

# **GUPTA**

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# **CLASSES**

## **Current Affairs**

**February-2024**

**English**

**Part-2**



**GUPTA**

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**CLASSES**

**18. Name the Financial Institution/Regulatory body that has recently (in Feb '24) unveiled 'Prabhaav', the CRISIL's impact assessment report of the Fund of Funds for Startups (FFS).**

- 1) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority
- 2) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- 3) Reserve Bank of India
- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 5) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

**Answer- 2) Small Industries Development Bank of India**

**Explanation:**

On February 9, 2024, the Small Industries Development Bank of India (**SIDBI**) unveiled the **CRISIL's** impact assessment report of the Fund of Funds for Startups (**FFS**) namely '**Prabhaav**'.

**i.** As of November 30, 2023, 129 Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) were sanctioned out of FFS across various segments. [Click here to read more](#)

**19. Which Organisation/Bank has recently (in Feb '24) signed a USD 200 million loan agreement with the Department of Economic Affairs (DEA) for the 'Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management (FRERM) Project in Assam'?**

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

**Answer- 3) Asian Development Bank**

**Explanation:**

The Department of Economic Affairs (**DEA**) of Ministry of Finance (MoF) and **Asian Development Bank** (ADB) has signed a **USD 200 million loan agreement** (Ordinary Operations) for the 'Climate Resilient Brahmaputra Integrated Flood and Riverbank Erosion Risk Management(FRERM) Project in Assam'.

**i.** The Loan has a principal repayment period of 15 years and the interest of the loan will be the sum of Secured Overnight Financing Rate (SOFR) and 0.6% of Proceeds of the loan withdrawn & 0.10% of expenditure to be financed out of proceeds of the loan.

**20. In which of the following countries, India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) was launched in February 2024?**

- 1) Sri Lanka
- 2) Mauritius
- 3) Kenya
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

**Answer- 4) Both 1 & 2**

**Explanation:**

Narendra Modi, Prime Minister (**PM**) of **India**, along with Mauritius PM Pravind Kumar Jugnauth and Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe, virtually launched **India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI)** in **Mauritius** and **Sri Lanka**.



- In addition to the UPI, the RuPay card service was also launched in Mauritius.
- i. Mauritius (African nation) becomes the first country outside Asia to issue cards using RuPay technology. [Click here to read more](#)

**21. Which of the following points is/are “correct” with respect to the recent steps taken by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in February 2024?**

- A) RBI has increased the remuneration ceiling of Non-Executive Directors (NEDs) of banks from Rs 20 lakh per annum to Rs 40 lakh with immediate effect.**
- B) RBI has permitted the branches of Indian banks in GIFT-IFSC to act as a Trading Member/Trading and Clearing Member (TM/TCM) of India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Ltd (IIBX).**
- C) RBI cancelled the licence of Jai Prakash Narayan Nagari Sahakari Bank Ltd., Basmathnagar, Maharashtra.**

- 1) Only A
- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only B & C
- 4) Only A & C
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- **3) Only B & C**

**Explanation:**

On February 9, 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), in exercise of powers conferred by Section 35B of the Banking Regulation (BR) Act, 1949, has increased the **remuneration ceiling of Non-Executive Directors (NEDs)** of banks from **Rs 20 lakh** per annum to **Rs 30 lakh** with immediate effect.

i. RBI has permitted the branches of Indian banks in **GIFT-IFSC** (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City International Financial Services Centre) to **act as a Trading Member/Trading and Clearing Member (TM/TCM)** of India International Bullion Exchange IFSC Ltd (**IIBX**).

- It also allowed the Indian banks authorised to import gold or silver to act as Special Category Client (SCC) of IIBX.

ii. On February 5, 2024, **RBI**, cancelled the licence of **Jai Prakash Narayan Nagari Sahakari Bank Ltd., Basmathnagar, Maharashtra**. With effect from February 6, 2024, The bank ceases to carry on banking business as defined in Section 5(b) read with Section 56 of BR Act, 1949. [Click here to read more](#)

**22. Which bank has celebrated its 88th Foundation day on 10th February 2024?**

- 1) Bank of Maharashtra
- 2) Bank of Baroda
- 3) Indian Overseas Bank
- 4) Punjab National Bank
- 5) Bank of India

Answer- **3) Indian Overseas Bank**

**Explanation:**

**Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)**, a public sector bank, celebrated its **88th** Foundation day on **10th February 2024** in Chennai, Tamil Nadu. IOB launched various new products and announced the opening of 88 new branches across India.



- i. IOB launched 3 new RuPay credit card variants: IOB RuPay Classic, IOB RuPay Platinum, and IOB RuPay Select.
- ii. IOB also launched the Freedom Current Account and Saving Account (CASA) variant.

**23. Which Mutual Fund company has recently (in Feb '24) launched India's 1st Multi Factor-based Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) on Nifty Smallcap250 Index?**

- 1) Nippon India Mutual Fund
- 2) Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund
- 3) Mirae Asset Mutual Fund
- 4) UTI Mutual Fund
- 5) Birla Sun Life Asset Fund

**Answer- 3) Mirae Asset Mutual Fund**

**Explanation:**

**Mirae Asset Mutual Fund** launched 2 passive smallcap funds namely 'Mirae Asset Nifty Smallcap 250 Momentum Quality 100 Exchange Traded Fund (ETF)' and 'Mirae Asset Nifty Smallcap 250 Momentum Quality 100 ETF Fund-of-Fund(FoF)'.

- i. These are **India's 1st multi-factor-based ETF on the Nifty Smallcap 250 Index** which aim to provide investors with sector-agnostic exposure within the smallcap category, employing a unique blend of factors for wealth creation.

**24. Name the company that has recently (in Feb '24) signed an Rs. 588 crores worth agreement with the Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC) to strengthen infrastructure and energy projects in the Damodar Valley region.**

- 1) REC Limited
- 2) NTPC Limited
- 3) Power Finance Corporation
- 4) Coal India Limited
- 5) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited

**Answer- 1) REC Limited**

**Explanation:**

**REC Limited** (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited) has signed **agreements** worth Rs. 588 crores with Damodar Valley Corporation (**DVC**), a Public Sector Enterprise (PSE) under the Ministry of Power (MoP), to strengthen infrastructure and energy projects in the Damodar Valley region (West Bengal and Jharkhand).

- i. This agreement includes a Term Loan agreement, an Escrow agreement, and Hypothecation deeds.

**25. Which of the following points is/are "correct" with respect to the recent steps taken by the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) in February 2024?**

**A) IRDAI issued an exposure draft of regulations, "IRDAI (Bima Sugam – Insurance Electronic Marketplace) regulations, 2024", for a digital infrastructure called Bima Sugam.**

**B) In the Draft regulation, a Not-for-Profit company will be established as per Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013.**

**C) IRDAI also proposed to extend the free-look period for insurance policies from 15 days to 30 days to ensure protection of policyholders' interest.**

- 1) Only A



- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only B & C
- 4) Only A & C
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- **5) All A, B & C**

**Explanation:**

On 13th February 2024, The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) issued an exposure draft regulation, “**IRDAI (Bima Sugam – Insurance Electronic Marketplace) regulations, 2024**”, for a digital infrastructure called Bima Sugam.

- The draft proposed to set up a regulatory framework for establishment, governance, functioning of the Bima Sugam – insurance e-marketplace with the following.
  - A **Not-for-Profit company** will be established as per **Section 8** of the Companies Act, **2013**.
  - The company will develop and maintain the marketplace to provide service to insurance stakeholders.

**i. IRDAI** also proposed to extend the free-look period for insurance policies from 15 days to **30 days** to ensure protection of policyholders’ interest. [Click here to read more](#)

**26. Name the Bank that has recently (in Feb ‘24) launched a new savings account called ‘Stellar Savings Account’.**

- 1) Canara Bank
- 2) Federal Bank
- 3) State Bank of India
- 4) Union Bank of India
- 5) Bank of Baroda

Answer- **2) Federal Bank**

**Explanation:**

**Federal Bank** Limited has launched a new savings account called ‘**Stellar Savings Account**’.

**i.** The account holders are offered with a power-packed eco-friendly Stellar Debit Card which is powered by contactless MasterCard Technology.

**27. Which country’s Central Bank has recently (in Feb ‘24) signed Terms of Reference (ToR) with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to integrate the fast payment systems of both countries?**

- 1) Mauritius
- 2) Bhutan
- 3) Sri Lanka
- 4) Nepal
- 5) Indonesia

Answer- **4) Nepal**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) and **Nepal** Rastra Bank (**NRB**) have signed Terms of Reference (**ToR**) to integrate the fast payment systems of both countries.

- As per ToR, the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) of India and the National Payments Interface (NPI) of Nepal will be integrated to facilitate cross-border remittances.

- This integration aims to streamline cross-border remittances between the two countries by allowing users of both systems to conduct instant, cost-effective fund transfers.

**28. Which company, along with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) has recently (in Feb '24) launched India's second Unified Payments Interface (UPI) enabled Corporate Credit Card on the RuPay Network?**

- 1) Muthoot Finance Limited
- 2) LIC Housing Finance Limited
- 3) BOBCARD Limited
- 4) Bajaj Finance Limited
- 5) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited

**Answer- 3) BOBCARD Limited**

**Explanation:**

Mumbai(Maharashtra) based **BOBCARD Limited** (Formerly known as BOB Financial Solutions Limited) and National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) have launched India's second Unified Payments Interface (UPI) enabled Corporate Credit Card on the RuPay Network.

i. The card caters to the Travel & Entertainment (T&E) and other payment needs of the Corporates.

**29. Name the Insurance Plan that has recently (in Feb '24) launched by the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) for Children.**

- 1) LIC Rising Kid Plan 874
- 2) LIC Smart Kid Plan 874
- 3) LIC Amritbaal Plan 874
- 4) LIC Young Plan 874
- 5) LIC Children Money Plan 874

**Answer- 3) LIC Amritbaal Plan 874**

**Explanation:**

On 17th February 2024, the Life Insurance Corporation of India (**LIC**) launched '**LIC Amritbaal Plan 874**', a new Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Individual, Savings, Life Insurance plan.

- The plan is designed to meet the higher education and other financial needs of the child.

**30. Which bank has recently (in Feb '24) celebrated its 89th Business Commencement Day on 8th February 2024?**

- 1) Bank of Maharashtra
- 2) Bank of Baroda
- 3) Indian Bank
- 4) Bank of India
- 5) Canara Bank

**Answer- 1) Bank of Maharashtra**

**Explanation:**

On 8th February 2024, **Bank of Maharashtra** (BoM) celebrated its **89th Business Commencement Day** as "Maha Parivartan Diwas 2.0" in Pune, Maharashtra and launched 89 new digital products and services.

i. BoM has launched the Mahabank Equipment Finance Scheme to finance construction equipment purchases for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) and Corporates.



ii. The bank also launched a Special cluster scheme to offer concessionary interest rates and service charges to the glass bangle industry in Firozabad (Uttar Pradesh).

**31. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) received in-principle approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to upgrade its license to a composite insurance broker?**

- 1) MoneyTap
- 2) Razorpay
- 3) Policybazaar
- 4) Bajaj Markets
- 5) ZestMoney

Answer- **3) Policybazaar**

**Explanation:**

Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) has granted in-principle approval to Gurugram (Haryana) based Policybazaar Insurance Brokers Private Limited (**Policybazaar**) to upgrade its license from a direct insurance broker (Life and General) to a **composite insurance broker**.

i. With this approval, Policybazaar is allowed to sell reinsurance products besides being a pure play platform focused on insurance buying.

**32. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) launched the Digital Naari platform to generate sustainable self-employment for women?**

- 1) PhonePe
- 2) BharatPe
- 3) PayNearby
- 4) Policybazaar
- 5) MobiKwik

Answer- **3) PayNearby**

**Explanation:**

Mumbai (Maharashtra) based Nearby Technologies Private Limited (**PayNearby**) has launched the **Digital Naari platform** to generate sustainable **self-employment** for women.

i. This is in line with the 'Lakshpati Didi' initiative (a skill development programme launched in 2023), the platform seeks to onboard and uplift about 1 lakh women in rural and semi-urban areas by the end of 2025.

**33. Name the bank that has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA) to promote Renewable Energy projects across India.**

- 1) Bank of Maharashtra
- 2) Bank of Baroda
- 3) Indian Overseas Bank
- 4) Punjab National Bank
- 5) Bank of India

Answer- **4) Punjab National Bank**

**Explanation:**

Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (**IREDA**) and **Punjab National Bank (PNB)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) focusing on co-lending and loan syndication of **Renewable Energy(RE) projects** across India.

- The MoU includes provisions aimed at enhancing support for RE projects.
- i. Through this MoU and prior agreements with other financial institutions, IREDA is set to fund large-scale RE projects, in line with India's effort to achieve a 500 GW Non-Fossil-based electricity generation capacity by 2030.

**34. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) received the Payment Aggregator (PA) licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?**

- 1) Indianic Infotech Limited
- 2) Capillary Technologies Limited
- 3) Vvdm Technologies Limited
- 4) Compuage Infocom Limited
- 5) Mswipe Technologies Private Limited

Answer- **5) Mswipe Technologies Private Limited**

**Explanation:**

On 16th February 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) granted Payment Aggregator (**PA**) licence to Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **Mswipe Technologies Private Limited**. Mswipe received in-principle approval from RBI to operate as a PA in 2022.

- The Certificates of Authorisation (CoA) for Setting up and Operating Payment System in India is issued by RBI under Section 7 of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

**35. Which bank has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (IEPFA) to spread awareness on investment and fraudulent schemes?**

- 1) HSBC India
- 2) ICICI Bank
- 3) DBS Bank
- 4) Axis Bank
- 5) YES Bank

Answer- **3) DBS Bank**

**Explanation:**

Investor Education and Protection Fund Authority (**IEPFA**) and Singapore based **DBS Bank Limited** signed an **MoU** to spread awareness on investment and fraudulent schemes.

