

# **GUPTA**

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# **CLASSES**

## **Current Affairs**

**(March 2024)**

**English**

**Part-6**



**GUPTA**

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**CLASSES**

**Explanation:**

**About Republic of Mauritius:**

**President**- Prithvirajsing Roopun

**Prime Minister**- Pravind Jugnauth

**Capital**- Port Louis

**Currency**-Mauritian Rupee

**165. In which year Bharat Electronics Limited was established?**

1) 1954

2) 1956

3) 1980

4) 1988

5) 1990

**Answer-1) 1954**

**Explanation:**

**About Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL):**

**Chairman & Managing Director(Additional Charge)**- Bhanu Prakash Srivastava

**Headquarters**- Bengaluru, Karnataka

**Established in**- 1954

**166. Which company has recently (in March 2024) signed a MoU with Tamil Nadu Govt. to build a Rs. 9000 crore manufacturing facility in Ranipet District?**

1) Tata Motors

2) Mahindra & Mahindra Limited

3) Toyota Motor Corporation

4) VinFast Auto Ltd

5) Ashok Leyland

**Answer-1) Tata Motors**

**Explanation:**

**Tata Motors** signed a MoU with **Tamil Nadu** to build a Rs. 9000 Crore vehicle manufacturing facility in Ranipet District that is likely to generate 5000 jobs.

**i.** This is the second billion dollar investment in Tamil Nadu in the past two months after VinFast of Vietnam announced a 16,000-crore.

**167. In March 2024, which Indian city was added as a member by the World Health Organisation's global network of age-friendly cities and communities?**

1) Kochi

2) Hyderabad

3) Chennai

4) Bengaluru

5) Mumbai

**Answer-1) Kochi**

**Explanation:**

The World Health Organisation (**WHO**) has added **Kochi (Kerala)** as a member of its global network of age-friendly cities and communities.

i. The WHO website says age-friendly cities or communities feature accessible and safe road and transport infrastructure, barrier-free access to buildings and houses, and public seating and sanitary facilities.

- They also enable people to stay active, stay connected and contribute to their community's economic, social and cultural life.

**168. In which state/UT, Limber Wildlife Sanctuary is located?**

- 1) Madhya Pradesh
- 2) Jammu & Kashmir
- 3) Uttar Pradesh
- 4) Maharashtra
- 5) Bihar

Answer- **2) Jammu & Kashmir**

**Explanation:****About Jammu & Kashmir (J&K):**

**Lieutenant Governor-** Manoj Sinha

**Wildlife Sanctuaries-** Limber Wildlife Sanctuary, Nandini Wildlife Sanctuary

**Airports-** Srinagar International Airport (Sheikh ul-Alam International Airport), Jammu airport  
Satwari Airport

**169. In which year, Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO) was established?**

- 1) 1986
- 2) 1972
- 3) 1960
- 4) 1965
- 5) 1970

Answer- **4) 1965**

**Explanation:****About Federation of Indian Export Organisations (FIEO):**

FIEO is an apex body of Government of India recognised as a Export Promotion Councils, Commodity Boards and Development Authorities in India.

It was established in **1965** by the Ministry of Commerce.

**President-** Ashwani Kumar

**Headquarters-** New Delhi, Delhi

**170. Who has been recently (in March '24) appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Poonawalla Fincorp?**

- 1) Bontha Prasad Rao
- 2) Prabhakar Dalal
- 3) Arvind Kapil
- 4) Sunil Samdani
- 5) Amar Deshpande

Answer- **3) Arvind Kapil**

**Explanation:**

**Poonawalla Fincorp**, a leading NBFC, has announced the appointment of **Arvind Kapil** as its new **Managing Director** and **Chief Executive Officer** for a period of five years effective from June 24, 2024, following the early retirement of its current MD and CEO, Abhay Bhutada.

- The shares jumped nearly 4% after the announcement and settled 3.7% higher.
- Kapil serves as HDFC Bank's Group Head and oversees the mortgage banking business with a book size of Rs. 7.5 lakh crore.

**171. Who has recently (in March '24) released a book and video titled "Sagar Parikrama" at the Engineering Association in Rajkot, Gujarat?**

- 1) Amit Shah (Union Minister of Home Affairs)
- 2) Narendra Modi (Prime Minister of India)
- 3) Sarbananda Sonowal (Union Minister of Ports, Shipping and Waterways)
- 4) Nitin Jairam Gadkari (Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India)
- 5) Parshottam Rupala (Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying)

Answer- **5) Parshottam Rupala (Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying)**

**Explanation:**

Union Minister of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, **Parshottam Rupala**, released a book and video titled "**Sagar Parikrama**" at the Engineering Association in **Rajkot, Gujarat**.

i. The event was graced by the presence of the Union Minister for States of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Dr. L. Murugan, and other dignitaries.

**172. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has recently (in March '24) collaborated with the Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) for applied research?**

- 1) IIT Madras
- 2) IIT Kanpur
- 3) IIT Roorkee
- 4) IIT Guwahati
- 5) IIT Delhi

Answer- **5) IIT Delhi**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (**IIT Delhi**) forged a collaboration with the Israel Aerospace Industries (**IAI**) for applied research.

- The IAI-IIT CSR agreement underscores IAI's dedication to corporate social responsibility in India. This partnership encompasses joint projects, training initiatives, and research consultancy.
- This CSR agreement underscores IAI's resolve to further invest in technology and innovation in India.

**173. Which state government has recently (in March '24) launched a portal 'Log Sabha' to listen to the grievances of voters and directly connect with them during the polls?**

- 1) West Bengal
- 2) Odisha
- 3) Uttar Pradesh

- 4) Bihar
- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **1) West Bengal**

**Explanation:**

Within 24 hours of the announcement of poll dates for general elections, **West Bengal** Governor CV Ananda Bose launched a **portal 'Log Sabha'** to listen to the grievances of voters and directly connect with them during the polls.

**i.** The portal allows citizens to send their communication, complaints, or suggestions directly to the governor via the dedicated email address 'logsabha.rajbhavankolkata@gmail.com'. Grievances and suggestions received through this portal will be addressed promptly.

**174. In which state, the Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve is located?**

- 1) Sikkim
- 2) Uttarakhand
- 3) Himachal Pradesh
- 4) Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Bihar

Answer- **2) Uttarakhand**

**Explanation:**

The **Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve**, also known as the Nanda Devi National Park, is a spectacular expanse of wilderness in the upper reaches of the Himalayas.

**i.** The Nanda Devi Biosphere Reserve and the Valley of Flowers, both a part of the prestigious United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage List, encompass a unique transition zone between the Zaskar mountain range and the Great Himalaya.

**ii.** Located under the guard of the Nanda Devi peak, the rugged and dramatic reserve is spread across three districts of **Uttarakhand**, i.e Chamoli, Pithoragarh and Bageshwar.

**175. Karaivetti Birds Sanctuary is located in \_\_\_\_\_(state).**

- 1) Tamil Nadu
- 2) Andhra Pradesh
- 3) Kerala
- 4) Karnataka
- 5) Telangana

Answer- **1) Tamil Nadu**

**Explanation:**

**About Tamil Nadu:**

**Chief Minister-** Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin

**Governor:** Dr Ravindra Narayana Ravi (R.N.Ravi)

**Bird Sanctuaries – Karaivetti Birds Sanctuary, Sakkarakottai Tank Bird Sanctuary, and Theerthangal Bird Sanctuary**

**176. In which state, 'Sanjay Gandhi National Park' is located?**

- 1) Uttar Pradesh
- 2) Bihar
- 3) Maharashtra

4) Andhra Pradesh

5) Karnataka

Answer- **3) Maharashtra**

**Explanation:**

**Sanjay Gandhi National Park** is located in the state of **Maharashtra** which was formerly known as Borivali National Park. The 2400-year-old Kanheri caves are sculpted out of the rocky cliff which lies within the park.

**177. In Which state 'Satkosia Tiger Reserve' is located?**

1) West Bengal

2) Karnataka

3) Andhra Pradesh

4) Kerala

5) Odisha

Answer- **5) Odisha**

**Explanation:**

**About Odisha:**

**Chief Minister** – Naveen Patnaik

**Governor** – Raghubar Das

**Wildlife Sanctuary** – Lakhari Valley Sanctuary, Karlapat Sanctuary

**Tiger Reserve** – Similipal Tiger Reserve, **Satkosia Tiger Reserve**

**178. In March 2024, the Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi extended the policy for providing preference to Domestically Manufactured Iron & Steel Products (DM1&SP) on Government procurement by \_\_\_\_\_ (months/year) with effect from May 29, 2024.**

1) 10 months

2) 6 months

3) 8 months

4) 1 year

5) 4 months

Answer- **2) 6 months**

**Explanation:**

The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister Narendra Modi has extended the policy for providing preference to Domestically Manufactured Iron & Steel Products (DM1&SP) on Government procurement by **6 months** with effect from May 29, 2024.

- The policy mandates preference for products with 15%-50% value addition in procurement orders by public sector undertakings, specific grades of steel, Centrally Sponsored Schemes (CSS) and local sourcing preference for projects funded by the centre.
- This policy is applicable to supply of iron and steel products having aggregated estimated value of Rs 5 lakh or higher.

**179. Who has been recently (in March '24) appointed as the brand ambassador of Castrol?**

1) Aamir Khan

2) Akshay Kumar

- 3) Amitabh Bachchan
- 4) Shah Rukh Khan
- 5) Saif Ali Khan

Answer- **4) Shah Rukh Khan**

**Explanation:**

**Castrol**, a subsidiary of the BP group and a global pioneer in lubricants, has announced its association with actor **Shah Rukh Khan** as its **brand ambassador**.

i. The association marks a significant step in Castrol's commitment to delivering high-performance lubricants. Over the next two years, Shah Rukh Khan will feature in digital, print, and TV campaigns for BP and Castrol, showcasing their wide range of products.

**180. In which state Valmiki Tiger Reserve is located?**

- 1) West Bengal
- 2) Uttar Pradesh
- 3) Bihar
- 4) Jharkhand
- 5) Odisha

Answer- **3) Bihar**

**Explanation:**

Bihar's only tiger reserve **Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR)** is using green energy to provide adequate water to wild animals, including tigers and their prey, during the hot summer season.

- The protected area (PA) has installed solar-powered pumps for providing water regularly to tigers and other wildlife.

**181. In March 2024, Shriram Finance raised USD \_\_\_\_\_ in a "first-of-its-kind deal" by an Indian issuer.**

- 1) 300 million
- 2) 100 million
- 3) 150 million
- 4) 200 million
- 5) 250 million

Answer- **1) 300 million**

**Explanation:**

India Vehicle Finance, a Mauritius-incorporated special purpose vehicle set up by **Shriram Finance**, has raised **USD 300 million** in a "first-of-its-kind deal" by an Indian issuer.

- The bonds, which come under the "social bonds" category and were issued to U.S. investors, were priced at a coupon of 5.85%, inside the initial price guidance of around 6.15%.

**182. When was the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) established?**

- 1) 1930
- 2) 1935
- 3) 1942
- 4) 1949
- 5) 1950

Answer- **2) 1935**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India was established on **April 1, 1935** in accordance with the provisions of the Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934.

- i. The Government of India will issue a commemorative coin of Rs. 90 on occasion to mark the 90 Years of Celebration of Reserve Bank of India. The Ministry of Finance issued a gazette notification on March 19, 2024, confirming this coin.
- ii. A momentous milestone approaches for the Reserve Bank of India as it marks its 90th year of existence and operation on **April 1, 2024**.

