

GUPTA

CLASSES

Current Affairs

February-2024

English

Part-5



GUPTA

CLASSES

Answer- **2) Varun Ghosh**

Explanation:

Barrister **Varun Ghosh** became the **first ever India-born member** of the Australian Parliament to take oath on Bhagavad Gita.

i. Varun Ghosh from Western Australia has been appointed as the newest Senator after the Legislative Assembly and the Legislative Council chose him to represent the Australian state in the Senate of the Federal Parliament.

119. Who is the current (as of Feb '24) Director General of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)?

- 1) Pankaj Dwivedi
- 2) Swarup Kumar Saha
- 3) Rajendra Kumar
- 4) Manoj Kumar
- 5) Gopal Krishan

Answer- **3) Rajendra Kumar**

Explanation:

About Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC):

Director General- Dr. Rajendra Kumar

Parent Ministry- Ministry of Labour and Employment

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment- 1952

120. In which state /UT, Dachigam National Park is located?

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Madhya Pradesh
- 3) Uttarakhand
- 4) Jammu & Kashmir
- 5) Odisha

Answer- **4) Jammu & Kashmir**

Explanation:

About Jammu & Kashmir:

Lieutenant Governor- Manoj Sinha

National Park - Dachigam National Park; Kishtwar National Park

Wildlife Sanctuary - Thajwas - Baltal Wildlife Sanctuary; Gulmarg Wildlife Sanctuary

121. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Sundaram Mutual Fund?

- 1) Aarti Ramakrishnan
- 2) Raghuttama Rao
- 3) Sunil Subramaniam
- 4) Vikaas M Sachdeva
- 5) Anand Radhakrishnan

Answer- **5) Anand Radhakrishnan**

Explanation:

Sundaram Mutual Fund has announced the appointment of **Anand Radhakrishnan** as Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**). Anand was earlier a part of Sundaram Mutual Fund for eight years from 1996 to 2004.

- i. He previously worked as Managing Director and CIO (Equity) at Franklin Templeton India Ltd.
- ii. Managing Director Sunil Subramaniam is scheduled to retire in June 2024 after 19 years of dedicated and invaluable service, and Anand will take over as the Managing Director in July 2024 at Sundaram Mutual Fund.

122. In January 2024, the Indian X-ray Polarimeter (POLIX), onboard the X-ray polarimetry mission XPoSat launched commenced its scientific observations.

POLIX was designed and developed by the X-ray Astronomy Laboratory at _____ (Institute).

- 1) Indian Institute of Astrophysics, Bengaluru (Karnataka)
- 2) Aryabhata Research Institute of Observational-Sciences, Nainital (Uttarakhand)
- 3) Indian Institute of Geomagnetism, Mumbai (Maharashtra)
- 4) Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru (Karnataka)
- 5) Institute of Nano Science and Technology, Mohali (Punjab)

Answer- 4) Raman Research Institute, Bengaluru (Karnataka)

Explanation:

The Indian X-ray Polarimeter (**POLIX**), onboard the X-ray polarimetry mission XPoSat launched on 1st January, 2024, has commenced its scientific observations.

- i. A pulse profile of the Crab pulsar is generated from the observations carried out by POLIX during January 15-18, 2024. The Crab pulsar, a pulsating star, resides near the centre of the Crab Nebula and spins about its axis approximately 30 times per second.
- ii. **POLIX** was designed and developed by the X-ray Astronomy Laboratory at **Raman Research Institute**, Bengaluru (Karnataka). The instrument is built indigenously with the support from Indian industry.

123. In February 2024, the board of governors of Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (AMPAS) announced a new award for best casting from the ____ (Edition) Academy Awards.

- 1) 94th
- 2) 98th
- 3) 96th
- 4) 92nd
- 5) 95th

Answer- 2) 98th

Explanation:

The board of governors of Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences (**AMPAS**) has announced the addition of a new category to the Oscars recognising the achievement in casting for films.

- The Academy Award for Achievement in Casting will be introduced to the Oscars beginning with the **98th edition** that will honour the films released in 2025. The first award in the new category will be handed out in **2026**.

124. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the PTC Industries Limited to jointly work on raw materials, components and spares for aircraft and helicopters?

- 1) Antrix Corporation Limited
- 2) Mahindra Aerospace
- 3) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 4) Brahmos Aerospace Pvt Ltd
- 5) Lockheed Martin India Pvt Ltd

Answer- 3) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

Explanation:

PTC Industries Limited has signed a memorandum of understanding with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**) to jointly work on raw materials, components and spares for aircraft and helicopters, in a push for self-reliance.

i. The two sides will share expertise and capabilities in the aerospace sector, with a focus on indigenising spares, components, shop-replaceable units (SRUs) and shop-replaceable units.

125. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the Government of Odisha to set up an Integrated Electric Vehicles (EV) and EV Battery Manufacturing Project at Cuttack and Paradip in Odisha?

- 1) Ather Energy Private Limited
- 2) Greaves Electric Mobility
- 3) ATUL Auto Limited
- 4) Bajaj Auto Limited
- 5) JSW Group

Answer- 5) JSW Group

Explanation:

JSW Group has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the Government of **Odisha** to set up an Integrated Electric Vehicles (**EV**) and **EV Battery Manufacturing Project** at Cuttack and Paradip in Odisha with an investment of Rs. 40,000 crore.

i. The mega project, the first of its kind in the eastern state, is expected to create 11,000 jobs. The project consists of a 50 GWH EV battery plant, EVs, Lithium refinery, Copper smelter and related component manufacturing units.

126. Which country has recently (in Feb '24) developed a new ballistic control system for a multiple rocket launcher along with controllable shells?

- 1) North Korea
- 2) Israel
- 3) China
- 4) South Korea
- 5) Japan

Answer- 1) North Korea

Explanation:

North Korean leader Kim Jong Un visits the Ministry of National Defense on the occasion of the 76th anniversary of the founding of the Korean People's Army in Pyongyang, North Korea on 9th February 2024 .

- **North Korea** has successfully developed a **new ballistic control system** for a multiple rocket launcher along with controllable shells.

127. Name the online bus ticketing platform that joined Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) in February 2024.

- 1) eTravelSmart
- 2) MakeMyTrip
- 3) AbhiBus
- 4) redBus
- 5) Cleartrip

Answer- **4) redBus**

Explanation:

redBus, an online bus ticketing platform, has joined Open Network for Digital Commerce (**ONDC**) and now offers multi-modal transport booking services on its platform in various cities. By integrating with ONDC Network, redBus now offers metro ticket booking facilities in Kochi and Chennai.

- redBus has also unveiled auto rickshaw booking in Bengaluru, Delhi, Chennai, and Hyderabad.

128. Which of the following personalities is 'Not' awarded with Bharat Ratna Award from GoI?

- 1) Nanaji Deshmukh
- 2) Chidambaram Subramaniam
- 3) Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar
- 4) S. P. Balasubrahmanyam
- 5) Lata Dinanath Mangeshkar

Answer- **4) S. P. Balasubrahmanyam**

Explanation:

Sachin Ramesh Tendulkar - 2014 (Sports)

Lata Dinanath Mangeshkar- 2001 (Art)

Chidambaram Subramaniam - 1998 (Public Affairs)

Nanaji Deshmukh (Posthumous) - 2019 (Social Work) [Click here to read more](#)

129. Global Financial Stability Report is Published by _____.

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

Answer- **5) International Monetary Fund**

Explanation:

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

130. Who is the current (as of Feb' 24) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Institution for Transforming India (NITI) Aayog?

- 1) Rajiv Kumar
- 2) BVR Subrahmanyam

- 3) Bikesh debroy
- 4) Parameswaran Iyer
- 5) Amitabh Kant

Answer- **2) BVR Subrahmanyam**

Explanation:

About NITI Aayog (National Institution for Transforming India):

Chairperson– Prime Minister of India (Narendra Modi)

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)– **B.V.R. Subrahmanyam**

Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment– 2015

131. In February 2024, the Indian football team dropped 15 places to _____ in the Fédération internationale de football association (FIFA) rankings.

- 1) 109th
- 2) 102nd
- 3) 126th
- 4) 117th
- 5) 100th

Answer- **4) 117th**

Explanation:

In February 2024, the **Indian football team** dropped 15 places to **117th** in the Fédération internationale de football association (**FIFA**) rankings, the worst in seven years, after the recent debacle in the AFC Asian Cup, where it lost all its three group matches.

i. The Indian team was placed at 102nd in the last FIFA rankings, issued on December 21, 2023. India also lost 35.63 rating points from the previous total. It now lies in between Togo (116th) and Guinea-Bissau (118th). The country is ranked 22nd among the Asian nations.

132. Who has been recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC)?

- 1) Sanjay Kumar Jain
- 2) Pradeep Kumar
- 3) Ajit Kumar
- 4) Lokiah Ravi Kumar
- 5) Sunil Kumar

Answer- **1) Sanjay Kumar Jain**

Explanation:

Sanjay Kumar Jain, an Indian Railway Traffic Services (IRTS) Officer of 1990 batch, has taken over as the **chairman and managing director** of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (**IRCTC**) with immediate effect, a regulatory filing stated on 14th February 2024.

- His appointment was given the nod by the Ministry of Railways on February 8.

