.com/amp/news/lifestyle/world-hindi-day-2022-theme-history-significance-and-inspirational-quotes-4635044.html>

Dec 26 to be observed as Veer Baal Divas as tribute to Guru Gobind Singh's sons

Question: Which date has been declared as the “Veer Baal Diwas” by PM Modi?

(a) 25 December (b) 26 December (c) 27 December (d) 28 December

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi while addressing the public on the auspicious occasion of Guru Gobind Singh Jayanti on January 9, 2022 declared that starting this year, 26th December shall be marked as 'Veer Baal Diwas.'
- 'Veer Baal Diwas' will be observed on the same day Sahibzada Zorawar Singh Ji and Sahibzada Fateh Singh Ji attained martyrdom after being sealed alive in a wall, informed PM Modi.
- The Sahibzades were the four sons of Guru Gobind Singh Ji, who sacrificed their lives in an important battle against the Mughals.
- Sri Guru Gobind Singh's son, Sahibzada Zorawar Singh Ji and Sahibzada Fateh Singh Ji, popularly known as the two sahibzaades, attained martyrdom after they refused to convert to Islam.
- Guru Gobind Singh Ji was the tenth guru of Sikhs and the founder of the Khalsa community.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/zeenews.india.com/india/dec-26-to-be-observed-as-veer-baal-divas-as-tribute-to-guru-gobind-singhs-son-pm-modi-2426552.html/amp>

National Youth Day

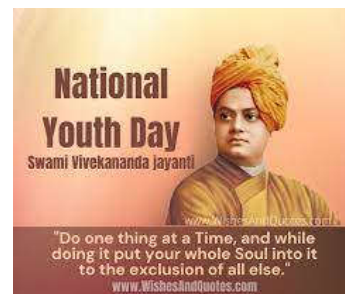
Question – On January 12, 2021, ‘National Youth Day’ was celebrated across the country. In which year the central government had announced to celebrate it?

(a) the year 1990 (b) Year 1986 (c) Year 1985 (d) Year 2003

Answer-(c)

Related facts—

- Every year since 1985, the Government of India observes 12th January, the Birth Anniversary of Swami Vivekananda as National Youth Day.
- The Day is observed all over India at schools and colleges, with processions, speeches, music, youth conventions, seminars, Yogasanas, presentations, competitions in essay-writing, recitations and sports on 12 January every year.
- Union Minister for Information and Broadcasting, Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Thakur on Wednesday (January 5,2022) said Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the five-day National Youth Festival in Puducherry on January 12.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/newsite/PrintRelease.aspx?relid=114503>

World Hindi Day

Question – On January 10, 2022, ‘World Hindi Day’ was celebrated all over the world. When was it announced to celebrate this day globally ?

(a) year 2005 (b) year 2006 (c) year 2002 (d) Year 1998

Answer—(b)

Related facts —

- On January 10, 2022, ‘World Hindi Day’ was celebrated all over the world.
- It is especially observed by Indian embassies abroad.
- **Background —**
- In year 2006 it was announced to celebrate this day globally.
- In the year 1975, the first-ever World Hindi Conference took place in Maharashtra’s Nagpur on January 10.
- The conference was inaugurated by then PM I Gandhi and saw participation from a total of 30 countries.
- And in 2006, former PM of India Dr Manmohan Singh declared that January 10 will be observed as World Hindi Day every year.
- It was also the first time that the ministry of external affairs started celebrating the day abroad.



Link:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/world-hindi-day-today-history-objective-famous-quotes-101641780976419.html>

World Day of War Orphan

Question : On which date is World Day of War Orphans celebrated every year ?

a. 6 January b. 4 January c. 8 January d. None of the above

Ans. a.

- On 6 January every year, World Day of War Orphans(WDWO) is celebrated.
- WDWO aims to raise awareness about children who have been orphaned due to wars. The objective of the day ensures to voice out the predicament of war orphans and highlight the emotional, social, and physical challenges children face while growing up.
- It was initiated by the French organization, SOS Enfants en Detresses.
- **Fact —**
- According to unicef.org, “There were nearly 140 million orphans globally in 2015, including 61 million in Asia, 52 million in Africa, 10 million in Latin America and the Caribbean, and 7.3 million in Eastern Europe and Central Asia.”



Link:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/world-day-of-war-orphans-2022-all-you-need-to-know-1896662-2022-01-06>

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas

Question : On which date is Pravasi Bharatiya Divas celebrated every year ?

a. 9 January b. 7 January c. 5 January d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is celebrated every year on 9 January.
- The day is celebrated to mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community in the development of India.
- It is noteworthy that on 9 January 1915, Mahatma Gandhi returned to India from South Africa.
- It was suggested to celebrate this day on 9 January every year by a committee constituted in September 2000 under the chairmanship of renowned jurist Dr. Laxmimal Singhvi.
- As a result, this day is celebrated every year since 2003.



Link:

<https://www.indiatoday.in/information/story/pravasi-bharatiya-divas-2022-history-significance-wishes-and-quotes-on-non-resident-indians-day-1897897-2022-01-09>

Global Family Day

Question : The world observes ‘Global Family Day’ on —

a. January 1 b. January 4 c. January 6 d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- On January 1st, the world observes Global Family Day(GFD).
- GFD is celebrated as a day of peace and sharing.
- GFD's aim is to unite and spread a message of peace by considering and promoting the idea that Earth is one Global Family so as to make the world a better place to live for everyone.