**183. Name the Organisation/Agency that has recently (in March '24) signed an MoU with Railway Protection Force (RPF) to prevent and combat human trafficking.**

- 1) National Commission for Women
- 2) Narcotics Control Bureau
- 3) National Commission for Protection of Child Rights
- 4) National Human Rights Commission of India
- 5) National Investigation Agency

Answer- **1) National Commission for Women**

**Explanation:**

The National Commission for Women (**NCW**) and the **Railway Protection Force** have signed an **MoU** in New Delhi to prevent and combat human trafficking.

- Railway Protection Force personnel deployed at Railway stations are playing a crucial role in the crime against women and children.
- **Rekha Sharma** is the current chairperson of National Commission for Women (NCW).

**184. Which bank has recently (in March '24) signed an MoU with SANY India to provide financial solutions?**

- 1) Federal Bank
- 2) Karnataka Bank
- 3) RBL Bank
- 4) Jammu and Kashmir Bank
- 5) IndusInd Bank

Answer- **4) Jammu and Kashmir Bank**

**Explanation:**

**SANY India** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **Jammu and Kashmir Bank**, aiming to stimulate substantial growth and development opportunities within the region, while facilitating easier access to SANY India's advanced product line along with readily available financial solutions.

**185. In March 2024, Pandavula Gutta, a geological marvel older than the Himalayan hills, was officially recognised as the sole Geo-heritage site in \_\_\_\_\_ (state).**

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Telangana
- 3) Karnataka
- 4) Kerala
- 5) Tamil Nadu



**Answer- 2) Telangana**

**Explanation:**

**Pandavula Gutta**, a geological marvel older than the Himalayan hills, has been officially recognised as the sole Geo-heritage site in **Telangana**.

- In commemoration of the ongoing Azadi ka Amrit Mahotsav, the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Telangana State Unit, Southern Region, organized a Geo-heritage walk at Pandavula Gutta on March 12, 2024.

**186. Who has been recently (in March '24) named as the next Ambassador of India to Russia?**

- 1) Madhu Chitkara
- 2) Vinay Kumar
- 3) Manoj Manuja
- 4) Ajay Sharma
- 5) Vishal Mittal

**Answer- 2) Vinay Kumar**

**Explanation:**

**Vinay Kumar**, an Indian Foreign Service officer of the 1992 batch, has been named as the **next Ambassador of India to Russia**. Kumar currently holds the position of Ambassador of India to Myanmar.

**187. Name the Port that has recently (in March '24) won an International Safety Award for calendar year 2023 from the British Safety Council.**

- 1) Deendayal Port
- 2) Adani Vizhinjam Port
- 3) Machilipatnam Port
- 4) JSW Salav Port
- 5) V.O. Chidambaranar Port

**Answer- 2) Adani Vizhinjam Port**

**Explanation:**

Adani Vizhinjam Port Private Limited (**AVPPL**) in **Kerala** has won an **International Safety Award** for calendar year 2023 from the British Safety Council in recognition of its commitment to keeping workers and workplaces healthy and safe.

- AVPPL is one of 269 global organisations to win a distinction in the International Safety Awards 2024, out of the total of 1,124 that won the award.

**188. According to the Air Quality Report 2023 conducted by Swiss organisation IQAir released in March 2024, Delhi emerged as World's Most Polluted Capital City for the \_\_\_\_\_ consecutive year since 2018.**

- 1) 5th
- 2) 3rd
- 3) 1st
- 4) 2nd
- 5) 4th

**Answer- 5) 4th**

**Explanation:**

**Delhi** is ranked the world's most polluted capital city for the **fourth consecutive year** since 2018. According to the Air Quality Report 2023 conducted by Swiss organisation IQAir, Delhi's PM2.5 levels worsened from 89.1 micrograms per cubic metre in 2022 to 92.7 micrograms per cubic metre in 2023.

- Bihar's Begusarai has emerged as the world's most polluted metropolitan area.

**189. In which Air Force Station (AFS), One Helicopter Unit was inducted in March 2024?**

- 1) Jorhat AFS, Assam
- 2) Sulur AFS, Tamil Nadu
- 3) Thanjavur AFS, Tamil Nadu
- 4) Gorakhpur AFS, Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Tawang AFS, Arunachal Pradesh

Answer- **3) Thanjavur AFS, Tamil Nadu**

**Explanation:**

**One Helicopter Unit** has been inducted at **Air Force Station Thanjavur** in Tamil Nadu, a move that will ensure availability of sufficient resources with the Southern Air Command's headquarters to enhance operational capabilities as well as meet peacetime tasks. The unit was inducted at a ceremony held on 19th March 2024.

- The Southern Air Command (SAC) is based in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala.

**190. In March 2024, the Indian Army patented a Portable Multi-Target Detonation Device (WEDC), developed by Major \_\_\_\_\_, to offer a long range of 2.5 km with wired and wireless firing modes.**

- 1) Ravinder Kumar Arora
- 2) Rajprasad RS
- 3) Rabinder Nath
- 4) Dalbir Singh Suhag
- 5) Bikram Singh

Answer- **2) Rajprasad RS**

**Explanation:**

The **Indian Army** has patented a Portable Multi-Target Detonation Device (**WEDC**), developed by **Major Rajprasad RS**, offering a long range of **2.5 kilometers** with wired and wireless firing modes.

- This device enhances safety and precision in demolitions, overcoming the limitations of previous systems.
- Major Rajprasad's innovation highlights the army's commitment to self-reliance and indigenous defense innovation, recognized during the Bharat Shakti exercise by Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Army Chief General Manoj Pandey.

**191. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has recently (in March '24) signed an MoU with the Indian Navy for innovation technology development?**

- 1) IIT Kharagpur
- 2) IIT Kanpur
- 3) IIT Guwahati
- 4) IIT Madras

5) IIT Bombay

Answer- **1) IIT Kharagpur**

**Explanation:**

Indian Institute of Technology **(IIT) Kharagpur** has signed a memorandum of understanding **(MoU)** with the **Indian Navy** to drive innovation through research partnership and technology development.

**i.** Rear Admiral K Srinivas, assistant chief of materiel (dockyard and refit) at Naval Headquarters and Prof. Rintu Banerjee, dean, research and development, IIT Kharagpur, signed the MoU in the presence of IIT Kharagpur director Virendra Kumar Tewari.

**192. Name the company that has recently (in March '24) signed a MoU with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) for the dissemination & promotion of ICAR's initiatives.**

1) Bijak Pvt Ltd

2) JK Agri Genetics Ltd

3) Krishi Jagran Pvt Ltd

4) Syngenta Pvt Ltd

5) Agrighar Services Pvt Ltd

Answer- **3) Krishi Jagran Pvt Ltd**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research **(ICAR)** and **Krishi Jagran Pvt Ltd** signed a **MoU** for the dissemination & promotion of ICAR's initiatives for the growth of Indian Agriculture and farmers' welfare.

**i.** The MoU will help in the Video production of ICAR Success Stories on social media platforms and promote the success stories of ICAR-developed technologies across India. It will also help in generating Video Bytes of senior officials and Write Ups in relevant Krishi Jagran magazine editions on ICAR initiatives.

**193. Which company has recently (in March '24) signed a five-year strategic partnership deal with the Indian Premier League (IPL)?**

1) Zerodha

2) Kotak Securities

3) HDFC securities

4) Paytm Money Limited

5) Angel One

Answer- **5) Angel One**

**Explanation:**

Fintech firm **Angel One** signed a five-year strategic partnership deal with the Indian Premier League **(IPL)**.

**i.** The company has onboarded itself on the IPL bandwagon as an Associate Partner to reach the 'diverse sports audience of the IPL platform to promote financial awareness and empowerment in the country, especially among young Indians'.

**194. Which bank has recently (in March '24) partnered with Tappy Technologies & Thales to launch India's First Tokenization Solution for Wearable Payments?**

1) HDFC Bank

2) IndusInd Bank

- 3) ICICI Bank
- 4) YES Bank
- 5) Axis Bank

Answer- **2) IndusInd Bank**

**Explanation:**

**Tappy Technologies**, a trailblazer in digital payment innovations, has launched **India's First** Tokenization Solution for Wearable Payments, developed in partnership with **IndusInd Bank** and **Thales**.

- This collaborative effort has resulted in the creation of the Indus PayWear App, offering customers of IndusInd Bank a seamless method to digitize their cards through the application.

**195. In March 2024, International Institute of Sports Management (IISM) launched India's first-ever book on Sports Psychology, authored by \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Mugdha Bavare
- 2) Kunashni Parikh
- 3) Gayatri Vartak
- 4) Dinesh Nair
- 5) Meenal Gupta

Answer- **1) Mugdha Bavare**

**Explanation:**

India's leading sports management college, International Institute of Sports Management (**IISM**) launched **India's first-ever book on Sports Psychology** as part of a series that will aim to enrich students with industry knowledge.

- The book titled 'Sports Psychology' authored by **Mugdha Bavare**, noted Sports Psychologist, was launched. The book has been published under the banner of Popular Prakashan is second in a series of books being launched by IISM as part a knowledge series.

**196. In March 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ declared as the primary tourism capital of Nepal.**

- 1) Lalitpur
- 2) Bharatpur
- 3) Pokhara
- 4) Birgunj
- 5) Biratnagar

Answer- **3) Pokhara**

**Explanation:**

The **Nepalese government** has recently declared **Pokhara**, situated in the picturesque Gandaki province, as the primary tourism capital of the Himalayan nation.

- This official proclamation occurred during a special event held at Barahi Ghat, located on the serene banks of the stunning Phewa Lake.

**197. Who has been recently (in March '24) inducted into the Hall of Fame at the World Billiards Museum in Shangrao City in China?**

- 1) Sourav Kothari
- 2) Geet Sethi
- 3) Aditya Mehta

4) Rupesh Shah

5) Pankaj Advani

Answer- **5) Pankaj Advani**

**Explanation:**

Legendary Indian billiards and professional snooker player, **Pankaj Advani** achieved yet another milestone in his glorious career as he has been **inducted** into the **Hall of Fame** at the **World Billiards Museum** in Shangrao City in China.

- In November 2023, the 38-year-old Indian star won his 26th IBSF (the International Billiards and Snooker Federation) title after beating compatriot Sourav Kothari.

**198. Which company is set to launch India's first battery energy storage gigafactory in Jammu and Kashmir by October 2024?**

1) Godi India Pvt Ltd

2) GoodEnough Energy

3) Prayogik Pvt Ltd

4) Prescinto Technologies Pvt Limited

5) Nunam Pvt Ltd

Answer- **2) GoodEnough Energy**

**Explanation:**

GoodEnough Energy to launch India's first battery energy storage gigafactory in **Jammu and Kashmir** by **October 2024**. Akash Kaushik leads the investment for a 7 GWH facility, expanding to 20 GWH by 2027.

- India aims to have 500 GW renewable energy capacity by 2030, with USD 452 million incentives.

**199. Which company has recently (in March '24) partnered with Canadian aerospace company CAE to provide Boeing 737 Max training for the airline's pilots at the facilities in India?**

1) SpiceJet

2) Go First

3) Akasa Air

4) IndiGo

5) Air India

Answer- **3) Akasa Air**

**Explanation:**

Canadian aerospace company **CAE** has entered into a 15-year long-term partnership with **Akasa Air** to provide **Boeing 737 Max** training for the airline's pilots at the facilities in India.