133. In which state Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Jharkhand
- 3) Goa

4) West Bengal

5) Karnataka

Answer- **3) Goa**

Explanation:

About Goa:

Chief Minister– Pramod Sawant

Governor– P. S. Sreedharan Pillai

National Park– Mollem National Park

Wildlife Sanctuary – Bhagwan Mahavir Wildlife Sanctuary, **Cotigao Wildlife Sanctuary**

134. In which state Van Vihar National Park is located?

1) Madhya Pradesh

2) Odisha

3) Karnataka

4) West Bengal

5) Jharkhand

Answer- **1) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Madhya Pradesh:

Chief Minister– Mohan Yadav

Governor– Mangubhai C. Patel

National Parks– Dinosaur Fossil National Park and **Van Vihar National Park**

Wildlife Sanctuaries– Bagdara Wildlife Sanctuary and Gandhi Sagar Sanctuary

135. Name the Organisation/NGO that has recently (in Feb '24) unveiled the Milkyway tablet for the educational needs of school children.

1) Kaivalya Education Foundation

2) Pratham Foundation

3) Smile Foundation

4) Epic Foundation

5) Azim Premji Foundation

Answer- **4) Epic Foundation**

Explanation:

Epic Foundation, a non-profit organization, unveiled the **Milkyway tablet**, built for the educational needs of school children. It is the first 'designed in India' tablet which is fully repairable and upgradable.

- Developed in collaboration with VVDN, MediaTek and CoRover.ai, the Milkyway tablet, features BharatGPT and Bhashini in-built to reach a wider variety of audiences.

136. Which state has recently (in Feb '24) received the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's award for the best tuberculosis elimination activities?

1) Kerala

2) Andhra Pradesh

3) Maharashtra

4) Madhya Pradesh

5) Tamil Nadu

Answer- **1) Kerala**

Explanation:

Kerala has received the **Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare's award** for the best tuberculosis elimination activities.

i. The award is for coordinating National TB Elimination Programme's activities in the private health sector in the best manner and for making the maximum registration of new TB cases from the private sector on the NIKSHAY portal.

137. Name the personality who has recently (in Feb '24) received Assam's highest civilian award, Assam Baibhav.

- 1) Ranjan Gogoi
- 2) Jayanth Kumar
- 3) N. V. Ramana
- 4) Dipak Misra
- 5) T. S. Thakur

Answer- **1) Ranjan Gogoi**

Explanation:

Former Chief Justice of India **Ranjan Gogoi** was given Assam's highest civilian award, Assam Baibhav, in Guwahati.

- Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria presented the award to Mr. Gogoi, currently a member of Rajya Sabha, in the presence of Vice-President Jagdeep Dhankhar.
- The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 5 lakh and lifelong medical treatment, the cost of which is borne by the Assam government.

138. Which of the following ministries grants Maharatna, Navaratana, Mini-Ratna Status to PSUs?

- 1) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- 2) Ministry of Finance
- 3) Ministry of Commerce & Industry
- 4) Ministry of Planning
- 5) Ministry of Law and Justice

Answer- **2) Ministry of Finance**

Explanation:

The **Ministry of Finance** grants Maharatna, Navaratana , Mini-Ratna Status toPSUs

- The Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) under the Ministry of Finance, plays a pivotal role in formulating policies and guidelines concerning the functioning and performance of public sector enterprises in India.

139. Where is the Headquarters of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) located?

- 1) Nairobi, Kenya
- 2) Rome, Italy
- 3) Paris, France
- 4) Vienna, Austria

5) London, United Kingdom

Answer- **1) Nairobi, Kenya**

Explanation:

About United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP):

Executive Director- Inger Andersen

Headquarters- Nairobi, Kenya

Establishment- 1972

Members - 193 Member States

140. What is the full form of CCEA, which takes final decisions with regard to Disinvestment of Public Sector Enterprises (PSE)?

- 1) Cabinet Committee on Economic Authority
- 2) Cabinet Committee on Enterprise Affairs
- 3) Cabinet Committee on Economic Action
- 4) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs
- 5) None of the above

Answer- **4) Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs**

Explanation:

After identification of **Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs)** for closure or privatization under the non-strategic sectors, Department of Public Enterprises (DPE) will prepare a Note for in-principle approval of the **Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)** regarding the CPSEs identified for closure and or for disinvestment in non -strategic sectors.

141. In which state, a 150-foot-high national flag was hoisted to tribute Pingali Venkayya, the designer of the National Flag in February 2024?

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

Answer- **1) Andhra Pradesh**

Explanation:

Governor of **Andhra Pradesh** S Abdul Nazeer hoisted a **150-foot-high national flag** at a programme held in Jaggaiahpet.

- The 150 feet tall national flag installed in Jaggaiahpet was a great tribute to Pingali Venkayya, the designer of the National Flag, who was born in the Krishna district and had given an identity to India and its people.

142. In February 2024, _____ became the first police force in India to use drones to launch tear gas devices.

- 1) Jharkhand Police
- 2) Madhya Pradesh Police
- 3) Odisha Police
- 4) Haryana Police
- 5) Uttar Pradesh Police

Answer- **4) Haryana Police**

Explanation:

The **Haryana Police** has become the first police force in India to use **drones** to launch **tear gas devices**. The Haryana Police dropped tear gas shells from unmanned aerial vehicles (UAV) on protesting farmers at Shambhu Barrier on the Punjab-Haryana boundary.

i. The State government used drones made by Drone Imaging and Information Service of Haryana Limited (DRIISHYA), a public limited company incorporated in 2021.

143. Which Airway has recently (in Feb '24) named as the official sponsor for Chennai Super Kings (CSK) Team?

- 1) Qatar Airways
- 2) Lufthansa
- 3) Etihad Airways
- 4) IndiGo Airways
- 5) SpiceJet Airways

Answer- **3) Etihad Airways**

Explanation:

United Arab Emirates' (UAE) national airline **Etihad Airways** named as the **official sponsor** for one of the most followed Indian Premier League (IPL) team Chennai Super Kings (**CSK**).

- The Etihad's logo will sport on the back of the team's jersey. The partnership will also cover CSK's events and platforms along with providing exclusive deals to the fans of the five-time IPL champion team.

144. Where is the Headquarters of the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO) located?

- 1) Madrid, Spain
- 2) Geneva, Switzerland
- 3) London, United Kingdom
- 4) Paris, France
- 5) Rome, Italy

Answer- **1) Madrid, Spain**

Explanation:

About United Nations World Tourism Organization (UNWTO):

Secretary-General- Zurab Pololikashvili

Headquarters- Madrid, Spain

Established in- 1975

145. In which state 'Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary' is located?

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

Answer- **1) Karnataka**

Explanation:

Ranganathittu Bird Sanctuary is located in **Karnataka**.

i. It is a small but important bird sanctuary that supports a diverse range of bird species, including several endemic species.

146. In which state, Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve is located?

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

Answer- **2) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve (BTR) is located in **Madhya Pradesh's** eastern Satpura hill range of Umaria and Katni districts.

- Bandhavgarh was declared a national park in 1968 and then became Tiger Reserve in 1993.

147. In which state, Nongpui Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- 1) Tripura
- 2) Meghalaya
- 3) Assam
- 4) Mizoram
- 5) Nagaland

Answer- **4) Mizoram**

Explanation:

About Mizoram:

Chief Minister – PU Lalduhoma

Governor – Hari Babu Kambhampati

National Park – Murlen National Park, Phawngpui National Park

Wildlife Sanctuary – Lengteng Wildlife Sanctuary, **Nongpui Wildlife Sanctuary**

148. In which state 'Indravati (Kutru) National Park' is located?

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

Answer- **5) Chhattisgarh**

Explanation:

About Chhattisgarh:

Governor – Biswabhusan Harichandan

National Parks – **Indravati (Kutru) National Park**, Kanger Valley National Park

Wildlife Sanctuaries – Achanakmar Wildlife Sanctuary, Badalkhol Wildlife Sanctuary

149. Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) is a unique ____ character code to identify legally distinct entities that engage in financial transactions.

- 1) 20
- 2) 10
- 3) 15
- 4) 11
- 5) 14

Answer- **1) 20**

Explanation:

Legal Entity Identifier (LEI) is a unique **20-character code** to identify legally distinct entities that engage in financial transactions. It is designed to create a global reference data system that uniquely identifies every legal entity.

- In 2023-24, LEI would be introduced for the issuers who have listed and/ or propose to list nonconvertible securities, securitised debt instruments and security receipts.

150. Which of the following financial institutions deals exclusively with the private sector?

- 1) International Development Association
- 2) Asian Development Bank
- 3) New Development Bank
- 4) International Finance Corporation
- 5) International Monetary Fund

Answer- **4) International Finance Corporation**

Explanation:

International Finance Corporation(**IFC**) - a member of the World Bank Group - is the largest global development institution focused exclusively on the private sector in developing countries.

- IFC was established in 1956 and has 184 members,
- It helps developing countries achieve sustainable growth by financing investment, mobilizing capital in international financial markets, and providing advisory services to businesses and governments

151. Which of the following reports is not published by the World Bank?

- 1) World Development Report
- 2) Global Economic Prospects Report
- 3) Poverty and Shared Prosperity Report
- 4) World Economic Outlook report
- 5) International Debt Report

Answer- **4) World Economic Outlook Report**

Explanation:

The **World Economic Outlook report** is released by the **International Monetary Fund**. A Survey by the IMF staff is usually published twice a year. It presents IMF staff economists' analyses of global economic developments during the near and medium term.