- i. As per the MoU, DBS Bank will be supporting IEPFA's investor awareness activities by disseminating safety messages via its various digital platforms.

**36. In February 2024, India presented its annual contribution of USD \_\_\_\_\_ to the India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation (IBSA Fund).**

- 1) 3 million
- 2) 5 million
- 3) 2 million
- 4) 4 million



5) 1 million

Answer- **5) 1 million**

**Explanation:**

**India** has presented its annual contribution of **USD 1 million** to the India, Brazil and South Africa Facility for Poverty and Hunger Alleviation (**IBSA Fund**).

- The IBSA Fund was established in 2004 and became operational in 2006.
- The IBSA fund is managed by the Special Unit for South-South Cooperation (**SU-SSC**) hosted by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

**37. In February 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) signed an Official Development Assistance (ODA) Loan of JPY Yen \_\_\_\_\_ with India for 9 projects across Sectors.**

1) 270.125 billion

2) 190.461 billion

3) 320.342 billion

4) 412.345 billion

5) 232.209 billion

Answer- **5) 232.209 billion**

**Explanation:**

On February 20, 2024, the Japan International Cooperation Agency (**JICA**) of Japan signed loan agreements with the Government of India in Delhi to provide Japanese Official Development Assistance (**ODA**) loans of up to Japanese Yen (**JPY**) **232.209 billion** for 9 projects across various sectors in India.

- The initiative aims to strengthen infrastructure and developmental projects in India. [Click here to read more](#)

**38. Which of the following Regulations have recently (in Feb '24) notified by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)?**

1) National Pension System (NPS) Trust (Second Amendment) Regulations 2023

2) Pension Fund (Amendment) Regulations 2023

3) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (Trustee Bank) (Amendment) Regulations, 2023

4) Both 1 & 2

5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **4) Both 1 & 2**

**Explanation:**

The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (**PFRDA**) has notified the National Pension System (**NPS**) **Trust (Second Amendment) Regulations 2023** and Pension Fund (**Amendment**) **Regulations 2023**.

Note: These amendments are in line with the Union Budget 2023-24 announcement to review regulations to reduce the cost of compliance and enhance the ease of doing business.

**i.** The amendments to NPS Trust Regulations simplify the provisions related to appointment of Trustees, their terms and conditions, holding of meetings of Board of Trustees and appointment of CEO (Chief Executive Officer)- NPS Trust.

ii. Amendments to Pension Fund Regulations simplify the provisions related to governance of Pension Funds in line with Companies Act, 2013 and enhanced disclosure by Pension Funds.

**39. Which state government has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with the World Bank (WB) to establish a Blended Finance Facility (BFF) for climate resilience?**

- 1) Karnataka
- 2) Maharashtra
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Goa
- 5) Odisha

Answer- **4) Goa**

**Explanation:**

The Government of **Goa** has announced a partnership with the **World Bank (WB)** to establish a Blended Finance Facility (**BFF**) for **climate resilience**.

**i.** This initiative aims to access and mobilise concessional finance to implement low-carbon and climate-resilient investment in Goa.

**40. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with 5 Indian banks - IDBI Bank, Indian Bank, Axis Bank, Jammu & Kashmir Bank, and Karur Vysya Bank (KVB), to introduce India's 1st Virtual ATM (VATM)?**

- 1) Policybazaar
- 2) MoneyTap
- 3) Paymart India
- 4) Pine Labs
- 5) ZestMoney

Answer- **3) Paymart India**

**Explanation:**

The Fintech startup **Paymart India Pvt. Ltd.**, has partnered with **5 Indian banks**, IDBI Bank, Indian Bank, Axis Bank, Jammu & Kashmir Bank, and Karur Vysya Bank (KVB), to introduce **India's 1st Virtual ATM (VATM)** to offer innovative virtual, cardless, and hardware-less cash withdrawal service.

- Transaction Limits: Minimum withdrawal of Rs 100, maximum Rs 2,000 per transaction.
- Monthly Cap: Rs 10,000 maximum limit for virtual ATM withdrawals.

**41. Which bank/organisation has recently (in Feb '24) approved the loan of USD 23 million to India for the 'India: Promoting Research and Innovation through Development of Fintech Institute at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) Project'?**

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

Answer- **2) Asian Development Bank**



**Explanation:**

The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** has approved the loan of **USD 23 million** to India for the project 'India: Promoting Research and Innovation through Development of Fintech Institute at Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (**GIFT City Project**)'.

- The project aims to construct an inclusive, sustainable, and climate-resilient International Fintech Institute (IFI) inside GIFT City in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.

**42. In February 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) amended the Master Direction on Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPI) to permit authorised bank and non-bank PPI issuers to issue PPIs for making payments across various public transport systems.**

**This instruction by RBI is issued under Section 18 read with \_\_\_\_\_ (Section) of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, \_\_\_\_\_(Year).**

1) Section 10 (2); 2007

2) Section 12 (1); 2005

3) Section 10 (2); 2006

4) Section 12 (1); 2007

5) Section 15 (2); 2009

**Answer- 1) Section 10 (2); 2007**

**Explanation:**

On February 23, 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) amended the Master Direction on Prepaid Payment Instruments (**PPI**) to permit authorised bank and non-bank PPI issuers to issue PPIs for making payments across various public transport systems.

- This instruction by RBI is issued under Section 18 read with **Section 10 (2)** of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, **2007** (Act 51 of 2007).

**i.** RBI notified Paytm Payments Bank that it can transfer its Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based payments business from Paytm Payments Bank to four to five other banks including Axis Bank.

- Paytm has stopped onboarding new users until it completes the migration of its existing accounts to these banks. [Click here to read more](#)

**43. Which bank has recently (in Feb '24) collaborated with the Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (CEIB) to launch an Automated Search Portal for antecedent verification of potential borrowers?**

1) Bank of Baroda

2) Bank of India

3) Canara Bank

4) State Bank of India

5) Indian Bank

**Answer- 4) State Bank of India**

**Explanation:**

The Central Economic Intelligence Bureau (**CEIB**) in collaboration with the **State Bank of India (SBI)** launched an **Automated Search Portal** dedicated for antecedent verification of **potential borrowers** and Non-Performing Assets (NPAs), to help Public Sector Banks (PSBs).

**i.** CEIB and SBI, have jointly developed a digital platform to assist PSBs in obtaining mandatory intelligence clearance process for PSBs promptly, which will ensure timely disbursement of funds.

**44. Name the company that has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with British International Investment (BII), and Samunnati Financial Intermediation and Services Private Limited to finance up to 1,500 smallholder dairy farmers in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Telangana.**

- 1) Akshayakalpa Farms and Foods
- 2) Country Delight
- 3) Sid's Farm
- 4) Parag Milk Foods
- 5) Heritage Foods

**Answer- 1) Akshayakalpa Farms and Foods**

**Explanation:**

Tiptur (Karnataka)-based **Akshayakalpa Farms and Foods Pvt. Ltd.** signed a Memorandum of Understanding with British International Investment (**BII**), and **Samunnati Financial Intermediation and Services Private Limited** to finance up to 1,500 smallholder dairy farmers in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu(TN) and Telangana.

**i.** This commitment is made through BII's GBP 200-million Climate Innovation Facility which finances climate-related projects in developing countries.

**45. In February 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed penalties of over Rs \_\_\_\_\_ on the State Bank of India (SBI), Canara Bank, City Union Bank Limited (CUB) and Ocean Capital Market Limited for violation of regulatory norms.**

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

**Answer- 1) 3 crore**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has imposed penalties of over **Rs 3 crore** on the State Bank of India (**SBI**), **Canara Bank**, City Union Bank Limited (**CUB**) and **Ocean Capital Market Limited** for violation of regulatory norms.

**i.** Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **SBI** was fined Rs 2 crore for contravening certain norms related to the Depositor Education and Awareness Fund Scheme, 2014.

**ii.** A penalty of Rs 16 lakh was imposed on Rourkela (Odisha) based Ocean Capital Market for breaching certain provisions related to Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

**46. Which bank has recently (in Feb '24) collaborated with Innoviti Technologies to create Omnium, an advanced omnichannel payments platform?**

- 1) IndusInd Bank
- 2) ICICI Bank
- 3) HDFC Bank
- 4) RBL Bank
- 5) YES Bank

**Answer- 4) RBL Bank**



**Explanation:**

**RBL Bank** and Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based **Innoviti Technologies Pvt. Ltd.** have collaborated to create **Omnium**, an advanced omnichannel payments platform designed for forward-thinking retailers in India.

- This platform utilises retailer data and streamlines business processes to facilitate faster growth with minimal effort.

**47. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) received the Online Payment Aggregator (PA) licence from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?**

- 1) Razorpay Software Private Limited
- 2) Amazon Pay India Private Limited
- 3) Cashfree Payments Limited
- 4) Easebuzz Private Limited
- 5) BharatPe Limited

Answer- **2) Amazon Pay India Private Limited**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) granted final authorisation to Bengaluru (Karnataka) based **Amazon Pay (India) Private Limited** (formerly Amazon Online Distribution Services Private Limited) to act as an Online Payment Aggregator (PA).

- Amazon Pay received in-principle approval from RBI to operate as a PA in 2023.
- i. The Certificates of Authorisation (CoA) for Setting up and Operating Payment System in India is issued by RBI under Section 7 of Payment and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

## **ECONOMY AND BUSINESS**

**1. In January 2024, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecast India's growth to \_\_\_\_\_ for 2024.**

- 1) 6.4%
- 2) 6.2%
- 3) 6.3%
- 4) 6.5%
- 5) 6.0%

Answer- **4) 6.5%**

**Explanation:**

The International Monetary Fund (**IMF**) released its 'January 2024 World Economic Outlook update- Moderating Inflation and Steady Growth Open Path to Soft Landing' stating India's expected Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) to grow by 6.7% in 2023, stating a 40 basis point increase from the 6.3% forecast made in October 2023.

- For **2024 & 2025**, India's **GDP growth** is seen steady at **6.5%**.

**2. Name the company that has recently (in Jan '24) finalized a long-term Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) purchase agreement with Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (ADNOC).**

- 1) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- 2) GAIL (India) Limited

- 3) Coal India Limited
- 4) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
- 5) Oil India Limited

Answer- 2) **GAIL (India) Limited**

**Explanation:**

**GAIL (India) Limited** has finalized a long-term Liquefied Natural Gas (**LNG**) purchase agreement with Abu Dhabi National Oil Company (**ADNOC**), a state-owned oil company of the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- Under this agreement, GAIL will purchase approximately 0.5 million metric tonnes per year of LNG from ADNOC GAS. The agreement is effective from 2026 for a period of 10 years.

**3. Which company has recently (in Jan '24) signed a Frame and Individual License agreement with Rolls-Royce Plc for the license production and localisation of the Motoren-und Turbinen-Union (MTU) International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Tier II compliant Series 4000 marine engines?**

- 1) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- 2) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- 3) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- 4) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited
- 5) Goa Shipyard Limited

Answer- 4) **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited**

**Explanation:**

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (**GRSE**) and **Rolls-Royce Plc** signed a **Frame and Individual License agreement** for the **license production** and localisation of the Motoren- und Turbinen-Union (**MTU**) International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Tier II compliant Series 4000 marine engines to power government ships.

i. Rolls-Royce Plc has entered into a 7-year agreement with Azad Engineering in Hyderabad (Telangana) to produce and supply complex components intended for their defence/military aircraft engines. The components will be manufactured at Azad's facilities in Hyderabad.

**4. In February 2024, Fitch Ratings estimated India's fiscal deficit for financial year 2024-2025 (FY25) to reach \_\_\_\_\_ of Gross Domestic Product (GDP).**

- 1) 6.1%
- 2) 5.9%
- 3) 5.4%
- 4) 5.0%
- 5) 5.6%

Answer- 3) **5.4%**

**Explanation:**

Fitch Rating, an international credit rating agency, stated that the interim Budget of 2024-2025 by the Government of India does not change the sovereign credit profile of India.

i. **Fitch Ratings** estimates that India's fiscal deficit for financial year 2024-2025 (**FY25**) to reach **5.4%** of Gross Domestic Product (GDP), which is above the budget target of 5.1%.



**5. According to the CRISIL report titled “Indian Economy: Capital as Growth Driver” released in February 2024, the Indian economy is expected to grow at an average rate of \_\_\_\_\_ per year between fiscal 2024 and 2031.**

- 1) 6.1%
- 2) 6.7%
- 3) 6.5%
- 4) 6.2%
- 5) 6.9%

Answer- **2) 6.7%**

**Explanation:**

According to the **CRISIL** (formerly Credit Rating Information Services of India Limited) **report** titled “Indian Economy: Capital as Growth Driver”, the **Indian economy** is expected to grow at an average rate of **6.7% per year** between **fiscal 2024 and 2031**. This is slightly higher than the pre-pandemic decadal average of 6.6%.

i. After a robust 7.3% growth in fiscal year 2023, CRISIL projects a moderation to 6.4% in fiscal year 2024, attributing it to cyclical factors.

**6. In February 2024, the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) Economic Outlook raised India’s Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast to \_\_\_\_\_ for FY 2024-25.**

- 1) 6.0%
- 2) 6.4%
- 3) 6.5%
- 4) 6.3%
- 5) 6.2%

Answer- **5) 6.2%**

**Explanation:**

The Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (**OECD) Economic Outlook**, Interim Report February 2024 titled “Strengthening the Foundations for Growth” has raised **India’s** Gross Domestic Product (**GDP) growth** forecast for FY 2024-25 to **6.2%**, up from the November 2023 estimate of 6.1%.

- For 2025-26(FY26), the OECD maintains India’s growth forecast at 6.5%.