- The airline will leverage CAE's training facilities, trainers and latest-generation full-flight simulators for the next 15 years. CAE has trained Akasa Air pilots since the airline started operations in 2022.

**200. Which company has recently (in MARCH '24) signed an MoU with the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) to deliver new technology to farmers?**

1) CropIn Technology

2) Stellapps

3) Ninjacart

- 4) AgroStar
- 5) Dhanuka Agritech

Answer- **5) Dhanuka Agritech**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (**ICAR**) and **Dhanuka Agritech Limited** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). Deputy Director General (Agricultural Extension), ICAR Dr. U.S. Gautam and Chairman, Dhanuka Agritech Limited Dr. R.G. Aggarwal signed this MoU on behalf of respective organizations.

- Dhanuka Agritech will provide training related to agricultural production to these small farmers by associating with the central institutes, ATARIs and KVKs.

**201. Which government sector has recently (in March '24) signed an MoU with the National Cadet Corps (NCC) to raise awareness on peaceful use of nuclear power through various programmes pan India?**

- 1) National Thermal Power Corporation
- 2) Energy Efficiency Services Limited
- 3) National Hydroelectric Power Corporation Ltd
- 4) Power Finance Corporation Limited
- 5) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited

Answer- **5) Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited**

**Explanation:**

National Cadet Corps (**NCC**) and Nuclear Power Corporation of India Limited (**NPCIL**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) in New Delhi on March 21, 2024 to conduct various awareness programmes throughout the country to enhance public perceptions on peaceful use of nuclear power and disseminate scientific & authentic information.

- The NPCIL will be providing resource persons in this initiative for field engagements with the NCC during the camps and various activities by educating the cadets.
- The MoU also facilitates a unique opportunity to the cadets to visit various facilities of NPCIL across the country, thereby giving a first-hand experience on peaceful use of nuclear energy, its technical and technological aspects.

**202. Which ministry has recently (in March '24) advised all endorsers and social media influencers to refrain from promoting offshore online betting and gambling platforms?**

- 1) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- 2) Ministry of Home Affairs
- 3) Ministry of Finance
- 4) Ministry of Law & Justice
- 5) Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment

Answer- **1) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**

**Explanation:**

The **Ministry of Information and Broadcasting** has advised all endorsers and **influencers on social media** to refrain from promoting or advertising, including surrogate advertisements, of offshore online betting and gambling platforms.

- The Ministry has said that these advertisements have a significant financial and socio-economic implications of online betting and gambling on consumers, particularly the youth.

- The Ministry has further advised the online advertisement intermediaries not to target such promotional content towards Indian audiences.

**203. Name the app that has been recently (in March '24) developed by the Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to help astronauts on the Gaganyaan space flight mission.**

- 1) ASHA
- 2) SAKHI
- 3) Sagarmitra
- 4) Satsleeve
- 5) Nabhmitra

**Answer- 2) SAKHI**

**Explanation:**

The Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (**VSSC**), the Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) facility at Thumba in Thiruvananthapuram, has developed a multi-purpose app, **SAKHI** that will help astronauts on the Gaganyaan space flight mission carry out a range of tasks such as looking up vital technical information or communicating with one another.

- The Space-borne Assistant and Knowledge Hub for Crew Interaction (**SAKHI**) will, among other things, monitor the health of the astronauts, help them stay connected with Earth and even alert them about their dietary schedules.

**204. Astronaut \_\_\_\_\_, commander of the first United States (US)-Soviet space mission, Apollo-Soyuz mission, passed away in March 2024.**

- 1) Anne McClain
- 2) Stephen Bowen
- 3) Michael Fincke
- 4) Jeanette Epps
- 5) Thomas P. Stafford

**Answer- 5) Thomas P. Stafford**

**Explanation:**

Astronaut **Thomas P. Stafford**, commander of the **first** United States (**US**)-**Soviet** space mission, **Apollo-Soyuz mission**, passed away at the age of 93.

- Stafford's legacy includes commanding the Apollo 10 mission, a crucial precursor to the historic Apollo 11 lunar landing.
- In all, Stafford logged 507 hours in space and flew four different types of spacecraft and 127 types of aircraft and helicopters.

**205. Which company has been recently (in March '24) recognized as a Global Top Employer by the Top Employers Institute?**

- 1) Tata Consultancy Services
- 2) Infosys
- 3) Wipro
- 4) IBM
- 5) Microsoft

**Answer- 1) Tata Consultancy Services**

**Explanation:**

Indian IT giant Tata Consultancy Services (**TCS**) has been recently **recognized** as a **Global Top Employer** by the **Top Employers Institute**. The Top Employers Institute is a global authority that honours excellence in people practices.

- Tata Group-owned IT company is one of the 16 organisations around the world certified by the Top Employers Institute.
- The global certification follows a series of localised certifications with TCS being named a top employer in 32 countries and regions.

**206. Who has been recently (in March '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of Nissan Motor India?**

- 1) Rahul Mathur
- 2) Pradeep Sharma
- 3) Jayanth Kumar
- 4) Saurabh Vatsa
- 5) Ajay Kumar

Answer- **4) Saurabh Vatsa**

**Explanation:**

**Nissan Motor India** has elevated its Deputy Managing Director **Saurabh Vatsa** as Managing Director (**MD**) from April 1 as the present incumbent Rakesh Srivastava retires on March 31.

**207. Who is the current (as of March '24) Chairperson of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)?**

- 1) Anand Kumar Prasad
- 2) Rajesh Bhushan
- 3) Manish Kumar Mishra
- 4) Rajeev Kumar Jain
- 5) Ajit Kumar Das

Answer- **2) Rajesh Bhushan**

**Explanation:**

**Rajesh Bhushan** is the present **Chairperson** of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (**FSSAI**).

The Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) has mandated the requirement of an Integrated Veterinary Health Certificate for the import of milk and milk products into India.

- This directive, aimed at ensuring food safety standards, comes as part of a series of measures to regulate the importation of food items. The requirement was initially notified by the FSSAI through an order.

**208. In March 2024, Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), \_\_\_\_\_ (city) was awarded with Unit Citation by Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Anil Chauhan.**

- 1) Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh
- 2) New Delhi, Delhi
- 3) Pune, Maharashtra
- 4) Hyderabad, Telangana
- 5) Patna, Bihar



Answer- **3) Pune, Maharashtra**

**Explanation:**

Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC), Pune, Maharashtra was awarded with the unit citation by Chief of Defence Staff (CDS), General Anil Chauhan at a ceremony conducted at (AFMC).

- The award is in recognition for the exceptional commitment displayed and exemplary services rendered during the period from 01 July 2022 to 30 June 2023.
- AFMC is the first medical college to be set up by the Armed Forces of any country in Asia and consistently ranked amongst the top three medical colleges in the country. AFMC has been awarded A + grade by the National Assessment and Accreditation Council.

**209. Britain's most successful female Olympic athlete with 5 golds, Laura Kenny has recently (in March '24) announced her retirement from \_\_\_\_\_ (Sports).**

- 1) Badminton
- 2) Surfing
- 3) Table Tennis
- 4) Cycling
- 5) Boxing

Answer- **4) Cycling**

**Explanation:**

**Laura Kenny**, Britain's most successful female Olympic athlete, announced her retirement from **cycling**.

**i.** The 31-year-old Kenny has won five Olympic gold medals and had been expected to compete at the Paris Games in July 2023.

**210. In how many years once the elephant survey took place in India?**

- 1) 4 years
- 2) 5 years
- 3) 2 years
- 4) 3 years
- 5) 6 years

Answer- **2) 5 years**

**Explanation:**

The tiger survey is usually held once in four years and **elephants** are counted once in **five years**.

**i.** In March 2024, the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) notified the Captive Elephant (Transfer or Transport) Rules, 2024, which liberalises the conditions for transferring elephants within or between states.

**ii. Circumstances for Transfer of Captive Elephants:**

- Transfer may occur when: The owner is no longer capable of adequately maintaining the elephant's welfare. If it's determined that the elephant will receive better care in the new circumstances compared to its current situation.
- The Chief Wildlife Warden may deem it necessary for the elephant's better upkeep based on the specific circumstances of the case.

**211. Where is the Headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) located?**

- 1) Paris, France
- 2) Manila, Philippines
- 3) Geneva, Switzerland
- 4) Vienna, Austria
- 5) New York, United States of America (USA)

**Answer- 1) Paris, France**

**Explanation:**

**About United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO):**

**Director-General** – Audrey Azoulay

**Headquarters**– Paris, France

**Founded in**– 1945

**212. In March 2024, Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology of India, Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated India's first Future LABS centre in \_\_\_\_\_ (city).**

- 1) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- 2) Hyderabad, Telangana
- 3) Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
- 4) Bengaluru, Karnataka
- 5) Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Answer-3) Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**

**Explanation:**

On 12th March 2024, Union Minister of State for Electronics and Information Technology of India, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar inaugurated India's first Future LABS centre in C-DAC **Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala**.

**i.** It is named as “Centre for Semiconductor Chips & Systems for Strategic Electronics”, and will play a crucial role in catalysing an ecosystem for next generation chip design, manufacturing, and research.

**213. Who was appointed as the Additional Chief Secretary(ACS) in the Chief Minister(CMO) office, Maharashtra, in March 2024?**

- 1) Iqbal Singh Chahal
- 2) Velrasu
- 3) Tina Tabi
- 4) Purva Garg
- 5) Santhosh Kumar

**Answer- 1) Iqbal Singh Chahal**

**Explanation:**

On 23rd March 2024, **Iqbal Singh Chahal**, an IAS officer of the 1989 batch was appointed as the **Additional Chief Secretary (ACS)** in the Chief Minister office (CMO ), Maharashtra, in March 2024.

**i.** He succeeds Bhushan Gagrani, 1990 batch officer of the Indian Administrative Service.

- The decision came after the Election Commission of India (ECI) directed the state government to appoint Gagrani as the new Brihanmumbai Municipal Corporation (BMC) commissioner.

**214. Name the Indian badminton player who has recently (in March' 24) became World Number 13 In Men's Singles Category.**

- 1) Parupalli Kashyap
- 2) Kidambi Srikanth
- 3) Prakash Padukone
- 4) Lakshya Sen
- 5) Pullela Gopichand

Answer- **4) Lakshya Sen**

**Explanation:**

On 20th March 2024, Indian Shuttler **Lakshya Sen** Climbs Five Places to Become **World Number 13** In Men's Singles Category.

**i.** Sen **solidified** his place in the race to the **2024 Paris Olympics**.

**ii.** In men's doubles, **Satwiksairaj Rankireddy** and **Chirag Shetty** maintained their world number one spot.

**iii.** In women's doubles, **Ashwini Ponnappa** and **Tanisha Crasto** moved three places up to become **world number 20**

**215. Which company has recently (in March' 24) opened its liaison office in Dhaka, Bangladesh?**

- 1) Mangalore Refinery and Petrochemicals Limited
- 2) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
- 3) Barauni Refinery Limited
- 4) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Ltd
- 5) Numaligarh Refinery Limited

Answer- **5) Numaligarh Refinery Limited**

**Explanation:**

India's **Numaligarh Refinery Limited (NRL)** opened its liaison office in **Dhaka** on 12th March 2024 . This is the first overseas office of the NRL.