Reports of World Bank are:

- World Development Report
- Global Economic Prospects Report
- Poverty and Shared prosperity Report

- International Debt Report

152. Which company was recently (in Feb '24) awarded with the CSR & Sustainability Award 2024 in the Water Conservation and Management category?

- 1) Bharat Aluminum Ltd
- 2) Hindalco Industries Ltd
- 3) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Ltd
- 4) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Ltd
- 5) Jindal Steel and Power Ltd

Answer- 5) Jindal Steel and Power Ltd

Explanation:

Jindal Steel & Power (JSP) Ltd has been awarded the **CSR & Sustainability Award 2024** in the Water Conservation and Management category for its outstanding contribution to the development of farmers in Angul, Odisha.

i. This was accomplished through integrated watershed management projects in collaboration with NABARD.

153. In which state/UT, the 11th International Puppet Festival was held in February 2024?

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Chandigarh
- 3) Delhi
- 4) Jammu and Kashmir
- 5) Gujarat

Answer- 2) Chandigarh

Explanation:

The **11th International Puppet Festival** was kicked off at Tagore Theatre in **Chandigarh** on 17th February 2024. Punjab Governor and Administrator of Union Territory Chandigarh, Banwarilal Purohit, accompanied by Adviser to the Administrator Rajeev Verma and other senior officers inaugurated the show.

- The festival started with a mesmerizing performance by the Novosibirsk Regional Puppet Theatre from Russia, presenting the renowned puppet show "Petrushka."

154. In February 2024, the Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium in _____ was renamed after veteran cricket administrator and former first-class cricketer Niranjan Shah.

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

Answer- 4) Gujarat

Explanation:

The **Saurashtra Cricket Association Stadium** in **Gujarat** was renamed after veteran cricket administrator and former first-class cricketer **Niranjan Shah**.

- Gavaskar credited Niranjan Shah for playing a vital role in turning around the fortunes of Saurashtra, who are now two-time Ranji champions. Niranjan Shah, who played 12 first-class games from 1965 to 1975, is also a former BCCI secretary.

155. In which state Attiveri Bird Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- 5) Karnataka

Explanation:

About Karnataka:

Governor – Thawar Chand Gehlot

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

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

156. In which state Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- 4) Jharkhand

Explanation:

Dalma Wildlife Sanctuary is located 10 kilometers from the city of Jamshedpur in the state of **Jharkhand**.

- It is situated around the Dalma Hills on the Chottanagpur Plateau.

157. In which state, Raimona National Park is located?

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

Answer- 2) Assam

Explanation:

The **Raimona National Park** is within the Bodoland Territorial Region in **Assam**. The area of the park includes the northern part of the notified Ripu Reserve Forest, which forms the western-most buffer to the Manas National Park that straddles the India-Bhutan border.

158. In which state Satkosia Tiger Reserve is located?

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

Answer- 2) Odisha

Explanation:

About Odisha:

Chief Minister– Naveen Patnaik

Governor– Raghubar Das

Tiger Reserve– Similipal Tiger Reserve and **Satkosia Tiger Reserve**

Wildlife Sanctuary– Satkosia Gorge sanctuary (Angul) and Nandankanan sanctuary (Bhubaneswar)

159. In February 2024, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman raised deposit limits of the Senior Citizens Savings Scheme (SCSS) to Rs _____.

- 1) 40 lakh
- 2) 10 lakh
- 3) 50 lakh
- 4) 30 lakh
- 5) 20 lakh

Answer- 4) 30 lakh

Explanation:

Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman has raised deposit limits under **Senior Citizens Savings Scheme (SCSS)** and Post Office Monthly Income Scheme (**POMIS**). SCSS deposit limit has been raised to **Rs 30 lakh** while POMIS limit has been doubled from Rs 4.5 lakh to Rs 9 lakh.

- FM Sitharaman was expected to increase the Section 80C deduction limit. Ahead of the Budget Speech 2023, several experts suggested that the Government should enhance the deduction limit under Section 80C to at least Rs 2 lakh from the current Rs 1.5 lakh per year.

160. Which country has recently (in Feb '24) launched an ADRAS-J spacecraft to remove man-made space debris from around the Earth?

- 1) Japan
- 2) China
- 3) Russia
- 4) India
- 5) France

Answer- 1) Japan

Explanation:

Japan has successfully launched a spacecraft designed to inspect and potentially remove man-made space debris from around the Earth.

- The Active Debris Removal has been launched by Astroscale-Japan (**ADRAS-J**). It will rendezvous with and examine a Japanese H2A rocket remnant that has been in space for 15 years.

- The H2A rocket body, about the size of a bus, was launched by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) in 2009. Its precise location and orbital position are not known.

161. In February 2024, Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA) facilitated the export of bananas from India to _____ (country) via sea.

- 1) Indonesia
- 2) France
- 3) Russia
- 4) Italy
- 5) United Arab Emirates

Answer- **3) Russia**

Explanation:

Agricultural and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (**APEDA**) has facilitated the export of bananas from India to **Russia** via sea.

- APEDA highlighted the development of sea protocol employed for this shipment by CISH to maintain the quality of fruit in transit.
- Russia has recently shown keen interest in the procurement of tropical fruits from India, including bananas. Banana is a major Agri import of Russia, which is presently primarily being imported from the Latin American country Ecuador.

162. Name the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s high-resolution imaging satellite that has recently (in Feb '24) descended into Earth's atmosphere.

- 1) EOS-01
- 2) Landsat 9
- 3) GISAT 2
- 4) Cartosat-2
- 5) RISAT-1

Answer- **4) Cartosat-2**

Explanation:

Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**)'s high-resolution imaging satellite **Cartosat-2** has descended into **Earth's atmosphere** on February 14, 2024.

- Cartosat-2, ISRO's first satellite in the second generation of high-resolution imaging satellites was launched on January 10, 2007. It weighed 680 kg at launch and operated in a sun-synchronous polar orbit at an altitude of 635 km.

163. The government has extended the deadline for industries involved in alumina and aluminium manufacturing, as well as bauxite mining, iron and steel classifying them as "public utilities" for the next six months.

The Ministry of Labour and Employment issued a notification invoking the Industrial Disputes Act, _____(year).

- 1) 1962
- 2) 1956
- 3) 1947
- 4) 1966
- 5) 1970

Answer- **3) 1947**

Explanation:

Days after the government extended the 'public utility' label for aluminium industries and bauxite mining, the Centre also classified iron and steel as 'public utility' for the next six months.

- The Ministry of Labour & Employment issued a notification invoking the **Industrial Disputes Act, 1947**, citing "public interest" and the need to maintain uninterrupted services in these "essential" sectors.
- The central government hereby declares the services engaged in the iron and steel industry to be a public utility service for the purposes of the said Act for a further period of six months with effect from February 17, 2024,

164. The Global Housing Watch Report is released by _____ (Organisation/Bank).

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

Answer- **5) International Monetary Fund**

Explanation:

The **Global Housing Watch Report** of the International Monetary Fund (**IMF**) tracks developments in housing markets across the world on a quarterly basis. It provides current data on house prices as well as metrics used to assess valuation in housing markets, such as house price-to-rent and house-price-to-income ratios.

165. In which year, Food Corporation of India (FCI) was established?

- 1) 1982
- 2) 1970
- 3) 1965
- 4) 1952
- 5) 1964

Answer- **3) 1965**

Explanation:

About Food Corporation of India (FCI):

Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) – Ashok K. K. Meena

Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi

Established in – 1965

166. Azerbaijani _____ is the currency of Azerbaijan.

- 1) Manat
- 2) Taka
- 3) Kyat
- 4) Rupiah
- 5) Dinar

Answer- **1) Manat**

Explanation:

About Azerbaijan:

Azerbaijan got its independence from the former Soviet Union after its dissolution in 1991.

President – Ilham Aliyev

Capital – Baku

Currency – Azerbaijani Manat

167. Where is the Headquarters of the International Labor Organization (ILO) located?

- 1) Madrid, Spain
- 2) Geneva, Switzerland
- 3) London, United Kingdom
- 4) Paris, France
- 5) Rome, Italy

Answer- **2) Geneva, Switzerland**

Explanation:

About International Labor Organization (ILO):

Director-General- Gilbert Fossoun Hounbo (Togo)

Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland

Established in- 1919

Member States- 187 member States

168. In February 2024, the Indian government increased the allocation under the “sustainable and inclusive development of natural rubber sector” scheme by 23% to Rs. _____ for the next two financial years (2024-26).

- 1) 320.34 crore
- 2) 708.69 crore
- 3) 680.52 crore
- 4) 520.67 crore
- 5) 478.90 crore

Answer- **2) 708.69 crore**

Explanation:

To support production of natural rubber in the country, the Indian government has increased the allocation under the “sustainable and inclusive development of natural rubber sector” scheme by 23% to **Rs. 708.69 crore** for the next two financial years **(2024-26)**,

- Currently, the import duty on natural rubber is 25% or Rs. 30/kg, whichever is higher.

169. In February 2024, the Government of India (GoI) proposed _____ (year) guaranteed procurement at Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for 5 crops – cotton, maize, tur, urad and masur.

- 1) 5 years
- 2) 6 years
- 3) 4 years
- 4) 3 years
- 5) 7 years

Answer- **1) 5 years**

Explanation:

The Government of India (**GoI**) promoted cooperatives would offer **five-year contracts** to procure five crops — tur (arhar), urad dal, masur (lentil), maize, and cotton — at **Minimum Support Prices (MSP)**.