**7. Which state government has recently (in Feb ‘24) signed an MoU with Google for Artificial Intelligence (AI)-led Solutions across Sectors?**

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Madhya Pradesh
- 3) Gujarat
- 4) Jharkhand
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- **1) Maharashtra**

**Explanation:**

The **Maharashtra** government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with search engine giant **Google** to utilise innovative and scalable Artificial Intelligence (**AI)-led** solutions across sectors including agriculture, healthcare, education, etc.

- i. Google also announced the launching of a state-of-the-art AI Centre of Excellence (CoE) at the Indian Institute of Information Technology – Nagpur (IIIT-Nagpur), Maharashtra.
- ii. Google renamed its free version of the generative AI chatbot Bard as Gemini and launched Gemini Advanced, the subscription tier of its powerful AI model. Gemini Advanced is a premium service (with Ultra) that uses the most powerful version of the Gemini model. [Click here to read more](#)

**8. In February 2024, the Central Board of Trustees (CBT) hiked the interest rate on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) deposits to a three-year high of \_\_\_\_\_ from 8.15% for the financial year 2023-24 (FY24).**

- 1) 8.40%
- 2) 8.25%
- 3) 8.30%
- 4) 8.45%
- 5) 8.50%

Answer- 2) 8.25%

**Explanation:**

The Central Board of Trustees (CBT) of the Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has hiked the **interest rate** on Employees' Provident Fund (EPF) deposits to a three-year high of **8.25%** from **8.15%** for the financial year 2023-24 (FY24).

- i. The decision was taken in the 235th CBT meeting chaired by Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE).

**9. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) to set up the world's first green hydrogen plant?**

- 1) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
- 2) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- 3) Oil India Limited
- 4) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
- 5) Coal India Limited

Answer- 4) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

**Explanation:**

Cochin International Airport Limited (CIAL) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited (BPCL) to set up the **world's first green hydrogen plant** and fueling station within an airport setting.

- i. Under this MoU, a 1000 kilowatt (KW) pilot project will be established at the airport premises of Cochin International Airport, Ernakulam, Kerala.

**10. According to a S&P Global Ratings report released in February 2024, India's credit growth is expected to moderate to \_\_\_\_\_ in Financial Year 2024-25 (FY25).**

- 1) 16%
- 2) 10%
- 3) 14%
- 4) 20%
- 5) 17%

Answer- 3) 14%



**Explanation:**

According to a report from **S&P Global Ratings**, **India's credit growth** is expected to moderate to **14%** in Financial Year 2024-25 (**FY25**) (April-March), down from the existing 16% growth in the first three-quarters of FY24 due to tight funding conditions that plays a pivotal role in limiting loan expansion for many banks.

- Indian banking system liquidity has experienced a persistent deficit, exceeding 1 trillion rupees since mid-December because of subdued government expenditure and high tax outflow.

**11. In February 2024, Morgan Stanley Research report projected India's gross domestic product (GDP) to grow by \_\_\_\_\_ in FY25.**

- 1) 6.5%
- 2) 6.9%
- 3) 6.2%
- 4) 6.6%
- 5) 6.8%

Answer- **1) 6.5%**

**Explanation:**

**Morgan Stanley** in its research report titled 'India Economics – Macro Indicators Chartbook: Strength in Growth, Stability in Macro-Fundamentals' projected that **India's** gross domestic product (**GDP**) to grow at 6.9% in Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24) and it will be slowed down to **6.5%** in **FY25**.

**i.** The GDP growth rate of the third quarter (Q3) of FY24 (October to December 2023) is projected to be 6.5%.

**12. In February 2024, India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) Private Limited lowered India's GDP growth forecast for FY25 to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) 6.5%
- 2) 6.3%
- 3) 6.0%
- 4) 6.4%
- 5) 6.7%

Answer- **1) 6.5%**

**Explanation:**

India Ratings and Research (**Ind-Ra**) **Private Limited**, has increased India's Gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24) to 6.9% from 6.7% projected in January 2024.

- Ind-Ra has lowered **India's** GDP growth forecast for **FY25** to **6.5%**.

**13. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) to expand the range of mobility offerings?**

- 1) Ola Cabs
- 2) Rapido
- 3) Ather Energy
- 4) inDrive
- 5) Uber India Systems Private Limited

Answer- **5) Uber India Systems Private Limited**

**Explanation:**

Mumbai (Maharashtra) based Uber India Systems Private Limited (**Uber**) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with Open Network for Digital Commerce (**ONDC**) to explore an integration with the network to expand the **range of mobility offerings** on the Uber mobile application.

- The MoU aims to provide safe, affordable and reliable rides to all Indians.

**14. Which country's Export Credit Agency (ECA) Servizi Assicurativi del Commercio Estero (SACE) has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with the Power Finance Corporation (PFC) to secure an innovative ECA-backed financing facility?**

- 1) Italy
- 2) Spain
- 3) Russia
- 4) Australia
- 5) Indonesia

Answer- **1) Italy**

**Explanation:**

Power Finance Corporation (**PFC**) has entered into a partnership with Servizi Assicurativi del Commercio Estero (**SACE**), Italy's Export Credit Agency (ECA), to secure an innovative ECA-backed financing facility.

- It marks PFC as the first government-owned Indian entity to engage with SACE under its "Push Strategy" initiative.

**i.** Under the partnership, PFC will benefit from an 80% guarantee by SACE on financing up to 200 million euros. HSBC will serve as the coordinating bank, lead arranger, and facility agent.

## **MoU's AND AGREEMENTS**

**1. Which organisation/Statutory board has recently (in Jan ' 24) signed an MoU with the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) to enhance the quality of the National Highways (NH) network?**

- 1) Archaeological Survey of India
- 2) Central Pollution Control Board
- 3) Geological Survey of India
- 4) Wildlife Institute of India
- 5) Transport Corporation of India

Answer- **3) Geological Survey of India**

**Explanation:**

National Highways Authority of India (**NHAI**) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the Geological Survey of India (**GSI**) to enhance the quality of the National Highways (NH) network.

**i.** As per the MoU, GSI will provide site-specific geotechnical consultancy services related to the preparation of geological maps and assist in analysing Detailed Project Reports (DPRs) from a geotechnical perspective.



**2. Which state government has recently (in Jan '24) signed an MoU with the NTPC Green Energy Limited (NGEL) for the development of Green Hydrogen?**

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

Answer- **2) Maharashtra**

**Explanation:**

NTPC Green Energy Limited (**NGEL**), a wholly owned subsidiary of NTPC Limited, and the Government of **Maharashtra** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) for the **development of Green Hydrogen** and its derivatives projects, including Green Ammonia & Green Methanol.

**i.** The projects with a capacity of up to 1 million tons per annum will be developed at an investment of around Rs 80000 crores.

**3. Name the company that has recently (in Jan '24) signed an MoU with the Karnataka government to set up a 1st-of-its-kind laptop manufacturing plant near Bengaluru.**

- 1) VIA Technologies
- 2) Innolux Corporation
- 3) Gigabyte Technology
- 4) LITEON Technology
- 5) Wistron Corporation

Answer- **5) Wistron Corporation**

**Explanation:**

The **Karnataka government** and Taiwan-based **Wistron Corporation** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to set up a 1st-of-its-kind **laptop manufacturing plant** near Bengaluru, Karnataka.

**i.** Under the MoU, Wistron will invest **Rs 1500 crore** to set up the plant. This unit is expected to create around 3000 employment opportunities.

**4. Name the organisation has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the National Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (NRLPS) for the inclusion of the poorest of the poor under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).**

- 1) National Rural Support Programme
- 2) Landesa champions
- 3) BRAC International
- 4) Thar Deep Rural Development Programme
- 5) Dua Foundation

Answer- **3) BRAC International**

**Explanation:**

National Rural Livelihood Promotion Society (**NRLPS**), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) **signed** a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **BRAC International**, for the inclusion of the poorest of the poor under Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana-National Rural Livelihoods Mission (**DAY-NRLM**).

- DAY-NRLM, dedicated to universal and inclusive mobilization, has already mobilised 100 million rural poor households.

**5. Name the country that has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Government of India (GoI) for the Employment of Indian Workers.**

- 1) Myanmar
- 2) Taiwan
- 3) Vietnam
- 4) Philippines
- 5) Indonesia

Answer- **2) Taiwan**

**Explanation:**

The **Government of India** and the **Government of Taiwan** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) on the Facilitation of Employment of Indian Workers in Taiwan.

i. The MoU aims to strengthen the bilateral labour cooperation relations between India and Taiwan.

**6. Which of the following companies have recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU facilitated by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) to launch iMPEL-AI programme to empower Indian AI startups?**

- 1) Google
- 2) Microsoft
- 3) iCreate
- 4) Both 1 & 3
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **5) Both 2 & 3**

**Explanation:**

**Microsoft** and the International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology (**iCreate**) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) facilitated by the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**) to launch **iMPEL-AI** (iCreate-Microsoft Programme for Emerging Leaders in Artificial Intelligence (AI)) programme to empower Indian AI startups.

i. The programme is set to be implemented in two stages, and it will encourage AI innovation and product development among Indian startups by providing access to mentorship and technology infrastructure.

**7. Which ministry has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Ministry of Ayush for the nutritional improvement in adolescent girls through Ayurveda Interventions?**

- 1) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- 2) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- 3) Ministry of Home Affairs
- 4) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- 5) Ministry of Rural Development

Answer- **1) Ministry of Women and Child Development**



**Explanation:**

On February 26, 2024, a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) was signed between the **Ministry of Ayush** and Ministry of Women and Child Development (**MoWCD**) for the nutritional improvement in adolescent girls through Ayurveda Interventions.

- This Joint Public Health Initiative aims to combat anaemia among adolescent girls (14-18 years) in five districts under Mission Utkarsh, using Ayurveda interventions.
- i. The 5 districts are Assam–Dhubri, Chhattisgarh- Bastar, Jharkhand – Paschimi Singhbhum, Maharashtra – Gadchiroli, and Rajasthan – Dholpur.

**8. Which of the following associations/departments has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Election Commission of India (ECI) for Electoral Awareness ahead of Lok Sabha Polls?**

- 1) Indian Banks' Association
- 2) Department of Posts
- 3) Department of Legal Affairs
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

Answer- **4) Both 1 & 2**

**Explanation:**

On February 26, 2024, the Election Commission of India (**ECI**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the Indian Banks' Association (**IBA**) and the Department of Posts (DoP) under the Ministry of Communications to boost voter outreach before the upcoming Lok Sabha (LS) polls.

- This initiative extends ECI's ongoing efforts to enhance electoral awareness nationwide.
- i. Under this MoU, the members and affiliated institutions of IBA and DoP will support the promotion of voter education and employ various interventions to empower citizens with knowledge about their electoral rights.

**9. Which Indian Institute of Management (IIM) has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (MoPSW) to set up India's first 'Gati Shakti Research Chair'?**

- 1) IIM Kozhikode
- 2) IIM Ahmedabad
- 3) IIM Lucknow
- 4) IIM Indore
- 5) IIM Shillong

Answer- **5) IIM Shillong**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of Ports, Shipping & Waterways (**MoPSW**) and the Indian Institute of Management (**IIM Shillong**) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to set up **India's first 'Gati Shakti Research Chair'** in Shillong, Meghalaya.

- The chair aims to drive high-quality academic research in the field of multimodal logistics, with a special emphasis on the development of the North-Eastern Region (NER) of India.



**10. Which airline has recently (in Feb '24) recognised as a designated Indian carrier by the Ministry of Finance (MoF)?**

- 1) Go First
- 2) Akasa Air
- 3) IndiGo
- 4) Vistara
- 5) SpiceJet

**Answer- 2) Akasa Air**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of Finance (**MoF**) has recognised Mumbai (Maharashtra) based SNV Aviation Private Limited (**Akasa Air**) as a '**designated Indian carrier**', facilitating the carrier's international flights. **i.** The recognition was granted in the exercise of the powers conferred by sub-section (5) of section 5 of the Central Sales Tax Act, 1956.

**11. Which Indian Institute has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine(DTAM) Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, to establish academic collaboration in Ayurveda and Thai Traditional Medicine?**

- 1) National Institute of Unani Medicine(NIUM), Bengaluru
- 2) Institute of Teaching & Research in Ayurveda (ITRA), Jamnagar
- 3) National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur
- 4) All India Institute of Ayurveda (AIIA), New Delhi
- 5) National Institute of Homeopathy (NIH), Hyderabad

**Answer- 3) National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), Jaipur**

**Explanation:**

On February 27, 2024, The National Institute of Ayurveda(**NIA**), **Jaipur(Rajasthan)** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the Department of Thai Traditional and Alternative Medicine (**DTAM**), Ministry of Public Health, Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, to establish Academic Collaboration in Ayurveda and Thai Traditional Medicine.

**i.**The MoU aims to foster academic collaboration in Ayurveda and Thai Traditional Medicine based on equality and mutual benefit of the Participants.

**12. Which research institute has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Ministry of AYUSH for the enhancements in Ayush Service Sector?**

- 1) Raman Research Institute
- 2) National Research Center on Plant Biotechnology
- 3) Research and Information System for Developing Countries
- 4) Indian Institute of Integrative Medicine
- 5) Indian Institutes of Science Education and Research

**Answer- 3) Research and Information System for Developing Countries**

**Explanation:**

The **Ministry of AYUSH** (Ayurveda, Yoga and Naturopathy, Unani, Siddha, and Homoeopathy) and Research and Information System for Developing Countries (**RIS**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to bring out an overview of the **Ayush Service sector** and to foster academic cooperation and collaboration with RIS.



i. The MoU will strengthen academic cooperation and collaboration to undertake research, policy dialogue, and publications for national, regional and international.

## APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

**1. Which of the following personalities have been appointed as full-time members of the 16th Finance Commission (FC) by the President of India, Droupadi Murmu in January 2024?**

- 1) Niranjan Rajadhyaksha
- 2) Ajay Narayan Jha
- 3) Annie George Mathew
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

Answer- **5) All 1, 2 & 3**

**Explanation:**

President Droupadi Murmu appointed 4 members (3 full-time members and a part-time member) to the **16th Finance Commission (FC)**, a constitutional body responsible for recommending the distribution of federal taxes among states. [Click here to read more](#)

- **3 full-time members:** Ajay Narayan Jha, Annie George Mathew and Niranjan Rajadhyaksha.
- **Part-time member:** Soumya Kanti Ghosh.

**2. Who has been recently (in Jan '24) appointed as the 9th Chairman of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for 3 years?**

- 1) Anand Kumar Singh
- 2) Rajiv Ranjan Tiwari
- 3) Anil Kumar Lahoti
- 4) V. Raghunandan
- 5) Meenakshi Gupta

Answer- **3) Anil Kumar Lahoti**

**Explanation:**

The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved the appointment of former railway board chairman and chief executive officer(CEO) **Anil Kumar Lahoti** as the **9th Chairman** of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (**TRAI**) for 3 years or until the age of 65 years.

- He will succeed PD Vaghela, who retired from the post on 30th September 2023.

**3. Which Small Finance Bank (SFB) has recently (in Jan '24) appointed Harun Rashid Khan (HR Khan) as its Part-Time Chairman?**

- 1) Suryoday SFB
- 2) Equitas SFB
- 3) Capital SFB
- 4) AU SFB
- 5) ESAF SFB

Answer- **4) AU SFB**

**Explanation:**

**AU Small Finance Bank** (AU SFB) Limited has appointed the former Deputy Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) & its Non-Executive Independent Director, **Harun Rashid Khan** (HR Khan) as its **Part-Time Chairman** with effect from 30th January 2024. [Click here to read more](#)

- He succeeded Raj Vikash Verma whose tenure as Part Time Chairman & Independent Director of the Bank ceased on 29th January 2024.

**Note-** The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved two proposals made by the Department of Financial Services under the Ministry of Finance concerning the transfer of the executive directors of Bank of Baroda and Indian Overseas Bank.

**4. In January 2024, Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar was sworn in as the 17th King of \_\_\_\_\_ (country).**

- 1) Saudi Arabia
- 2) Qatar
- 3) Oman
- 4) Morocco
- 5) Malaysia

Answer- **5) Malaysia**

**Explanation:**

His Royal Highness (HRH) **Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar** (Sultan Ibrahim), the Ruler of the southern Malaysian state of Johor, was sworn in as the **17th King of Malaysia**, also known as Yang di-Pertuan Agong (YDPA) XVII, on 31st January 2024.

**i.** He will be serving as the king for a term of 5 years (till 2029). He succeeded Al-Sultan Abdullah ibni Sultan Ahmad Shah (16th King), Ruler of Pahang state, who served as the 16th King since 2019.

**5. Who was recently (in Jan '24) appointed as the Chief Justice(CJ) of the Karnataka High Court?**

- 1) Prabhakara Sastry
- 2) K.S.Mudagal
- 3) Somashekar
- 4) Sreenivas Harish Kumar
- 5) PS Dinesh Kumar

Answer- **5) PS Dinesh Kumar**

**Explanation:**

Justice **PS Dinesh Kumar** was appointed Chief Justice (**CJ**) of the Karnataka High Court (**HC**). He is set to retire from the service on 24th February 2024.

- Justice PS Dinesh Kumar has been serving as the acting CJ of the Karnataka HC after Justice Prasanna Bhalachandra Varale was elevated as the judge of the Supreme Court(SC) of India on 24th January 2024.

**6. In January 2024, Jay Shah was reappointed as the President of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) for the \_\_\_\_\_ consecutive term.**

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



5) 6th

Answer- **1) 3rd**

**Explanation:**

**Jay Shah**, Secretary of the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI), was **reappointed** as the **President** of the Asian Cricket Council (**ACC**) for the **3rd consecutive term**.

**i.** Initially, He took charge as President of ACC in January 2021 succeeding Nazmul Hassan, President of Bangladesh Cricket Board (BCB).

**7. Name the personality who has recently (in Feb '24) appointed as a brand ambassador of BoAt.**

1) Ranbir Kapoor

2) Ranveer Singh

3) Arjun Kapoor

4) Vicky Kaushal

5) Akshay Kumar

Answer- **2) Ranveer Singh**

**Explanation:**

Indian Bollywood actor **Ranveer Singh** was appointed as a **brand ambassador** for the audio and wearable brand **BoAt** by Mumbai (Maharashtra)-based Imagine Marketing Limited.

**i.** As the brand ambassador, Ranveer Singh will be featured in 'Lost in Nirvana' campaign for their new premium audio sub-brand Nirvana.

**8. Who has recently (in Feb '24) sworn in as the Chief Minister (CM) of Jharkhand?**

1) Babulal Marandi

2) Madhu Koda

3) Shibu Soren

4) Raghubar Das

5) Champai Soren

Answer- **5) Champai Soren**

**Explanation:**

On 2nd February 2024, **Champai Soren** (67), leader of the Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) party, was sworn in as the Chief Minister (**CM**) of **Jharkhand**. Jharkhand Governor C. P. Radhakrishnan administered the oath of office.

**i.** Champai Soren succeeded Hemant Soren (JMM party), who resigned from the post on 31st January 2024.

**9. In February 2024, Radha Raturi became 1st Woman Chief Secretary (CS) of \_\_\_\_\_ (state).**

1) Andhra Pradesh

2) Uttarakhand

3) Jharkhand

4) Odisha

5) West Bengal

Answer- **2) Uttarakhand**

**Explanation:**

**Pushkar Singh Dhani**, Chief Minister(CM) of Uttarakhand, has appointed **Radha Raturi**, a 1988 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) Officer, as the **18th** Chief Secretary (**CS**) of **Uttarakhand**.

**i.** With this appointment, she became the **first-ever woman** to hold the post of CS in Uttarakhand since its formation in 2000.

**ii.** Radha Raturi succeeded Sukhbir Singh Sandhu, a 1988 batch IAS Officer, who retired on 31st January 2024.

**10. Who has recently (in Feb '24) sworn in as the Interim President of the Republic of Namibia?**

- 1) Nangolo Mbumba
- 2) Sam Nujoma
- 3) Hifikepunye Pohamba
- 4) Saara Kuugongelwa
- 5) Monica Geingos

Answer- **1) Nangolo Mbumba**

**Explanation:**

**Nangolo Mbumba**, former Vice President of the Republic of Namibia, took oath as the **interim President of Namibia** after the death of incumbent President Hage Geingob on 4th February 2024.

- Nangolo Mbumba will hold the post until the 2024 election.

**11. Which of the following points is/are "correct" with respect to the appointment of Chief Justice (CJ) of High Courts (HC) in February 2024?**

**A) The Ministry of Law and Justice (MoL&J) notified the appointment of Chief Justice (CJ) to seven High Courts (HC).**

**B) Justice S. Vaidyanathan, Judge of the Madras HC (Tamil Nadu), was appointed as the CJ of Meghalaya HC.**

**C) Justice Ritu Bahri, ACJ of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, became the first Women CJ of Orissa (Odisha)HC.**

- 1) Only A
- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only B & C
- 4) Only A & C
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- **2) Only A & B**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of Law and Justice (**MoL&J**) notified the appointment of Chief Justice (CJ) to **seven High Courts (HC)**: Meghalaya, Allahabad (Uttar Pradesh), Gauhati (Assam), Orissa (Odisha), Uttarakhand, Rajasthan, and Punjab & Haryana (Chandigarh). [Click here to read more](#)

- Justice **S. Vaidyanathan**, Judge of the **Madras HC(Tamil Nadu)**, was appointed as the CJ of Meghalaya HC.
- Justice **Ritu Bahri**, ACJ of the Punjab and Haryana High Court, was appointed as the **CJ of the Uttarakhand HC**. Ritu Bahri becomes the first Women CJ of Uttarakhand HC.



**12. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Goodwill Ambassador for Education for All by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)?**

- 1) Karim Benzema
- 2) Kylian Mbappé
- 3) Lionel Messi
- 4) Cristiano Ronaldo
- 5) Vinícius Junior

Answer- **5) Vinícius Junior**

**Explanation:**

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**), appointed Brazilian footballer Vinicius José Paixão de Oliveira Junior (**Vinícius Junior**) as the **Goodwill Ambassador for Education for All**.

i. Vinícius Junior becomes the 2nd Brazilian football player, after Pelé, to be appointed as the UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador.

**13. Who has recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (NHSRCL)?**

- 1) Anjum Pervez
- 2) Vivek Kumar Gupta
- 3) Pramod Sharma
- 4) Jaya Varma Sinha
- 5) Sandeep Srivastava

Answer- **2) Vivek Kumar Gupta**

**Explanation:**

On 5th February 2024, **Vivek Kumar Gupta**, a 1988 batch Indian Railways Service of Engineers (IRSE) officer, took charge as the Managing Director (**MD**) of National High-Speed Rail Corporation Limited (**NHSRCL**).

i. He succeeds Rajendra Prasad, who has served as MD of NHSRCL since July 2022.

**14. In February 2024, Dr. Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak was appointed as the Prime Minister (PM) of \_\_\_\_\_ (country).**

- 1) Yemen
- 2) Rwanda
- 3) Tunisia
- 4) Ghana
- 5) Belarus

Answer- **1) Yemen**

**Explanation:**

The Presidential Leadership Council (PLC) of Yemen appointed Dr. **Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak** as **Yemen's** new Prime Minister (**PM**).

i. He replaced Dr. Maeen Abdulmalik Saeed who served as PM of Yemen from October 2018 to February 2024.

**15. Who has recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tata AIA Life Insurance Company Limited?**

- 1) Samit Upadhyay
- 2) Harish Bhat
- 3) H Venkatachalam Iyer
- 4) Aarthi Subramanian
- 5) Harshad Patil

Answer- **3) H Venkatachalam Iyer**

**Explanation:**

The Board of **Tata AIA Life Insurance** Company Limited has appointed **H Venkatachalam Iyer** as its new Managing Director (**MD**) & Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**).

**i.** He will take over from incumbent Naveen Tahilyani, who has been elevated as a non-executive director of Tata AIA Life and appointed as MD & CEO of TATA Digital Private Limited with effect from 19th February 2024.

**16. In February 2024, Nayib Armando Bukele Ortez was re-elected as the President of \_\_\_\_\_ (country) for the 2nd consecutive term.**

- 1) Venezuela
- 2) Ecuador
- 3) Brazil
- 4) El Salvador
- 5) Chile

Answer- **4) El Salvador**

**Explanation:**

**Nayib Armando Bukele Ortez** (42-year-old), President of **El Salvador**, won the general elections 2024 and was **re-elected** to the post for the **2nd consecutive term**.

**i.** He became the first Salvadorian president to win a 2nd consecutive term since 1983. He will take charge as the President of El Salvador in June 2024 and serve till 2029.

**17. Who has recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of LIC Mutual Fund Asset Management Ltd?**

- 1) Siddhartha Mohanty
- 2) Ravi Kumar Jha
- 3) Ashok Paranjpe
- 4) Nilkanth Bhawe
- 5) Amit Pandit

Answer- **2) Ravi Kumar Jha**

**Explanation:**

LIC Mutual Fund Asset Management Ltd (**LIC AMC**), the investment manager of LIC Mutual Fund (LICMF), has appointed **Ravi Kumar Jha** as its Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) with effect from 31st January 2024.

**i.** He is also designated as a Key Personnel for the Schemes of LIC Mutual Fund.

**ii.** Prior to the appointment, he was serving as the Associate Director of LIC AMC.



**18. In February 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ was appointed as the Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, while Sanjay Jaju was appointed as the New Secretary of \_\_\_\_\_ (Ministry).**

- 1) Apurva Chandra; Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- 2) Anil Malik; Ministry of Women and Child Development
- 3) Raj Kumar Goyal; Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- 4) Vijay Kumar; Ministry of Women and Child Development
- 5) Anil Malik; Ministry of Labour and Employment

**Answer- 1) Apurva Chandra; Ministry of Information and Broadcasting**

**Explanation:**

**Apurva Chandra**, Secretary of the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB), has been appointed as the **Secretary of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW)**.

- Sanjay **Jaju** was appointed as the **New Secretary** of MIB succeeding Apurva Chandra.
- Before the appointment, Sanjay Jaju has been serving as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in Telangana.

**Note-** Apurva Chandra has been holding additional charge as the Secretary of MoHFW since January 2024. [Click here to read more](#)

**19. In February 2024, Olzhas Bektenov became the Youngest Prime Minister (PM) of \_\_\_\_\_ (Country).**

- 1) Kyrgyzstan
- 2) Uzbekistan
- 3) Kazakhstan
- 4) Turkmenistan
- 5) Tajikistan

**Answer- 3) Kazakhstan**

**Explanation:**

**Kazakhstan's** president Kassym-Jomart Tokayev has appointed **Olzhas Bektenov** (43 years) of the Amanat party as the new **Prime Minister (PM) of Kazakhstan**.

- Olzhas Bektenov is the youngest PM in Kazakhstan's history.

**20. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Asian Development Bank (ADB)'s Country Director for India?**

- 1) Supak Chaiyawan
- 2) Mio Oka
- 3) Sangmin Ryu
- 4) Shigeo Shimizu
- 5) Weihua Liu

**Answer- 2) Mio Oka**

**Explanation:**

The Asian Development Bank (**ADB**) has appointed **Mio Oka** as its new **Country Director for India**.  
**i.** Mio Oka will take over from the incumbent Takeo Konishi who has been elevated as ADB Director General for South Asia.