**i.** It was the **first cross-border pipeline** for the supply of petroleum products to Bangladesh

**216. Which department has recently (in March '24) collaborated with the Department of Sports to introduce comprehensive reforms in the recruitment, promotion, and incentives framework for athletes?**

- 1) Department of Higher Education
- 2) Department of Personnel and Training
- 3) Department Home Affairs
- 4) Department of Physical Education and Sports
- 5) Department of School Education and Literacy

Answer- **2) Department of Personnel and Training**

**Explanation:**

On 6th March 2024, **The Department of Personnel and Training (DOPT)** in collaboration with **the Department of Sports**, introduced comprehensive reforms in the recruitment, promotion, and incentives framework for athletes.

- This step **extends eligibility** to medal winners from the **Khelo India Games— Youth, University, Para, and winter games**—to be eligible for government jobs.

**217. Which company has recently (in March '24) signed a MoU with SatSure, along with its subsidiary KaleidEO to offer Comprehensive Space Infrastructure Solution?**

- 1) Kellton Tech
- 2) Tata Elxsi
- 3) Arya.ai
- 4) ReOrbit
- 5) Zensar Technologies

Answer- **4) ReOrbit**

**Explanation:**

Deep tech EO analytics and platform company **SatSure**, along with its subsidiary **KaleidEO**, signed a MoU (Memorandum of Understanding) with the Helsinki-based leading provider of software-first satellites, **ReOrbit**.

**i.** This partnership is aimed at **developing innovative full-stack solutions** to meet the future market demands in the Earth Observation (EO) segment.

**218. Which university has recently (in March '24) collaborated with the Flag Foundation of India (FFI) and made a Guinness World Record by creating the largest human-waving national flag?**

- 1) Jamia Millia Islamia
- 2) Delhi University
- 3) Savitribai Phule Pune University
- 4) O.P. Jindal Global University
- 5) National Law School of India University

Answer- **4) O.P. Jindal Global University**

**Explanation:**

In a record-breaking event, **O.P. Jindal Global University (JGU)** in collaboration with the Flag Foundation of India (**FFI**), created the largest human waving national flag surpassing all previous Guinness World Records.

- The event saw the certified participation of 7368 students and staff of JGU which was endorsed by the Officials of the Guinness World Records organization.

**219. In March 2024, the Ministry of Finance set up a panel headed by \_\_\_\_\_ Additional Secretary, Department of Financial Services to suggest amendments to the Securitization and Reconstruction for Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) and DRT Acts.**

- 1) Anil Yadav
- 2) M P Tangirala
- 3) Vivek Singh
- 4) Amit Meena
- 5) Sernya Bhutia

Answer- **2) M P Tangirala**

**Explanation:**

To speed up the debt recovery process, the **Finance Ministry** has set up a panel to suggest amendments to the Securitization and Reconstruction for Enforcement of Security Interest (**SARFAESI**) and **DRT Acts** including a provision for granting legal sanctity to e-notices to debtors.

- i. The committee headed by **M P Tangirala, Additional Secretary**, Department of Financial Services held several meetings, and discussions are in the advanced stage in this regard.
- ii. The Debt Recovery Tribunals (DRTs) Act was enacted in 1993 to provide a legal framework for the expeditious adjudication and recovery of debts due to banks and financial institutions.

**220. Haitian \_\_\_\_\_ is the Currency of Haiti.**

- 1) Tugrik
- 2) Tenge
- 3) Gourde
- 4) Lari
- 5) Manat

Answer- **3) Gourde**

**Explanation:**

**About Haiti:**

Haiti, Located between the Caribbean Sea and the North Atlantic Ocean, borders the Dominican Republic on the eastern side of the island. Its closest neighbors include Jamaica to the west and Cuba to the northwest.

**Capital** – Port-au-Prince

**Currency** – Haitian Gourde

**221. In March 2024, the Indian Army raised its first squadron, the 451 Aviation Squadron, to operate the newly acquired AH-64E Apache attack helicopters at \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Porbandar, Gujarat
- 2) Udupi, Karnataka
- 3) Thane, Maharashtra
- 4) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- 5) Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Answer- **5) Jodhpur, Rajasthan**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Army has raised its first squadron, the **451 Aviation Squadron**, to operate the newly acquired AH-64E Apache attack helicopters. The squadron was formally established on March 15 at **Jodhpur, Rajasthan**.

- The Army will receive the first batch of three Apache helicopters in May 2024. Another three Apaches will be inducted in July 2024.

**222. In which year Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI) was established?**

- 1) 2017
- 2) 2008
- 3) 2015
- 4) 2010
- 5) 2014

Answer- **2) 2008**

**Explanation:**

**Rajesh Bhushan** is the present Chairperson of Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (**FSSAI**). The Headquarters of FSSAI is located in New Delhi, Delhi and **established** in **2008**.

i. Recently, FSSAI has mandated the requirement of an Integrated Veterinary Health Certificate for the import of milk and milk products into India.

- This directive, aimed at ensuring food safety standards, comes as part of a series of measures to regulate the importation of food items. The requirement was initially notified by the FSSAI through an order.

**223. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has recently (in March '24) developed the 'NeoStand', India's most customizable Electric Standing Wheelchair?**

- 1) IIT Kharagpur
- 2) IIT Roorkee
- 3) IIT Kanpur
- 4) IIT Delhi
- 5) IIT Madras

Answer- **5) IIT Madras**

**Explanation:**

In a path breaking initiative, the Indian Institute of Technology, Madras (**IIT Madras**) has developed '**NeoStand**', **India's most customizable Electric Standing Wheelchair**, which has been developed indigenously for the benefit of wheelchair users.

i. The 'NeoStand' was launched at the IIT campus in the presence of IIT-Madras Director Prof.V.Kamakoti, eminent dignitaries, generous supporters of this project, faculty, researchers and users of these rehabilitative devices.

ii. NeoStand is a compact standing wheelchair with easy-to-use navigation for its motorized standing mechanism.

**224. In which state Keoladeo Ghana National Park is located?**

- 1) Assam
- 2) Rajasthan
- 3) Odisha
- 4) West Bengal
- 5) Punjab

Answer- **2) Rajasthan**

**Explanation:**

**About Rajasthan:**

**Chief Minister-** Bhajan Lal Sharma

**Governor-** Kalraj Mishra

**National Park-** Desert National Park; Keoladeo Ghana National Park

**Wildlife Sanctuary-** Mount Abu Wildlife Sanctuary; Sitamata Wildlife

**225. What is the Tagline of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)?**

- 1) Good People to Grow With
- 2) The Banker to Every Indian
- 3) We Make You Feel Richer
- 4) Banking With Personal Touch
- 5) Let's Make Money Simple

Answer- **1) Good People to Grow With**

**Explanation:**

**About Indian Overseas Bank (IOB):**

**Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO)-** Ajay Kumar Srivastava

**Headquarters-** Chennai, Tamil Nadu

**Established on-** 10 February 1937

**Tagline-** Good People to Grow with

**226. Who is the current (as of March '24) President of Indian Olympic Association (IOA)?**

1) Kalyan Chaubey

2) Sahdev Yadav

3) P.T. Usha

4) Gagan Narang

5) Alaknanda Ashok

**Answer- 3) P.T. Usha**

**Explanation:**

**About Indian Olympic Association (IOA):**

IOA is the governing body for the Olympic Movement and the Commonwealth Games in India.

**President-** P.T. Usha

**Headquarters-** New Delhi, Delhi

**Established in-** 1927

**227. Name the subsidiary of the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) that has recently (in March' 24) provided USD 45 million funding for Water, sanitation & Hygiene (WASH) activities?**

1) NABSanrakshan Trustee Private Ltd

2) NABKisan Finance Ltd

3) NAB Samruddhi Finance Ltd

4) NABFINS Ltd

5) NAB Ventures Ltd

**Answer- 3) NAB Samruddhi Finance Ltd**

**Explanation:**

The National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (**NABARD**) announced its subsidiary, **NAB Samruddhi Finance Ltd** (NSFL), has provided USD 45 million funding for 'WASH' (Water, Sanitation & Hygiene) activities through 32 partner institutions.

- NSFL has been providing concessional wholesale WASH loans by availing of refinance from Nabard, blended technical support from its partners Water.org, FINISH Mondial, to foster sustainable livelihoods.
- NABARD, along with its subsidiary, launched the Climate Ready WASH funding awareness campaign for women JLG borrowers of microfinance institutions.

**228. Name the shoebox-sized satellite that has recently (in March '24) launched by the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) to study the universe's most powerful explosions.**

1) CALIPSO

2) Terra

- 3) BurstCube
- 4) Aqua
- 5) IceCube

Answer- **3) BurstCube**

**Explanation:**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) launched a shoebox-sized satellite named **BurstCube** to study the universe's most powerful explosions. The satellite has been sent to the International Space Station through SpaceX's 30th commercial resupply service mission.

- The satellite was launched on March 21 from Launch Complex 40 at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida, USA. The main aim of this mission is to detect and find gamma-ray bursts (GRBs).

**229. Name the Indian Athlete who has recently (in March' 24) broke a 16-year-old national record by over 20 seconds in The Ten event at San Juan Capistrano in California.**

- 1) Jinson Johnson
- 2) Manjit Singh
- 3) Arpinder Singh
- 4) Gulveer Singh
- 5) Muhammad Anas

Answer- **4) Gulveer Singh**

**Explanation:**

Indian Athlete **Gulveer Singh** shattered a 16-year-old national record by over **20 seconds** by clocking **27.41.81** in The Ten event at San Juan Capistrano in California. The 25-year-old finished second in the men's 10,000m race.

- However, the Asian Games Bronze medallist failed to qualify for the Paris Olympic Games as he missed the qualification time of 27:00.00 by over 41 seconds.

**230. In March 2024, Former member of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes, \_\_\_\_\_ passed away.**

- 1) Thich Nhat Hanh
- 2) Bhola Paswan
- 3) Subash Ramnath
- 4) Sudharshan
- 5) Lama Lobzang

Answer- **5) Lama Lobzang**

**Explanation:**

Former member of the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes and Prominent Buddhist Monk of Ladakh popularly known as **Lama Lobzang** passed away in New Delhi. He was 94.

- A distinguished tribal leader, Lama Lobzang has served the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes for 19 years since 1984.
- When the National Commission for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes became constitutional through an amendment of Article 338 of the constitution, Lama Lobzang was appointed anew as its member for two terms from 1995 to 1998 and 1998 to 2001.



- He retired from public office after serving another term as a member of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes from 2004 to 2007.

**231. Which Airport has recently (in March '24) received an aerodrome licence from Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) to start flight operations?**

- 1) Rupsi Airport
- 2) Silchar Airport
- 3) Khowai Airport
- 4) Ambikapur Airport
- 5) Behala Airport

Answer- **4) Ambikapur Airport**

**Explanation:**

The Directorate General of Civil Aviation (**DGCA**) has issued the aerodrome license for **Ambikapur airport** in Chhattisgarh's Surguja district to start flight operations.

- Maa Mahamaya Airport, Ambikapur, has been developed in the 3-C VFR category to expand air services in the state.

**232. Who has been recently (in March '24) appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)?**

- 1) Harish Duhan
- 2) Arun Kumar
- 3) B Sairam
- 4) Manish Kumar
- 5) Bhola Singh

Answer- **3) B Sairam**

**Explanation:**

**B Sairam** has been appointed as the new Chairman and Managing Director (**CMD**) of Northern Coalfields Limited (**NCL**). NCL is the Singrauli-based flagship Subsidiary of Coal India Limited. Sairam has assumed the charge for this post.