- In 1966-67, as a part of extensive agricultural reforms, MSP was introduced for the first time by the Central Government. Minimum support price (MSP) is a “minimum price” for any crop that the Government considers as remunerative for farmers and hence deserving of “support”.
- At present, the Central Government sets MSP for 23 crops.

170. In which state Bor Tiger Reserve is located?

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

Answer- **1) Maharashtra**

Explanation:

Bor Tiger Reserve is a wildlife sanctuary which was declared a tiger reserve in July 2014.

- It is located in the Wardha District of **Maharashtra**. It is the smallest tiger reserve in India by area.

171. Who is the current (as of Feb '24) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)?

- 1) Ajay Kumar Raina
- 2) Ved Mani Tiwari
- 3) Shreshtha Gupta
- 4) Deepti Saxena
- 5) Sanjeeva Singh

Answer- **2) Ved Mani Tiwari**

Explanation:**About National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC):**

NSDC is a unique Public Private Partnership (PPP) enterprise working under the MSDE.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO)- Ved Mani Tiwari

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Incorporated - 2008

172. In which year, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) was established?

- 1) 1964
- 2) 1949
- 3) 1952
- 4) 1950
- 5) 1945

Answer- **5) 1945**

Explanation:

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

Director-General- Audrey Azoulay

Headquarters- Paris, France

Established in- 1945

173. In which state Gorumara National Park is located?

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

Answer- 3) West Bengal

Explanation:

About West Bengal (WB):

Chief Minister- Mamata Banerjee

Governor- C. V. Ananda Bose

National Parks- Buxa National Park, **Gorumara National Park**

174. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) launched its first all-women branch in Hyderabad, Telangana?

- 1) ICICI Home Finance Ltd
- 2) Shriram Finance Ltd
- 3) Punjab National Bank Housing Finance Ltd
- 4) Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd
- 5) Gic Housing Finance Ltd

Answer- 4) Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Ltd

Explanation:

Piramal Capital & Housing Finance Limited (referred to as Piramal Finance), a wholly owned subsidiary of Piramal Enterprises Limited (the flagship company of the Piramal Group), announced the launch of its **first all-women branch in Hyderabad, Telangana.**

- The branch will offer a range of services, including home loans and MSME loans, with the potential for additional features based on customer demand and preferences.

175. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology (iCreate) to boost AI startups in India?

- 1) IBM
- 2) Microsoft Corporation
- 3) Meta
- 4) Google
- 5) Amazon

Answer- 2) Microsoft Corporation

Explanation:

International Centre for Entrepreneurship and Technology (**iCreate**), **Microsoft Corporation** signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) facilitated by the Ministry of Electronics & IT to boost AI startups in India.

- i. INDIAai is the national portal on Artificial Intelligence - a central hub for everything AI in India and beyond.
- ii. Started in 2012, iCreate is supported by the government of Gujarat as well as the government of India to facilitate next generation entrepreneurship.

176. Name the Union Minister who has recently (in Feb '24) virtually addressed the public launch event of the World Health Organization's Global Initiative on Digital Health (GIDH).

- 1) Amit Shah (Union Minister of Home Affairs)
- 2) Mansukh L. Mandaviya (Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare)
- 3) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar (Union Minister of External Affairs)
- 4) Jitendra Singh (MoS of Science and Technology)
- 5) Ashwini Vaishnaw (Union Minister of Electronics and Information Technology)

Answer- **2) Mansukh L. Mandaviya (Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare)**

Explanation:

Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Mansukh Mandaviya virtually addressed the public launch event of the **World Health Organization's** Global Initiative on Digital Health (**GIDH**).

- i. The GIDH is a WHO managed network which was unanimously adopted by all G20 countries, invited countries and international organisations and collectively launched as a key deliverable of India's G20 Presidency during the Health Ministers' Meeting in Gandhinagar, Gujarat on August 19, 2023 .

177. Who has recently (in Feb '24) become the youngest player to defeat a Polish chess Grandmaster (GM) Jacek Stopa at the Burgdorfer Stadthaus Open in Switzerland?

- 1) Ashwath Kaushik
- 2) Abhimanyu Mishra
- 3) Raunak Sadhwani
- 4) Parimarjan Negi
- 5) Pravin Thipsay

Answer- **1) Ashwath Kaushik**

Explanation:

Ashwath Kaushik, an eight-year-old Indian-origin boy defeated Polish chess grandmaster Jacek Stopa at the **Burgdorfer Stadthaus Open** in Switzerland, becoming the **youngest player** to defeat a GM in classical chess.

- Ashwath Kaushik, who represented Singapore, defeated Stopa, who at 37 is nearly five times older than him.
- The previous record was set only a few weeks earlier when Serbia's Leonid Ivanovic, several months older than Ashwath, beat 60-year-old Bulgarian grandmaster Milko Popchev at the Belgrade Open.

178. In February 2024, Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Textiles and Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal launched the sale of Rice under 'Bharat' brand at an Maximum Retail Price (MRP) of Rs. _____ in 5Kg and 10Kg packs.

- 1) 40/kg
- 2) 29/kg
- 3) 35/kg
- 4) 25/kg
- 5) 30/kg

Answer- 2) 29/kg

Explanation:

Union Minister for Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution, Textiles and Commerce and Industry, Shri Piyush Goyal launched the sale of Rice under 'Bharat' brand and flagged off 100 mobile vans.

- **'Bharat' Rice** will be available at all physical and mobile outlets of Kendriya Bhandar, National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED) and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India (NCCF) and will be expanded to other retail outlets and e-commerce platforms. 'Bharat' brand rice will be sold in family friendly **5 Kg and 10 Kg Bags**.
- Bharat Rice will be sold at maximum retail price (MRP) of **Rs. 29/kg**.

179. In February 2024, India resumed imports of Sokol oil from _____ (country).

- 1) Japan
- 2) China
- 3) Russia
- 4) Indonesia
- 5) United Arab Emirates

Answer- 3) Russia

Explanation:

India has resumed imports of **Russian Sokol oil** after a two-month hiatus, with at least two refiners receiving deliveries in February 2024. Indian state refiners had stopped buying the crude last year due to strained relations with China.

- The move led to over 10 million barrels of unsold Sokol oil, causing significant disruption to Russian oil trade. India's Hindustan Petroleum Corp and private refiner Nayara Energy have purchased Sokol oil.

180. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with Dynamatic Technologies to manufacture all doors for the single-aisle A220 family aircraft in India?

- 1) Lockheed Martin
- 2) Boeing
- 3) Airbus
- 4) BAE Systems
- 5) Dassault Aviation

Answer- 3) Airbus

Explanation:

Union Minister of Civil Aviation & Steel, Shri Jyotiraditya M. Scindia unveiled Airbus's significant expansion in its "Make-in-India" initiative during a momentous event. **Airbus** and **Dynamatic**

Technologies have joined hands to manufacture all doors for the single-aisle A220 family aircraft in India.

- With a range of up to 3,600 nautical miles (6,700 kilometers) and seating capacity ranging from 100 to 160 passengers, the A220 is ideally suited for India's UDAN (Ude Desh ka Aam Nagrik) scheme, aimed at enhancing regional connectivity and promoting economic growth across the nation.
- The Dynamatic Technologies manufacturing facility of all doors for the single-aisle A220 family aircraft will offer an incredible opportunity for the Indian private sector to enter a technology-intensive and highly competitive aviation industry.

181. In February 2024, Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways of India, Shantanu Thakur flags-off the 1st trial cargo vessels from Maia Inland Customs Port, West Bengal to Sultanganj Port in _____ (country).

- 1) Bangladesh
- 2) Sri Lanka
- 3) Myanmar
- 4) Malaysia
- 5) Singapore

Answer- 1) Bangladesh

Explanation:

The first trial movement of vessels carrying stone aggregates from Maia Port in India to the **Sultanganj Port** in **Bangladesh** Maia-Aricha route successfully took place.

- The Bangladesh flag vessel M V Desh Bangla carrying stone aggregates was flagged-off by Minister of State for Ports, Shipping and Waterways Shri Shantanu Thakur from Maia Inland Customs Port in West Bengal. Organised by the Inland Waterways Authority of India.

182. Who has recently (in Feb '24) secured his fifth Challenger-level singles title by defeating Italian Luca Nardi in the final of the Chennai Open 2024?

- 1) Yuki Bhambri
- 2) Sumit Nagal
- 3) Ramkumar Ramanathan
- 4) Saketh Myneni
- 5) Prajnesh Gunneswaran

Answer- 2) Sumit Nagal

Explanation:

Sumit Nagal, India's top tennis singles player, secured his **fifth Challenger**-level singles title by defeating Italian Luca Nardi in the final of the **Chennai Open 2024**.

- This victory is expected to propel Nagal into the top-100 rankings for the first time in his career. The 6-1, 6-4 win is anticipated to take him to the 98th spot.
- This achievement makes Nagal the first Indian to break into the singles top-100 since Prajnesh Gunneswaran achieved this feat in 2019.

183. Who is the current (as of Feb '24) Chairman of the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)?

- 1) B N Bhaskar
- 2) Deepak Mohanty
- 3) Ankit Jalan
- 4) Vivek Singh
- 5) Anil Yadav

Answer- **2) Deepak Mohanty**

Explanation:

About Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA):

PFRDA is a regulatory body that operates under the Ministry of Finance.

