

# **GUPTA**

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# **CLASSES**

## **Current Affairs**

**JANUARY-2024**

**English**

**Part-4**



**GUPTA**

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**CLASSES**

# OBITUARY

**1. Former Indian footballer (defender) \_\_\_\_\_, passed away in December 2023.**

- 1) Gouramangi Singh
- 2) Bhaichung Bhutia
- 3) Prabir Majumdar
- 4) Mahesh Gawli
- 5) Syed Rahim Nabi

**Answer- 3) Prabir Majumdar**

**Explanation:**

**Former Indian footballer (defender) Prabir Majumdar, 77, passed away in Kolkata, West Bengal (WB). He played a significant role in the 1974 Asian Games (Tehran, Iran) as a member of the Indian team.**

**i. In domestic football, he represented East Bengal and Eastern Railways and Bengal in the Santosh Trophy.**

**ii. Majumdar won several titles with East Bengal, which included the Calcutta Football League, IFA Shield, Durand Cup, Rovers Cup, DCM Trophy, Bordoloi Trophy, and many more.**

**2. Padma Bhushan Awardee Professor Ved Prakash Nanda, an Indian American academic and an expert on international law, passed away in January 2024.**

**In which year, Prof Ved Prakash Nanda was honoured with Padma Bhushan in the field of Literature and Education?**

- 1) 2020
- 2) 2022
- 3) 2019
- 4) 2021
- 5) 2018

**Answer- 5) 2018**

**Explanation:**

Padma Bhushan Awardee Professor **Ved Prakash Nanda**, an Indian American academic and an expert on international law, **passed away** in Denver, Colorado, the United States of America(USA). He was born on 20th November 1934 in Gujranwala, Punjab, British India (now in Pakistan).

**Note- Prof Ved Prakash Nanda was honoured with Padma Bhushan (literature and education) in 2018.**

**i. Books:** World Debt and the Human Condition: Structural Adjustment and the Right to Development (Co-editor; 1992); International Environmental Law & Policy (1995); International Environmental Law and Policy for the 21st Century (Co-Author; 2004).

**ii. Awards:** He received the Gandhi-King-Ikeda Award for Community Peace Building from Soka Gakkai International (SGI) and Morehouse College (USA) in 2004.

**3. Mário Jorge Lobo Zagallo, \_\_\_\_\_ (country's) World Cup-winning football player for 4 times, passed away in January 2024.**

- 1) Portugal
- 2) Spain

- 3) Brazil
- 4) Argentina
- 5) France

Answer- **3) Brazil**

**Explanation:**

**Former Brazilian Football player**, coach and Manager **Mário Jorge Lobo Zagallo**, who won 4 World Cup titles, passed away at the age of 92 in Rio de Janeiro, **Brazil**. Mario Zagallo, nicknamed 'Old Wolf' & "The Professor", was born on August 9, 1931, in Maceio, Brazil.

**i.** He was a part of the Brazilian Football team that won Four Federation Internationale de Football Association(FIFA) World Cup titles.

**ii.** He won two World Cups (1958 – Sweden and 1962 – Chile) as a player, one as a Head coach/Manager (1970 – Mexico) and one as an assistant coach (1994 – the United States of America/USA) for Brazil.

- He has served as the Manager of the Brazil football team from 1967 to 1974, 1994-1998 and in 2002.

**iii.** He was the first person to win the World Cup as both a player and a Manager.

**iv. Awards:** In 1992 Zagallo received the FIFA Order of Merit, the highest honour awarded by FIFA, for his contributions to football.

**4. Franz Beckenbauer, \_\_\_\_\_ (country's) World Cup-winning football player for 2 times, passed away in January 2024.**

- 1) Portugal
- 2) Brazil
- 3) Germany
- 4) Argentina
- 5) France

Answer- **3) Germany**

**Explanation:**

**Former German football player** and manager **Franz Beckenbauer**, who won Two World Cup titles, passed away at the age of 78 in Salzburg, Austria. He was born on 11 September 1945 in Munich, Germany.

- He was nicknamed "Der Kaiser" ("The Emperor"), who invented a new style of play as a central defensive sweeper role or 'libero', where he found the most success.

**i. World Cup Records:**

- He captained the West Germany national team which won the Federation Internationale de Football Association (**FIFA) World Cup** in **1974** held in Munich, Germany.
- He was the Manager of the West Germany Football team that won the World Cup 1990 held in Italy.

**Note-** He is one of the 3 individuals that have won the FIFA world cup both as player and as Manager. The other 2 are: Brazil's Mario Zagallo and France's Didier Deschamps

**ii. Awards:**

- He won the Ballon d'Or twice for the best European Footballer of the year in 1972 and 1976.
- He was named Germany's Footballer of the year four time in 1966, 1968, 1974, 1976

**5. Renowned Hindustani classical singer and Padma awardee, Ustad Rashid Khan passed away in January 2024.**

**In which year did he receive the Padma Bhushan award in the field of Art?**

- 1) 2018
- 2) 2021
- 3) 2019
- 4) 2022
- 5) 2020

**Answer- 4) 2022**

**Explanation:**

Renowned Hindustani classical singer and music maestro, and **Padma awardee, Ustad Rashid Khan** passed away in Kolkata, West Bengal.

- Ustad Rashid Khan belongs to Rampur-Sahaswan gayaki (style of singing) which is related to the **Gwalior gharana**.

**i.** Ustad Rashid Khan was awarded the **Padma Shri**, the fourth highest civilian award, in **2006** and **Padma Bhushan**, the third highest civilian award in **2022** in the field of **arts** and received the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award in 2006.

**6. In January 2024, Noted Hindi and Bhojpuri poet & litterateur \_\_\_\_\_ passed away.**

- 1) Pandit Hariram Dwivedi
- 2) Bhikhari Thakur
- 3) Pandit Narendra Sharma
- 4) Dinesh Bhramar
- 5) Laxmi Shankar Bajpai

**Answer- 1) Pandit Hariram Dwivedi**

**Explanation:**

Noted **Hindi and Bhojpuri poet**, lyricist and litterateur **Pandit Hariram Dwivedi** passed away in Uttar Pradesh (UP).

**i.** He is known for his poetry collections like 'Anganaiya', 'Nadiyan Gail Dubray' and 'Jeevandayini Ganga'.

**ii.** Hariram Dwivedi was conferred with **Sahitya Akademi's Bhasha Samman 2013** for his contribution to Bhojpuri language and literature.

**7. Which of the following personalities did not edit the book, "Modi Energising A Green Future", launched by the Union Minister of Environment, Forest and Climate Change, Bhupender Yadav in January 2024?**

- 1) Deepak Prakash
- 2) RK Pachnanda
- 3) Bibek Debroy
- 4) Anirban Ganguly
- 5) Uttam Kumar Sinha

**Answer-1) Deepak Prakash**

**Explanation:**

The Union Minister Bhupender Yadav, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change **(MoEF&CC)** unveiled a book titled **“Modi Energising A Green Future”**, published by Pentagon Press in association with Dr. Shyama Prasad Mookerjee Research Foundation.

i. The book was **edited** by **RK Pachnanda**, former chairman of the Haryana Electricity Regulatory Commission, **Bibek Debroy**, chairman of the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (PM), Anirban Ganguly, and Uttam Kumar Sinha.