- Sairam has 33 years of dedicated service in the coal sector.

**233. Who has been recently (in March '24) appointed as the Chairperson of Prasar Bharati?**

- 1) Navneet Sehgal
- 2) Gaurav Dwivedi
- 3) Navin Kumar
- 4) Rajni Sharma
- 5) Deepak Pant

Answer- **1) Navneet Sehgal**

**Explanation:**

The Government of India on March 16 appointed retired bureaucrat **Navneet Sehgal** as **Chairperson** of **Prasar Bharati**, the country's public broadcaster, for a term of three years or until he attains the age of seventy years, whichever is earlier.

- The Prasar Bharati Chairman's post has been vacant since A. Surya Prakash completed his tenure in February 2020.

**234. Which Department has initiated the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)?**

- 1) Department of Consumer Affairs
- 2) Department of Expenditure
- 3) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade
- 4) Department of Personnel and Training
- 5) Department of Commerce

Answer- **3) Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade**

**Explanation:**

Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC), is a public non-profit Section 8 company established by the **Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)** of Government of India to develop open e-commerce.

i. Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, Arjun Munda integrated the e-NAM (National Agriculture Market) mobile app with ONDC (Open Network for Digital Commerce) and FPO (Farmer Producer Organization) Inspection mobile app.

- The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) is an initiative aiming at promoting open networks for all aspects of exchange of goods and services over digital or electronic networks.

**235. In March 2024, the US Consulate General, Chennai, released the world's first authorized Tamil language version of two books, I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings and And Still I Rise, authored by \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Maya Angelou
- 2) Gretel Ehrlich
- 3) Guy Johnson
- 4) Cicely Tyson
- 5) Toni Morrison

Answer- **1) Maya Angelou**

**Explanation:**

The US Consulate General, Chennai, released the world's first authorized Tamil language version of two books by **Maya Angelou** in coordination with publishing house Kalachuvadu. Celebrated American author, poet, memoirist, actor, and civil rights activist Maya Angelou's 1969 landmark memoir, 'I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings', was the first non-fiction bestseller by an African-American woman.

- The book '**I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings**' was translated by Bernard Chandra, while R. Sivakumar translated 'And Still I Rise'.

**236. Where is the Headquarters of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) located?**

- 1) Vienna, Austria
- 2) Rome, Italy
- 3) Montreal, Canada
- 4) Geneva, Switzerland
- 5) London, United Kingdom

Answer- **4) Geneva, Switzerland**

**Explanation:**

**About the International Telecommunication Union (ITU):**

The ITU was established in 1865 as the “International Telegraph Union” and was renamed as the International Telecommunication Union in 1934.

**Secretary-General** – Doreen Bogdan-Martin

**Headquarters** – Geneva, Switzerland

**237. What is the tagline of Federal Bank?**

- 1) Experience Next-Generation Banking
- 2) Your Family Bank Across India
- 3) We Understand Your World
- 4) Serving To Empower
- 5) Your Perfect Banking Partner

Answer- **5) Your Perfect Banking Partner**

**Explanation:**

**About Federal Bank Limited:**

**Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO)** – Shyam Srinivasan

**Headquarters** – Aluva, Kerala

**Established** – 1931

**Tagline** – Your Perfect Banking Partner

**238. In March 2024, the Indian Navy brought 35 Somali pirates, who had hijacked a Bulgarian merchant vessel MV Ruen, to Mumbai onboard the warship Indian Navy Ship (INS) \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) INS Mormugao
- 2) INS Chennai
- 3) INS Kolkata
- 4) INS Kochi
- 5) INS Mumbai

Answer- **3) INS Kolkata**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Navy brought 35 Somali pirates to Mumbai aboard the warship **INS Kolkata**, days after they were captured by Indian forces in the Arabian Sea around 260 nautical miles from the Garacad Port, Puntland, Somalia. The operation freed a hijacked bulk carrier and rescued several hostages.

**i.** MV Ruen, which had around 17 crew members, the pirates had called the owners, demanding Rs. 500 crores as ransom to free the ship and the crew. That was when the Indian Navy’s INS Kolkata reached the spot, rescued the crew and the ship and apprehended the pirates.

- The pirates had hijacked a Bulgarian merchant vessel, MV Ruen, on 14th December 2023, with its 17 crew members in the Arabian Sea.

**239. In which state, India’s first National Dolphin Research Center (NDRC) was inaugurated in March 2024?**

- 1) West Bengal
- 2) Gujarat
- 3) Uttar Pradesh
- 4) Bihar

5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **4) Bihar**

Explanation:

On March 4, 2024 Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar officially inaugurated **India's first** National Dolphin Research Centre (**NDRC**) in **Patna, Bihar**.

**i.** The NDRC, spanning a 4,400 square metre plot on the premises of Patna University near the Ganga, offers a strategic location for researchers to closely observe dolphins in their natural habitat.

**240. Which state's Department of Higher Education has recently (in March '24) signed an MoU with Jal Jeevan Mission (JJM) for the Jal Vidya Programme to educate the college students on water quality?**

1) West Bengal

2) Tripura

3) Sikkim

4) Bihar

5) Assam

Answer- **5) Assam**

**Explanation:**

In March 2024, The Department of Higher Education (DHE), **Assam** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with Jal Jeevan Mission (**JJM**) for the **Jal Vidya Programme** to educate the college students on water quality, wash practices and the functionality assessment of water supply schemes.

**i.** The MoU signing ceremony was held at the Auditorium Hall, Flood and River Erosion Management Agency of Assam (FREMAA), Assam Water Centre, Guwahati.

**241. Which state's Gevra coal mine is set to become the largest coal mine in Asia?**

1) Madhya Pradesh

2) West Bengal

3) Jharkhand

4) Maharashtra

5) Chhattisgarh

Answer- **5) Chhattisgarh**

**Explanation:**

**Chhattisgarh**-based Coal India subsidiary South Eastern Coalfield Limited's Gevra mine is set to become the **largest coal mine** in **Asia** after the environmental clearance it received to expand production capacity to 70 million tons per annum from the current 52.5 million tons, as per a Ministry of Coal release.

**i.** The development has been made possible with the rigorous efforts of the Ministry of Coal by coordinating with the Ministry of Environment, Forest, and Climate Change (MoEFCC) in achieving the environment clearance of 70 million tons in record time, keeping in mind the role of Gevra as one of the megaprojects of South Eastern Coalfield Limited (SECL).

**242. In March 2024, Union Minister Amit Shah unveiled the statue of freedom fighter \_\_\_\_\_ at Patna, Bihar.**

- 1) Umakant Prasad Sinha
- 2) Ramanand Singh
- 3) Satish Prasad Jha
- 4) Jagatpati Kumar
- 5) Kailashpati Mishra

**Answer- 5) Kailashpati Mishra**

**Explanation:**

On 9th March 2024, Union Minister Amit Shah unveiled the statue of freedom fighter **Kailashpati Mishra** in Patna, **Bihar**.

**i.** Kailashpati played an active role in the Indian independence movement. He was also **Finance Minister of Bihar** during 1977-78. Also, he served as **Governor of Gujarat** from May 2003 to July 2004, and for a short duration he was caretaker Governor of Rajasthan.

**243. Which Football Club (FC) has recently (in March '24) won its 1st Indian Women's League (IWL) football title?**

- 1) HOPS FC
- 2) Odisha FC
- 3) Gokulam Kerala FC
- 4) East Bengal FC
- 5) Kickstart FC

**Answer- 2) Odisha FC**

**Explanation:**

**Odisha FC** won its maiden Indian Women's League (**IWL**) **football title** in Bhubaneswar in March 2024.

- Odisha topped the seven-team table with 31 points from 12 matches while three-time champion Gokulam Kerala FC, which defeated East Bengal FC 5-1 in Kozhikode, finished runner-up with 29 points. Kickstart FC (21 points) was third.

**244. In March 2024, the first-ever India pavilion was inaugurated at the prestigious Game Developers Conference in \_\_\_\_\_ (City in California).**

- 1) San Francisco
- 2) Los Angeles
- 3) San Diego
- 4) Oakland
- 5) Monterey

**Answer- 1) San Francisco**

**Explanation:**

The **first-ever India pavilion** has been inaugurated at the prestigious **Game Developers** Conference in **San Francisco**, reflecting a new dimension of the bilateral relationship between India and the United States.

- The inauguration also saw the launch of the 'India Gaming Market Report'. It was done in collaboration with the US India Strategic and Partnership Forum and its member WinZO.

- According to the report, India's gaming market is expected to grow from USD 3.1 billion in 2023 to USD 6 billion in 2028.

**245. Who is the current (in March '24) Chairman of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)?**

- 1) Anil Kumar Lahoti
- 2) Madhabi Puri Buch
- 3) Rekha Sharma
- 4) Mamta Kumari
- 5) Meenakshi Negi

Answer- **1) Anil Kumar Lahoti**

**Explanation:**

**About Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI):**

TRAI is a statutory body that regulates the telecommunications sector in India.

**Chairman – Anil Kumar Lahoti**

**Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi**

**Establishment – 1997**

**246. Where is the headquarters of the International Labour Organisation (ILO)?**

- 1) Paris, France
- 2) Manila, Philippines
- 3) Geneva, Switzerland
- 4) Vienna, Austria
- 5) New York, United States of America

Answer- **3) Geneva, Switzerland**

**Explanation:**

**About International Labour Organisation (ILO):**

**Director-General - Gilbert Fossoun Hounoubo**

**Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland**

**Established – 1919**

**Member States – 187 Member States**

**247. In March 2024, the Francis Scott Key Bridge in Baltimore collapsed, after a container ship collided with a pylon.**

**In which country, the Francis Scott Key Bridge is located?**

- 1) United Kingdom
- 2) United States of America
- 3) Egypt
- 4) France
- 5) Russia

Answer- **2) United States of America**

**Explanation:**

The **Francis Scott Key Bridge** in Baltimore Maryland (**United States of America**) collapsed on March 26 after a container ship collided with a pylon, resulting in the presumed death of six

individuals who fell into the cold waters below. The incident has halted operations at one of the busiest ports on the U.S. Eastern Seaboard.

**About the Bridge:**

- The Francis Scott Key Bridge was one of three ways to cross the Baltimore Harbor and handled 31,000 cars per day or 11.3 million vehicles a year.
- The steel structure is four lanes wide and sits 185 feet (56 meters) above the river. It opened in 1977 and crosses the Patapsco River, where U.S. national anthem author Francis Scott Key wrote the "Star Spangled Banner" in 1814 after witnessing the British defeat at the Battle of Baltimore and the British bombing of Fort McHenry.
- The bridge leads to the Port of Baltimore, the deepest harbour in Maryland's Chesapeake Bay.

**248. Which bank has recently (in March '24) integrated with the Goods and Service Tax payment portal (GSTN) for seamless Tax Payments?**

- 1) Axis Bank
- 2) Bandhan Bank
- 3) DCB Bank
- 4) Dhanlaxmi Bank
- 5) CSB Bank

Answer- **3) DCB Bank**

**Explanation:**

**DCB Bank** has announced that it had implemented and integrated with the Goods and Service Tax payment portal (**GSTN**).

- This complements the Direct Tax payments facility offered from DCB Bank that include Income tax, Advance Tax, and Tax Deduction at Source (TDS) payment.
- The Direct Tax payment facility was launched last year upon the Bank's empanelment as an Agency Bank for conducting Government business.