**21. Who has been the first civil servant to be appointed as a brand ambassador for the Fit India Movement in February 2024?**

- 1) Abhishek Singh
- 2) Manoj Kumar Sharma
- 3) Krishna Gopal Tiwari
- 4) Ashok Khemka
- 5) Narendra Kumar Yadav

Answer- **5) Narendra Kumar Yadav**

**Explanation:**

**Narendra Kumar Yadav**, Indian Revenue Service (IRS) 2009 batch officer, has been the **first civil servant** to be appointed as a **brand ambassador** for the **Fit India Movement**.

i. Narendra Kumar Yadav is currently serving as an 'Additional Director GST (Goods and Services Tax)' in the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC), Department of Revenue, Ministry of Finance.

**22. Who has recently (in Feb '24) elected as the 72nd President of the Central Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI)?**

- 1) Radhe Shyam Agarwal
- 2) Aniket Sunil Talati
- 3) Pramod Bhasin
- 4) Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal
- 5) Niranjana Hiranandani,

Answer- **4) Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal**

**Explanation:**

The Central Council of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) has elected **CA. Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal** as its **72nd President** for the term 2024-25.

- He succeeded CA. Aniket Sunil Talati who served as the president of ICAI for the term 2023-24.
- ICAI also elected CA. Charanjot Singh Nanda as its Vice President for the term 2024-25.

**23. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Chief Justice(CJ) of the Karnataka High Court (HC)?**

- 1) Sunita Agarwal
- 2) Ramesh Sinha
- 3) Arun Bhansali
- 4) Nilay Vipinchandra Anjaria
- 5) Dhiraj Singh Thakur

Answer- **4) Nilay Vipinchandra Anjaria**

**Explanation:**

Justice **Nilay Vipinchandra Anjaria** is appointed as Chief Justice (CJ) of the **Karnataka High Court (HC)**. He will succeed Justice Pratinidhi Srinivasacharya Dinesh Kumar, who is set to retire on 24th February 2024.

- N V Anjaria is currently serving as Judge in Gujarat HC (since 2011).



**24. In February 2024, the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) announced the reconstitution of the Expert Committee on implementation of Indian Accounting Standards (Ind AS) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) in the insurance sector.**

**The reconstituted committee will be chaired by \_\_\_\_\_, Member (Finance & Investment)(F&I), IRDAI.**

- 1) G. Rambabu
- 2) Shyama Prasad Chakraborty
- 3) Rajay Kumar Sinha
- 4) Amarjit Chopra
- 5) R Arunachalam

**Answer- 3) Rajay Kumar Sinha**

**Explanation:**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) has announced the reconstitution of the Expert Committee on implementation of Indian Accounting Standards (**Ind AS**) and International Financial Reporting Standards (**IFRS**) in the insurance sector.

**i.** The reconstituted committee will be chaired by Member (Finance & Investment)(F&I), IRDAI.

**Note:** Currently, **Rajay Kumar Sinha** is serving as the Member (F&I) of IRDAI.

**25. In February 2024, Ilham Aliyev was re-elected as the President of \_\_\_\_\_ (country) for the fifth consecutive term.**

- 1) Armenia
- 2) Kyrgyzstan
- 3) Azerbaijan
- 4) Uzbekistan
- 5) Kazakhstan

**Answer- 3) Azerbaijan**

**Explanation:**

Ilham Heydar oglu Aliyev (**Ilham Aliyev**) has been **re-elected** as the President of **Azerbaijan** for the fifth consecutive term following his win in the presidential election with 92 percent of the votes.

- He was sworn in as the President of Azerbaijan on 14th February 2024.

**i.** Ilham Aliyev's father, Heydar Aliyev, was a president (non-elected) of Azerbaijan from 1993 to 2003 until his death.

**26. In February 2024, Ashish Vijayakar was appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of \_\_\_\_\_ (Bank).**

- 1) CSB Bank (India)
- 2) HSBC Bank (India)
- 3) DBS Bank (India)
- 4) Standard Chartered Bank (India)
- 5) SBM Bank (India)

**Answer- 5) SBM Bank (India)**

**Explanation:**

**Ashish Vijayakar** has been appointed as the Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of SBM Bank (India) Limited (**SBM Bank India**) for a period of **3 years**, with effect from February 17, 2024.

i. He succeeds Sidharth Rath, who resigned from the post of MD and CEO of SBM Bank India in November 2023.

**27. In February 2024, Indian cricketer Shubman Gill was named as the 'State Icon' of \_\_\_\_\_ (state).**

- 1) Punjab
- 2) Maharashtra
- 3) Haryana
- 4) Jharkhand
- 5) Odisha

Answer- **1) Punjab**

**Explanation:**

**Indian cricketer Shubman Gill** was named as the '**State Icon**' of **Punjab** by the Chief Electoral Officer of Punjab for the 2024 Parliamentary election.

i. The move aims to increase voter awareness thereby ensuring a voting percentage of 70% in the upcoming election.

**28. Which bank has recently (in Feb '24) re-appointed K.V.S. Manian as the joint Managing Director (MD)?**

- 1) HDFC Bank
- 2) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 3) ICICI Bank
- 4) Axis Bank
- 5) Karur Vysya Bank

Answer- **2) Kotak Mahindra Bank**

**Explanation:**

**K.V.S. Manian** has been re-designated as the joint Managing Director (MD) of **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL)** effective from 1st March 2024. He is currently serving as a whole-time director and Member of the Group Management Council of KMBL.

- Shanti Ekambaram, whole-time director of KMBL, has been designated as deputy MD with effect from 1st March 2024. She is currently serving as the President of Consumer Banking, KMBL.

**29. Prabowo Subianto Djojohadikusumo is set to be sworn in as the 8th President of \_\_\_\_\_ (country) on 20th October 2024.**

- 1) Madagascar
- 2) Philippines
- 3) Maldives
- 4) Indonesia
- 5) Mauritius

Answer- **4) Indonesia**



**Explanation:**

**Prabowo Subianto Djojohadikusumo**, Defence Minister of the Republic of Indonesia, is set to be sworn in as the 8th President of **Indonesia** on 20th October 2024. He belongs to a political party called the 'Gerindra Party'.

- He will replace Joko Widodo (Jokowi), a member of the Indonesian Democratic Party of Struggle (PDI-P), who has been serving the post since 2014 for two consecutive terms (2014-19 & 2019-24).

**30. Which of the following points is/are "correct" with respect to the appointments of part-time non-official Directors and non-executive Chairman to the Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in February 2024?**

**A) M R Kumar, Former Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India appointed to the Board of Bank of India (BOI).**

**B) Aravamudan Krishna Kumar, Former Managing Director (MD) of the State Bank of India (SBI) appointed to the Board of UCO Bank.**

**C) Srinivasan Sridhar, Director of Bank of Baroda (BOB) appointed to the Board of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB).**

1) Only A

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A & C

5) All A, B & C

Answer- **5) All A, B & C**

**Explanation:**

The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) approved the appointments of the following individuals as part-time non-official Directors and non-executive Chairman of **3** Public Sector Banks (**PSBs**):

**i. M R Kumar**, Former Chairman of Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) of India appointed to the **Board of Bank of India (BOI)**.

**ii. Aravamudan Krishna Kumar**, Former Managing Director (MD) of the State Bank of India (SBI) appointed to the **Board of UCO Bank**.

**iii. Srinivasan Sridhar**, Director of Bank of Baroda (BOB) appointed to the **Board of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)**. [Click here to read more](#)

**31. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Administrative Officer of World Bank Group (WBG)?**

1) Anshula Kant

2) Wencai Zhang

3) Shaolin Yang

4) Lisa Rosen

5) Victoria Kwakwa

Answer- **2) Wencai Zhang**

**Explanation:**

World Bank Group (**WBG**) has appointed **Wencai Zhang** as Managing Director (**MD**) and World Bank Group **Chief Administrative Officer**.

- Prior to the appointment, Zhang Wencai served as the Vice President of the Export-Import(EXIM) Bank of China.

**32. In February 2024, Feleti Penitala Teo is set to be sworn-in as 14th Prime Minister(PM) of \_\_\_\_\_ (country).**

- 1) Samoa
- 2) Tuvalu
- 3) Fiji
- 4) Nauru
- 5) Vanuatu

Answer- **2) Tuvalu**

**Explanation:**

**Feleti Penitala Teo**, has won the 2024 Tuvaluan General Election and is set to be sworn-in as **14th Prime Minister(PM) of Tuvalu** (formerly known as the Ellice Islands), an island nation in the South Pacific Region.

- It is the first time in Tuvalu that a PM has been nominated unopposed.
- He will succeed Kausea Natano, who has been serving the post since 2019.

**33. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Vigilance Commissioner in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC)?**

- 1) Suresh N. Patel
- 2) Rajiv Gauba
- 3) Pramod Kumar
- 4) Ranjit Rath
- 5) Aeratu S. Rajeev

Answer- **5) Aeratu S. Rajeev**

**Explanation:**

**Aeratu S. Rajeev**, former managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO) of the Bank of Maharashtra (BoM), was **appointed** as **Vigilance Commissioner** in the Central Vigilance Commission (CVC).

i. He served as MD and CEO of BoM from December 2018 until he voluntarily retired from the post in February 2024.

**34. Name the personality who is set to be appointed as the chairman of British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) with effect from 4th March 2024.**

- 1) Ajaypal Singh
- 2) Nikesh Arora
- 3) Samir Shah
- 4) Neal Mohan
- 5) Shereen Bhan

Answer- **3) Samir Shah**

**Explanation:**

Indian-Origin **Samir Shah** is set to be appointed as the **chairman** of British Broadcasting Corporation (BBC) with effect from **4th March 2024** for a period of four years until March 2028.

- He replaces acting BBC chairwoman Dame Elan Closs Stephens.



**35. In February 2024, Vijay Shekhar Sharma resigned as part-time non-executive chairman and board member of \_\_\_\_\_ (Payments Bank).**

- 1) Airtel Payments Bank
- 2) India Post Payment Bank
- 3) Paytm Payments Bank
- 4) Fino Payments Bank
- 5) Jio Payments Bank

**Answer- 3) Paytm Payments Bank**

**Explanation:**

**Vijay Shekhar Sharma**, the founder and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of **Paytm Payments Bank Limited (PPBL)**, resigned as part-time non-executive chairman and board member of **PPBL**.

**i. PPBL** has reconstituted its Board of Directors (**BoD**) with the appointment of four new IDs namely,

- Srinivasan Sridhar served as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the Central Bank of India (CBI) in 2011.
- Ashok Kumar Garg: He is a retired ED of the Bank of Baroda(2018).
- Debendranath Sarangi is currently serving as an ID on the boards of several companies
- Rajni Sekhri Sibal currently serves as an Independent External Monitor in the public sector and as an independent director in corporations.

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**1. Which of the following points is/are 'correct' with respect to the Best marching contingents and tableaux of Republic Day (R-Day) Parade 2024 announced by the Ministry of Defence in January 2024?**

**A) The Delhi Police Women's Marching Contingent won the award in Best Marching Contingent among CAPF/other auxiliary forces category by a panel of judges.**

**B) Odisha (Woman Empowerment in Viksit Bharat) was selected as the best state tableaux under a panel of judges, while Gujarat (Dhordo : A Global Icon Of Gujarat's Border Tourism) was selected as the best state tableaux under online poll on MyGov.**

**C) Rajputana Rifles Regimental Marching Contingent won the People's Choice award for the Best Marching Contingent among the 3 services.**

- 1) Only A
- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only B & C
- 4) Only A & C
- 5) All A, B & C

**Answer- 5) All A, B & C**

**Explanation:**

On 30 January 2024, Ajay Bhatt, Minister of State (MoS), Ministry of Defence honoured the best marching contingents and tableaux awards for the Republic Day (R-Day) Parade 2024.

**i. The Delhi Police Women's Marching Contingent** won the award in Best Marching Contingent among CAPF/other auxiliary forces category by a **panel of judges**.

ii. **Odisha** (Woman Empowerment in Viksit Bharat) was selected as the **best state tableaux** under a panel of judges, while **Gujarat** (Dhordo : A Global Icon Of Gujarat's Border Tourism) was selected as the **best state tableaux** under online poll on MyGov.

iii. **Rajputana Rifles Regimental Marching** Contingent won the People's Choice award for the Best Marching Contingent among the 3 services. [Click here to read more](#)

**2. Name the personality who has recently (in Feb '24) honoured with the "Outstanding Business Woman of the Year 2023' Award.**

- 1) Vani Kola
- 2) Bina Modi
- 3) Shikha Sharma
- 4) Vandana Luthra
- 5) Meena Ganesh

Answer- **2) Bina Modi**

**Explanation:**

Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD) honoured Dr **Bina Modi**, Chairperson of Modi Enterprises, KK Modi Group, with the "**Outstanding Business Woman of the Year - 2023'** Award.

i. The award was presented during the Indo-American Chamber of Commerce (IACC) conference held in New Delhi, Delhi.

**3. Name the company that has recently (in Feb '24) won the Best Green Bond – Corporate Award at The Asset Triple A Awards for Sustainable Finance 2024.**

- 1) REC Limited
- 2) NTPC Limited
- 3) Power Finance Corporation
- 4) Coal India Limited
- 5) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited

Answer- **1) REC Limited**

**Explanation:**

Gurugram (Haryana) based **REC Limited** (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited) was awarded with the **Best Green Bond – Corporate Award** at The Asset Triple A Awards for Sustainable Finance 2024.

- REC was honoured for the issuance of Green Bonds worth USD 750 million in April 2023.

**4. Who will be the 50th recipient of the Bharat Ratna, the highest civilian award in India?**

- 1) Krishan Kant
- 2) Bhairon Singh Shekhawat
- 3) Lal Krishna (LK) Advani
- 4) Chaudhary Devi Lal
- 5) M. Hamid Ansari

Answer- **3) Lal Krishna (LK) Advani**

**Explanation:**

Former Deputy Prime Minister and Veteran Leader of the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP), **Lal Krishna (LK) Advani** will be conferred with **Bharat Ratna**, the highest civilian award in India.



- He will be the 50th recipient of the Bharat Ratna award since its inception in 1954.
- Lal Krishna Advani served as the Deputy Prime Minister of India from 2002 to 2004.