**8. In January 2024, Padma Awardee & Renowned Classical vocalist Prabha Atre Passed Away.**

**In which year, Prabha Atre received Padma Vibhushan award in the field of Art?**

- 1) 2022
- 2) 2020
- 3) 2019
- 4) 2017
- 5) 2018

Answer- **1) 2022**

**Explanation:**

**Prabha Atre**, a Hindustani classical vocalist, who received all **3 Padma Awards** from the government of India passed away in Pune, Maharashtra at the age of 92.

i. She was honoured with the Padma Shri in 1990; Padma Bhushan in 2002; and **Padma Vibhushan in 2022 for Arts.**

ii. Her first book 'Swaramayee' which is a compilation of many of her articles on music and has bagged the Maharashtra State Govt. Award in 1989.

**9. In January 2024, Renowned Urdu poet \_\_\_\_\_ passed away.**

- 1) Saleem Kausar
- 2) Munawwar Rana
- 3) Wasim Barelvi
- 4) Zafar Iqbal
- 5) Iftikhar Arif

Answer- **2) Munawwar Rana**

**Explanation:**

Renowned Urdu poet **Munawwar Rana** passed away at the age of 71 in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh (UP).

i. He was particularly recognized for his **ghazals**, a poetic form consisting of rhyming couplets and a refrain.

- One of his most popular poems was 'Maa', celebrating the virtues of a mother in traditional ghazal form.

**10. In January 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ former national hockey player of Singapore who competed in the 1956 Melbourne Olympics, passed away.**

- 1) Ajit Singh Gill
- 2) Dhanraj Pillay
- 3) Balbir Singh Dosanjh
- 4) Ashok Kumar Singh
- 5) Takashi Watanabe

Answer- **1) Ajit Singh Gill**

**Explanation:**

**Ajit Singh Gill, former national hockey player of Singapore** who competed in the 1956 **Melbourne Olympics**, passed away at the age of 95 in Singapore.

- Ajit Singh Gill, a person of Indian origin, is **Singapore's oldest** and only Sikh Olympian.

**11. In January 2024, Shawn Barber, \_\_\_\_\_ (country)'s former Pole Vault World Champion (2015) passed away.**

- 1) Canada
- 2) Brazil
- 3) Peru
- 4) Argentina
- 5) Spain

Answer- **1) Canada**

**Explanation:**

**Shawn Barber, Canada's former Pole Vault World Champion (2015)** passed away at the age of 29 in Kingwood, Texas, the United States of America (USA).

**i. At the 2016 Pole Vault Summit** in Reno, Nevada (USA), he achieved his best vault at 6 meters (19 feet, 8 ¼ inches), which remains the Canadian record in Pole vault.

**ii.** He earned a gold medal at the 2015 Pan American Games in Toronto (Canada). He also won the International Association of Athletics Federations (IAAF) World Championships in Beijing, China, later in 2015 at the age of 21.

**12. In January 2024, Renowned Canadian director and producer, \_\_\_\_\_ Passed away.**

- 1) Robert Anderson
- 2) Paul Almond
- 3) Geneviève Albert
- 4) Alfons Adetuyi
- 5) Norman Jewison

Answer- **5) Norman Jewison**

**Explanation:**

Renowned Canadian director and producer **Norman Jewison** Passed away at the age of 97 in Los Angeles, the United States of America (USA).

**i. Oscar nominations:** He was nominated for the Academy Award for Best Director 3 times for "In the Heat of the Night" (1967); "Fiddler on the Roof" (1971); "Moonstruck" (1987).

- He won the Irving G. Thalberg Memorial Award 1998 at the 71st Academy Awards(Oscar).

**13. Which country's all-time leading goalscorer Luigi 'Gigi' Riva, footballer passed away in January 2024?**

- 1) Italy
- 2) Spain
- 3) Germany
- 4) Argentina
- 5) France

Answer- **1) Italy**

**Explanation:**

Italian national football team's **all-time leading goalscorer Luigi 'Gigi' Riva** passed away at the age of 79 in Cagliari, Sardinia (**Italy**).

- He earned the nickname of Rombo di Tuono (Roar of Thunder) for his physical strength, heading ability, and powerful left-footed shot.

**14. In January 2024, Gurvirendra Singh Talwar (Rana Talwar), the 1st Indian and Asian to lead \_\_\_\_\_ (bank), passed away.**

- 1) Deutsche Bank Plc
- 2) Barclays Bank
- 3) Citibank
- 4) Standard Chartered Bank
- 5) DBS Bank

Answer- **4) Standard Chartered Bank**

**Explanation:**

Veteran banker Gurvirendra Singh Talwar (**Rana Talwar**), the **1st Indian and Asian** to lead a global bank, Standard Chartered Bank (**SCB**) Plc, passed away at the age of 76.

- He also served on the boards of companies like Asahi India Glass and Great Eastern Energy Corporation.

**15. Which state/UT's 1st hockey Olympian, Sukhbir Singh Gill has passed away in January 2024?**

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Chandigarh
- 3) Gujarat
- 4) Punjab
- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **2) Chandigarh**

**Explanation:**

**Sukhbir Singh Gill**, the **1st hockey Olympian** from **Chandigarh**, passed away at the age of 48.

- He was the 1st hockey player from Chandigarh to represent India at the Sydney 2000 Olympics held in Sydney, Australia, where India finished 7th.

## **IMPORTANT DAYS**

**1. The \_\_\_\_\_ World Braille Day observed across the globe on 4th January 2024 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, a 19th-century French educator, who invented the Braille script for the blind and visually impaired.**

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

Answer- **4) 6th**

**Explanation:**

The **United Nations (UN) World Braille Day** is annually observed across the globe on 4 January to raise awareness about the significance of Braille as a communication medium for people who are blind or partially sighted.

- The Day commemorates the birth anniversary of Louis Braille, a 19th-century French educator, who invented the Braille script for the blind and visually impaired in 1824.

**i. 4th January 2024** marks the observance of the **6th World Braille Day** and the 215th birth anniversary of Louis Braille.

- The **1st ever** World Braille Day was observed on 4 January **2019**.

**ii.** On this occasion of World Braille Day, the National Institutes and Composite Regional Centres under the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) of the Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment organised a range of engaging programs at various locations across India.

**2. When was the World Day of War Orphans 2024 observed across the globe?**

- 1) 5th January 2024
- 2) 4th January 2024
- 3) 6th January 2024
- 4) 3rd January 2024
- 5) 2nd January 2024

Answer- **3) 6th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

**World Day of War Orphans 2024** was observed across the globe on **6th January 2024** to raise awareness about the challenges faced by children who have been left orphaned by wars and about the trauma experienced by war orphans globally.

- The Day addresses social, psychological, and physical obstacles confronted by war orphans, protects their rights and well-being, and emphasizes the need for global attention and support.
- A war orphan is a child or children whose parents or parents died while serving in military duty.
- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) defines an orphan as any child under 18 who has lost one or both parents to any cause of death.

**3. Every year Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD), also known as the "Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day" is celebrated across India on \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) 9th January
- 2) 5th January
- 3) 8th January
- 4) 6th January
- 5) 7th January

Answer- **1) 9th January**

**Explanation:**

Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (**PBD**), also known as Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day, is celebrated on **9 January** to recognise the remarkable contributions and accomplishments of the Overseas Indian community (Indian diaspora) across the world to the development of India.