**249. Which company was recently (in March '24) awarded with the 'Best Fintech Company' in the Payments Category at the 28th Edition of the Business Today & KPMG's Best Banks and Fintech Awards 2024?**

- 1) PhonePe
- 2) Paytm
- 3) BharatPe
- 4) Razorpay
- 5) Freecharge

Answer- **4) Razorpay**

**Explanation:**

**Razorpay**, India's Leading Omnichannel Payments, and Business Banking Platform, was awarded the '**Best Fintech Company**' in the Payments Category at the 28th Edition of the Business Today & KPMG's Best Banks and Fintech Awards 2024, held at GIFT City, Gandhinagar.

- This award is another recognition of the impact Razorpay has created in the fintech sector through its industry-first products, and continuous endeavor to build the next generation of money movement infrastructure for entrepreneurs and businesses.

**250. In Which state Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Zoological Garden is located?**

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Uttar Pradesh
- 3) Gujarat
- 4) Odisha
- 5) West Bengal

Answer- **3) Gujarat**

**Explanation:**

**About Gujarat:**

**Capital** – Gandhinagar

**Chief Minister** – Bhupendra Patel

**Governor** – Acharya Devvrat

**Wildlife sanctuaries** – Jessore Sloth Bear Sanctuary, Barda Wildlife Sanctuary

**Zoological Park** – Sakkarbaug zoo, Dr. **Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Zoological Garden** (Sarthana Nature Park)

**251. In which state Neora Valley National Park is located?**

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Odisha
- 3) Jharkhand
- 4) West Bengal
- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **4) West Bengal**

**Explanation:**

**Neora Valley National Park** is located in the Kalimpong district of **West Bengal**. It is one of the richest biological zones in the entire Northeast.

- The southern boundaries of the Park are adjoining to the forests of Jalpaiguri district which have connectivity with the Chapramari Wildlife Sanctuary and the Gorumara National Park. The highest point of the park is Rachel Pass.

**252. In which state Achanakmar Tiger Reserve is located?**

- 1) Chhattisgarh
- 2) Arunachal Pradesh
- 3) Sikkim
- 4) West Bengal
- 5) Tripura

Answer- **1) Chhattisgarh**

**Explanation:**

**Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary** was established in 1975 and was declared as a tiger reserve in 2009, located in **Chhattisgarh**. The legend has it that a British man was killed by a sudden ('achanak') attack ('maar') of a tiger at this forest.



**253. Who has been recently (in March' 24) selected as the brand Ambassador for Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL)'s premium petrol 'speed'?**

- 1) Vinesh Phogat
- 2) Virat Kohli
- 3) Sanjay Singh
- 4) Neeraj Chopra
- 5) Rohit Sharma

**Answer- 4) Neeraj Chopra**

**Explanation:**

Bharat Petroleum Corporation (**BPCL**), has selected World Javelin Champion **Neeraj Chopra** as brand Ambassador for their premium petrol 'speed'.

- Neeraj Chopra, with his stellar achievements in athletics, epitomises the essence of winning, performance and success.

**254. In March 2024, the government announced a plan to sell up to \_\_\_\_\_ stake in NLC India through an offer for sale (OFS) to raise up to Rs 2,000 crore-Rs 2,100 crore.**

- 1) 9%
- 2) 7%
- 3) 5%
- 4) 6%
- 5) 10%

**Answer- 2) 7%**

**Explanation:**

The government will sell up to **7 percent** stake in **NLC India** through an offer for sale (OFS) to raise up to Rs 2,000 crore-Rs 2,100 crore.

- The government is looking to sell up to 5 percent stake in the state-owned firm with an option to exercise the greenshoe option to sell an additional 2 percent stake.
- The base offer will comprise the sale of around 6.93 crore equity shares, whereas, the greenshoe option will comprise 2.77 crore shares.

**255. Which state government has recently (in March '24) declared instances of man-animal conflict as a state-specific disaster?**

- 1) Tamil Nadu
- 2) Andhra Pradesh
- 3) Kerala
- 4) Karnataka
- 5) Telangana

**Answer- 3) Kerala**

**Explanation:**

In March 2024, The **Kerala cabinet** declared instances of man-animal conflict as a state-specific disaster.

- The decision was taken considering the recurring incidents of loss of lives in human settlements due to attacks by wild animals, especially elephants.

**256. Where is the Headquarters of the World Health Organisation (WHO) located?**

- 1) Vienna, Austria
- 2) Rome, Italy
- 3) Montreal, Canada
- 4) Geneva, Switzerland
- 5) London, United Kingdom

**Answer- 4) Geneva, Switzerland**

**Explanation:**

**About World Health Organisation (WHO):**

**Director General-** Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

**Headquarters-** Geneva, Switzerland

**Established on-** 7 April 1948

**257. Who is the current (as of March '24) Director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)?**

- 1) Rishi Kumar Shukla
- 2) Praveen Sood
- 3) Alok Kumar Verma
- 4) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal
- 5) Anil Sinha

**Answer- 2) Praveen Sood**

**Explanation:**

**About Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI):**

**Director - Praveen Sood**

**Headquarters -** New Delhi, Delhi.

**Establishment -** 1963

**258. In February 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ became the first automotive component supplier to receive certification under the Auto Production Linked incentive (PLI) scheme.**

- 1) Solar Industries India
- 2) Minda Industries Limited
- 3) Sona BLW Precision Forgings Limited
- 4) KPIT Technologies Limited
- 5) JBM Auto Limited

**Answer- 3) Sona BLW Precision Forgings Limited**

**Explanation:**

In February 2024, **Sona BLW Precision Forgings (Sona Comstar)** a global provider of automotive technology solutions became the first automotive component supplier to receive certification under the Auto Production Linked incentive **(PLI) scheme**.

- The company has filed 7 applications for different products under the PLI scheme, and it has received the certification for its first product, a hub wheel drive motor for electric two-wheelers.

**259. Name the chess player who has recently (in March '24) won the 6th Prague International Chess Festival 2024 Masters.**

- 1) Alireza Firouzja (France)
- 2) Gukesh D (India)
- 3) Anish Giri (Netherlands)
- 4) Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzbekistan)
- 5) Alexander Donchenko (Germany)

**Answer- 4) Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzbekistan)**

**Explanation:**

**Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzbekistan)** defeated Parham Maghsoodloo (Iran) to win **6th** Prague International Chess Festival 2024 Masters.

- This win also ensured; the former World Rapid champion moved up to World no.4 in the live ratings. D Gukesh won against Vincent Keymer (GER). Aansh Nandan Nerurkar won the Futures section.

**260. Which country has recently (in March '24) launched a Life Protection Plan for Indian blue-collar workers?**

- 1) Canada
- 2) United Arab Emirates
- 3) France
- 4) Singapore
- 5) Malaysia

**Answer- 2) United Arab Emirates**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Consulate in Dubai has introduced a new insurance package called the Life Protection Plan (LPP) for **Indian blue-collar workers** in the **United Arab Emirates (UAE)**. This plan aims to provide financial benefits to the families of the workers in case of natural or accidental deaths.

- The Consulate General of India in Dubai facilitated meetings between major companies recruiting Indian blue-collar workers and two insurance service providers – Gargash Insurance Services LLC and Orient Insurance PJSC.
- The Life Protection Plan (LPP) for blue-collar workers and other employees, covering death due to any cause – natural or accidental, became effective from March 1, 2023.

**261. Which Small Finance Bank (SFB) has recently (in March' 24) partnered with Veefin Solutions Ltd to provide end-to-end solutions for MSME growth?**

- 1) Jana SFB
- 2) Shivalik SFB
- 3) Ujjivan SFB
- 4) Utkarsh SFB
- 5) Unity SFB

**Answer- 3) Ujjivan SFB**

**Explanation:**

**Ujjivan Small Finance Bank (SFB)** has partnered with **Veefin Solutions Ltd** to enhance supply chain finance offerings for MSMEs, addressing the sector's working capital needs.

i. By leveraging Veefin's platform, Ujjivan SFB aims to provide end-to-end solutions, bridging the credit gap in the MSME sector and fostering inclusive growth.

**262. Which International Organisation has recently (in March' 24) signed a MoU with the World Health Organisation (WHO) to promote a healthier, safer world?**

- 1) World Bank
- 2) United Nations Development Programme
- 3) United Nations Children's Fund
- 4) Inter-Parliamentary Union
- 5) World Food Programme

Answer- **4) Inter-Parliamentary Union**

**Explanation:**

**The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and World Health Organisation (WHO)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding, reaffirming the critical role that parliamentarians play in enabling good health to foster stable and equitable societies

- The MoU commits both organisations to continue working together to promote, provide, and protect the health and well-being of all people, everywhere.

**About Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU):**

The IPU is the global organisation of national parliaments, created by a small group of parliamentarians in 1889. The Headquarters of IPU is located in Geneva, Switzerland.

**263. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has recently (in March '24) developed the system "adapID" to help prevent OTP-based frauds?**

- 1) IIT Kharagpur
- 2) IIT Bombay
- 3) IIT Delhi
- 4) IIT Mandi
- 5) IIT Guwahati

Answer- **4) IIT Mandi**

**Explanation:**

Researchers at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) **Mandi** have developed a new system "**adapID**" that can help prevent **OTP-based frauds** by capturing unique user biometric-based behaviour patterns for secure authentication.

- The system "adapID" has been developed in collaboration with Deep Algorithms with Amit Shukla from the Center for Artificial Intelligence and Robotics (CAIR) at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Mandi and JP Mishra from Deep Algorithms.

**264. Where is the Headquarters of the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) located?**

- 1) New York, USA
- 2) Vienna, Austria
- 3) Geneva, Switzerland
- 4) London, United Kingdom
- 5) Rome, Italy

Answer- **3) Geneva, Switzerland**

**Explanation:**

**About United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR):**

UNDRR was established to ensure the implementation of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction.

**Headquarters– Geneva, Switzerland**

**Established in 1999**

**265. Which company has recently (in March '24) collaborated with Nandan Nilekani's EkStep Foundation to set up a Joint Innovation Centre (JIC) to foster digital solutions for public service delivery?**

- 1) Amazon Web Services
- 2) Google Cloud Platform
- 3) Oracle Cloud Infrastructure
- 4) IBM Cloud
- 5) Microsoft Azure India

**Answer- 1) Amazon Web Services**

**Explanation:**

Amazon Web Services (**AWS**) has collaborated with Nandan Nilekani's **EkStep Foundation** to set up a Joint Innovation Centre (**JIC**) to foster digital solutions for public service delivery.

- This joint effort will focus on enabling and accelerating the creation of digital public goods (DPGs) and digital public infrastructures (DPIs).

**i.** The innovation centre will focus on supporting startups, independent software vendors (ISVs), and system integrators (SIs) to leverage the power of technologies such as cloud computing, generative artificial intelligence (AI), and analytics from AWS.

**266. Who has been recently (in March '24) appointed as India's next envoy to Myanmar?**

- 1) Ajay Kumar
- 2) Randhir Jaiswal
- 3) Abhay Thakur
- 4) Hardeep Singh
- 5) Pavan Kumar

**Answer- 3) Abhay Thakur**

**Explanation:**

Senior diplomat **Abhay Thakur**, who is at present an Officer on Special Duty in the Ministry of External Affairs, has been appointed as the country's **next envoy to Myanmar**.

- The 1992-batch officer of the Indian Foreign Service (IFS) had served as sous-sherpa of the G20 process during India's presidency of the influential bloc.