Chairman- Dr. Deepak Mohanty

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment- 2003

184. In which state, Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- **3) Telangana**

Explanation:

About Telangana:

Chief Minister- Revanth Reddy

Governor- Tamilisai Soundararajan

National Parks- KBR National Park, Mahavir Harina Vanasthali National Park

Wildlife Sanctuaries- Kawal Wildlife Sanctuary, Pranahita Wildlife Sanctuary

185. Who was recently (in Feb '24) appointed to the Board of Directors at the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (USISPF)?

- 1) Raj Subramaniam
- 2) Gaurav Verma
- 3) Mukesh Aghi
- 4) Nivedita Mehra
- 5) Salil Parekh

Answer- **5) Salil Parekh**

Explanation:

Salil Parekh, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director of homegrown multinational information technology company Infosys, has been appointed to the Board of Directors at the US-India Strategic Partnership Forum (**USISPF**).

186. Which state government has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with the MakeMyTrip to promote the state's cultural, culinary traditions?

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

Answer- **4) Goa**

Explanation:

The Government of **Goa** and Indian travel company **MakeMyTrip** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to promote Goa as a year-round destination.

- The partnership aims to showcase Goa's lesser-known inland treasures, rich cultural tapestry, and delectable culinary traditions. MMT will bring its digital innovation and marketing expertise to broaden Goa tourism's reach.

187. In February 2024, Titagarh Rail Systems Ltd acquired an additional _____ stake in Italy's Titagarh Firema S.p.A for Euro 20.21 million.

- 1) 28.3%
- 2) 32.1%
- 3) 25.8%
- 4) 40.2%
- 5) 30.4%

Answer- **1) 28.3%**

Explanation:

Titagarh Rail Systems Ltd on 22nd February 2024, announced that its Joint Venture Special Purpose Vehicle (JV-SPV) Shivaliks Mercantile Private Ltd has acquired an **additional 28.23%** stake in Italy-based **Titagarh Firema S.p.A** for Euro 20.21 million (about Rs.180.33 crore).

- The move is aimed at growing capabilities and capacities for various products in India and globally.
- After the acquisition, the total shareholding of Shivaliks in Titagarh Firema has gone up to 34.59%, Kolkata-based Titagarh Rail Systems said in a stock exchange filing.

188. In February 2024, _____ became India's first woman curator.

- 1) GS Lakshmi
- 2) Vrinda Ghanshyam Rathi
- 3) Jacintha Kalyan
- 4) Gayathri Venugopalan
- 5) Janani Narayanan

Answer- **3) Jacintha Kalyan**

Explanation:

Karnataka State Cricket Association's **Jacintha Kalyan** has become **India's first woman curator** and is all set to handle the show at the M. Chinnaswamy Stadium in Bengaluru for the city's fixtures in the Women's Premier League.

- After working in the administrative wing, she decided to switch to curatorship around 2018, learning the ropes from chief curator L. Prashant Rao.

189. In February 2024, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully completed the Human rating of CE20 Cryogenic engine for the _____ Programme at its test facility in Mahendragiri, Odisha.

- 1) AstroSat-2
- 2) Gaganyaan
- 3) NISAR
- 4) Shukrayaan
- 5) Mars Orbiter

Answer- 2) Gaganyaan

Explanation:

Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) has accomplished a major milestone in the human rating of its **CE20 cryogenic engine** that powers the cryogenic stage of the human-rated LVM3 launch vehicle for **Gaganyaan missions**, with the completion of the final round of ground qualification tests on February 13, 2024.

- The final test was the seventh of a series of vacuum ignition tests carried out at the High Altitude Test Facility at ISRO Propulsion Complex, Mahendragiri, to simulate the flight conditions.
- ISRO has also successfully completed the acceptance tests of the flight engine identified for the first unmanned Gaganyaan (G1) mission tentatively scheduled for Q2 of 2024.
- This engine will power the upper stage of the human-rated LVM3 vehicle and has a thrust capability of 19 to 22 tonnes with a specific impulse of 442.5 seconds.

190. Which company has recently (in Feb '24) contributed Rs. 15 crore to the Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF)?

- 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, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power and an NBFC, has contributed **Rs. 15 crore** to the **Armed Forces Flag Day Fund**, through REC Foundation, its CSR arm. This amount will be utilized for the education of 12,500 children of ex-servicemen.

- Armed Forces Flag Day Fund (AFFDF) has been established with the objective of assisting Armed Forces veterans, widows and their dependents as well as the institutions and organizations created for rehabilitation of paraplegic soldiers.

191. In February 2024, the United Kingdom (UK) government updated the logo on its official GOV.UK digital services with the chosen crown of _____ (King).

- 1) King George VI
- 2) King William
- 3) King Harry
- 4) King Charles III
- 5) King Andrew

Answer- 4) King Charles III

Explanation:

The United Kingdom **(UK) government** has updated the logo on its official **GOV.UK digital** services used across all departments for official day-to-day business with the chosen crown of **King Charles III**.

- When the 75-year-old acceded to the throne in September 2022, he chose to use the Tudor Crown in his Royal Cypher, marking a shift away from the St. Edward's Crown used by his late mother Queen Elizabeth II.

192. In February 2024, Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister (CM) Chowna Mein unveiled the logo for Bharat Lok Sangeet - Arunachal Utsav 2024 in _____(city).

- 1) Itanagar
- 2) Jairampur
- 3) Khonsa
- 4) Dirang
- 5) Koloriang

Answer- 1) Itanagar

Explanation:

Arunachal Pradesh Deputy Chief Minister Chowna Mein unveiled the logo for **Bharat Lok Sangeet - Arunachal Utsav 2024** in **Itanagar**.

- The logo launch marked the commencement of the preparations for the first edition of the State Level Folk Music Festival scheduled to take place in Namsai from February 28th to March 3rd, 2024.
- The festival is aimed at celebrating indigenous folk music and dances of the country.

193. In February 2024, Astronomers from the Australian National University (ANU) discovered the Fastest growing black hole ever.

Its mass is about _____ times that of the Sun and it devours the equivalent of a sun a day.

- 1) 18 billion
- 2) 10 billion
- 3) 17 billion
- 4) 12 billion
- 5) 15 billion

Answer- 3) 17 billion

Explanation:

Astronomers have discovered the **fastest-growing black hole** ever recorded -- the most luminous known object in the universe that is devouring the equivalent of one Sun every day.

- The researchers at The Australian National University **(ANU)** noted that the black hole with a mass roughly **17 billion** times that of the Sun, has set a record that may not ever be beaten.

194. In February 2024, India ranked as the _____ largest digitised country among the G20 nations.

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

4) 6th

5) 3rd

Answer- **5) 3rd**

Explanation:

India now ranks as the **third largest digitised country** among the G20 nations after the **US and China**.

- Most global indices do not completely capture the path of digitalisation adopted by developing countries, according to the 'State of India's Digital Economy (SIDE) 2024' report by the Indian Council for Research on International Economic Relations (ICRIER) and the global consumer internet group Prosus.

195. Which company has been recently (in Feb '24) honoured with the 'Innovative Technology Development Award' at the 'Building India 2047: Technology for Better Tomorrow', at IIT Madras Corporate Social Responsibility Summit?

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, a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise under the Ministry of Power and a leading NBFC, has been honoured with the '**Innovative Technology Development Award**' at the '**Building India 2047: Technology for Better Tomorrow**', at IIT Madras Corporate Social Responsibility Summit.

i. The award has been conferred in recognition of REC's CSR initiative of installation of 2 MW rooftop solar plant at IIT Madras. The solar plant generates around 3.15 million units of clean energy every year, thus helping IIT Madras reduce its carbon footprint.

196. Which of the following companies/banks is Not added to the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) India Standard Index in February 2024?

1) National Mineral Development Corporation

2) Union Bank of India

3) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

4) Punjab National Bank

5) Bank of Baroda

Answer- **5) Bank of Baroda**

Explanation:

Global index services provider Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) announced its February 2024 restructuring. It has **added** National Mineral Development Corporation (**NMDC**), **GMR Airports Infra**, **Union Bank of India**, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (**BHEL**), Punjab National Bank (**PNB**) to the MSCI India Standard Index.

- The global index services provider has also announced 27 additions and six deletions from the small cap index.

197. Who is the current (as of Feb '24) Chairperson of International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)?

- 1) Praveen Sharma
- 2) K Rajaraman
- 3) Injeti Srinivas
- 4) Tapan Ray
- 5) Hasmukh Adhia

Answer- **2) K Rajaraman**

Explanation:

International Financial Services Centres Authority (**IFSCA**) is a statutory authority established by the Government of India on April 27, 2020, under the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019. **Chairperson–K Rajaraman**

i. In February 2024, International Financial Services Centre Authority (IFSCA), the regulator in Gift City, Gujarat, issued new regulations for fintech firms looking to provide payment services at the tax-free centre.

- Payment Service Providers (PSPs) will now have to apply for a separate licence with the IFSCA, aside from their existing authorisation from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the banking regulator.
- PSPs, also called Merchant Service Providers, are third-party companies that help business owners accept online payments through a wide range of methods, including online banking, credit cards, debit cards, e-wallets, cash cards, and more.