**i. Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD) Convention:**



- PBD Convention is the flagship event of the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), Government of India (GoI).
- It aims to provide a platform for the overseas Indian community to engage with the GoI and share their experiences and expertise with the Indian community.
- Since 2003, it has been celebrated as an annual event, but in 2015, the government revised its format to celebrate PBD once every 2 years (biennial).
- The **18th PBD** will be organised on 9th January **2025**.

**ii. The MEA has held 17 conventions since its inception:**

- The 17th PBD Convention took place from 08-10 January 2023 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- The theme for the 17th PBD was “Diaspora: Reliable Partners for India’s Progress in Amrit Kaal”.

**4. When was the Earth’s Rotation Day 2024 observed across the globe?**

- 1) 5th January 2024
- 2) 8th January 2024
- 3) 6th January 2024
- 4) 9th January 2024
- 5) 7th January 2024

Answer- **2) 8th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

Earth’s Rotation Day is annually observed across the globe on 8 January to highlight the significance of Earth’s rotational motion. It commemorates the anniversary of the scientific demonstration of Earth’s rotation by the French physicist Léon Foucault in 1851.

- **Earth’s Rotation Day 2024** observed on **8th January 2024** commemorates the 173rd anniversary of Léon Foucault’s demonstration.

**i. Basics of Earth’s Rotation:**

- The spinning of the Earth around its axis is called ‘rotation.’ Earth completes a full rotation on its axis every 23 hours and 56 minutes, which is rounded up to 24 hours.
- This rotation around its axis is known as one Earth Day and this rotation is responsible for day and night cycles.
- Earth rotates on its axis from West to East, and the Sun and Moon appear to move from East to West across the sky.

**5. When was the World Hindi Day 2024 observed across the globe?**

- 1) 8th January 2024
- 2) 10th January 2024
- 3) 7th January 2024
- 4) 9th January 2024
- 5) 6th January 2024

Answer- **2) 10th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

**World Hindi Day** or Vishwa Hindi Diwas **2024** was observed across the **globe** on **10th January 2024** to highlight and educate the importance of the Hindi language and honour the contributions of Hindi speakers across the globe.

i. The first-ever World Hindi Day was celebrated on 10 January 2006. Since then, World Hindi Day has been celebrated by the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA), which organises events and activities to promote the language.

**6. The \_\_\_\_\_ National Road Safety Week was observed across India from 11th to 17th January 2024 .**

- 1) 45th
- 2) 40th
- 3) 35th
- 4) 30th
- 5) 25th

Answer- **3) 35th**

**Explanation:**

The **35th** National Road Safety Week was observed across India from **11th to 17th January 2024** to raise awareness about the importance of road safety and highlight the significance of road safety measures to prevent and reduce road accidents and save lives.

i. The annual observance is led by the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (**MoRTH**) to promote road safety practices.

ii. The **first-ever** National Road Safety Week was observed by the MoRTH in **1989**.

**7. When was the National Youth Day 2024 observed across India?**

- 1) 10th January 2024
- 2) 12th January 2024
- 3) 9th January 2024
- 4) 11th January 2024
- 5) 8th January 2024

Answer- **2) 12th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

**National Youth Day/Vivekananda Jayanti 2024** was celebrated across India on **12th January 2024** to commemorate the **161st birth anniversary** of Swami Vivekananda, a Hindu spiritual leader, Philosopher, and social reformer in India, who played a crucial role in shaping modern India.

i. On National Youth Day 2024, Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the 27th National Youth Festival (**NYF**) at Nashik, Maharashtra. The festival will be held from 12th-16th January 2024.

ii. The **theme** of the **27th NYF** is "Viksit Bharat by 2047 Yuva ke liye, Yuva ke Dwara" (For the Youth By the Youth) and Shekaru, Indian Giant Squirrel (It is also the State animal of Maharashtra) is the Mascot of NYF 2024.

**8. When was the 8th Armed Forces Veterans' Day observed across India?**

- 1) 12th January 2024
- 2) 9th January 2024
- 3) 13th January 2024
- 4) 10th January 2024
- 5) 14th January 2024

Answer- **5) 14th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

The **8th Armed Forces Veterans' Day** celebrated across India on **14th January 2024** to honour and recognise the service of Field Marshal Kodandera Madappa Cariappa, the 1st Indian Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C) of the Indian Armed Forces, who retired from the military on 14 January 1953 and led Indian forces to victory in the 1947 war. [Click here to read more](#)

- During the Armed Forces Veterans' Day celebrations, '**SAGAR SAMVAD**', a maiden magazine was also released.
- The Indian Air Force and Indian Army also released the '**VAYU SAMVEDNA**' and '**SAMMAN**' magazines respectively.

**9. The \_\_\_\_\_ Indian Army Day was celebrated across India on 15th January 2024.**

- 1) 77th
- 2) 79th
- 3) 76th
- 4) 78th
- 5) 75th

Answer- **3) 76th**

**Explanation:**

Indian Army Day 2024 was observed across India on 15th January 2024 to honour and salute the brave soldiers of the Indian Army who fought at borders and sacrificed their lives to safeguard the nation from the attack of enemies. [Click here to read more](#)

- The Day, also known as Bhartiya Sena Diwas, recognises the achievements of the 1st Commander-in-Chief (C-in-C) of the Indian Army General (later Field Marshal) Kodandera Madappa (KM) Cariappa.
- The **76th Indian Army Day** was celebrated on **15th January 2024** with a main parade in Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh for the 1st time.

**10. When was the 19th National Disaster Response Force (NDRF) Raising Day observed across India?**

- 1) 17th January 2024
- 2) 19th January 2024
- 3) 16th January 2024
- 4) 18th January 2024
- 5) 15th January 2024

Answer- **2) 19th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

National Disaster Response Force (**NDRF**) **Raising Day** is annually observed across India on 19 January to commemorate the establishment of the NDRF, a distinguished, unique Force across India functioning under the Ministry of Home Affairs.

- The **19th NDRF Raising Day** was celebrated on **19th January 2024** at Plenary Hall, Vigyan Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi. [Click here to read more](#)

**11. When was the Parakram Diwas 2024 observed across India?**

- 1) 21st January 2024
- 2) 23rd January 2024
- 3) 20th January 2024

4) 22nd January 2024

5) 19th January 2024

Answer- **2) 23rd January 2024**

**Explanation:**

**Parakram Diwas 2024** was observed across India on **23rd January 2024** to commemorate the **127th birth anniversary** of one of the prominent independence fighters of India, **Subhash Chandra Bose**, popularly called Netaji.

**i.** During the Parakram Diwas 2024 event, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi launched **Bharat Parv**, a **9-day event** which will be held from 23rd to 31st January 2024, to showcase India's rich diversity with Republic Day Tableaux and exhibit different cultures.

**ii.** 2024 Subhas Chandra Bose Aapda Prabandhan Puraskar under Institutional category was awarded to 60 Parachute Field Hospital, Uttar Pradesh recognising its excellent work in Disaster Management.

**12. When was the 17th National Girl Child Day (NGCD) observed across India?**

1) 24th January 2024

2) 23rd January 2024

3) 22nd January 2024

4) 21st January 2024

5) 20th January 2024

Answer- **1) 24th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

The **17th National Girl Child Day (NGCD) 2024** was observed across India on **24th January 2024** to promote awareness about the rights of a girl child and to promote the importance of their education, health, and nutrition.