Link:

<https://www.news18.com/news/lifestyle/global-family-day-2022-history-significance-and-all-you-need-to-know-4610354.html>

Mark Dec 26 as ‘Veer Baal diwas’ to pay tribute to Guru Gobind Singh’s sons.

Question: On which festival did Guru Gobind Singh established the Khalsa panth?

a) Vaishakhi b) Guru Purnima c) Lohari d) None of these

Ans:a

Related Facts:

- December 26 will be celebrated as Veer Baal Diwas from 2022 as a tribute to the bravery and martyrdom of Guru Gobind Singh’s sons, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced on Sunday(January 9,2022) on the occasion of the 365th birth anniversary of the 10th Sikh guru.
- The sahibzades, as the four sons of Guru Govind Singh.
- Veer Baal Diwas will be on the same day Sahibzada Zorawar Singh Ji and Sahibzada Fateh Singh Ji attained martyrdom after being sealed alive in a wall.
- In 2018, BJP parliamentarian from West Delhi Parvesh Sahib Singh, along with 133 MPs, submitted a memorandum to Modi, requesting that Children’s Day should be celebrated in the name of the sahibzades on December 26.
- **About Guru Gobind singh :**
- Guru Gobind Rai, who later became Guru Gobind Singh is the tenth Sikh Guru.
- He lived for 42 years. He was born in Patna, India and he breathed his last in Nanded, India, where the Gurdwara of Hazoor Sahib is established.
- His father was Guru Teg Bahadur and his mother was Mata Gujri. His wives were Mata Jeeto, Mata Sundari and Mata Sahib Kaur.
- Guru Gobind Rai took Amrit from the hands of his own Sikhs and was reborn as Guru Gobind Singh.
- The Order of the Khalsa was established – a group of men and women dedicated to living in equality and peace, but willing to fight and lay down their lives to protect themselves and others from injustice and tyranny.
- During Guru Gobind Singh’s life, the Adi Granth compiled by his great-grandfather Guru Arjan was lost.
- Guru Gobind Singh set up his camp and dictated the entire Adi Granth from memory.

Links:

<https://www.hindustantimes.com/india-news/mark-dec-26-as-veer-baal-diwas-to-pay-tribute-to-guru-gobind-singh-s-sons-pm-101641751823809.html>

World Braille Day

Question: World Braille Day is celebrated every year on which date?

(a) 1st January (b) 4th January (c) 12th January (d) None of the above

Ans: b

Related Facts

- World Braille Day is celebrated globally on 4th January every year.
- United Nations General Assembly approved the celebration of the day via a proclamation in November 2018.
- The day also marks the birthday of Louis Braille, creator of this writing system.
- Purpose of celebrating the day is to celebrate awareness of the importance of braille as a means of communication in the full realization of the human rights for blind and visually impaired people.
- **What is Braille?**
- Braille is a tactile representation of alphabetic and numerical symbols using six dots to represent each letter and number, and even musical, mathematical and scientific symbols.
- Braille (named after its inventor in 19th century France, Louis Braille) is used by blind and partially sighted people to read the same books and periodicals as those printed in a visual font.



Reference:

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

Books

A Little Book of India: Celebrating 75 years of Independence

QUESTION- A Little Book of India: Celebrating 75 years of Independence is authored by?

(a) KAPIL DEV (b) RUSKIN BOND (c) SHASHI THARROR (d) MS DHONI

ANS-b

Related facts-

- The book, an amalgamation of the “physical and spiritual” attributes of INDIA, promises to take readers on a journey filled with nostalgia and devotions.
- This book highlights the last 75 years of India’s progress to maturity as a nation.
- Bond is the recipient of Sahitya Akademi Award, Sahitya Akademi’s Bal Sahitya Puraskar, Padma Shri and Padma Bhushan, among other prestigious awards
- His first novel, THE ROOM ON THE ROOF, written when he was 17, received the ‘John Llewellyn Rhys Memorial Prize’ in 1957.



Reference- <https://indianexpress.com/article/books-and-literature/author-ruskin-bond-new-book-a-little-book-of-india-celebrating-75-years-of-independence-7743739/>

The \$10 Trillion Dream : Subhash Garg

Question: Who is the author the book titled “The \$10 Trillion Dream”?

(a) Subhash Garg (b) Subhash Kasyap (c) Subhash Singh (d) Subhash Mukherjee

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- A new book titled “The \$10 Trillion Dream” author by Subhash Garg.
- Subhash Garg is the former finance secretary of India.
- The book is scheduled to hit stands towards the end of February 2022.
- The new book explores the critical policy issues that India faces today and suggests reforms for it to become a USD 10 trillion economy by the mid-2030s.
- It is published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI).



Reference: https://www.google.com/amp/s/m.economictimes.com/news/india/former-finance-secretary-subhash-garg-turns-author-book-to-hit-stands-in-february/amp_articleshow/89180163.cms

“Mamata Beyond 2021” authored by Jayanta Ghosal

Question: A new book titled “Mamata Beyond 2021” authored by whom?

(a) Jayanta Ghosal (b) Arunava Sinha (c) Mamata Benerjee (d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- HarperCollins Publishers India is set to publish a new book titled “Mamata: Beyond 2021”, authored by political journalist Jayanta Ghosal.
- It is translated by Arunava Sinha.
- The announcement about the release of the book was made on 5th January 2022, the birthday of Mamata Banerjee, the Chief Minister (CM) of West Bengal and the leader of the Trinamool Congress (TMC) party.