**5. Name the personality who has recently (in Feb '24) won the 66th Annual Grammy Awards (Grammy 2024) – Album of the Year and became the first ever artist to win “Album of the Year” four times.**

- 1) Billie Eilish
- 2) Taylor Swift
- 3) Ariana Grande
- 4) Miley Cyrus
- 5) Dua Lipa

**Answer- 2) Taylor Swift**

**Explanation:**

The 66th Annual Grammy Awards (Grammy 2024) was held at the Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles, California, the United States of America(USA) on 4th February 2024.

**i. Taylor Swift** won the **Grammy 2024 – Album of the Year** for her album *Midnights* and became the **first ever artist** to win “Album of the Year” **four times**. Previously, she won the award for “Fearless” in 2010, “1989” in 2016, and “Folklore” in 2020.

- She also won the award under the “Best Pop Vocal Album” category.
- With these wins, Taylor has won a total of 14 Grammy Awards from 52 nominations.

**ii.** The band *Shakti*, led by *Tabla* maestro *Ustad Zakir Hussain* and featuring vocalist *Shankar Mahadevan*, percussionist *V Selvaganesh*, violinist *Ganesh Rajagopalan* and *John McLaughlin*, has won the *Best Global Music Album* award for their latest release ‘*This Moment*’. [Click here to read more](#)

**6. Who has recently (in Feb '24) won the 2023 Wildlife Photographer of the Year 59 People’s Choice Award by the Natural History Museum, London, United Kingdom(UK)?**

- 1) Sascha Fonseca (Germany)
- 2) Sandesh Kadur (India)
- 3) Frans Lanting (Netherlands)
- 4) Nima Sarikhani (United Kingdom)
- 5) Florian Schulz (Germany)

**Answer- 4) Nima Sarikhani (United Kingdom)**

**Explanation:**

**Nima Sarikhani** of the **United Kingdom(UK)** won the *2023 Wildlife Photographer of the Year 59 People’s Choice Award* by the *Natural History Museum, London(UK)*.

**i.** *Nima Sarikhani* won this award for his photo of a polar bear sleeping peacefully on a small iceberg.

**7. Name the personality who has recently (in Feb '24) conferred with the Lifetime Achievement Award with Gold Medal by the Sports Journalists’ Federation of India (SJFI).**

- 1) Nisha Rani Dutta
- 2) Rashmita Patra
- 3) P.T. Usha
- 4) Kamal Kumar
- 5) Asha Roy

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



**Explanation:**

President of the Indian Olympic Association (IOA) and Indian sprinter Pilavullakandy Thekkeparambil Usha (**P.T. Usha**) was conferred with the **Lifetime Achievement Award with Gold Medal** by Sports Journalists' Federation of India (**SJFI**) in an event held at the National Sports Club of India (NSCI), New Delhi, Delhi.

i. The programme was co-hosted by Delhi Sports Journalists' Association (DSJA), one of the affiliates of SJFI. PT Usha is the fifth recipient of the SJFI Gold Medal.

**8. Which of the following personalities have recently (in Feb '24) honoured with the Bharat Ratna Award in February 2024?**

- 1) MS Swaminathan
- 2) Chaudhary Charan Singh
- 3) PV Narasimha Rao
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

Answer- **5) All 1, 2 & 3**

**Explanation:**

Government of India (GoI) announced that two former Prime Ministers (PMs), **Chaudhary Charan Singh** and **PV Narasimha Rao**, and father of India's 'green revolution' Dr **MS Swaminathan** will be awarded **Bharat Ratna** in **2024**.

- With this, the **total number** of Bharat Ratna recipients in 2024 becomes **five**. This is the highest number of Bharat Ratnas awarded in a year since its inception in 1954.

**Note:** In January 2024, GoI announced Bharat Ratna for Former Deputy Prime Minister Lal Krishna (LK) Advani and Former Bihar Chief Minister Karpoori Thakur (posthumously).

**9. Which of the following personalities won the Sportstar of the Year (Male) and Sportstar of the Year (female) at Sportstar Aces Awards 2024 respectively?**

- 1) Mohammed Shami & Bhavina Patel
- 2) Neeraj Chopra & Sheetal Devi
- 3) Mohammed Shami & Rameshbabu Vaishali
- 4) Neeraj Chopra & Bhavina Patel
- 5) Sumit Antil & Rameshbabu Vaishali

Answer- **2) Neeraj Chopra & Sheetal Devi**

**Explanation:**

Indian Olympian **Neeraj Chopra** was awarded the **Sportstar of the Year (Male) award** at the 2024 Sportstar Aces Awards held at the Taj Mahal Palace in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

i. The 2024 Arjuna Awardee **Sheetal Devi** (para-archer) won the **Sportstar Aces Award** for the **Sportstar of the Year (female)**. She also won the moment of the year award. [Click here to read more](#)

**10. Which of the following points is/are "correct" with respect to the National Film Awards regulations, revised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (MIB) in February 2024?**

- A) The 'Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director' has been renamed 'Best Debut Film of a Director'.
- B) The 'Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration' has been renamed as 'Best Feature Film Promoting National, Social, and Environmental Values'.



**C) The prize money for the Dadasaheb Phalke Award has been increased from Rs 10 lakh to Rs 20 lakh.**

- 1) All A, B & C
- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only B & C
- 4) Only A & C
- 5) Only A

Answer- **2) Only A & B**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (**MIB**) has revised the National Film Awards regulations and made significant changes, including renaming awards, merging categories, and increasing prize money.

**i.** The '**Indira Gandhi Award for Best Debut Film of a Director**' has been **renamed** 'Best Debut Film of a Director'. The award includes a Swarna Kamal and cash award of Rs 3 lakh which will be presented to the director of the film.

**ii.** The '**Nargis Dutt Award for Best Feature Film on National Integration**' has been **clubbed** with 'Best Film on Social Issues' and 'Best Film on Environment Conservation/Preservation'. The newly formed award is **named** 'Best Feature Film Promoting National, Social, and Environmental Values'.

**iii.** The prize money for the Dadasaheb Phalke Award, which is presented every year to an Indian film personality for their outstanding contribution to Indian cinema, has been increased from **Rs 10 lakh to Rs 15 lakh**. [Click here to read more](#)

**11. Who has recently (in Feb '24) received a special award at the Lokmat Maharashtra of the Year 2024 (LMOTY 2024)?**

- 1) Leena Nair
- 2) Isha Ambani
- 3) Aditi Gupta
- 4) Radhika Ghai
- 5) Indra Nooyi

Answer- **2) Isha Ambani**

**Explanation:**

**Isha Ambani**, Director of Mumbai (Maharashtra) based Reliance Retail Ventures Limited, was honoured with a **special award** at the Lokmat Maharashtra of the Year 2024 (**LMOTY 2024**) ceremony in Mumbai.

- Isha Ambani was honoured for her remarkable contributions in the field of business.

**12. According to the 2023 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 released by Axis Bank's Burgundy Private and Hurun India in February 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ (company) has emerged as India's most valuable company for the 3rd consecutive year.**

- 1) HDFC Bank
- 2) Tata Consultancy Service
- 3) Serum Institute of India
- 4) Reliance Industries Limited
- 5) Infosys Limited

Answer- **4) Reliance Industries Limited**

**Explanation:**

According to the 2023 **Burgundy Private Hurun India 500** released by Axis Bank's Burgundy Private and Hurun India, Reliance Industries Limited (**RIL**) has emerged as India's most valuable company for the **3rd consecutive year** with a value of Rs 15,64,663 crore.

**i.** RIL is followed by Tata Consultancy Service (TCS) with a value of Rs 12,36,229 crore and HDFC Bank with Rs. 11,25,975 crores at 2nd and 3rd spot.

**ii.** The total cumulative value of the 2023 Burgundy Private Hurun India 500 companies is Rs. 231 lakh crore (USD 2.8 trillion).

**13. Who has recently (in Feb '24) conferred with the Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM) for designing an innovative drone called 'a multipurpose octocopter'?**

- 1) Manish Kumar (Naga Regiment)
- 2) Varinder Singh (Sikh Regiment)
- 3) Gaurav Sharma (Dogra Regiment)
- 4) Harjinder Singh (Punjab Regiment)
- 5) Nandu Kumar (Rajput Regiment)

Answer- **2) Varinder Singh (Sikh Regiment)**

**Explanation:**

Havildar **Varinder Singh** of the **Sikh Regiment** in the Indian Army was awarded the **Vishisht Seva Medal (VSM)** for designing an innovative drone called 'a multipurpose octocopter'.

- He was one of the 130 Vishisht Seva Medal awardees announced by President Droupadi Murmu on 25th January 2024.

**14. Which of the following points is/are "correct" with respect to the Forbes India 30 Under 30 List for 2024 released in February 2024?**

**A) the 11th edition of Forbes India 30 Under 30 List for 2024 (Class of 2024) features 37 individuals including a total of 9 women.**

**B) Aadit Palicha and Kaivalya Vohra, Co-founders of Zepto are the youngest winners of the class of 2024 list.**

**C) Class of 2024 witnessed the introduction of a new category - B2B (business-to-business) featuring Shreyans Chopra, Founder and CEO, Mstack and Spriha Biswas, Chief Product Officer (CPO) & Head of Marketing, Augnito.**

- 1) Only A
- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only B & C
- 4) Only A & C
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- **5) All A, B & C**

**Explanation:**

Forbes India unveiled the 11th edition of Forbes India 30 Under 30 List for 2024 (Class of 2024), which recognises professionals and entrepreneurs who have made significant contributions across diverse fields.

**i.** The 2024 list features **37** individuals including a total of **9 women**,

**ii.** Aadit Palicha (21 years) and Kaivalya Vohra (21 years), Co-founders of Zepto are the **youngest winners** of the class of 2024 list.



iii. 2024 witnessed the introduction of a new category – B2B (business-to-business) featuring Shreyans Chopra, Founder and CEO, Mstack and Spriha Biswas, Chief Product Officer (CPO) & Head of Marketing, Augnito. [Click here to read more](#)

**15. In February 2024, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs(MPA) honoured the winners of the 16th National Youth Parliament Competition for Universities/Colleges (2019-20).**

**Which University received the running shield and trophy for standing 1st at the National Level?**

- 1) Central University of Punjab
- 2) Central University of Kerala
- 3) Central University of Andhra Pradesh
- 4) University of Delhi
- 5) Manipur University

**Answer- 1) Central University of Punjab**

**Explanation:**

On 16th February 2024, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs(MPA) honoured the winners of the 16th National Youth Parliament Competition for Universities/Colleges (2019-20) during the Prize Distribution ceremony held at GMC Balayogi Auditorium, Parliament House Complex, in New Delhi, Delhi.

- The awards were presented by Arjun Ram Meghwal, Minister of State(MoS), MPA.

i. The students of the **Central University of Punjab** (Bathinda, Punjab) received the running shield and trophy for standing 1st at the National Level. [Click here to read more](#)

**16. Which of the following personalities have been recently (in Feb '24) awarded with the 58th Jnanpith Award (2023)?**

- 1) Jagadguru Rambhadracharya (Sanskrit)
- 2) Sampooran Singh Kalra (Urdu)
- 3) Hema Saraswati (Assamese)
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

**Answer- 4) Both 1 & 2**

**Explanation:**

**58th Jnanpith Award (2023)** has been awarded to Two personalities – Legendary Indian poet and lyricist **Sampooran Singh Kalra** (popularly known as Gulzar) for **Urdu** and Indian spiritual leader and scholar Jagadguru Rambhadracharya for Sanskrit.

i. The award is being given for the 2nd time for Sanskrit language and for the 5th time for Urdu language.

**17. Who has recently (in Feb '24) become 1st Woman to be honoured with Ghanshyam Das (GD) Birla Award for Scientific Research 2023?**

- 1) Mahadevi Verma
- 2) Aditi Sen De
- 3) Roshini Mukherjee
- 4) Vimla Kaul
- 5) Chandraprabha Saikiani

Answer- 2) **Aditi Sen De**

**Explanation:**

Professor **Aditi Sen De** has been awarded the **33rd Ghanshyam Das (GD) Birla Award for Scientific Research 2023** for her outstanding contributions to the field of Physics. Aditi Sen De is the first female scientist to receive this award.

- The award was given by the KK Birla Foundation. She was also the **first female** to receive the Shanti Swarup Bhatnagar Prize for Science and Technology in 2018.

**18. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) conferred with the “Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur” (Knight of the Legion Honour), the highest French civilian award?**

- 1) Ghulam Nabi Azad
- 2) Mani Shankar Aiyar
- 3) Jairam Ramesh
- 4) Shashi Tharoor
- 5) P. Chidambaram

Answer- 4) **Shashi Tharoor**

**Explanation:**

Member of Parliament (MP) and prolific author **Shashi Tharoor** was conferred with “**Chevalier de la Légion d’Honneur**” (Knight of the Legion Honour), the highest French civilian award, by French Senate President Gerard Larcher at the event in the French Embassy in New Delhi, Delhi.

- He was recognised for his tireless efforts to deepen Indo-French ties, his commitment to international peace and cooperation, and as a long-standing friend of France.

## **COMMITTEE AND MEETING**

**1. Which of the following points is/are “correct” with respect to the 9th edition of the Raisina Dialogue held in February 2024?**

- A) Prime Minister (PM) of Narendra Modi, and PM of the Hellenic Republic (Greece), Kyriakos Mitsotakis inaugurated the 9th edition of the Raisina Dialogue in New Delhi, Delhi.**
- B) It is hosted by the Observer Research Foundation (ORF) in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), with support from a number of institutions, organisations and individuals.**
- C) A logo celebrating 75 years of India-Finland diplomatic ties was unveiled in New Delhi, which was designed and crafted by Indian student Aman Narayan from the World University of Design (WUD) in Haryana.**

- 1) Only A
- 2) Only A & B
- 3) Only B & C
- 4) Only A & C
- 5) All A, B & C

Answer- 5) **All A, B & C**



**Explanation:**

From February 21-23, 2024, the **9th edition** of the **Raisina Dialogue** was held in New Delhi, Delhi which was inaugurated by the Prime Minister (PM) of Narendra Modi, and PM of the Hellenic Republic (Greece), Kyriakos Mitsotakis on the theme 'Chaturanga: Conflict, Contest, Cooperate, Create'.