**i.** NGCD was established in 2008 by the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MoWCD) and the first ever NGCD was observed on 24th January 2008. [Click here to read more](#)

**13. What was the theme of United Nations (UN) International Day of Education (IDE) 2024 that was observed across the globe on 24th January 2024?**

1) To Invest in People, Prioritise Education

2) Changing Course, Transforming Education

3) Learning for Lasting Peace

4) Transforming Education, Building our Future

5) Recover and Revitalize Education for the COVID-19 Generation

Answer- **3) Learning for Lasting Peace**

**Explanation:**

The **6th United Nations (UN) International Day of Education (IDE) 2024** was observed across the globe on **24th January 2024** with the **theme** of "**Learning for Lasting Peace**" to celebrate the role of education in peace and development.

- The 1st ever International Day of Education was celebrated on 24 January 2019. [Click here to read more](#)

**14. When was the National Voters' Day (NVD) 2024 observed across India?**

1) 23rd January 2024

2) 25th January 2024

3) 22nd January 2024

4) 24th January 2024

5) 21st January 2024

Answer- **2) 25th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

The **14th National Voters' Day (NVD) 2024** was celebrated across India on **25th January 2024** to create electoral awareness amongst citizens and also marks the celebration of 75 years of service of Election Commission of India (**ECI**).

- The **theme** of NVD 2024 is "Nothing Like Voting, I Vote For Sure", a continuation of the 2023 theme.

**15. What was the theme of National Tourism Day 2024 that was observed across India on 25th January 2024?**

1) Rural and Community Centric Tourism

2) Tourism and Jobs: A better Future for All'

3) Tourism for Inclusive Growth

4) Tourism and Green Investments

5) Sustainable Journeys, Timeless Memories

Answer- **5) Sustainable Journeys, Timeless Memories**

**Explanation:**

**National Tourism Day 2024** was celebrated across India on **25th January 2024** with the **theme** of "**Sustainable Journeys, Timeless Memories.**"

- As per the India Brand Equity Foundation's (IBEF) 2023 report, the tourism sector is projected to contribute USD 250 billion to India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) by 2030, generating employment for 137 million individuals.

**16. When was the International Customs Day (ICD) 2024 observed across the globe with the theme of 'Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose'?**

1) 23rd January 2024

2) 24th January 2024

3) 25th January 2024

4) 27th January 2024

5) 26th January 2024

Answer- **5) 26th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

International Customs Day (**ICD**) **2024** was observed across the globe on **26th January 2024** with the **theme** of 'Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose.'

- 26 January 2024 marks the **71st anniversary** of **WCO**, an intergovernmental body dedicated to enhancing customs administrations worldwide.

**17. When was the United Nations (UN) International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust 2024 observed across the globe?**

1) 25th January 2024

2) 27th January 2024

3) 24th January 2024

4) 26th January 2024

5) 23rd January 2024

Answer- **2) 27th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

The United Nations **(UN) International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust** (International Holocaust Remembrance Day) **2024** was observed across the globe on **27th January 2024** with the **theme** of “Recognizing the Extraordinary Courage of Victims and Survivors of the Holocaust” to pay tribute to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust, also known as Shoah.

- **27th January 2024** marks the **79th** anniversary of the liberation of Auschwitz-Birkenau.

**18. What was the theme of World Leprosy Day (WLD) 2024 that was observed across the globe on 28th January 2024?**

1) Zero Disabilities in Girls and Boys

2) Ending Leprosy, stigma and prejudice

3) Act Now. End Leprosy

4) United for Dignity

5) Beat Leprosy

Answer- **5) Beat Leprosy**

**Explanation:**

World Leprosy Day (WLD) is annually observed across the globe on the last Sunday of January to celebrate people who have experienced leprosy, also known as Hansen’s disease.

**i.** The 71st observance of **World Leprosy Day 2024** was observed on **28th January 2024** with the theme of “**Beat Leprosy.**”

**ii.** The Global Appeal 2024 to End Stigma and Discrimination against Persons Affected by Leprosy will be launched at WHO headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, on January 31, 2024. [Click here to read more](#)

**19. When was World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (WNTDD) 2024 observed across the globe by the World Health Organisation(WHO)?**

1) 28th January 2024

2) 30th January 2024

3) 27th January 2024

4) 29th January 2024

5) 26th January 2024

Answer- **2) 30th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

World Health Organisation **(WHO)’s World Neglected Tropical Diseases Day (WNTDD) 2024** was observed across the globe on **30th January 2024** with the theme of “Unite. Act. Eliminate” to create better awareness of the devastating impact of Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) on the poorest populations around the world.

[Click here to know more](#)

**20. When was the 1st ever United Nations (UN) International Day of Clean Energy observed across the globe?**

- 1) 28th January 2024
- 2) 29th January 2024
- 3) 27th January 2024
- 4) 30th January 2024
- 5) 26th January 2024

Answer- **5) 26th January 2024**

**Explanation:**

The **first-ever** United Nations (UN) **International Day of Clean Energy** was globally observed on **26th January 2024** to create awareness and mobilise action towards a fair and inclusive transition to clean energy for the benefit of people and the planet.

- 26 January is also the founding date of the International Renewable Energy Agency (IRENA), 26 January 2024 marks the 15th anniversary of IRENA.

[Click here to know more](#)

## **ENVIRONMENT**

**1. In which Tiger Reserve, a New Herbaceous Plant Species named “Polygonum Chaturbhujanum” was discovered in January 2024?**

- 1) Pakke Tiger Reserve (Arunachal Pradesh)
- 2) Manas Tiger Reserve (Assam)
- 3) Sunderban Tiger Reserve (West Bengal)
- 4) Satkosha Tiger Reserve (Odisha)
- 5) Pench Tiger Reserve (Maharashtra)

Answer- **5) Pench Tiger Reserve (Maharashtra)**

**Explanation:**

A New **Herbaceous Plant Species** named “**Polygonum Chaturbhujanum** ” was discovered at Gol Pahadi Island of the **Pench Tiger Reserve** (PTR) in Nagpur, **Maharashtra**. The new species was discovered during the floral survey carried out in Pench with technical support of the Forest Survey of India(FSI).

**Note-** This one of a kind species belongs to the genus Polygonum which includes flowering plants in the knotweed and buckwheat family Polygonaceae.

**i.** The floral survey, carried out over 1 year in Pench, reported over 863 plant species belonging to 554 genera and 117 families.

- Out of this, 46 species are indigenous to India, 32 plant species are of rare distribution and 6 plant species are endemic to the Indian subcontinent.

**ii.** After the survey, Dr K Chandramohan and Dr D Ravivarma, who worked on the floral survey in Pench, authored a book titled ‘Flowering Plants of Pench Tiger Reserve’. The book was edited by Dr. Prabhu Nath Shukla and Chaturbhuj Behera.

- The book was released by Devendra Fadnavis, Deputy Chief Minister (Dy CM) of Maharashtra.