Reference: <https://www.apnlive.com/harpercollins-mamata-beyond-2021-67th-birthday/>

Last among equals: Power, Caste and Politics in Bihar’s villages : MR Sharan

Question: Who is the author of the book titled “Last among Equals: Power, Caste, and Politics in Bihar’s Villages”?

(a) MR Sharan (b) Karan Thapar (c) Atul kidwai (d) Jhumpa Lahiri

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- A Book titled “Last among Equals: Power, Caste, and Politics in Bihar’s Villages” authored by MR Sharan.
- The book is an account of the author’s field study in a group of villages in Bihar.
- The hero of this book is the little-known Sanjay Sahni, an immigrant from Bihar eking out a comfortable living as an electrician in Delhi.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.thehindubusinessline.com/books/book-reviewlast-among-equals-power-caste-and-politics-in-bihars-villages/article64940686.ece/amp/>

Governor of Maharashtra released Tuhin Sinha's book 'The Legend of Birsa Munda'

Question: Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari has released a book titled 'The Legend of Birsa Munda', authored and co-authored by whom?

- (a) Tuhin A Sinha and Shantanu Gupta (b) Shantanu Gupta and Ankita Verma
(c) Tuhin A Sinha and Ankita Verma (d) Ankita Gupta and Tuhin A Sinha

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Maharashtra Governor Bhagat Singh Koshyari released a book titled 'The Legend of Birsa Munda', authored by Tuhin A Sinha and co-authored by Ankita Verma.
- The book based on true events is a tribute to Birsa Munda who in a very short life mobilized the tribal community, rebelled against forced conversions, envisioned a fair and just society and died fighting for it. The Legend of Birsa Munda is the story of a subaltern tribal hero whose contribution to India's struggle for independence must never be forgotten."

Reference: [https://rajbhavan-maharashtra.gov.in/en/19-01-2022-governor-releases-tuhin-sinhas-book-the-legend-of-birsa-munda/#:~:text=Maharashtra%20Governor%20Bhagat%20Singh%20Koshyari,on%20Wednesday%20\(19th%20Jan\).](https://rajbhavan-maharashtra.gov.in/en/19-01-2022-governor-releases-tuhin-sinhas-book-the-legend-of-birsa-munda/#:~:text=Maharashtra%20Governor%20Bhagat%20Singh%20Koshyari,on%20Wednesday%20(19th%20Jan).)

Book "Boys Don't Cry"

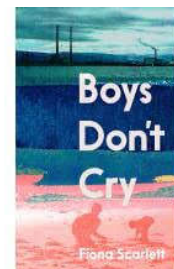
Question : Who is the author of recently(January 2022) released book "Boys Don't Cry" ?

- a. Meghna Pant b. Chetan Bhagat c. Raju V Chellaiah
d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- "Boys Don't Cry" is a newly published book of publisher Penguin Random House India(PRHI).
- Meghna Pant is the author of this book.
- Book takes readers behind the closed doors of a 'made in hell' modern India marriage.



Link:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/magazines/panache/author-meghna-pants-new-book-talks-about-made-in-hell-modern-day-indian-marriage/articleshow/88867334.cms>

Indomitable: A Working Woman's Notes on Work, Life and Leadership By Arundhati Bhattacharya

Question: Who is the author of the book "Indomitable: A Working Woman's Notes on Work, Life and Leadership"?

(a) Kiran Desai (b) Meena Kandasamy (c) Arundhati Bhattacharya (d) Naina Lal Kidwai

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Arundhati Bhattacharya is the author of the book “Indomitable: A Working Woman’s Notes on Work, Life and Leadership”.
- HarperCollins is set to publish “Indomitable: A Working Woman’s Notes on Life, Work and Leadership” the autobiography of Arundhati Bhattacharya, retired Indian banker and former first-ever woman Chairperson of the State Bank of India.
- Indomitable features the story of Arundhati Bhattacharya’s life as a banker and the difficulties she faced in the male-dominated sector.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.financialexpress.com/lifestyle/banking-boss-book-excerpt-indomitable-a-working-womans-notes-on-work-life-and-leadership-by-arundhati-bhattacharya/2407314/lite/>

Miscellaneous

Meta has introduced Artificial Intelligence (AI) Supercomputer

Question: Meta, which has recently introduced Artificial Intelligence (AI) Supercomputer, is patient company of which of the following?

a) Facebook b) Microsoft c) Google d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- On 26 January 2022; Facebook’s patient company Meta has introduced Artificial Intelligence (AI) Supercomputer.
- Facebook CEO Mark Zuckerberg said that this is the AI Research Supercluster (RSC) computer and It can be ready by the middle of 2022.
- He said that it will be the world’s fastest supercomputer, which can be launched next year i.e. by the middle of 2023.
- Advantages:
 - This kind of AI supercomputer will be helpful in translating in many languages. Dangerous content will be identified with AI based supercomputer.
 - This next generation supercomputer RSC will be able to calculate quintillion mathematical calculations per second.
 - There are 10 zeros in 1 quintillion and such calculations are called quintillion calculations.
 - This computer will be used in research. This is the reason why Zuckerberg has named it AI Research Supercluster (RSC).
 - RSC is designed with a view to machine learning.
 - It is many times faster than a normal computer. Also, supercomputers can perform complex to complex calculations with ease.
 - It will also be used by Facebook to stop hate speech on its platform.



- RSC will also be used in augmented reality. RSC is capable of performing trillions of operations in seconds.
- With the help of this computer, millions of users will be able to talk in different languages in real time.