**i.** It is **hosted** by the Observer Research Foundation (**ORF**) in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (**MEA**), with support from a number of institutions, organisations and individuals.  
**ii.** As a part of Dialogue, Union Minister Dr. Subrahmanyam (S.) Jaishankar and Foreign Minister of Finland, Ms. Elina Valtonen unveiled a **logo celebrating 75 years of India-Finland diplomatic ties** in New Delhi

- The logo, designed and crafted by Indian student **Aman Narayan** from the World University of Design (**WUD**) in Haryana. [Click here to read more](#)

## SUMMITS, CONFERENCES

**1. Which of the following points is/are "correct" with respect to the 11th edition of the World Governments Summit (WGS 2024) held at Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) in February 2024?**

**A) PM Narendra Modi participated at the WGS 2024 in Dubai, UAE and addressed the summit centred on the theme of the summit- Shaping the Future Governments.**  
**B) India's iRASTE (Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering) project won the 9th GovTech Prize under the "AI-Powered Government Services" category.**  
**C) The Road and Transport Authority (RTA) of Dubai has signed an agreement with Joby Aviation to launch the world's 1st electric Air taxi service in Dubai, UAE by 2026.**

1) Only A

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A & C

5) All A, B & C

Answer- **5) All A, B & C**

**Explanation:**

The **11th edition** of the World Governments Summit (**WGS 2024**) was held in Dubai, the United Arab Emirates (UAE) from 12th to 14th February 2024.

- PM Narendra Modi participated at the WGS 2024 in Dubai, UAE on 14th February 2024. He addressed the summit centred on the theme of the summit- Shaping the Future Governments.
- **India's iRASTE** (Intelligent Solutions for Road Safety through Technology and Engineering) project won the **9th GovTech Prize** under the "AI-Powered Government Services" category.
- The Road and Transport Authority (**RTA**) of **Dubai** has signed an agreement with Joby Aviation to launch the world's 1st electric Air taxi service in Dubai, UAE by 2026.
- On the sidelines of the WGS 2024, The Ministry of Finance of UAE signed agreements with the State of Kuwait, the Kingdom of Bahrain, the Arab Republic of Egypt and the World Bank. [Click here to read more](#)



# ACQUISITION AND MERGERS

1. Which of the following points is/are “correct” with respect to the recent approval made by Competition Commission of India (CCI) on 30th January 2024?

A) CCI has approved the subscription of compulsorily convertible preference shares of Mumbai based API Holdings Limited by Goldman Sachs India Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) Scheme-1 and Goldman Sachs India Alternative Investment Trust AIF Scheme-2

B) CCI has approved the subscription of compulsorily convertible preference shares of API Holdings Limited by Singapore-based MacRitchie Investments Pte. Limited and EvolutionX Debt Capital Master Fund 1 Pte. Limited.

C) CCI has approved the proposed subscription of Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares in API Holdings Limited by CDPQ Private Equity Asia Pte Limited.

1) Only A

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A & C

5) All A, B & C

Answer- 5) All A, B & C

**Explanation:**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the following on 30th January 2024.

- CCI has approved the subscription of compulsorily convertible preference shares of Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **API Holdings Limited by Goldman Sachs India Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) Scheme-1** and Goldman Sachs India Alternative Investment Trust AIF Scheme-2.
- CCI has approved the subscription of compulsorily convertible preference shares of API Holdings Limited by Singapore-based **MacRitchie Investments Pte. Limited** and Singapore-based EvolutionX Debt Capital Master Fund 1 Pte. Limited.
- CCI has approved the proposed subscription of Compulsorily Convertible Preference Shares in API Holdings Limited by CDPQ Private Equity Asia Pte Limited. [Click here to read more](#)

2. Which of the following points is/are “correct” with respect to the recent Competition Commission of India (CCI) approval in February 2024?

A) CCI approves the acquisition of a certain shareholding in Shadowfax Technologies Private Limited by NewQuest Asia Fund IV (Singapore) Pte. Ltd (TPG NQ) from Eight Roads Investments Mauritius II Limited (Eight Roads), and certain other SFX shareholders.

B) CCI approves the acquisition of 50% stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Ltd by MetLife Insurance Company Ltd from Kotak Mahindra Bank Ltd.

C) CCI approves the acquisition of 100% shareholding (issued and paid-up share capital) of Interise Investment Managers Limited by CPPIB India Private Holdings Inc. , Allianz Infrastructure Luxembourg II S.À R.L. (AIL - II), and Ontario Inc.

1) Only A

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A & C



5) All A, B & C

Answer- **4) Only A & C**

**Explanation:**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the following on 6th February 2024. [Click here to read more](#)

**i.** CCI approves the acquisition of a certain shareholding in Shadowfax Technologies Private Limited (SFX) by NewQuest Asia Fund IV (Singapore) Pte. Ltd (TPG NQ) from Eight Roads Investments Mauritius II Limited (Eight Roads), and certain other SFX shareholders.

**ii.** CCI approves the acquisition of a **majority stake (70% stake)** in **Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited** by **Zurich Insurance Company Ltd** from Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited.

**iii.** CCI approves the acquisition of 100% shareholding (issued and paid-up share capital) of Interise Investment Managers Limited by CPPIB India Private Holdings Inc. (CIPH), Allianz Infrastructure Luxembourg II S.À R.L. (AIL – II), and Ontario Inc.

**3. Which bank has recently (in Feb '24) received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to acquire up to 9.5% stake each in six banks namely – Axis Bank Limited, Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited, ICICI Bank Limited, Bandhan Bank Limited, YES Bank Limited and IndusInd Bank Limited?**

- 1) City Union Bank
- 2) Federal Bank
- 3) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 4) RBL Bank
- 5) HDFC Bank

Answer- **5) HDFC Bank**

**Explanation:**

**HDFC Bank Limited**, India's largest private lender, has received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to acquire up to **9.5% stake each** in **six banks** namely – Axis Bank Limited, Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited, ICICI Bank Limited, Bandhan Bank Limited, YES Bank Limited and IndusInd Bank Limited.

**i.** The approval was granted pursuant to the applications made by HDFC Bank to RBI on 18th December 2023. The approval is valid for one year ie., till 4th February 2025.

**4. In February 2024, Bandhan Financial Holdings Limited (BFHL) received the final approval from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to acquire the 100% paid up share capital of \_\_\_\_\_ (Life Insurance Company).**

- 1) Max Life Insurance
- 2) Aviva Life insurance
- 3) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- 4) Aegon Life Insurance
- 5) HDFC Life Insurance

Answer- **4) Aegon Life Insurance**

**Explanation:**

Bandhan Financial Holdings Limited (**BFHL**) has received the final approval from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) to acquire the **100% paid up** share capital of **Aegon Life Insurance Company**.

- i. Aegon Life Insurance is a joint venture (JV) of Aegon NV and Bennett, Coleman & Company Limited (BCCL), the owner and publisher of The Economic Times.
- ii. BFHL is the parent company of Kolkata (West Bengal) based Bandhan Bank Limited

**5. Which bank has recently (in Feb '24) received approval from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) to infuse the capital of Rs 1,612 crore in Max Life Insurance Company Limited?**

- 1) IndusInd Bank
- 2) HDFC Bank
- 3) ICICI Bank
- 4) YES Bank
- 5) Axis Bank

Answer- **5) Axis Bank**

**Explanation:**

**Axis Bank** Limited has received approval from Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) to infuse the capital of **Rs 1,612 crore** in **Max Life Insurance Company Limited**, the subsidiary of Max Financial Services Limited (MFSL).

- The transaction is subject to approval of Competition Commission of India (**CCI**).
- i. For this transaction, Max Life Insurance will issue 14.25 crore shares at the price of Rs.113 per share to Axis Bank.

**6. In February 2024, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) increased its paid-up share in SBI Cards & Payments Services Limited to \_\_\_\_\_ from 4.99%.**

- 1) 6.45%
- 2) 5.02%
- 3) 6.03%
- 4) 5.25%
- 5) 6.50%

Answer- **2) 5.02%**

**Explanation:**

Life Insurance Corporation of India (**LIC**) has increased its paid-up share in **SBI Cards & Payments Services** Limited to **5.02%** from 4.99%.

- For this purpose, LIC has made Open Market Purchases of about 3,01,084 shares of SBI Cards with an average cost of Rs.716 per share.
- The total shares of LIC have increased to 47,711,794 from 47,410,710.

**7. In February 2024, Japan's Mizuho Bank Limited & its Subsidiary were set to acquire a \_\_\_\_\_ stake in Kisetsu Saison Finance (India) Private Limited for Rs 1,200 crore.**

- 1) 20%
- 2) 12%
- 3) 16%



4) 10%

5) 15%

Answer- 5) 15%

**Explanation:**

Japan's **Mizuho Bank Limited** (a subsidiary of Mizuho Financial Group, Inc.) and a subsidiary of Mizuho Bank is set to invest upto **Rs.1200 crore** in Bengaluru (Karnataka) based **Kisetsu Saison Finance (India) Private Limited** by acquiring about **15%** of their paid-up share capital.

i. The investment plan was agreed by both Mizuho Bank and Credit Saison Company Limited.

**8. In February 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved Karachi (Pakistan) based Matrix Pharma Private Limited to acquire 100% paid-up share capital in \_\_\_\_\_ (company).**

1) Testtex india Laboratories Private Limited

2) Sisco Research Laboratories Private Limited

3) Ultra Laboratories Private Limited

4) Tianish Laboratories Private Limited

5) HiMedia Laboratories Private Limited

Answer- 4) **Tianish Laboratories Private Limited**

**Explanation:**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the following on 13th February 2024;

i. CCI has approved the Karachi (Pakistan) based Matrix Pharma Private Limited (Acquirer) to acquire 100% paid-up share capital in Hyderabad (Telangana) based **Tianish Laboratories Private Limited** (Target).

ii. CCI has approved Ahmedabad (Gujarat) based Adani Power Limited (APL) and Gurugram (Haryana) based Dickey Alternative Investment Trust (DAIT) to jointly acquire **100% paid-up** share capital in Chennai (Tamil Nadu) – based Coastal Energen Private Limited (CEPL).

**9. In February 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of up to \_\_\_\_\_ of equity share capital of Pricol Limited by Minda Corporation Limited.**

1) 8.79%

2) 6.29%

3) 9.24%

4) 7.24%

5) 5.90%

Answer- 1) **8.79%**

**Explanation:**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of up to **~8.79%** of equity share capital of Coimbatore (Tamil Nadu) based **Pricol Limited(Pricol)** by Noida (Uttar Pradesh) based Minda Corporation Limited (**Minda**).

i. Minda manufactures auto-component parts and caters to Original Equipment Manufacturers (**OEMs**) and Tier-1 (a company that is a direct supplier for an OEM) in various segments across India.

**10. In February 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) gave INSCO (Independent Sugar Corporation) the green channel approval for the proposed acquisition of \_\_\_\_\_ (company).**

- 1) Hindusthan National Glass & Industries Limited
- 2) Piramal Glass Limited
- 3) Eagle Glass Deco Limited
- 4) Asahi India Glass Limited
- 5) Borosil Glass Works Limited

**Answer- 1) Hindusthan National Glass & Industries Limited**

**Explanation:**

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has given INSCO (Independent Sugar Corporation) the green channel approval for proposed acquisition of Hindusthan National Glass & Industries Limited (HNGIL)

- INSCO is a Madhvani Group company based in Africa.
- i. The clean chit was given to INSCO after its competitive bidder, AGI Greenpac, filed a complaint with the CCI challenging the green channel approval granted to INSCO.

**11. In February 2024, Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved HDFC Bank Limited to sell \_\_\_\_\_ of issued and paid-up share capital in HDFC Credila Financial Services Limited .**

- 1) 70.51%
- 2) 82.40%
- 3) 79.04%
- 4) 87.03%
- 5) 90.01%

**Answer- 5) 90.01%**

**Explanation:**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI), has approved HDFC Bank Limited to sell **90.01%** of issued and paid-up share capital in HDFC Credila Financial Services Limited (HDFC Credila), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the HDFC Bank. HDFC Bank will retain a 9.99% stake in HDFC Credila.

- i. The approval was granted by RBI under Chapter VI of the Master Direction – RBI (Non-Banking Financial Company – Scale Based Regulation) Directions, 2023.

**12. In February 2024, ICICI Bank Limited acquired an additional stake of \_\_\_\_\_ in ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company (ILGIC).**

- 1) 2.34%
- 2) 3.15%
- 3) 1.41%
- 4) 3.60%
- 5) 1.98%

**Answer- 3) 1.41%**

**Explanation:**

**ICICI Bank Limited** has increased its stake in ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company (ILGIC) by acquiring an **additional 1.41%** paid-up share capital through an open market transaction.

- The acquisition increased ICICI Bank's stake to 49.32% from 47.91% (as of December 2023).



- ICICI Lombard sold about 69,82,852 shares through multiple block deals on the stock exchanges at Rs 1,666.35 a share to ICICI Bank.