**2. In January 2024, Researchers from the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) discovered a new butterfly species, *Cigaritis conjuncta* in Bramhagiri Wildlife Sanctuary, \_\_\_\_\_ (state).**

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

**Answer- 3) Karnataka**

**Explanation:**

Researchers from the National Centre for Biological Sciences (NCBS) in Bengaluru, Karnataka, have discovered a new butterfly species ***Cigaritis conjuncta*** (also known as Conjoined Silverline butterfly) in **Bramhagiri Wildlife Sanctuary** in Kodagu district (also known as Coorg), **Karnataka**.

**i.** The new species is named after its most “unique” feature: the “conjoined” bands on its wings.

**3. In which state, ‘*Sinomicrurus Gorei*’, a new species of coral snake was discovered in January 2024?**

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

**Answer- 5) Mizoram**

**Explanation:**

Indian Researchers from Mizoram University have discovered a new species of coral snake called **‘*Sinomicrurus Gorei*’** in **Mizoram**.

**i.** The discovery was published in the British science journal, Systematics & Biodiversity (Taylor & Francis Group) with the title ‘Reappraisal of the systematics of two sympatric coral snakes (Reptilia: Elapidae)’.

**4. Name the animal that has recently (in Jan ‘24) classified as ‘Vulnerable’ under criteria C2a(ii) on the global International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List.**

- 1) Nilgiri Marten
- 2) Asiatic Wild Dog
- 3) Himalayan Wolf
- 4) Kashmir Stag
- 5) Indian Blackbuck

**Answer- 3) Himalayan Wolf**

**Explanation:**

The **Himalayan Wolf** (*Canis lupus*; Subspecies: *chanco*), a crucial lupine predator in the Himalayas, is classified as **‘Vulnerable’** under criteria **C2a(ii)** on the global International Union for Conservation of Nature (**IUCN**) **Red List**.

**i.** This is the 1st time the Himalayan wolf has been assessed by the IUCN and the assessment was done on 27 June 2023.



# APP and WEB PORTAL

**1. Name the state government that has recently (in Dec '23) launched a Non-Resident Indians (NRI) website under the Department of NRI Affairs to provide support and assistance to NRIs?**

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

**Answer- 2) Punjab**

**Explanation:**

Bhagwant Singh Mann, Chief Minister(CM) of **Punjab**, launched Non-Resident Indians (**NRI Punjab website**(nri.punjab.gov.in), under the Department of NRI Affairs to provide support and assistance to NRIs.

- The website was developed by the Department of Governance Reforms & Public Grievances (DGRPG), Government of Punjab in collaboration with National Informatics Centre (NIC), under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY).
- i. The website includes detailed information related to the NRI Police wing, Punjab State Commission for NRIs, and NRI Sabha. It also provides data on registered travel and immigration agents.
- ii. Other Initiative: CM also announced a series of initiative to enhance the services for NRIs which includes.
  - Organising NRI milnis (meets) for on-the-spot redressal of problems faced by the NRIs.
  - Establishment of a 24x7 'Facilitation Center' at the International Terminal at Indira Gandhi International Airport at New Delhi, Delhi to assist the NRIs arriving at the terminal.

**2. Which state government has recently (in Jan '24) launched the software/mobile application to provide digital access to the services provided by the local self-government bodies?**

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

**Answer- 1) Kerala**

**Explanation:**

On 1st January 2024, Pinarayi Vijayan, Chief Minister (CM) of **Kerala**, launched the **K-SMART** (Kerala Solutions for Managing Administrative Reformation and Transformation) **software/mobile application**, in an event held in Kochi, Kerala.

- K-SMART is a unified platform to provide digital access to the services provided by the local self-government bodies across Kerala.
- The app was developed by the Information Kerala Mission (IKM), an autonomous body under the Local Self-Government Department(LSGD), Government of Kerala.
- i. K-SMART app will streamline the services provided by local government bodies in Kerala with its 35 different modules.

- These modules include services like registration of birth, death, and marriage, business licences, property taxes, and others.

**3. In January 2024, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO) launched the National Single Window System (NSWS) Portal to streamline, import, clinical investigations, and testing of medical devices.**

**The site is designed and developed by Invest India, under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade(DPIIT) through \_\_\_\_\_ (company) for CDSCO.**

- 1) Infosys Limited
- 2) Tata Consultancy Service
- 3) Wipro Limited
- 4) HCL Technologies Limited
- 5) Tech Mahindra

**Answer- 2) Tata Consultancy Service**

**Explanation:**

On January 1, 2024, the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (**CDSCO**), under the Directorate General of Health Services, Ministry of Health & Family Welfare(MoHFW), launched the National Single Window System (**NSWS**) **Portal** to streamline, import, clinical investigations, and testing of medical devices.

**i.** The site is designed and developed by **Invest India**, under the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade(DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry(MoCI), through **Tata Consultancy Service (TCS)** for CDSCO.

- The portal will be a one-stop shop for all approvals required by the investor and facilitates ease of doing business
- This is an independent portal distinct from the existing SUGAM portal or the cdscomonline portal for the medical devices industry.
- The Know Your Approvals (KYA) module of the portal includes guidance for 32 Central Departments and 32 States.
- This hosts applications for approvals from 31 Central Departments and 22 State Governments.

**4. Which state/UT's Police has recently (in Jan '24) launched the Grievance Redressal Portal 'Awaam Se, Awaam Ke Liye'?**

- 1) Ladakh
- 2) Jammu & Kashmir
- 3) Himachal Pradesh
- 4) Uttarakhand
- 5) West Bengal

**Answer- 2) Jammu & Kashmir**

**Explanation:**

The Director General of Police (DGP) of **Jammu & Kashmir (J&K)**, R R Swain, has launched the J&K Police **Grievance Redressal Portal 'Awaam Se, Awaam Ke Liye'**.

- The portal aims to address the issues faced by the citizens and police personnel in a more structured and decentralised manner.
- The portal also improves the density and quality of resolving the issues.

**5. In January 2024, Union Minister of Cooperation Amit Shah launched the 'e-samridhi portal', a platform for registration, purchase, and payment of tur dal producing farmers across India. Which of the following companies/ regulatory bodies have developed the e-samridhi portal?**

- 1) National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Limited
- 2) National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited
- 3) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) All 1, 2 & 3

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

**Explanation:**

On 4th January 2024, Union Minister Amit Shah, Ministry of Cooperation, launched the '**e-samridhi portal**', a platform for registration, purchase, and payment of **tur dal** producing farmers across India.

- The portal was launched during the national symposium on 'Self-reliance in Pulses' held in New Delhi, Delhi.
  - The portal was **developed** by National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd. (**NAFED**) and National Cooperative Consumers' Federation of India Limited (**NCCF**).
- i.** The portal offers a unified platform in which farmers can register directly or through Primary Agricultural Cooperative Societies (PACS) and Farmer Producer Organizations (FPOs).
  - ii.** NAFED will ensure seamless fund transfers directly into farmers' mapped bank accounts, eliminating intermediary agencies.
  - iii.** The multi-lingual portal will streamline the entire process for tur dal growers in Maharashtra, Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, Gujarat, Karnataka and Jharkhand.

**6. In January 2024, S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) launched an integrated web portal of \_\_\_\_\_ (academic and research institutions/NGO) for educational institutes in India.**

- 1) National Innovation Foundation
- 2) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
- 3) ERNET India
- 4) National Research Development Corporation
- 5) K.C. Mahindra Education Trust

**Answer- 3) ERNET India**

**Explanation:**

On January 4, 2023, S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics & Information Technology (MeitY) and chairperson of the Executive committee of Education and Research Network (ERNET), India, launched integrated **web portal** (<https://ernet.in/>) of **ERNET India** for **educational institutes in India**.