Links:-

<https://www.theverge.com/2022/1/24/22898651/meta-artificial-intelligence-ai-supercomputer-rsc-2022>

Meta is building the world's fastest AI supercomputer

Question: Which of the following company has unveiled an artificial intelligence supercomputer “AI Research Super Cluster (RSC)”?

- (a) IBM
- (b) Meta
- (c) Google
- (d) Microsoft

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- Facebook Parent Company Meta built world's Fastest AI Supercomputer 'RSC'.
- According to Facebook parent company Meta, its new “artificial intelligence supercomputer” will be the fastest across the world, by the middle of year 2022.
- Meta introduced the AI Research Super Cluster (RSC) on January 24, 2022.
- It is believed to be among fastest AI supercomputers running today.
- Currently, AI can perform tasks such as translating text between languages and help in identifying potentially harmful content.
- The RSC includes algorithms on content moderation for detecting hate speech and explicit content on Facebook and Instagram.
- It will be used to design things or run programs for the Metaverse.
- The Supercomputer consists of 760 Nvidia GGX A 100 systems containing 6,080 GPUs (Graphics Processing Unit) whereas Meta's RSC is already providing up to 20 times improved performance.
- It will have a total of 16,000 GPUs by the end of the second phase of its creation.
- Traditional supercomputer's performance is measured in 64-bit floating point operations per second (FLOPs), whereas AI Supercomputer are often measured in 32-bit or 16-bit FLOPs.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/news.abplive.com/technology/facebook-parent-meta-built-worlds-fastest-artificial-intelligence-supercomputer-1508704/amp>

Popa Langur

Question : The new report of the World Wildlife Fund has identified how many new species, including the ghostly monkey, from the Mekong region ?

- a. 224 new species b. 124 new species c. 84 new species d. 64 new species

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- The new report of the World Wildlife Fund has recently(January 2022) identified 224 new species, including the ghostly monkey, from the Mekong region.
- The ghostly monkey or the popa langur(PL) lives on the hill of Mout Popa.
- Mount Popa is a dead volcano in Myanmar.
- It is noteworthy that Mekong region is a biodiversity hotspot and home to tigers, Asian elephants, saola – an extremely rare animal also called the Asian unicorn or spindlehorn – and thousands of other species.
- Including this latest list, scientists have identified more than 3,000 new species in the region since 1997.
- The PL was identified based on genetic matching of recently gathered bones with specimens from Britain’s Natural History Museum collected more than a century ago.
- They have a ghostly white circle around their eyes, which gives them their identity.



Reference:

<https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/environment/flora-fauna/ghostly-monkey-succulent-bamboo-among-new-species-in-mekong/articleshow/89146270.cms>

Viking-era wooden sailboats

Question : What thing UNESCO recently(January 2022) listed on the heritage list ?

- a. Viking-era wooden sailboats b. Wooden cottages of Kanha National Park
c. Koral reefs d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- UNESCO recently(January 2022) listed Viking-era wooden sailboats on the heritage list.
- It is notable that wooden sailboats have permitted the peoples of Northern Europe to extend trade, influence, and even conflict across oceans and continents for thousands of years.
- United Nations’ cultural agency(UNCA) —
- UNCA included Nordic “clinker boats” to its list of Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity in December.
- The UNESCO designation was requested jointly by some Nordic countries(Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden).
- The name “clinker” is supposed to allude to how the wooden boards of the boat were tied together.



Reference:

<https://www.samacharlive.com/unesco-lists-viking-era-wooden-sailboats-on-the-heritage-list/>

Kumbalangi

Question – In which state is India’s first sanitary napkin free panchayat “Kumbalangi” located?

- (a) Goa (b) Kerala (c) Andhra Pradesh (d) Karnataka

Answer—(b)
Related facts—

- In January 2022, Kerala Governor Arif Mohammad Khan declared “Kumbalanghi” as the country’s first sanitary napkin free panchayat.
- This panchayat is located in Ernakulam district of Kerala.
- The move is part of Avalkayi initiative, implemented in Ernakulam parliamentary constituency in collaboration with HLL Academy of Management and Indian Oil Corporation’s ‘Thingal Scheme’.
- Under this initiative, women of 18 years of age and above were distributed menstrual cups and awareness programs were organized in the panchayat.
- It is worth mentioning that Kumbalanghi is also India’s first model (eco-friendly) tourism village.



Reference:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/keralas-kumbalanghi-to-be-indias-first-sanitary-napkin-free-village/article38247633.ece>

Andhra Pradesh

Question : Which state government has recently(January 2022) issued draft notifications for carving out the 13 new districts ?

a. Andhra Pradesh b. Tamil Nadu c. Kerala d. Karnataka

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- Andhra Pradesh has recently(January 2022) issued draft notifications for carving out the 13 new districts.
- Telugu New Year’s Day(TNYD) —
- Referring to the creation of new districts, Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan, during his Republic Day address, said, they would be in place by this TNYD Ugadi (falling on April 2).
- list of new districts —



1. Araku Lok Sabha constituency is being split into two new districts
2. The two new tribal districts will be Manyam, with headquarters in Parvathipuram, and Alluri Sitarama Raju, named after the legendary Telugu freedom fighter with headquarters in Paderu.
3. The other new districts are Anakapalli (out of the existing Visakhapatnam district), Konaseema and Kakinada (out of East Godavari), Eluru (out of West Godavari), NTR (out of Krishna), Bapatla and Palnadu (out of Guntur), Nandyal (out of Kurnool), Sri Satya Sai (out of Anantapuramu), Annamayya (out of Kadapa) and Sri Balaji (out of Chittoor).