**267. Which country's cricket media rights has recently (in March '24) acquired by the Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI) for the Indian market?**

- 1) South Africa
- 2) New Zealand
- 3) England
- 4) Sri Lanka
- 5) West Indies

Answer- **2) New Zealand**

**Explanation:**

Sony Pictures Networks India (**SPNI**) has acquired **New Zealand** Cricket (NZC) media rights for the Indian market. The deal is pegged at USD 90-USD 100 million (Rs 749-Rs 833 crore).

- SPNI, which has been on an acquisition spree in the sports media market and owns media rights to the England and Sri Lanka cricket boards, will broadcast NZC matches on both TV and digital platforms from May 2024 to April 2031.

**268. Who has been recently (in March '24) appointed as brand ambassador of the Asian Granito India Limited (AGL)?**

- 1) Ranbir Kapoor
- 2) Ranveer Singh
- 3) Arjun Kapoor
- 4) Vicky Kaushal
- 5) Akshay Kumar

Answer- **1) Ranbir Kapoor**

**Explanation:**

Asian Granito India Limited (**AGL**), one of India's leading Tiles, Engineered Marble, Quartz, and Bathware brands, announces the signing of Bollywood heartthrob **Ranbir Kapoor** as its **brand ambassador**.

- The partnership with Ranbir Kapoor reaffirms the brand's commitment to excellence and innovation, promising an exciting future ahead.

**269. Which country has recently (in March '24) launched a database to record crimes against United Nations (UN) peacekeepers?**

- 1) Syria
- 2) Ukraine
- 3) India
- 4) United Arab Emirates
- 5) Egypt

Answer- **3) India**

**Explanation:**

**India** has launched a new database designed to **record crimes against UN peacekeepers** and monitor progress in holding perpetrators accountable, India's UN envoy Ruchira Kamboj announced asserting that New Delhi is at the forefront of advocating for accountability.

- The launch of the database was announced at a high-level meeting of the India-led 'Group of Friends' (GOF).
- The database is designed to serve as an online repository, empowering the Secretariat, Missions, and member states to monitor and address cases of malicious acts against peacekeepers.

**270. What is the capital of Belgium?**

- 1) Dushanbe
- 2) Ashgabat
- 3) Tashkent

4) Damascus

5) Brussels

Answer- **5) Brussels**

**Explanation:**

The **Capital** of Belgium is **Brussels** and the Euro is the currency.

- i. Prime Minister Narendra Modi held a telephonic conversation with Belgian PM Alexander De Croo and congratulated him for the successful hosting of the First Nuclear Energy Summit in Brussels.
- ii. The two leaders also reviewed relations between the two nations and discussed strengthening ties and advancing India-EU Partnership under Belgian Presidency.

**271. In March 2024, the Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) announced a tie-up with the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) to strengthen regulation around misleading ads.**

**Who is the current (as of March '24) Chairman of ASCI?**

1) Saugata Gupta

2) Partha Sinha

3) Sudhanshu Vats

4) Ranjana Kumari

5) Satya Raghavan

Answer- **1) Saugata Gupta**

**Explanation:**

**Saugata Gupta** is the Chairman of Advertising Standards Council of India (**ASCI**).

i. The Advertising Standards Council of India (ASCI) announced a tie-up with the Central Consumer Protection Authority (CCPA) to strengthen regulation around misleading ads.

- The CCPA has requested ASCI to forward any advertisement that is non-compliant with the ASCI Code and could potentially violate the Consumer Protection Act, 2019, along with its accompanying guidelines, to the CCPA for appropriate action.

**272. Name the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) that has recently (in March '24) produced India's first recombinant vaccine against classical swine fever to the biotech firm Bio-Med.**

1) IIT Kanpur

2) IIT Guwahati

3) IIT Kharagpur

4) IIT Madras

5) IIT Bombay

Answer- **2) IIT Guwahati**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) **Guwahati** has successfully transferred the technology to produce **India's first** recombinant vaccine against classical swine fever to the biotech firm **Bio-Med**.

- The highly contagious swine fever threatens pigs nationwide, especially in the northeast and Bihar, Kerala, Punjab, Haryana, and Gujarat.
- IIT Guwahati developed the vaccine in collaboration with Assam Agricultural University.

**273. In which state 'Nellai Wildlife Sanctuary' is located?**

- 1) West Bengal
- 2) Telangana
- 3) Tamil Nadu
- 4) Kerala
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- **3) Tamil Nadu**

**Explanation:**

**About Tamil Nadu (TN):**

**Wildlife Sanctuaries-** Gangaikondan Spotted Deer Sanctuary, Cauvery North Wildlife Sanctuary, **Nellai Wildlife Sanctuary**

**Zoological Parks-** Children's Park, Kurumbapatti Zoological Park

**274. In which state 'Van Vihar National Park' is located?**

- 1) Bihar
- 2) West Bengal
- 3) Madhya Pradesh
- 4) Jharkhand
- 5) Uttar Pradesh

Answer- **3) Madhya Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

**About Madhya Pradesh:**

**Chief Minister-** Mohan Yadav

**Governor-** Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

**National Park-** Ghughwa Fossil National Park (Dinosaur Fossil National Park), **Van Vihar National Park**

**Wildlife Sanctuary-** National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary; Ghatigaon wildlife sanctuary

**275. Where is the headquarters of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) located?**

- 1) Paris, France
- 2) Manila, Philippines
- 3) Geneva, Switzerland
- 4) Vienna, Austria
- 5) New York, United States of America

Answer- **1) Paris, France**

**Explanation:**

**About United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO):**

**Director-General-** Audrey Azoulay

**Headquarters-** Paris, France

**Established in-** 1945 (came into force in 1946)



**276. Name the Indian Personality who has recently (in March' 24) won the Gold Medal in the 59kg youth category at Para Powerlifting World Cup held in Egypt.**

- 1) Sudhir Kumar
- 2) Parmjeet Kumar
- 3) Rahul Jograjiya
- 4) Vinay
- 5) Ashok Malik

Answer- **4) Vinay**

**Explanation:**

**Vinay** from Gorakhpur, Uttar Pradesh, won a **gold medal** in the **59kg youth category** at the **Para Powerlifting World Cup** held in Egypt.

- Ahmed Abdelkader of Egypt secured the silver medal.

**277. Name the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) that has recently (in March '24) collaborated with Jindal Stainless Ltd to conduct metallurgical projects.**

- 1) IIT Guwahati
- 2) IIT Delhi
- 3) IIT Bombay
- 4) IIT Kharagpur
- 5) IIT Madras

Answer- **4) IIT Kharagpur**

**Explanation:**

**IIT Kharagpur** and **Jindal Stainless Ltd.** will collaborate on metallurgical projects such as the characterization of materials and the fabrication of primary alloys.

**i.** The collaboration will work together on metallurgical projects, such as process optimisation, materials characterisation, and primary alloy production.

**278. Ramsar Sites, Bhoj Wetland is located in \_\_\_\_\_(state).**

- 1) Bihar
- 2) Gujarat
- 3) Uttar Pradesh
- 4) Madhya Pradesh
- 5) Odisha

Answer- **4)**

**Madhya Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

**About Madhya Pradesh:**

**Capital** - Bhopal

**Chief Minister**- Mohan Yadav

**Governor** - Mangubhai C. Patel

**Ramsar Sites** - **Bhoj Wetland**, Sakhya Sagar, Sirpur Lake, Yashwant Sagar

**279. Who has been recently (in March' 24) appointed as the Head of Microsoft Windows and Surface?**

- 1) Bharat Desai
- 2) Pavan Davuluri
- 3) Sachin Bansal
- 4) Ajit Singh
- 5) Jayant Sinha

Answer- **2) Pavan Davuluri**

**Explanation:**

Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) alumnus **Pavan Davuluri** has been appointed as the new head of **Microsoft Windows and Surface**.

- Davuluri has taken charge of the Surface silicon and devices work, with the previous head Mikhail Parakhin leading a new team focused on Windows and web experiences.

**280. In which state Corbett Tiger Reserve is located?**

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Assam
- 3) Sikkim
- 4) Uttarakhand
- 5) Uttar Pradesh

Answer- **4) Uttarakhand**

**Explanation:**

The Uttarakhand government has agreed to translocate four tigers to Rajasthan following a request from the authorities of the western state.

**I.** The requests from the Rajasthan and the Odisha governments for the translocation of tigers were received following the successful operation of the tiger relocation project in **Uttarakhand** under which four big cats were translocated from the **Corbett Tiger Reserve (Uttarakhand)** to Rajaji Tiger Reserve.

**281. Who has become the First Indian Author to be translated into 15 International Languages?**

- 1) Srinath Raghavan
- 2) Aravind Adiga
- 3) Ravi Subramanian
- 4) Sandeep Kumar Mishra
- 5) Indrapramit Das

Answer- **4) Sandeep Kumar Mishra**

**Explanation:**

**Sandeep Kumar Mishra** becomes **First Indian Author** to be translated into **15 International Languages** including English, Spanish, Greek, Portuguese, Chinese, Russian, Italian, Urdu, Arabic, Turkish, Bengali, Malay, German, Czech till date. Dutch and Hindi versions are coming soon.

- It is a great achievement for any author especially Indian because before him only Isha Upanishad and Bhagavad Gita were translated into 64 and 60 languages respectively.

**282. In March 2024, \_\_\_\_\_, an eminent mathematician of Indian origin who was a founder and director of American auto company General Motors, passed away.**

- 1) Sucharit Sarkar
- 2) T N Subramaniam
- 3) Gopal Prasad
- 4) Anand Kumar
- 5) Akshay Venkatesh

**Answer- 2) T N Subramaniam**

**Explanation:**

Dr **T N Subramaniam**, an eminent mathematician of Indian origin who was a founder and director of American auto company **General Motors**, passed away. He was 76.

- Subramaniam, who migrated to the US in 1979, was renowned in academic circles in India and the United States (US).

**283. In March 2024, SeaWorld Yas Island in \_\_\_\_\_(country), won a coveted place in the Guinness World Records as the ' ' in the world.**

- 1) Maldives
- 2) Australia
- 3) Madagascar
- 4) United Arab Emirates
- 5) Indonesia

**Answer- 4) United Arab Emirates**

**Explanation:**

**SeaWorld® Yas Island**, Abu Dhabi (**United Arab Emirates**), the region's first Marine Life Theme Park, has won a coveted place in the Guinness World Records as the '**Largest Indoor Marine-Life Theme Park**' in the world.

- The certificate was presented to Mohamed Abdalla Al Zaabi, Group CEO of Miral, and the SeaWorld Abu Dhabi leadership.

**284. In March 2024, Ae Watan Mere Watan movie was released which is based on the biography of an Indian freedom fighter, \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Usha Mehta
- 2) Aruna Asaf Ali
- 3) Kamala Nehru
- 4) Vijaya Lakshmi Pandit
- 5) Madam Bhikaji Cama

**Answer- 1) Usha Mehta**

**Explanation:**

**Ae Watan Mere Watan movie** was released which is based on the biography of Indian freedom fighter **Usha Mehta**.

- Usha Mehta was born in a village named Saras, near Surat in Gujarat in 1920. She was a true Gandhian at heart and was popularly known as Ushaben.
- At the age of eight in 1928, she participated in a protest march against the Simon Commission.
- On 14 August 1942, she and her associates established the Secret Congress Radio during the Quit India Movement, a covert radio station that went on air on 27 August.