- The portal was created using open-source software and advanced technologies like Artificial Intelligence (AI) and Machine Learning (ML).
  - He also inaugurated the new conference hall of ERNET India.
  - The portal will offer domain registration, DNS (Domain Name System) and value-added services viz. Website as a Service (WaaS) and Learning Management as a Service (LMaaS).
- i.** ERNET India, a not-for-profit autonomous scientific society under MeitY, is the exclusive registrar for education and research institutes' domains with ac.in, edu.in, and res.in.

- It offers web accessibility, campus Wi-Fi, smart classrooms, and connectivity via Terrestrial and Satellite systems to educational and research institutes.

**7. Which state has recently (in Jan '24) launched India's first ever Report Management Portal (RMP) and Meeting Management Portal (MMP) for efficient governance?**

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

Answer- **3) Himachal Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

**Himachal Pradesh** Chief Minister(CM) Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu launched **India's first ever** Report Management Portal (**RMP**) and Meeting Management Portal (**MMP**) for efficient governance.

- The portals were developed by the Department of Digital Technology and Governance (DDTG) of the Himachal Pradesh government.
- i. The RMP is designed to enhance the process of sending and monitoring various reports across departments, boards, and corporations more efficiently.
    - It enables real-time data access for informed decision-making, as well as one-click SMS and email capabilities, as well as automatic reminders and notifications to concerned officers.
  - ii. The MMP collects clean, authentic data in a standardised format with the goal of increasing transparency, accountability, and efficiency in government affairs.
    - MMP serves as a comprehensive solution for issuing meeting notices and proceedings, fostering communication from the Secretariat to the field offices.

**8. Which Union Minister has recently (in Jan '24) launched Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access (PAiSA Portal) Dashboard and the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (PM SVANidhi) Mission Monitoring Portal?**

- 1) Jitendra Singh (Union Minister of State of Science and Technology)
- 2) Hardeep Singh Puri (Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs)
- 3) Mansukh L. Mandaviya (Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare)
- 4) Giriraj Singh (Union Minister of Rural Development)
- 5) Virendra Kumar (Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment)

Answer- **2) Hardeep Singh Puri (Union Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs)**

**Explanation:**

**Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri**, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA), launched 2 portals namely the refreshed Portal for Affordable Credit and Interest Subvention Access (**PAiSA Portal**) **Dashboard**; and the Prime Minister Street Vendor's AtmaNirbhar Nidhi (**PM SVANidhi**) Mission Monitoring Portal during the inauguration of a seminar on 'Grievance Redressal Committee (GRC) for Street Vendors.

- These portals will provide real-time progress updates on the mission and scheme, fostering transparency and accountability.
- The seminar on 'GRC for Street Vendors' was organised by the MoHUA on January 04, 2024 at the India Habitat Centre, New Delhi, Delhi.

- i. The MoHUA launched the PM SVANidhi scheme on 1 June 2020, to address challenges faced by Street Vendors and help them resume businesses affected by the COVID-19 pandemic.
- ii. The PAiSA portal was launched on November 26, 2018. The web portal was designed and developed by Allahabad Bank.
  - It is a centralized hub for processing interest subvention on bank loans to beneficiaries under the Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Urban Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NULM).

**9. In January 2024, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) mandated Machine-to-Machine (M2M) and Wireless Personal Area Network/Wireless Local Area Network (WPAN/WLAN) registration to all entities engaged in these businesses.**

**The registration process must be completed by \_\_\_\_\_ 2024, through the SaralSanchar portal**

- 1) 31st March
- 2) 30th April
- 3) 31st July
- 4) 30th June
- 5) 31st May

**Answer- 1) 31st March**

**Explanation:**

The Department of Telecommunications (**DoT**), under the Ministry of Communications (MoC), has mandated Machine-to-Machine (**M2M**) and Wireless Personal Area Network/Wireless Local Area Network (**WPAN/WLAN**) **registration** to all entities engaged in these businesses.

- The registration process must be completed by **March 31, 2024**, through the **SaralSanchar portal** (saralsanchar.gov.in)
  - The reason behind this mandate is to broaden the scope of registration to foster a standard-based and secure M2M/IoT ecosystem.
- i. All entities, include Companies, Government departments, Organizations, Partnerships, LLPs (Limited Liability Partnerships), Institutions, Undertakings, Proprietorship firms, Societies, Trusts engaged in M2M service provisioning and WPAN/WLAN Connectivity Provisioning,
  - ii. Non-compliance may result in the withdrawal or disconnection of telecom resources from Authorized Telecom Licensees.

**10. In January 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ became the first state in India to map all 784 accident black spots on the mobile application “Mappls”.**

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

**Answer- 4) Punjab**

**Explanation:**

**Punjab** has become the **first state** in **India** to map all **784 accident black spots** on the mobile application **“Mappls”**, a navigation system developed by **C. E. Info Systems Limited**(MapmyIndia).

- i. Punjab Police collaborated with MapmyIndia for real-time traffic updates and alerts on the Mappls App about Black and Blind spots.

- Mappls mobile app will provide voice alerts (in Punjabi language) to the commuters about the upcoming black spots.

**11. In January 2024, the Union Minister of State (MoS) (Independent Charge) Rao Inderjit Singh, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched the MPLADS \_\_\_\_\_ Mobile Application (app) in New Delhi, Delhi.**

- 1) e-SAKSHI
  - 2) Paat-Mitro
  - 3) e-PRANA
  - 4) JALDOOT
  - 5) e-Parivahan
- Answer- **1) e-SAKSHI**

**Explanation:**

The Union Minister of State (MoS) (Independent Charge) Rao Inderjit Singh, Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) has launched the **MPLADS e-SAKSHI Mobile Application (app)** in New Delhi, Delhi.

i. The app aims to enhance transparency, accessibility, and efficiency in the execution of Member of Parliament Local Area Development (MPLAD) Scheme-2023.

**12. Name the app/portal that was recently (in Jan '24) launched by GoI to make study materials available for all courses under school and higher education digitally in all 22 languages.**

- 1) e-Vidya
  - 2) Bhasha Sagar
  - 3) e-KUMBH
  - 4) Anuvadini
  - 5) Sathee
- Answer- **4) Anuvadini**

**Explanation:**

The Government of India (GoI) aims to make study materials available for all courses under **school and higher education** digitally in all **22 languages** listed in the 8th Schedule of the Indian Constitution through Artificial Intelligence (AI)-based '**Anuvadini**' mobile application.

i. For this purpose, the Ministry of Education (MoE) has instructed the educational regulators and the heads of institutions of national importance to prepare such study materials within the next three years (by 2027).

**13. Name the app that has been recently (in Jan '24) launched by Shailesh Kumar Singh, Secretary of Ministry of Rural Development (MoRD) for Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana - National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY-NRLM).**

- 1) JANMANREGA
  - 2) KAUSHAL
  - 3) JALDOOT
  - 4) SARATHI
  - 5) eMARG
- Answer- **4) SARATHI**

**Explanation:**

Shailesh Kumar Singh, Secretary of Ministry of Rural Development (**MoRD**), has launched the “**SARATHI**” mobile application (**app**) for Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana – National Rural Livelihoods Mission (**DAY-NRLM**) at Krishi Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi.