Shiftin of headquarter —

The headquarters of the existing East Godavari district is being shifted to Rajamahendravaram and that of West Godavari to Bhimavaram.

Reference:

<https://www.livemint.com/news/india/andhra-pradesh-to-get-13-new-districts-total-to-be-26-full-list-11643199652960.html>

Jerri hamlet declared as 'milk village' in J&K

Question: Which of the following Union Territory has declared the Jerri settlement (Jerri hamlet) in Reasi district as the first 'Milk Village' of the Union Territory?

(a) Delhi (b) Jammu and Kashmir (c) Ladkha (d) Puducherry

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- The administration of Jammu & Kashmir has declared the Jerri settlement (Jerri hamlet) in Reasi district as the first 'Milk Village' of the Union Territory.
- The administration has also sanctioned 57 additional dairy farms under the Integrated Dairy Development Scheme (IDDS) for the hamlet.
- At present the Jerri, the Milk Village, which houses 73 individual dairy units with 370 cows, which provides financial security to the local farmers.
- Under the integrated dairy development scheme, dairy units of five animals are provided with a 50 per cent subsidy.



Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/www.tribuneindia.com/news/schools/jerri-hamlet-declared-as-milk-village-in-jk-362923>

V.O. Chidambaranar Port

Question : Which of the following port recently(January 2022) witnessed a landmark with handling wind blades of length 81.50 metres ?

a. Paradip Port b. V.O. Chidambaranar Port c. Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust
d. Cochin Port

Ans.b.

Related facts —

- V.O. Chidambaranar Port witnessed another landmark in January 2022 with handling wind blades of length 81.50 metres, the longest of its kind handled through VOC Port.
- The loading of the 81.50 metre long wind blades(each weighing 25 Tonnes) was carried out diligently using Ship's Hydraulic cranes with utmost care to the safety of the cargo and cargo handling workers.
- The Wind mill blades and towers were safely transported using specialized retractable wind blade and tower transportation trucks all the way from Vengal (Near Red hills, Chennai) to Tuticorin.
- **Achievement —**
- The Vessel 'M.V. MYS Dezhneva', with overall Length (LOA) of 142.8 metres, was berthed at the Port on 18th January and loaded with 6 numbers of 81.50 Metre long wind blades and 12 numbers of 77.10 Metre long wind blades.
- On completion of loading, the Vessel sailed from VOC Port for the Port of Rostock, Germany, on 20th January.
- It is notable that Chidambaranar Port had handled 2898 windmill blades and 1248 windmill towers during the last Financial year.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleaseFramePage.aspx?PRID=1792106#:~:text=Chidambaran%20Port%20handles%20longest%20Windmill%20blades&text=by%20PIB%20Delhi-V.O.,kind%20handled%20through%20VOC%20Port.>

Mobile App “MyCGHS”

Question : Which of the following statement is most appropriate regarding CGHS Website and Mobile App “MyCGHS” ?

- a. It has been launched by Dr Mansukh Mandaviya
- b. Website will provide easy access to healthcare services
- c. Website will provide service to 40 lakh plus beneficiaries
- d. All of the above

Ans. d.

Related facts —

- Dr Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Minister for Health and Family Welfare digitally launched the revamped CGHS(Central Government Health Scheme) website (www.cghs.gov.in) and mobile app, “MyCGHS” on January 24, 2022.
- The new CGHS website and its extension as a Mobile Application called “MyCGHS” is a significant move.
- The move aimed for ease of service delivery for the beneficiaries within the safe confines of his home especially during the COVID pandemic.
- **CGHS(Central Government Health Scheme) —**
- It is the nodal healthcare provider to Central Government employees, pensioners and certain other category of beneficiaries and their dependents enrolled under the scheme.
- In order to cater to India’s increasing digital penetration, it has laid emphasis on delivery of services through various online channels.



Link:

<https://pib.gov.in/PressReleasePage.aspx?PRID=1792147#:~:text=Mansukh%20Mandaviya%2C%20Union%20Minister%20for,for%20Health%20and%20Family%20Welfare.>

India and Israel launched a commemorative logo

Question : On which date India and Israel launched a commemorative logo to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries ?

- a. Jan 24, 2022 b. Jan 20, 2022 c. Jan 18, 2022 d. Jan 16, 2022

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- India and Israel on 24th January launched a commemorative logo to mark the 30th anniversary of the establishment of diplomatic ties between the two countries.
- It was unveiled virtually at an online event in the presence of Ambassador of Israel to India Naor Gilon and Ambassador of India to Israel Sanjeev Singla.
- The logo features the Star of David and the Ashoka Chakra and forms the numeral 30 depicting the 30th anniversary of bilateral relations.



- The logo symbolises the strong friendship, love and admiration that exists between the people of Israel and the people of India.
- It also depicts the growing strategic partnership between the two countries.
- It is notable that to create the 30th-anniversary logo, both countries launched a logo design contest last year for students of prominent design colleges in Israel and India.
- The winning design created by an Indian student, Nikhil Kumar Rai, was chosen through a joint decision of the Embassies and Consulates from both countries.
- Israel – India diplomatic relations —
- Israel and India established diplomatic relations on 29 January 1992.
- Since then, the bilateral relations between both countries have developed into a multifaceted strategic partnership.