198. In February 2024, India batter _____ announced his retirement from professional cricket.

- 1) Aditya Tare
- 2) Venkatesh Iyer
- 3) Saurabh Tiwary
- 4) Virat Singh
- 5) Anukul Roy

Answer- **3) Saurabh Tiwary**

Explanation:

India batter **Saurabh Tiwary** has announced his **retirement** from **professional cricket** and will feature in his final match for Jharkhand against Jamshedpur on 15th February 2025 in the Ranji Trophy.

- Tiwary started playing cricket at the age of 11, in the 2006-07 Ranji season Tiwari made his first-class debut as a teenager. He went on to win the Under-19 World Cup under the leadership of Virat Kohli in Malaysia in 2008.

199. In which state Sepahijala Zoological Park is located?

- 1) Assam
- 2) Mizoram
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Tripura
- 5) Odisha

Answer- **4) Tripura**

Explanation:

A pair of seven-year-old male and five-year-old female lions were brought to the Bengal Safari Park from **Sepahijala Zoological Park** in **Tripura**.

- The regal felines arrived along with two spectacled langurs, four blackbucks, and two leopard cats under an animal exchange program.
- The new members at the Bengal Safari Park are currently undergoing a mandatory month-long quarantine to ensure their health conditions are optimal before making a public debut.

200. In February 2024, _____ (company) quality management system for the C295 aircraft received Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance (DGAQA) approval to produce detailed parts and sub-assemblies in India.

- 1) AAC Clyde Space
- 2) Thales Alenia Space
- 3) Airbus Defence and Space
- 4) Inmarsat Space
- 5) Surrey Satellite Technology

Answer- **3) Airbus Defence and Space**

Explanation:

Airbus Defence and Space (ADS) quality management system for the **C295 aircraft** has received Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance (**DGAQA**) approval to produce detailed parts and sub-assemblies in India.

- It is a significant step in the comprehensive quality assurance roadmap agreed between ADS and DGAQA for the C295 Make in India programme, in close collaboration with Tata Advanced Systems Ltd (TASL).
- ADS is working with TASL to produce detailed parts and sub-assemblies at various locations in India.

201. In February 2024, the Board of One 97 Communications Limited announced the formation of a Group Advisory Committee chaired by former SEBI Chairman _____, to work with the Board in further strengthening compliance, and regulatory matters.

- 1) R Mehta
- 2) Ajay Tyagi
- 3) U.K. Sinha
- 4) C.B. Bhave
- 5) M Damodaran

Answer- **5) M Damodaran**

Explanation:

In a strategic move aimed at fortifying its compliance and regulatory framework, One 97 Communications Ltd, the parent company of Paytm, on 9th February 2024 announced the formation of a Group Advisory Committee chaired by **former SEBI chairman M. Damodaran**.

- Chaired by the former chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), the committee will collaborate closely with the board to enhance regulatory adherence and operational robustness.

202. In February 2024, the Los Angeles Lakers honoured five-time National Basketball Association (NBA) champion _____ with 19-Foot Statue.

- 1) Kobe Bryant
- 2) LeBron James
- 3) Kevin Durant
- 4) Stephen Curry
- 5) Carmelo Anthony

Answer- 1) Kobe Bryant

Explanation:

The **Los Angeles Lakers** revealed a statue of five-time National Basketball Association (**NBA**) champion **Kobe Bryant**, with the **19-foot bronze** likeness standing tall outside the franchise's downtown arena.

- Bryant is seen wearing his iconic No. 8 jersey, raising his right index finger after his iconic 81-point performance against the Toronto Raptors in January 2006.

203. Which country won the 2023 Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Asian Cup by defeating Jordan in February 2024?

- 1) Uzbekistan
- 2) Iran
- 3) Qatar
- 4) South Korea
- 5) Syria

Answer- 3) Qatar

Explanation:

Qatar retained the **2023 Asian Football Confederation (AFC) Asian Cup** with a 3-1 win against surprise package Jordan with Akram Afif the home hero with a hat-trick of penalties.

- A hat-trick by Akram Afif helped Qatar beat Jordan 3-1 in the AFC Asian Cup to become the first country to defend the title since 2004, at the Lusail Stadium.

204. Which company became the first Indian company to touch Rs 20-lakh-crore market capitalisation level?

- 1) Tata Consultancy Services
- 2) State Bank of India
- 3) Reliance Industries
- 4) HDFC Bank
- 5) ICICI Bank

Answer-3) Reliance Industries

Explanation:

Reliance Industries became the first Indian company to touch the **Rs 20-lakh-crore market** capitalisation level on the back of a nearly 30% rise in its stock price in three months.

- RIL started in 1966 as a small textile manufacturer by Dhirubhai Ambani, RIL introduced the equity culture in India with its IPO in 1977.

205. As of 15th February 2024, Which country surpassed Japan as the third-biggest economy?

- 1) France
- 2) India
- 3) United Kingdom
- 4) Germany
- 5) Canada

Answer- **4) Germany**

Explanation:

Japan has slipped to the **world's fourth-largest** economy as government data released on 15th February 2024, **Germany** overtakes Japan as **third-biggest economy**.

- Japan fell from the second-ranked economy behind the US to the third-largest in 2010 as China's economy grew. The International Monetary Fund had forecast Japan's fall to fourth.

206. In February 2024, _____ became the first Sri Lankan to score a double century in One Day International (ODIs).

- 1) Matheesha Pathirana
- 2) Charith Asalanka
- 3) Pathum Nissanka
- 4) Dhananjaya de Silva
- 5) Kusal Mendis

Answer- **3) Pathum Nissanka**

Explanation:

Sri Lanka opener **Pathum Nissanka** created history when he became the **first batter** from the country to reach the 200-run mark in One Day International (ODIs) in the format during the first ODI of the series against Afghanistan in Pallekele.

207. Who is the current (as of Feb '24) Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm?

- 1) Vijay Shekhar Sharma
- 2) Surinder Chawla
- 3) Anubrata Biswas
- 4) Rishi Gupta
- 5) Vinod Easwaran

Answer- **1) Vijay Shekhar Sharma**

Explanation:

Vijay Shekhar Sharma is the present Founder & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of **Paytm**.

i. In February 2024, National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) issued a fresh alert urging people to buy FASTags from authorised banks and the name of Paytm was omitted from the list. In a social media post, NHAI has put out a list of 32 banks from where commuters can buy FASTags for vehicles.

208. Which article of the Indian constitution provides a unique power to the Supreme Court, to do "complete justice"?

- 1) Article 142
- 2) Article 151
- 3) Article 120

4) Article 135

5) Article 150

Answer- **1) Article 142**

Explanation:

Article 142 of the Indian constitution is a provision that empowers the Supreme Court to pass any decree or order necessary for doing **complete justice** in any case or matter pending before it. It also makes such decree or order enforceable throughout the territory of India.

209. Which Regulatory Body/NGO has recently (in Feb '24) released a position paper titled "Senior Care Reforms in India: Reimagining the Senior Care Paradigm"?

1) Reserve Bank Of India

2) Securities and Exchange Board of India

3) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority

4) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India

5) NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog

Answer- **5) NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog**

Explanation:

NITI (National Institution for Transforming India) Aayog released a position paper titled "**Senior Care Reforms in India: Reimagining the Senior Care Paradigm**" on 16th February 2024.

- The report was released by NITI Aayog Vice Chairman Suman Bery in the presence of Member (Health) Dr. Vinod K. Paul, CEO B. V. R. Subrahmanyam, and Department of Social Justice and Empowerment (DoSJE) Secretary Saurabh Garg.
- The release of this report is one of the stepping stones toward India's commitment to achieve the goal of Viksit Bharat @2047. It is important to extensively prioritise the application of technology and Artificial Intelligence for senior care.

210. Which organisation under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with Norden Communication to develop AI-based general purpose thermal cameras?

1) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

2) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing

3) Centre for Research in Rural and Industrial Development

4) Centre for Development of Imaging Technology

5) Centre for Development of Telematics

Answer- **2) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing**

Explanation:

United Kingdom-based **Norden Communication** has tied up with state-run Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (**C-DAC**) to develop AI-based general purpose **thermal cameras**, which are for security purposes and other industrial applications.

- C-DAC, a research and development entity under the Electronics and IT ministry, has developed the thermal camera hardware and they have entered into a Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement with Norden.
- Norden specialises in the manufacture and distribution of extra-low voltage solutions.

211. Who is the current (in Feb '24) Chairperson of the Law Commission of India?

- 1) Ritu Raj Awasthi
- 2) D.Y. Chandrachud
- 3) Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai
- 4) Reeta Vasishtha
- 5) Naresh Chibber

Answer- **1) Ritu Raj Awasthi**

Explanation:

Ritu Raj Awasthi is the current **Chairperson** of the **Law Commission of India**.

- i. The 22nd Law Commission of India has submitted its Report No. 287 titled "Law on Matrimonial Issues Relating to Non-Resident Indians and Overseas Citizens of India" to the Government of India on 15.02.2024.
- ii. The Law Commission of India received a reference on The Registration of Marriage of Non-Resident Indians Bill, 2019 (NRI Bill, 2019) from the Ministry of External Affairs, received through the Department of Legal Affairs, Ministry of Law and Justice, for examination.

212. Who has recently (in Feb '24) appointed as the Chairman & Managing Director of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Limited (IRCTC)?