- The app is designed to bridge the gap between government schemes and their beneficiaries and developed in collaboration with Bengaluru (Karnataka) based **The/Nudge Institute**. It is embedded in the LokOS system.

## **CURRENT STATIC BANKING**

**1. Who has assumed charge as the managing director (MD) and & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Kotak Mahindra Bank on 1st January 2024?**

- 1) Uday Shankar
- 2) Dipak Gupta
- 3) Ashok Vaswani
- 4) Prakash Apte
- 5) C. Jayaram

Answer- **3) Ashok Vaswani**

**Explanation:**

Kotak Mahindra Bank announced veteran banker **Ashok Vaswani** has assumed charge as the managing director (MD) and CEO of the bank with effect from January 1, 2024.

- He replaced Dipak Gupta, who was the interim MD and CEO, following founder director Uday Kotak stepping down as the head of the bank, effective September 1, 2023.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in October 2023 approved the appointment of Vaswani as the bank's MD and CEO for a period of three years.

**2. In December 2023, Canara Bank gave in-principle approval to initiate the process of listing its mutual fund subsidiary Canara Robeco Asset Management Company through an initial public offering of shares.**

**Canara Robeco AMC will be the \_\_\_\_\_listed asset management company in India.**

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

Answer- **2) 5th**

**Explanation:**

Canara Bank has given in-principle approval to initiate the process of listing its mutual fund subsidiary Canara Robeco Asset Management Company through an initial public offering of shares.

- If Canara Robeco AMC gets listed, it will be the **fifth listed asset management company** in India.
- Currently, Aditya Birla Sun Life AMC, HDFC Asset Management, Nippon Life India Asset Management, and UTI Asset Management are the four listed mutual funds in India.
- As of November 2023, Canara Robeco had Rs 80,301 crore worth of assets under management.

- Incorporated in 1993, Canara Robeco MF was earlier known as Canbank Mutual Fund. In 2007, Canara Bank partnered with Robeco group through a joint venture and the mutual fund was renamed as Canara Robeco Mutual Fund.
- As of November 2023, Canara Robeco had Rs 80,301 crore worth of assets under management. The shares of Canara Bank ended 1.7% up on the National Stock Exchange at Rs 432.50.

### 3. What is the Tagline of Indian Overseas Bank (IOB)?

- 1) We understand your world
- 2) The Banker To Every Indian
- 3) Your Perfect Banking Partner
- 4) Your Own Bank
- 5) Good People to Grow With

Answer- 5) **Good People to Grow With**

#### **Explanation:**

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

**Establishment** - 1937

**Headquarters** - Chennai, Tamil Nadu

**Tagline** - **Good People to Grow With**

### 4. What is the Tagline of the Bank of India?

- 1) Always You First
- 2) Relationship Beyond Banking
- 3) We value you
- 4) We Understand Your World
- 5) Support All the Way

Answer- 2) **Relationship Beyond Banking**

#### **Explanation:**

#### **About Bank of India:**

**Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO)** - Rajneesh Karnatak

**Headquarters** - Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Established in** - 1906

**Tagline** - **Relationship Beyond Banking**

### 5. As of January 2024, the Transaction Limit of Near Field Communication (NFC) is up to Rs \_\_\_\_\_per transaction.

- 1) 5000
- 2) 2000
- 3) 10,000
- 4) 25,000
- 5) 50,000

Answer- 1) **5000**

#### **Explanation:**

The **Transaction Limit** of Near Field Communication (NFC) is up to **Rs 5000/-** per transaction.

- NFC is used in contactless banking cards to perform money transactions or to generate contactless tickets for public transport.



i. NFC is a short-range wireless connectivity technology that allows NFC-enabled devices to communicate with each other and transfer information quickly and easily with a single touch - whether to pay bills, exchange business cards, download coupons, or share a document.

- NFC transmits data through electromagnetic radio fields, to enable communication between two devices. Both devices must contain NFC chips, as transactions take place within a very short distance.
- NFC-enabled devices must be either physically touching or within a few centimetres from each other for data transfer to occur.

**Note-** Nokia released the first NFC-enabled phone in 2007.

**6. Bima Vahaks will be deployed in each gram panchayat before 31st December \_\_\_\_\_(year).**

- 1) 2024
- 2) 2025
- 3) 2026
- 4) 2027
- 5) 2028

**Answer- 1) 2024**

**Explanation:**

Bima Vistaar is a part of Insurance Trinity which also includes Bima Sugam, a one-stop digital platform; and Bima Vahak, a women-led field distribution force.

- These efforts are integral to IRDAI's vision for universal insurance by 2047 by addressing gaps in product design, pricing, distribution, and more.
- Bima Vistaar's design is almost done, and the Life and General Insurance Councils are hunting for the technology platform for its launch.
- Its launch will introduce Bima Vahak, and their implementation will take effect simultaneously.
- **Bima Vahaks** shall be deployed in **each gram panchayat** before 31st December **2024**.

**Note-** The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) is all set to launch the first of its kind affordable insurance product covering risks against life, health, and property namely 'Bima Vistaar' in the first quarter of 2024-2025 i.e. Q1FY25.

**7. As of January 2024, the Transaction limit of UPI ATM withdrawal is up to Rs. \_\_\_\_\_per transaction.**

- 1) 1,00,000
- 2) 10,000
- 3) 20,000
- 4) 50,000
- 5) 30,000

**Answer- 2) 10,000**

**Explanation:**

UPI-ATM is an Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (**ICCW**) service that facilitates participating bank's customers who live on UPI, to withdraw cash from any participating banks' ATMs (enabled for UPI-ATM) without using their card.

- Transaction limit is up to **Rs. 10,000/- per transaction**. It shall be part of the existing Unified Payments Interface (UPI) per day limit and as per the limits set by Issuer Bank for UPI-ATM transactions.

**8. When was the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) established?**

- 1) 2000
- 2) 2003
- 3) 2008
- 4) 2011
- 5) 2015

**Answer-2) 2003**

**Explanation:**

The Government of India established **Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA)** on 10th October, **2003** to develop and regulate the pension sector in the country.

- Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority is the regulatory body under the jurisdiction of the Ministry of Finance, Government of India for overall supervision and regulation of pension in India.
- PFRDA regulates NPS, subscribed by employees of Govt. of India, State Governments and by employees of private institutions/organizations & unorganized sectors. The PFRDA is ensuring the orderly growth and development of the pension market.

**9. The Credit Rating Agencies (CRA) are regulated in India by \_\_\_\_\_ (organisation).**

- 1) Reserve Bank of India
- 2) Bombay Stock Exchange
- 3) National Stock Exchange
- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 5) Competition Commission of India

**Answer-4) Securities and Exchange Board of India**

**Explanation:**

Credit Rating Agencies (**CRA**) are regulated in India by **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)**.

- Credit Rating Agencies in India are the agencies that evaluate and assess an individual's or a company's creditworthiness.
- As of January 2024, **7 CRAs** are registered with SEBI.
- CRISIL Limited
- India Ratings and Research Pvt. Ltd
- ICRA Limited
- Credit Analysis & Research Ltd. (CARE)
- Brickwork Ratings India Pvt. Ltd.
- SMERA Ratings Limited
- Infomeric Valuation and Rating Pvt. Ltd.