Link:

https://economictimes.indiatimes.com/news/india/india-israel-launch-commemorative-logo-to-mark-30th-anniversary-of-diplomatic-ties/articleshow/89093289.cms?utm_source=contentofinterest&utm_medium=text&utm_campaign=cppst

555.55-carat black diamond: The Enigma

Question: at which of the following place, a 555.55-carat black diamond was unveiled recently?

a) London b) Dubai c) Dhaka d) Mumbai

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:-

- On January 17, 2022; a 555.55-carat black diamond named as the Enigma was unveiled in Dubai.
- Scientists are of the opinion that an asteroid or a meteorite hit the Earth more than 2.6 billion years ago is behind the formation of this diamond.
- It was unveiled by auction house Sotheby's, it is believed to have come from outer space.
- The diamond will go under auction in London in February 2022.
- It has 55 facets and is likely to get sold for at least 5 million British pounds (USD 6.8 million).
- Sotheby has also planned to accept cryptocurrency as a possible way of payment.
- Shape of the diamond is inspired from Middle-Eastern palm symbol of Khamsa, that stands for strength and it stands for protection.
- In Arabic, Khamsa means five. Thus, there is a theme of number five running throughout the diamond.



Links:-

<https://www.wionews.com/world/55555-carat-black-diamond-the-enigma-unveiled-in-dubai-is-it-from-outer-space-445589>

Purposive Testing Strategy

Question: Amid rising cases of which of the following disease, the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) issued new guidelines on Purposive Testing Strategy?

a) Covid-19 b) AIDS c) Dengue d) TB

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:-

- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) issued new guidelines on Purposive Testing Strategy, amid rising cases of covid-19 cases.
- ICMR issued guidelines on who needs to get tested for the infection, and who doesn't.
- As per the guidelines, asymptomatic individuals, and contacts of Covid patients are not required to be tested unless identified as high-risk individuals based on co-morbidities or age.
- It also mentioned that at-risk contacts of patients would be person aged above 60 years and individuals with co-morbidities such as chronic lung or kidney disease, diabetes, hypertension, malignancy and obesity.
- People undertaking "inter-state domestic travel is also not required to get tested.
- People need to be tested In community settings:
 - Symptomatic individuals.
 - At-risk contacts (elderly and individual with co-morbidity) of laboratory confirmed cases.
 - Individuals undertaking international travel.
 - International travelers arriving at Indian airports or sea-ports or ports of entries.
- Guidelines for the hospital settings:
 - Testing may be undertaken as per discretion of the treating doctor.
 - Emergency procedure (surgeries, deliveries etc) should not be delayed for lack of a test.
 - Patients should not be referred to other facilities, in case there is lack of testing facility.
 - Asymptomatic patients undergoing surgical or non-surgical invasive procedures or pregnant women in or near labour should not be tested unless symptoms develop.



Links:-

https://www.icmr.gov.in/pdf/covid/strategy/Advisory_COVID_Testing_10012022.pdf

Legendary Collarwali Tigress who gave birth to 29 cubs passed away

Question: Legendary Collarwali Tigress who gave birth to 29 cubs passed away in which of the Tiger Reserve?

- (a) Kanha Tiger Reserve (b) Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve
(c) Pench Tiger Reserve (d) Panna Tiger Reserve

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- Legendary Collarwali Tigress who gave birth to 29 cubs passes away in Pench Tiger Reserve.
- The tigress, who had earned the title of 'Supermom', breathed her last in Pench tiger reserve due to old age.
- 'Collarwali' tigress was known for giving birth to 29 cubs during her lifetime, which is believed to be a world record.
- The official name given to the tigress by the forest department was T-15 but she was fondly called 'Collarwali' by the native people.
- She gained Collarwali title as she became the first tigress in the park to be fitted with a radio collar in 2008.
- Madhya Pradesh also gained identity as a 'Tiger State' due to the significant contribution of this supermom.



- Pench Tiger Reserve got its name from the River Pench which flows through the forest, dividing it into two parts.
- The famous story 'The Jungle Book' by Rudyard Kipling mentions this park. This made the reserve world-famous and since then has been a favorite amongst tourists, both from India as well as around the world.
- The famous characters of the book – Akela (the Indian Wolf), Raksha (the female Wolf), Baloo (Sloth Bear), and Sher Khan (Royal Bengal Tiger) are all found here.
- The Pench Tiger Reserve spreads across 758 sq. km of sprawling wilderness. However, since 1965, this forest has been home to various animals, beautiful plants, insects, and other wildlife creatures.
- Pench Tiger Reserve is the first park that shares two states; Madhya Pradesh and Maharashtra.
- The portion that falls in the state of MP is bigger and famous, as compared to the latter.

Reference: <https://www.firstpost.com/india/legendary-collarwali-tigress-passes-away-in-madhya-pradesh-all-you-need-to-know-of-the-big-cat-who-gave-birth-to-record-29-cubs-10291451.html>

Oxford University Press declared 'Anxiety' as Children's Word of the Year 2021

Question: Which word has been chosen as the Oxford University Press Children's Word of the Year 2021?

(a) Pandemic (b) Anxiety (c) Apprehension (d) Challenging

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:

- The Oxford University Press has picked up 'Anxiety' as the Children's Word of the Year 2021, based on their recent research.
- The word was selected based on a survey conducted on around 8,000 children aged 7-14 from 85 schools in the United Kingdom, who were asked to choose the words they most often used while talking about health and wellbeing.
- Apart from "anxiety" (21%), "Challenging" (19%), "isolate" (14%), "Wellbeing" (13%) and "resilience" (12%) were the children's top five words.