- 1) Sandip Trivedi
- 2) Ajit Kumar
- 3) Sanjay Kumar Jain
- 4) Rashmi Gautam
- 5) Gaisingam Kabui

Answer- **3) Sanjay Kumar Jain**

Explanation:

Mr. **Sanjay Kumar Jain**, an Indian Railway Traffic Services (IRTS) Officer of 1990 batch has taken over the charge of **Chairman & Managing Director** of Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation Ltd (**IRCTC**).

- The Financial and Operational Model developed for "Jan Ahar – New Delhi" during his tenure was later replicated throughout IRCTC. During his leadership, the tourism business of IRCTC, North Zone grew by 35 times over a period of 5 years.

213. In which state/UT, Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare SP Singh Baghel has recently (in Feb '24) inaugurated the first National Public Health India Conference (NPHICON-2024)?

- 1) Uttar Pradesh
- 2) Maharashtra
- 3) Gujarat
- 4) Delhi
- 5) Bihar

Answer- **4) Delhi**

Explanation:

Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare **SP Singh Baghel** inaugurated the first National Public Health India Conference (**NPHICON-2024**) in **Delhi**.

- The three-day conference is being organized from 23rd to 25 February 2024 by the National Centre for Disease Control (NCDC) under the Directorate General of Health Services. NITI Aayog member Dr VK Paul was also present on the occasion.

214. Goods and Services Tax Network (GSTN) was registered by the Central and State Governments as a not-for-profit Company under ____ (Section) of the Companies Act, _____ (year).

- 1) Section 9; 2015
- 2) Section 8; 2013
- 3) Section 9; 2012
- 4) Section 8; 2015
- 5) Section 12; 2013

Answer- **2) Section 8; 2013**

Explanation:

The government has permitted the GST Network to share data about GST-registered businesses, based on their consent, with the Reserve Bank's 'Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit'. The move will help entities get loans faster on the basis of shared Goods and Services Tax (GST)-related information.

i. GST Network (GSTN) is a non-profit, non-government organization that provides a shared IT infrastructure and services to both central and state governments, taxpayers and other stakeholders for the implementation of the Goods and Services Tax (GST) in India.

- It was established in 2013 as a **Section 8** company under the **Companies Act, 2013**. It is jointly owned by the central government (24.5%), state governments (24.5%) and non-government financial institutions (51%).

215. Name the Institute that has recently (in Feb '24) partnered with Nokia to conduct joint research on 6G technologies.

- 1) Indian Institute of Science(IISc) Bengaluru
- 2) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay
- 3) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi
- 4) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kharagpur
- 5) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur

Answer- **1) Indian Institute of Science(IISc) Bengaluru**

Explanation:

Nokia has partnered with the **Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bengaluru**, Karnataka. to conduct joint research on 6G technologies and 6G use cases that will have a direct societal impact in the country.

- At Nokia's newly inaugurated 6G Lab in Bengaluru, the two partners will pursue three core areas of research - 6G radio technologies, 6G architecture and the application of machine learning into the 6G air interface - and will develop reference architectures, software frameworks and algorithms, to contribute their joint research to the next-generation of wireless technology and standards ecosystem.

216. In February 2024, International Football Association Board (IFAB) plans to unveil a new addition, the _____ (colour) card, marking trials for sin bins in professional football.

- 1) Grey Card
- 2) Blue Card
- 3) Yellow Card
- 4) Green Card
- 5) Brown Card

Answer- 2) Blue Card

Explanation:

The International Football Association Board (**IFAB**) is preparing to debut a new card, the **blue card** as part of trials involving sin bins in professional football.

i. IFAB proposes the inclusion of blue cards alongside the traditional yellow and red cards. Blue cards will serve as a disciplinary measure for dissent and cynical fouls, resulting in players being temporarily sent to the sin-bin.

- Sitting alongside the current yellow and red cards, a blue card would result in a player being removed from the field of play for 10 minutes. At risk of muddying the palette, there will also be the possibility to mix colours.

217. In which year, the NTPC Limited was established?

- 1) 1992
- 2) 1958
- 3) 1982
- 4) 1965
- 5) 1975

Answer- 5) 1975

Explanation:

About NTPC Limited:

Chairman & Managing Director- Gurdeep Singh

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Established in- 1975

218. In which state Gahirmatha sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- 3) Odisha

Explanation:

About Odisha:

Chief Minister- Naveen Patnaik

Governor- Raghubar Das

Wildlife Sanctuaries- Gahirmatha sanctuary, Chilka Lake Bird Sanctuary

Airports- Biju Patnaik International Airport, Jharsuguda Airport

219. Which of the following UN Sustainable Development Goals is directly related with Good Health and Well-being?

- 1) SDG 1
- 2) SDG 2
- 3) SDG 3
- 4) SDG 4
- 5) SDG 5

Answer- 3) SDG 3

Explanation:

The UN Sustainable Development Goal 3 deals with Good Health and Well-being.

- Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, adopted by all United Nations Member States in 2015, provides a shared blueprint for peace and prosperity for people and the planet, now and into the future.
- At its heart are the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which are an urgent call for action by all countries - developed and developing - in a global partnership.

220. Who is the current (as of Feb '24) President of the Financial Action Task Force (FATF)?

- 1) N. Ravi Rajan
- 2) Nandan Nilekani
- 3) T. Raja Kumar
- 4) Ajay Bhushan Pandey
- 5) James Sassoon

Answer- 3) T. Raja Kumar

Explanation:

About Financial Action Task Force (FATF):

FATF is the global money laundering and terrorist financing watchdog. This inter-governmental body sets international standards to prevent these illegal activities.

President- T Raja Kumar (Singapore)

Headquarters- Paris, France

Established in- 1989

Members- 39 Countries

221. What is the capital of Tuvalu?

- 1) Nuku'alofa
- 2) Ngerulmud
- 3) Yaren
- 4) Majuro
- 5) Funafuti Atoll

Answer- 5) Funafuti Atoll

Explanation:

About Tuvalu:

Prime Minister - Kausea Natano

Capital - Funafuti Atoll

Currency - Australian Dollar

222. In which state Valmiki Tiger Reserve is located?

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

Answer- **3) Bihar**

Explanation:

About Bihar:

Chief Minister– Nitish Kumar

Governor– Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar

Tiger Reserve– Valmiki Tiger Reserve

Wildlife Sanctuary– Kaimur Wildlife Sanctuary; Rajgir Wildlife Sanctuary

223. In which state Chail Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- 1) Assam
- 2) Himachal Pradesh
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Mizoram
- 5) Tripura

Answer- **2) Himachal Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Himachal Pradesh (HP):

Chief Minister– Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu

Governor– Shiv Pratap Shukla

National Parks– Great Himalayan National Park, Pin Valley National Park

Wildlife Sanctuaries– Bandli Wildlife Sanctuary, Chail Wildlife Sanctuary

224. Formal job creation under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) went up by 18.2% month-on-month to _____ in December 2023.

- 1) 1.88 million
- 2) 2.13 million
- 3) 3.10 million
- 4) 4.90 million
- 5) 2.89 million

Answer- **1) 1.88 million**

Explanation:

Formal job creation under the Employees' State Insurance Corporation (**ESIC**) went up by 18.2% month-on-month to **1.88 million** in December 2023 compared to 1.59 million new employees added to it in November, as per the provisional payroll data released by the ministry of labour and employment.

i. ESIC added 1.78 million subscribers in April, 2.02 million subscribers each in May and June, 1.98 million in July, 1.94 million in August, 1.88 million in September and 1.78 million in October.

225. In February 2024, the Centre had announced that the three new criminal laws- Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Act, will be effective

- 1) 1st October 2024
- 2) 1st May 2024
- 3) 1st July 2024
- 4) 1st September 2024
- 5) 1st August 2024

Answer- 3) 1st July 2024

Explanation:

The Centre has issued three gazette notifications, informing that the three new criminal laws — Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagarik Suraksha Sanhita and Bharatiya Sakshya Act — will be effective **July 1, 2024**.

- Section 106(2) of the Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita (BNS), which provides for punishment of “0-10 years” in “hit and run” cases, has been put on hold.
- The Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita and the Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam that will replace the Indian Penal Code, 1860; Code of Criminal Procedure, 1898; and the Indian Evidence Act, 1872, respectively, received President Droupadi Murmu’s assent on December 25, 2023.

226. Shahpur Kandi barrage is situated on the border of Punjab and _____ (State/UT).

- 1) Himachal Pradesh
- 2) Jammu and Kashmir
- 3) Haryana
- 4) Rajasthan
- 5) Maharashtra

Answer- 2) Jammu and Kashmir

Explanation:

The flow of water from Ravi river to Pakistan has been completely halted with the completion of the Shahpur Kandi barrage.

- **Shahpur Kandi barrage** is situated on the border of **Punjab** and **Jammu and Kashmir**.
- This means that the Jammu and Kashmir region will now benefit from the 1,150 cusecs of water that was previously allocated to Pakistan. The water will be used for irrigation purposes, benefiting over 32,000 hectares of land in the Kathua and Samba districts.

227. International Debt Report (IDR) is an annual report released by _____.

- 1) World Bank
- 2) International Monetary Fund
- 3) International Finance Corporation
- 4) Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
- 5) International Development Association

Answer-1) World Bank

Explanation:

The International Debt Report (**IDR**), formerly International Debt Statistics (IDS), is a longstanding annual publication of the **World Bank** featuring external debt statistics and analysis for the 121 low- and middle-income countries that report to the World Bank Debt Reporting System (DRS).

228. _____ is an annual publication (available online and in print) produced by the Asian Development Bank (ADB).