**285. Which of the following certifying bodies has not received accreditation by India's National Programme for Organic Production (NPOP) to register new processors and traders?**

- 1) GSCI Pvt Ltd
- 2) Agroland Services Pvt Ltd
- 3) Krushi Certification Pvt Ltd
- 4) Cert India Pvt Ltd
- 5) Origo Commodities India Pvt Ltd

Answer- **5) Origo Commodities India Pvt Ltd**

**Explanation:**

India's National Programme for Organic Production (**NPOP**) has given accreditation to four new **certifying bodies** (organisations), while removing curbs on Fair Cert Certifications allowing it to register new processors and traders.

- The **four new** organisations are GSCI Pvt Ltd for the west zone, Agroland Services Pvt Ltd and Krushi Certification Pvt Ltd for the north zone and Cert India Pvt Ltd for crop production, processing and handling

**286. Name the cyclone that has hit Madagascar on 27th March, 2024.**

- 1) Rita
- 2) Candice
- 3) Gamane
- 4) Noah
- 5) Alvaro

Answer- **3) Gamane**

**Explanation:**

The south-east African island state of **Madagascar** was unexpectedly hit by **cyclone Gamane** on March 27, 2024.

- Gamane made landfall north of Vohémar in northeast Madagascar with average winds of 150 km per hour and gusts of 210 km per hour.

**287. Global Financial Stability Report is published by \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- 2) World Bank
- 3) New Development Bank
- 4) Asian Development Bank
- 5) International Monetary Fund

Answer- **5) International Monetary Fund**

**Explanation:**

The **Global Financial Stability Report**, and World Economic Outlook are released by the International Monetary Fund (**IMF**).

**288. What is the full form of WIPO?**

- 1) World Intangible Property Organization
- 2) Worldwide Intellectual Property Organization
- 3) World Intellectual Property Office
- 4) World Intellectual Property Organization

5) None of the above

**Answer- 4) World Intellectual Property Organization**

**Explanation:**

The **World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)** is the global forum for intellectual property (IP) services, policy, information and cooperation. It is a self-funding agency of the United Nations, with 193 member states.

i. Its mission is to lead the development of a balanced and effective international IP system that enables innovation and creativity for the benefit of all. Our mandate, governing bodies and procedures are set out in the WIPO Convention, which established WIPO in 1967.

**289. When was the Regional Rural Banks (RRB) act passed?**

- 1) 1976
- 2) 2000
- 3) 1954
- 4) 1970
- 5) 1986

**Answer -1) 1976**

**Explanation:**

The Regional Rural Banks (**RRB**) Act was passed in **1976**.

- An Act to provide for the incorporation, regulation and winding up of Regional Rural Banks with a view to developing the rural economy by providing, for the purpose of development of agriculture, trade, commerce, industry and other productive activities in the rural areas, credit and other facilities.
- Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) were set up under the terms of the 26 September 1975 ordinance and the RRB Act of 1976.
- There are currently 43 RRBs supported by 12 public sector banks with 21,856 branches across 26 states and 3 Union Territories — Puducherry, Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.

**290. Who is the current (in March '24) Chairperson of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)?**

- 1) Ananta Gopal Da
- 2) Rakesh Chandra
- 3) Suni Shetty
- 4) Deepak Mohanty
- 5) Surendranath Banerjee

**Answer- 4) Deepak Mohanty**

**Explanation:**

**About Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA):**

**Chairperson- Deepak Mohanty**

**Headquarter- New Delhi, Delhi**

**Establishment- 2003**

**291. In Which state Barda Wildlife Sanctuary is located?**

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Uttar Pradesh

- 3) Gujarat
- 4) Odisha
- 5) West Bengal

Answer- **3) Gujarat**

**Explanation:**

**About Gujarat:**

**Capital** – Gandhinagar

**Chief Minister** – Bhupendra Patel

**Governor** – Acharya Devvrat

**Wildlife sanctuaries** – Jessore Sloth Bear Sanctuary, **Barda Wildlife Sanctuary**

**Zoological Park** – Sakkarbaug zoo, Dr. Shyamaprasad Mukherjee Zoological Garden (Sarhana Nature Park)

**292. In which state Kamlang Tiger Reserve is located?**

- 1) Arunachal Pradesh
- 2) Assam
- 3) Madhya Pradesh
- 4) Sikkim
- 5) Uttar Pradesh

Answer- **1) Arunachal Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

**Kamlang Tiger Reserve** is a wildlife sanctuary located in the Indian state of **Arunachal Pradesh**. It was established in 1989 and covers an area of approximately 783 square kilometres.

**i.** The reserve is home to a variety of flora and fauna, including tigers, elephants, clouded leopards, and several species of birds.

**293. In which state Attiveri Bird Sanctuary is located?**

- 1) Odisha
- 2) West Bengal
- 3) Andhra Pradesh
- 4) Kerala
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- **5) Karnataka**

**Explanation:**

**About Karnataka:**

**Governor** – Thawar Chand Gehlot

**WildLife Sanctuary** – Talacauvery Wildlife Sanctuary, Thimlapura Wildlife Sanctuary, Yadahalli Chinkara Wildlife Sanctuary

**Bird Sanctuary**- Adichunchanagiri Peacock Sanctuary, **Attiveri Bird Sanctuary**, Ghataprabha Bird Sanctuary

**294. The “From A Car Shed To The Corner Room & Beyond,” is the autobiography of \_\_\_\_\_(whom).**

- 1) R Kesavan
- 2) Santosh Kumar Barik

- 3) S. Raman
- 4) Nalini Padmanabhan
- 5) S. Kiran Kumar

Answer- **3) S. Raman**

**Explanation:**

**S. Raman's** autobiography, "**From A Car Shed To The Corner Room & Beyond,**" offers a first-person account of his remarkable journey from a clerk at State Bank of India (SBI) to becoming the Chairman and Managing Director of Canara Bank and a full-time Member of Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).

- The book explores the intricate dance between personal integrity, professional challenges, and systemic issues in the financial world.

**295. Which country became India's fifth largest crude oil supplier in February 2024?**

- 1) Brazil
- 2) Ecuador
- 3) Peru
- 4) Venezuela
- 5) Uganda

Answer- **4) Venezuela**

**Explanation:**

Indian refiners exploited the United States (US) sanctions waiver on **Venezuela** to import more than 1,75,000 barrels per day (b/d) **crude oil** from the South American country making it the **fifth largest supplier** in **February, 2024**.

**i.** As per energy intelligence firm Kpler, the world's third largest importer secured more than 2,54,000 b/d in January and over 1,91,000 b/d in December 2023 from Venezuela.

- Until 2019, India was Venezuela's third largest purchaser, after the US and China, importing roughly 3,00,000 b/d on an average.

**296. Who authored the book, 'Be Useful: Seven Tools for Life'?**

- 1) Robert Patrick
- 2) Arnold Schwarzenegger
- 3) Sylvester Stallone
- 4) Dolph Lundgren
- 5) Lou Ferrigno

Answer- **2) Arnold Schwarzenegger**

**Explanation:**

'Be Useful: Seven Tools for Life' **Book** authored by **Arnold Schwarzenegger**.

- The seven rules to follow to realise your true purpose in life-distilled by Arnold Schwarzenegger from his own journey of ceaseless reinvention and extraordinary achievement, and available for absolutely anyone.

**297. Who authored the book, Lilliput Land: How Small is Driving India's Mega Consumption Story?**

- 1) Rama Bijapurkar
- 2) Sanjay Asher

- 3) Som Mittal
- 4) Vinayak Chatterjee
- 5) Abhay Gandhi

Answer- **1) Rama Bijapurkar**

**Explanation:**

The book, **Lilliput Land: How Small is Driving India's Mega Consumption Story** authored by **Rama Bijapurkar**.

- 'Lilliput Land' helps in understanding the paradoxes and challenges that dot India's market opportunity and discusses the drivers and shapers of its future.

**298. Which company has recently (in March '24) selected the first three science instruments for deployment on the Moon's south pole as part of the Artemis III mission?**

- 1) Indian Space Research Organisation
- 2) National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- 3) European Space Agency
- 4) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
- 5) Canadian Space Agency

Answer- **2) National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

**Explanation:**

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) has **selected the first three science instruments** for deployment on the Moon's south pole as part of **Artemis III**, the first planned post-Apollo-era Moon landing mission with astronauts.

- Currently set for September 2026, Artemis III is to land two astronauts in previously unexplored lunar terrain that includes permanently shadowed regions with resources able to help achieve a sustained human presence at the Moon to prepare for human expeditions to Mars.
- The science instruments are: —The Lunar Environment Monitoring Station (LEMS),
- Lunar Effects on Agricultural Flora (LEAF) and The Lunar Dielectric Analyzer (LDA).

**299. Who is the current (as of March '24) Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)?**

- 1) Sivasubramanian Ramann
- 2) Devendra Kumar Singh
- 3) Ashish Gupta
- 4) Pankaj Jain
- 5) Sudatta Mandal

Answer- **1) Sivasubramanian Ramann**

**Explanation:**

**Sivasubramanian Ramann** is present Chairman & Managing Director (**CMD**) of Small Industries Development Bank of India (**SIDBI**).

**i.** A recent report by the SIDBI, under the guidance of NITI Aayog and with the Rocky Mountain Institute (RMI) as a knowledge partner, outlines six de-risking measures to reduce investors' risks in the EV ecosystem.

- It was launched at the Transforming Transportation 2024 International Conference in Washington, D.C.



- The De-Risking Lending for a Brisk EV Uptake report suggests private sector initiatives can mitigate expected losses for financiers, paving the way for favourable EV lending terms.

**300. In March 2024, \_\_\_\_\_, the President of Conference of the Parties (COP28) received the “CERAWeek Leadership Award for Building Global Consensus towards a Sustainable Energy Future” from CERAWeek by S&P Global.**

- 1) Khaldoon Al Mubarak
- 2) Mohamed Juma Al Shamisi
- 3) Reem Al Hashimy
- 4) Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber
- 5) Mohammad Al Gergawi

**Answer- 4) Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber**

**Explanation:**

**Sultan Ahmed Al Jaber**, the President of Conference of the Parties (COP28) (the 2023 United Nations Climate Change Conference), received the “**CERAWeek Leadership Award for Building Global Consensus towards a Sustainable Energy Future**” from CERAWeek by S&P Global.

- This prestigious award recognized his extraordinary leadership in delivering the UAE Consensus, a groundbreaking agreement that outlined concrete pathways for countries and industries to transition to sustainable energy systems and keep global warming within 1.5°C.

**301. What is the capital of Senegal?**

- 1) Yaounde
- 2) Ouagadougou
- 3) Accra
- 4) Dakar
- 5) Conakry

**Answer- 4) Dakar**

**Explanation:**

**About Senegal:**

**President - Macky Sall (As of April 1, 2024)**

**Capital - Dakar**

**Currency - West African CFA franc (XOF)**

**302. In which state Loktak lake is located?**

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Uttar Pradesh
- 3) Maharashtra
- 4) Manipur
- 5) Rajasthan

**Answer- 4) Manipur**

**Explanation:**

**Loktak lake** is located about 40 kilometres south of Imphal, **Manipur**.

**i.** It's the largest freshwater lake in Northeast India, the pristine Loktak Lake is one of the most popular tourist attractions in Manipur.

**ii.** Known for its floating circular swamps, which are called phumdis in the local tongue,