## DEFENCE

**1. Which of the following points is/are “correct” with respect to the contract signed by the Ministry of Defence (MoD) in February 2024?**

**A) MoD has signed a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited to procure 11 Shakti Electronic Warfare Systems (EWS) along with associated equipment / accessories for the Indian Navy (IN) at a cost of Rs 2,167.47 crore.**

**B) The EWS will be designed and developed by Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (DLRL) Hyderabad, Telangana.**

**C) MoD also signed a Rs 1752.13 crores contract with the Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited(AWEIL) for the manufacturing and supply of 463 Stabilised Remote Control Guns (SRCG) for the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard (ICG).**

1) Only A

2) Only A & B

3) Only B & C

4) Only A & C

5) All A, B & C

Answer- **5) All A, B & C**

### **Explanation:**

The Ministry of Defence (**MoD**) has signed a contract with Bharat Electronics Limited (**BEL**) to procure **11** Shakti Electronic Warfare Systems (**EWS**) along with associated equipment / accessories for the Indian Navy (IN) at a cost of **Rs 2,167.47 crore**.

- The **EWS** will be designed and developed by Defence Electronics Research Laboratory (**DLRL**) Hyderabad, Telangana, is a laboratory of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

**i. MoD** also signs **Rs 1752.13 crores** contract with the Advanced Weapons and Equipment India Limited(**AWEIL**), Kanpur, Uttar Pradesh (UP) for the manufacturing and supply of **463** indigenously manufactured 12.7 mm Stabilised Remote Control Guns (**SRCG**) for the **Indian Navy** and Indian Coast Guard (**ICG**). [Click here to read more](#)

**2. In February 2024, the Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) approved the Acquisition worth of Rs \_\_\_\_\_ to Boost the Capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces and the Indian Coast Guard (ICG).**

1) 92,810 crore

2) 62,850 crore

3) 79,120 crore

4) 84,560 crore

5) 50,280 crore

Answer- **4) 84,560 crore**

**Explanation:**

On 16th February 2024, the Defence Acquisition Council (**DAC**), under the chairmanship of Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD), gave the approval for the Acceptance of Necessity (**AoNs**) for various capital acquisition proposals amounting to Rs **84,560 crore**.

i. The move aims to boost the capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces and the Indian Coast Guard (ICG). [Click here to read more.](#)

**3. In which city, Indian Air Force (IAF) has recently (in Feb '24) demonstrated the Exercise Vayu-Shakti 2024 in February 2024?**

- 1) Siliguri, West Bengal
- 2) Chandipur, Odisha
- 3) Pokhran, Rajasthan
- 4) Jalandhar, Punjab
- 5) Gandhinagar, Gujarat

Answer- **3) Pokhran, Rajasthan**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Air Force (**IAF**) demonstration **exercise Vayu-Shakti 2024** was held on 17 February 2024 at the **Pokhran** Air-to-Ground Range near Jaisalmer in **Rajasthan**.

- The 2024 Vayu-Shakti exercise featured joint operations with the Indian Army, highlighting the seamless coordination between the two branches of the armed forces.
- Exercise Vayu-Shakti 2024 was based on the theme, "Lightning Strike from the Sky".

**4. In which city, the 12th edition of the Multilateral Naval Exercise-2024 "MILAN24" was commenced in February 2024?**

- 1) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh
- 2) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 3) Digha, West Bengal
- 4) Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- 5) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Answer- **1) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

The **12th edition** of the Multilateral Naval Exercise-2024 "**MILAN24**", hosted by India, commenced on 19th February 2024 in **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (AP)**.

i. The exercise is being conducted from 19th to 27th February 2024 by the Eastern Naval Command (ENC) of the Indian Navy (IN). The theme of MILAN 2024 is 'Camaraderie, Cohesion, Collaboration'.

ii. IN is represented by Indian Navy Ships (INS), aircraft and submarines led by Indigenous aircraft carrier INS Vikrant and INS Vikramaditya. [Click here to read more](#)

**5. In which country, the 'Shanti Prayas IV', the largest multinational peacekeeping exercise, was commenced in February 2024?**

- 1) Bhutan
- 2) Nepal
- 3) France
- 4) India
- 5) Sri Lanka



## Answer- 2) Nepal

### Explanation:

On 20 February 2024, '**Shanti Prayas IV**', the largest multinational peacekeeping exercise, commenced at the Birendra Peace Operations Training Centre (BPOTC) in Panchkhal, Nepal. The exercise will conclude on 4th March 2024.

- The exercise was co-hosted by the **Nepali Army** and the **United States(US)** Indo-Pacific Command (**USINDOPACOM**).

**6. In February 2024, the Digital Fly-by-Wire Flight Control Computer (DFCC) was integrated in prototype Limited Series Production 7 (LSP7) and completed a flight for \_\_\_\_\_ programme.**

- 1) HAL AMCA
- 2) HAL Ajeet
- 3) Tejas Mk1A
- 4) HAL HLFT-42
- 5) Marut HF-24

## Answer- 3) Tejas Mk1A

### Explanation:

The Digital Fly-by-Wire Flight Control Computer (**DFCC**) was integrated in prototype Limited Series Production 7 (LSP7) and completed a flight for **Tejas Mk1A programme**.

- DFCC was indigenously developed by the Bengaluru (Karnataka) based Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE).
- The Aeronautical Development Agency has also type certified the Tejas-Light Combat Aircraft (LCA).

**7. Which country's Coast Guard/Navy force have recently (in Feb '24) conducted the 16th edition of the biennial trilateral Coast Guard exercise, 'Dosti-16'?**

- 1) Indian Coast Guard
- 2) Sri Lankan Navy
- 3) Maldives National Defence Force
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

## Answer- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

### Explanation:

The Indian Coast Guard (**ICG**), the Sri Lankan Navy (**SLN**), and the Maldives National Defence Force (**MNDF**) are jointly conducting the **16th** edition of the biennial trilateral Coast Guard exercise named '**Dosti-16**' from February 22-25, 2024 in the Male, Maldives.

- Observers from Bangladesh also joined in the Trilateral Joint Exercise.

**8. In which state, the 5th edition of the India-Japan joint annual military training exercise, 'Dharma Guardian' was commenced in February 2024?**

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

Answer- **1) Rajasthan**

**Explanation:**

'**Dharma Guardian**' the **5th edition** of the **India-Japan** joint annual military training exercise **commenced** on 25th February 2024 at Mahajan Field Firing Ranges in **Rajasthan**.

- The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 25th February to 9th March 2024.
- The exercise is conducted between the Indian Army (IA) and the Japan Ground Self-Defence Force (JGSDF).

## **SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

**1. In January 2024, Dr. Neeraj Mittal, Chairman of the Digital Communications Commission and Secretary of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) launched the "Bharat 5G Portal- an integrated portal" during Bharat Telecom 2024.**

**Which Council/ Centre /organisation organised the event in collaboration with DoT?**

- 1) RailTel Corporation of India Ltd
- 2) Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council
- 3) Centre For Development Of Telematics
- 4) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- 5) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing

Answer- **2) Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council**

**Explanation:**

Dr. **Neeraj Mittal**, Chairman of the Digital Communications Commission and Secretary of the Department of Telecommunications (**DoT**) under the Ministry of Communications (MoC), launched the "**Bharat 5G Portal- an integrated portal**" during the 'Bharat Telecom 2024 - An Exclusive International Business Expo.'

**i.** The event was organized by the Telecom Equipment and Services Export Promotion Council (**TEPC**) in collaboration with **DoT**, took place in Delhi from January 29-30, 2024. [Click here to read more](#)

**2. In January 2024, Green Propulsion System developed under the Technology Development Fund (TDF) scheme of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully demonstrated 'in-orbit' functionality on a \_\_\_\_\_ payload launched by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV) C-58 mission.**

- 1) ROHINI 0.3 HPGP
- 2) MENCA 0.3 HPGP
- 3) RUDRA 0.3 HPGP
- 4) AGNI 0.3 HPGP
- 5) LISA 0.3 HPGP

Answer- **3) RUDRA 0.3 HPGP**

**Explanation:**

An indigenously-developed '**Green Propulsion System**' developed under the Technology Development Fund (**TDF**) scheme of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) has successfully demonstrated '**in-orbit**' functionality on a payload launched by the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (**PSLV**) **C-58 mission**.

- Green Propulsion System is performed under the **RUDRA 0.3 HPGP Payload**.



i. This project, a 1N Class Green Monopropellant Thruster aimed at altitude control and orbit maintenance of microsattellites, was sanctioned to a **Bengaluru (Karnataka)**-based start-up **Bellatrix Aerospace Pvt Ltd**.

**3. In February 2024, the United States (US) Department of State approved USD \_\_\_\_\_ sale of 31 MQ-9B Armed Drones and other related equipment to India.**

- 1) 3.99 billion
- 2) 4.21 billion
- 3) 5.29 billion
- 4) 6.89 billion
- 5) 7.12 billion

Answer- **1) 3.99 billion**

**Explanation:**

The United States(US) Department of State has approved the **sale of 31 MQ-9B Armed Drones** and other related equipment to India. The estimated cost of the deal is around USD **3.99 billion** (Rs 33060 crore).

i. The Defence Security Cooperation Agency of the United States of America(USA) issued the required certifications.

ii. MQ-9B, manufactured by the USA-based General Atomics Aeronautical, has 2 variants – Sky Guardian and Sea Guardian.

**4. Which country's Jielong-3 rocket has recently (in Feb '24) launched nine satellites into the Sun-Synchronous Orbit (SSO)?**

- 1) Russia
- 2) Iran
- 3) Japan
- 4) China
- 5) Israel

Answer- **4) China**

**Explanation:**

The **China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation's (CASC) Jielong-3**, or Smart Dragon-3 rocket, successfully launched **nine satellites** into the Sun-Synchronous Orbit (**SSO**), off the coast of Yangjiang in southern Guangdong province, China.

- The launch was coordinated by the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center, and it was the third successful mission for the Smart Dragon-3 launch vehicle.

i. Chinese automaker Geely Holding Group has successfully launched 11 low-earth orbit (LEO) satellites (Geely-02) by Long March-2C carrier rocket, marking its 2nd significant dispatch in advancing accurate navigation technology for autonomous vehicles. [Click here to read more](#)

**5. Name the first 25T Bollard Pull (BP) Tug that was delivered to the Indian Navy (IN) at Naval Ship Repair Yard (NSRY) in Kochi, Kerala in February 2024.**

- 1) Yard 307 – Bajran
- 2) Yard 306 – Baljeet
- 3) Yard 305 – Mahabali
- 4) Yard 308 – Bhim

5) Yard 309 – Buland

Answer- **3) Yard 305 – Mahabali**

**Explanation:**

On 2nd February 2024, the **first 25T** Bollard Pull (BP) Tug, named '**Yard 305 – Mahabali**' was delivered to the Indian Navy (**IN**) at Naval Ship Repair Yard (NSRY) in **Kochi, Kerala** in the presence of Rear Admiral Subir Mukherjee, Admiral Superintendent of NSRY (Kochi).

**i.** The contract for construction and delivery of three 25T BP Tugs was concluded with M/s Shoft Shipyard Pvt Ltd (M/s SSPL), a Thane (Maharashtra) based Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME), in November 2021.

**6. In February 2024, the Indian Navy (IN) commissioned the Indian Naval Ship (INS) \_\_\_\_\_, the first of four Survey Vessel Large (SVL) ships in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.**

- 1) INS Sutlej
- 2) INS Sandhayak
- 3) INS Nirupak
- 4) INS Darshak
- 5) INS Sarvekshak

Answer- **2) INS Sandhayak**

**Explanation:**

On 3rd February 2024, the Indian Navy (**IN**) commissioned the Indian Naval Ship (**INS**) **Sandhayak (Yard 3025)**, the first of four Survey Vessel Large (SVL) ships, at the Naval Dockyard, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh, in the presence of Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD), and Indian Navy Chief Admiral R. Hari Kumar.

**i.** The contract for building four SVL ships was signed between the MoD and Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited (GRSE).

**7. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with the Munitions India Limited (MIL) to develop India's first 155mm smart ammunition?**

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

Answer- **3) IIT Madras**

**Explanation:**

On February 5, 2024, The Indian Institute of Technology Madras (**IIT-Madras**) in Tamil Nadu (TN) joined hands with Munitions India Limited (**MIL**) to develop **India's first 155mm smart ammunition**, on the lines of indigenization in the defence sector.

**i. Aim:** To increase the accuracy of the 155mm (millimeters) shell within a circular error probable (CEP) of 10 meters, which at present, is 500m.

- Another goal is to increase the lethality at the impact point when the ammunition hits the target.



**8. Name the Potentially Habitable Planet 'Super-Earth' that has been recently (in Feb '24) identified by National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)'s Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS).**

- 1) LHS-475 b
- 2) TOI-715 b
- 3) HR-181b
- 4) TOI-252 c
- 5) VHS-125 b

**Answer- 2) TOI-715 b**

**Explanation:**

A team of researchers from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) have identified a potential "super-Earth" called 'TOI-715 b' by using the **Transiting Exoplanet Survey Satellite (TESS)**.

- The exoplanet is located 137 light-years away from Earth.
- i.** TOI-715 b is approximately one and a half times wider than Earth. It orbits around a small, reddish dwarf star within the conservative habitable zone.

**9. Which University has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) for the second phase of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar (NISAR) research programme?**

- 1) Indian Maritime University
- 2) Princeton University
- 3) University of Calcutta
- 4) Kerala University of Fisheries & Ocean Studies
- 5) International Space University

**Answer- 4) Kerala University of Fisheries & Ocean Studies**

**Explanation:**

The Kerala University of Fisheries and Ocean Studies (**KUFOS**) has partnered with the Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) for the second phase of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**)-**ISRO** Synthetic Aperture Radar (**NISAR**) **research programme**.

- i.** NISAR is a Low Earth Orbit (LEO) observatory jointly developed by NASA and ISRO aims to revolutionize Earth observation through a space-borne radar system. It is scheduled for launch in the first quarter of 2024.

**10. Which organisation/Defence sector has recently (in Feb '24) conducted four flight trials of the High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) ABHYAS in Chandipur, Odisha?**

- 1) Indian Navy
- 2) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- 3) Indian Space Research Organisation
- 4) Indian Army
- 5) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

**Answer- 2) Defence Research and Development Organisation**