- 1) Asian Development Tracker
- 2) Asian Development Report
- 3) Asian Development Outlook
- 4) Asian Development Monitor
- 5) Asian Development Indices

Answer- **3) Asian Development Outlook**

Explanation:

The **Asian Development Outlook** is an annual publication (available online and in print) produced by the Asian Development Bank (**ADB**). It offers economic analysis and forecasts, as well as an examination of social development issues, for most countries in Asia. It is published each March/April with an update published in September.

229. Where is the Headquarters of World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) located?

- 1) Geneva, Switzerland
- 2) Madrid, Spain
- 3) Vienna, Austria
- 4) London, United Kingdom
- 5) Nairobi, Kenya

Answer- **1) Geneva, Switzerland**

Explanation:**About World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO):**

It is the global forum for intellectual property (IP) services, policy, information and cooperation with 193 member states (As of 30 September 2023).

Establishment- 1967

Director General- Daren Tang

Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland

230. In which state Indravati (Kutru) National Park is located?

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

Answer- **5) Chhattisgarh**

Explanation:**About Chhattisgarh:**

Chief Minister- Vishnu Deo Sai

Governor- Biswabhusan Harichandan

National Park– Indravati (Kutru) National Park; Kanger Valley National Park
Wildlife Sanctuary– Badalkhol Wildlife Sanctuary; Barnawapara Wildlife Sanctuary

231. In which state/UT, Lachipora Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- 1) Assam
- 2) Jammu and Kashmir
- 3) Maharashtra
- 4) Madhya Pradesh
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- **2) Jammu and Kashmir**

Explanation:

About Jammu and Kashmir(J&K):

Lieutenant Governor- Manoj Sinha

National Park– City forest (Salim Ali) National Park

Wildlife Sanctuary– Lachipora Wildlife Sanctuary; Limber Wildlife Sanctuary

232. In February 2024, researchers from the Antihydrogen Experiment: Gravity, Interferometry, Spectroscopy (AEgIS) successfully demonstrated laser cooling of _____ , a short-lived hydrogen-like atom.

- 1) Terbium
- 2) Positronium
- 3) Dysprosium
- 4) Holmium
- 5) Erbium

Answer- **2) Positronium**

Explanation:

For the first time, an international collaboration of researchers has successfully demonstrated the laser cooling of **Positronium**, a short-lived hydrogen-like atom that provides an ideal testing ground for bound-state quantum electrodynamics.

- The Antihydrogen Experiment: Gravity, Interferometry, Spectroscopy (**AEgIS**) collaboration has performed complex experiments at the European Organization for Nuclear Research (CERN) in order to obtain this breakthrough.

233. According to the survey conducted by the National Tiger Conservation Authority in February 2024, Odisha's tiger population rose to _____.

- 1) 28
- 2) 20
- 3) 30
- 4) 25
- 5) 19

Answer- **3) 30**

Explanation:

Odisha's tiger population rose to **30**, including 8 cubs. Similipal Tiger Reserve is now home to 27 tigers, with 13 being pseudo-melanistic.

- The survey conducted by the National Tiger Conservation Authority recorded the increase from 20 and praised the forest department's efforts.

234. In February 2024, Cricketer Loftie-Eaton from _____ (country) smashed the fastest Twenty20 International (T20I) century.

- 1) Zimbabwe
- 2) West Indies
- 3) South Africa
- 4) Namibia
- 5) Bangladesh

Answer- **4) Namibia**

Explanation:

Namibia's Jan Nicol Loftie-Eaton smashed the **fastest century** in Twenty20 International (**T20I**) **history**, achieving the feat off just 33 deliveries against Nepal in the opening match of the Tri-Nation series.

- The middle-order batter bettered the record of Nepal's Kushal Malla by just one delivery. Malla had achieved the feat during the Hangzhou Asian Games last year when his side had posted a world-record total of 314/3 against Mongolia.
- Loftie-Eaton played a knock of 101 off just 36 deliveries, which included 11 fours and eight sixes at an amazing strike rate of 280.55.

235. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has recently (in Feb '24) signed an MoU with National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (NICDC) to assess locations for setting up greenfield smart cities?

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

Answer- **3) IIT Delhi**

Explanation:

A Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) was signed between National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (**NICDC**) and Indian Institute Of Technology Delhi (**IIT Delhi**) with an objective to evaluate optimality of locations for development of greenfield industrial smart cities in India leveraging the principles and framework of PM GatiShakti.

i. The parties involved in the signing of the agreement are National Industrial Corridor Development Corporation Limited (NICDC) under DPIIT and the Foundation for Innovation and Technology Transfer at IIT Delhi.

236. In February 2024, _____, the banker and philanthropist, who turned away from Europe's biggest banking dynasty passed away.

- 1) Henry Engelhardt
- 2) Chris Hohn
- 3) Paul Marshall
- 4) Alan Parker

5) Jacob Rothschild

Answer- **5) Jacob Rothschild**

Explanation:

Jacob Rothschild, the banker and philanthropist who turned his back on Europe's biggest banking dynasty to build his own financial empire in the City of London, has passed away. He was 87.

- Rothschild was also one of the UK's most prominent philanthropists. He chaired the boards of the National Gallery and the National Heritage Lottery Fund.
- Rothschild left N.M. Rothschild & Sons Ltd. in 1980 to focus on Rothschild Investment Trust after resigning from his family firm over a dispute about its direction. The offshoot business — now known as RIT Capital Partners Plc — is one of the UK's largest investment trusts.

237. In February 2024, Tamil Nadu ranked _____ in Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) India 2024,

- 1) 7th
- 2) 5th
- 3) 4th
- 4) 6th
- 5) 3rd

Answer- **1) 7th**

Explanation:

With over 350 species of birds having been recorded from Tamil Nadu during the **Great Backyard Bird Count (GBBC) India 2024**, a four-day bird watching event held from February 16 to 19, Tamil Nadu **ranks seventh** in GBBC in 2024.

- In the same trend as last year, Salem topped the number of checklists, which refer to entries of bird sightings, in the eBird web portal.
- Coimbatore recorded the highest number of species (268) followed by Salem (203), Chengalpattu (172), and Erode (147). In Chennai, Indian Institute of Technology-Madras (IIT-M) was the top hotspot

238. In which state Kamlang Tiger Reserve is located?

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

Answer- **1) Arunachal Pradesh**

Explanation:

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

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

239. In Which state Barda Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- **3) Gujarat**

Explanation:

About Gujarat:

Capital – Gandhinagar

Chief Minister – Bhupendra Patel

Governor – Acharya Devvrat

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

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

240. Thai _____ is the Currency of Thailand.

- 1) Rufiyaa
- 2) Dong
- 3) Riyal
- 4) Kina
- 5) Baht

Answer- **5) Baht**

Explanation:

About Thailand:

Prime Minister– Srettha Thavisin

Capital– Bangkok

Currency– Thai Baht

241. Name the cricketer who has recently (in Feb '24) became the 11th batsman to hit a triple century in South Africa's First-Class cricket.

- 1) Tristan Stubbs
- 2) Daryll Cullinan
- 3) Jonty Rhodes
- 4) Lance Klusener
- 5) Dale Steyn

Answer- **1) Tristan Stubbs**

Explanation:

Tristan Stubbs became the **11th batter** to achieve a first-class triple-century in South Africa, and notably the eighth since readmission.

- His remarkable feat not only underscores his individual brilliance but also serves as a significant boost for the South African Test team, signalling the emergence of a potent talent in their ranks.

242. In February 2024, Tamil Nadu (TN) Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated the renovated memorial of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) founder late C N Annadurai and the new memorial of former state chief minister late M Karunanidhi in _____ (city).

- 1) Tiruchirapalli
- 2) Chennai
- 3) Madurai
- 4) Coimbatore
- 5) Salem

Answer- 2) Chennai

Explanation:

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister M K Stalin inaugurated the **renovated memorial** of Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) founder **late C N Annadurai** and the **new memorial of former state chief minister late M Karunanidhi** at Marina Beach in **Chennai**.

- An underground state-of-the-art digital museum, touchscreen displays, a library and selfie points are some of the highlights of the new M Karunanidhi memorial built in Chennai at a cost of Rs 39 crore.

243. International Debt Report (IDR) is an annual report released by _____.

- 1) World Bank
- 2) International Monetary Fund
- 3) International Finance Corporation
- 4) Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency
- 5) International Development Association

Answer- 1) World Bank

Explanation:

The International Debt Report (**IDR**), formerly International Debt Statistics (IDS), is a longstanding annual publication of the World Bank featuring external debt statistics and analysis for the 121 low- and middle-income countries that report to the World Bank Debt Reporting System (**DRS**).

About World Bank:

Establishment -1944

Headquarters-Washington D.C, USA

Member nations-189

244. In which state Achanakmar Tiger Reserve is located?

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

Answer- 1) Chhattisgarh

Explanation:

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

245. In which state Abohar Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- **2) Punjab**

Explanation:

About Punjab:

Chief Minister – Bhagwant Singh Mann

Governor – Banwarilal Purohit

Wildlife Sanctuary – Takhni-Rehmapur Wildlife Sanctuary, **Abohar Wildlife Sanctuary**

Zoological Park – Mahendra Chaudhary Zoological Park, Tiger safari zoo

246. In which state Neora Valley National Park is located?

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

Answer- **4) West Bengal**

Explanation:

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

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