Reference: <https://www.google.com/amp/s/amp.theguardian.com/books/2022/jan/18/uk-children-pick-anxiety-as-their-word-of-2021>

Losoong Festival

Question: With reference to Losoong (Namsoong) Festival, consider the following statements :-

(1) It is the main festival of Sikkim state.

(2) This festival lasts for 5 to 7 days.

(3) This festival is celebrated by the Bhutia tribe as Sonam Losoong .

Which of the above statements is/are correct ?

(a) only (1) (b) only (3) (c) (1) and (2) (d) all

Answer—(d)

Related facts—

- Losoong is the main festival of Sikkim state. The dates for Losoong festival 2022 are January 3 in Sikkim and January 4 in Mizoram.
- This festival lasts for 5 to 7 days.



- This festival is celebrated by the Bhutia tribe as Sonam Losoong .
- The priests begin this festival by offering a special type of liquor 'Chi-Fut' to the deities.

Reference:

<https://www.news18.com/news/lifestyle/losoong-2021-all-you-need-to-know-about-the-festival-4617227.html>

Omo I – Oldest Human Fossils

Question: Which of the following are correct:

- (i) As per a recent study published in Nature , one of the oldest known Homo sapiens fossils, Omo Kibish I, may be around 35,000 years older than it was previously thought.
- (ii) Omo Kibish I was first unearthed in Ethiopia in 1967.

Which of the above are correct?

- (a) I (b) ii (c) both (d) none

Ans: c

Related Facts

- As per a recent study published in Nature , one of the oldest known Homo sapiens fossils, Omo Kibish I, may be around 35,000 years older than it was previously thought.
- Omo Kibish I was first unearthed in lower Omo valley of southern Ethiopia. in 1967.
- Earlier attempts to date the Omo I fossils suggested they were 197,000 years old, but the new research shows they must be older than that.
- A major explosive eruption of Shala volcano in the Main Ethiopian Rift that took place 230,000 years ago and represent the earliest evidence of our species, Homo sapiens.
- The study used volcanic ash to date the fossils and thus there were 22,000-year margin of error.
- New minimum age for Omo I is consistent with most recent theories of human evolution.
- Study also brings it closer to the age given to oldest Homo sapiens remains, which were discovered in 2017 in Morocco. Remains in Morocco were dated to 300,000 years ago.
- Omo I is the only fossil, with all the morphological characteristics of modern man.



Reference:

<https://www.nature.com/articles/s41586-021-04275-8>

Environment Ministry Star Rating System

Question: Which of the following statement are true for the Environment Ministry Star Rating System proposed recently?

- (a) System will rate state on the basis of their efficient use of renewable energy sources.
- (b) It will rate state for solar energy consumption.
- (c) It will rank and incentivize the states based on their quick and efficient environment clearance of various projects.
- (d) None

Ans: c

Recent Context

- The Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change recently proposed “Star Rating System”.
- **Related Facts**
- The Union environment ministry plans to rank states, specifically state environment impact assessment authorities (SEIAAs), on the speed with which they accord environmental clearances (EC) to development projects.
- The Environment Ministry is to rank and incentivize the states with this new system.
- As per ministry memo it is intended as a mode of recognition and encouragement for states as well as for prompting improvements where needed.
- A January 17 memo of ministry spells out seven criteria to rate State Environmental Impact Assessment Agencies (SEIAA) on “transparency, efficiency and accountability” on a scale of seven.
- It has been criticized for violation of The Environment (Protection) Act.
- Instead of improving and protecting the environment , the focus is on clearing the project in short duration of time.



Link:

<https://www.thehindu.com/sci-tech/energy-and-environment/environment-ministry-plan-to-rank-states-draws-ire/article38299173.ece>

‘Open Data Week’

Question : Which of the following authorities has recently(January 2022) launched ‘Open Data Week’ ?

- a. SCM, MoHUA b. Ministry of Road Transport c. Ministry of Water Resources
d. None of the above

Ans. a.

Related facts —

- SCM(Smart Cities Missions) and MoHUA recently(January 2022) launched ‘Open Data Week’.
- It conducted during the third week of January, i.e., from 17th January 2022 to 21st January 2022.
- Event saw participation from all 100 Smart Cities that will be publishing high quality datasets and data blogs on the Smart Cities Open Data Portal.
- The Event aimed to show the benefits of open data such as increased efficiency, transparency, a spur in innovation, and economic growth.
- The Event, as a part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav had been designed to promote the use of and spread awareness about data.



Link:

<https://www.pib.gov.in/PressReleaseDetailm.aspx?PRID=1790466>

Ganjam district is now child marriage free

Question: The union government is planning to bring abill to increase the minimum legal age of marriage for woman from..... years

- a) 18 to 21 b) 18 to 20 c) 16to 20 d) 16 to 21

Ans:a

Related Facts:

- Odisha's Ganjam has declared itself a child marriage free district — the first in the State.
- The district administration has been able to stop as many as 450 child marriages and video-record 48,383 marriages in two years — 2020 and 2021.
- We decided in 2019 to prevent child marriages on mission mode and generate general awareness against it," Vijay Amruta Kulange, Ganjam District Magistrate, told The Hindu on Monday.
- Ganjam had started a programme Nirbhaya Kadhi (Fearless bud).
- **Highlight points:**
- The Child Marriage Restraint Act, 1929, passed on 28 September 1929, in the Imperial Legislative Council of India, fixed the age of marriage for girls at 14 years and boys at 18 years.
- In 1949, after India's independence, it was amended to 15 for girls, and in 1978 to 18 for girls and 21 for boys.



Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/other-states/ganjam-district-is-now-child-marriage-free/article38103390.ece>

First of its kind mobile app- Urban Forest Parks

Question: In which of the following state first of its kind mobile app- Urban Forest Parks has recently been launched by its forest department?

a) Andhra Pradesh b) Telangana c) Kerala d) Karnataka

Answer: (b)

Related Facts:-

- On 07 January 2021; Telangana Forest Minister A. Indrakaran Reddy launched the first of its kind mobile app- Urban Forest Parks.
- The Minister said the App would be very useful for all those, who look for information about the nearest urban parks and forest area in their vicinity.
- The forest department has come up with an exclusive mobile app that gives all information about theme based Urban Forest Parks in the state.
- The app provides all the information about the parks, including entry ticket fee, special features of the park, distance from the app user, route app etc.
- Mr. Reddy informed that this will help the visitors plan their visits to the parks efficiently and have good time.
- Urban Forest Parks app has been developed by PamTen Software Solutions Private Limited.
- Initially, the app discloses information pertaining to 39 parks developed under HMDA, Medchal, Ranga Reddy and Hyderabad limits.
- In the second phase, information pertaining to all other parks across the State would be incorporated.



Links:-

<https://telanganatoday.com/telangana-launches-urban-forest-parks-mobile-app>

World Record for the largest Digital Numerology Lesson

Question: Which of the following top numerologist of India recently has set the first ever Guinness World Record in Numerology?

a) JC Chaudhary b) Rajat Nayar c) Dr. Palash Thhakur d) None of these

Answer: (a)

Related Facts:

- JC Chaudhary, one of India's top numerologists has set a new world record for the largest digital numerology lesson.
- He got this achievement in educating about the 5,000 year old science of numerology.
- It is the first ever Guinness World Record in Numerology and the first world record of 2022.
- numerologist JC Chaudhary trained this ancient science to the enthusiasts joined him, from USA, UK, Middle East and India.
- The initiative was organised by CNPL (Chaudhry Nummero Pvt Ltd) and Indian Institute of Numerology.
- It was organised to create awareness regarding numerology which was prevalent across ancient cultures like Greece, Egypt, China, Chaldea and India.
- It should be known that Guinness World Record London office has opened a new category itself for this kind of record in this field.
- JC Chaudhry's initiative in this field of forecasting and motivating people to learn it as science considered as pioneering achievement for the year of 2022.



Links:-

<https://www.digitaljournal.com/pr/the-first-ever-guinness-world-record-on-numerology-achieved-by-jc-chaudhry-india>

Cochin Shipyard hands over first electric boat to Kochi Metro Rail

Question: who is Managing Director of Kochi Metro Rail Limited ?

a) Pinarayi Vijayan b) Loknath Behera c) Shree Dharan d) Anil kumar

Ans : b

Related Facts :

- The first of the 23 fully air-conditioned, battery-powered electric ferries of the ₹747 cr Kochi Water Metro project, was handed over by Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) to Kochi Metro Rail Limited (KMRL) here on Friday (December 31, 2021) morning.
- Madhumita Behera, wife of KMRL's MD Loknath Behera, was the chief guest at the vessel's handing over function.
- This would be the first time in the world that a centrally-controlled integrated water transport system comprising a large fleet, would be battery-powered.
- The ferries use lithium titanate oxide (LTO) batteries — which are considered the latest and safest in battery technology, and are capable of fast charging.
- They can be charged in 10 to 15 minutes' time, while passengers are alighting/boarding.
- Floating jetties will be made available at the 38 ferry terminals, making the ferries disabled and elderly friendly.



- The energy-efficient hull is designed for 10-knots speed (18 kmph).

Links:

<https://www.thehindu.com/news/national/kerala/first-water-metro-ferry-in-kerala-handed-over-to-kochi-metro-rail-limited-kmrl/article38077745.ece>

Baby Yingliang', a well-preserved dinosaur embryo discovered inside fossilised egg

Question: In which country 66-million-year-old Dinosaur Embryo has been discovered?

(a) Japan (b) North Korea (c) China (d) South Korea

Answer: (c)

Related Facts:

- A 66-million-year-old dinosaur embryo was discovered in Ganzhou in southern China.
- The embryo is believed to be a toothless theropod dinosaur, or oviraptorosaur. It has been named Baby Yingliang.
- The discovery of embryo has also provided researchers a greater understanding of the link between dinosaurs and modern birds.
- The fossil provides that, embryo was in a curled position called as “tucking”.
- This behaviour is seen among birds, shortly before they hatch.
- It also indicates that tucking behaviour in modern birds has been evolved and originated from their dinosaur ancestors.
- Oviraptorosaurs lived during the Cretaceous period(145 to 66 million years ago) in Asia and North America.
- Oviraptorosaurs means “egg thief lizards”.
- Baby Yingliang measures 27cm long from head to tail.
- It is resting inside a 6.7-inch-long egg at Yingliang Stone Nature History Museum in China.
- This egg was first uncovered in 2000 and put into storage for 10 years.



Reference: <https://indianexpress.com/article/technology/science/meet-baby-yingliang-well-preserved-dinosaur-embryo-fossilised-egg-7685136/lite/>