**10. What is the maximum number of digits that a Unified Payments Interface (UPI)- Personal Identification Number (PIN) can have?**

- 1) 9
- 2) 6
- 3) 8
- 4) 7
- 5) 4

Answer- 2) 6

**Explanation:**

Unified Payments Interface (UPI)- Personal Identification Number (PIN) is a **4-6-digit pass code** you create/set during first time registration with UPI App.

**i. Unified Payments Interface (UPI) ended 2023** at a high, recording over **1,200 crore** transactions worth more than **Rs. 18-lakh crore** in December 2023, a peak for both the transaction count and value.

- Over 11,765 UPI transactions worth Rs. 182.2-lakh crore were processed in 2023, up 59 per cent in terms of volume and 45 per cent in terms of value compared with 2022, as per data by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- Transactions worth Rs. 18.23-lakh crore were processed during December, significantly higher than the previous high of Rs. 17.40-lakh crore in November. In percentage terms, the value of transactions was 4.8 per cent higher on the month and 42 per cent on year.
- The number of transactions on the UPI network breached the 1,200 crore mark to 1,202 crore transactions, higher by 6.9 per cent on month and 54 percent on year.

**11. Which bank has recently (in Jan '24) sold almost Rs. 800 crore of its credit card portfolio at a steep discount to another private sector lender, Kotak Mahindra Bank?**

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

Answer- 1) **RBL Bank**

**Explanation:**

**RBL Bank** sold almost **Rs. 800 crore** of its credit card portfolio at a steep discount to another private sector lender, **Kotak Mahindra Bank**.

- Of the RBL Bank's Rs. 2,441-crore gross NPA, credit card dues total Rs. 462 crore, as of September 30, 2023, according to the quarterly investor presentation.
- Kotak Mahindra Bank acquired the credit card portfolio for Rs. 20 crore in an all-cash deal, which equates to a recovery of 2.5% for RBL Bank.
- RBL Bank shares are up 51 per cent in the last one year. The stock gained 16 per cent in the last one month. The credit card repayment delays, as per the report, accounted for one-fifth of RBL Bank's total gross NPAs.

**12. Which company has recently (in Jan '24) signed an MoU with Ayodhya Nagar Nigam to enable mobile payments in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh?**

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

Answer- 4) **Paytm**

**Explanation:**

One97 Communications Ltd (OCL), which owns the brand **Paytm**, has signed an **MoU** with **Ayodhya Nagar Nigam** to enable mobile payments in Ayodhya, Uttar Pradesh using the Paytm-pioneered QR code, Soundbox, and card machines.

- This is aimed at providing seamless mobile payment services during the much-anticipated inauguration of Ram Mandir in the city on January 22. With this, the company will enable mobile payments at various departments in collaboration with Ayodhya Nagar Nigam.
- Through this MoU, the company will also deploy Paytm card machines at cash collection centres under State Nagar Nigam departments.
- Paytm, which is a pioneer of the mobile QR payments revolution in India, continues to strengthen its leadership in in-store payments, with more than 92 Lakh Paytm pioneered devices such as Soundbox, Card Machines, etc in the quarter ended September 2023.

**13. What is the Tagline of YES Bank?**

- 1) Good People to Grow With
- 2) The Banker to Every Indian
- 3) We Make You Feel Richer
- 4) Experience Our Expertise
- 5) Together we can

Answer- **4) Experience Our Expertise**

**Explanation:****About YES Bank Limited(Ltd):**

**Managing Director(MD) & Chief executive Officers (CEO)** – Prashant Kumar

**Headquarters** – Mumbai, Maharashtra

**Established in** – 2004

**Tagline** –Experience Our Expertise

**14. Who is the current (as of Jan '24) Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Power Finance Corporation (PFC)?**

- 1) Usha Sajeev Nair
- 2) Ajay Tewari
- 3) Rajiv Ranjan Jha
- 4) Parminder Chopra
- 5) Manoj Sharma

Answer- **4) Parminder Chopra**

**Explanation:****About Power Finance Corporation (PFC):**

Power Finance Corporation (PFC) is a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) in the power sector.

**Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** – Parminder Chopra

**Headquarters** – New Delhi, Delhi

**Established in** – 1986

**15. In which of the following places, Rs 2,000 notes can be exchanged, as per the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) direction issued in January 2024?**

- 1) Post offices
- 2) Banks
- 3) Tehsil Office
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

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

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has said that Rs 2,000 notes can be exchanged through **post offices** as well. There are reports of people queuing up at the RBI offices to return the Rs 2,000 notes.

- In a set of Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) on its website, the RBI said people can send the notes to any of its 19 issue offices from any post office. People need to fill up an application form which is available online and send the notes to a RBI issue office from any facility of India Post .
- i.** In May 2023, the apex bank announced its decision to withdraw the Rs 2,000 notes, which was first introduced after the demonetisation exercise in 2016. The decision to withdraw the Rs 2,000 notes was taken as most of these notes had exceeded their expected lifespan and were also not being used by the public for transactions.
- ii.** At present, over 97.38 per cent of the Rs 2,000 notes in circulation as in May 2023 have been returned. After allowing for exchange or deposit across **bank counters**, the RBI has made available multiple other channels where the notes can be exchanged or deposited.

**16. As of December 2023, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has achieved its target of \_\_\_\_ million daily transactions for its digital rupee by the end of 2023.**

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

Answer- **3) 1**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has achieved its target of **1 million daily transactions** for its digital rupee by the end of 2023, driven by the distribution of employee benefits through digital rupee in December.

- The central bank digital currency (CBDC), called the e-rupee, has been devised as a digital alternative to physical cash and has been built using distributed-ledger technology.
- While CBDC or the e-rupee project is currently in the pilot stage, RBI had set a target of reaching a million transactions a day for 2023, which has now been scaled.
- SBI, Canara Bank, IDFC India First, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank and Kotak Mahindra Bank are among the banks, which have seen a high number of CBDC transactions. When the pilot was launched in December 2022, RBI had tied up with SBI and IDFC First Bank for the project with a limited set of clients.

**17. Indian Financial System Code (IFSC) is a unique \_\_\_\_\_ digit alphanumeric code to use for online fund transfer transactions done via National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT), Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) and Immediate Mobile Payment Service (IMPS).**

- 1) 12
- 2) 7
- 3) 11
- 4) 15
- 5) 10

**Answer- 3) 11**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Financial System Code (**IFSC**), is a unique **11-digit alphanumeric code** that is used for online fund transfer transactions done via National Electronic Funds Transfer (NEFT), Real-Time Gross Settlement (RTGS) and Immediate Mobile Payment Service (IMPS).

**18. Which is the 1st Regional Rural Bank of India that was sponsored by Syndicate Bank?**

- 1) Aryavart Bank
- 2) Paschim Banga Gramin Bank
- 3) Ellaquai Dehati Bank
- 4) Utkal Grameen Bank
- 5) Prathama Bank

**Answer- 5) Prathama Bank**

**Explanation:**

Regional Rural Banks were set up on the recommendations of the Narasimham Working Group. The first RRB to be set up was the **Prathama Bank**, sponsored by Syndicate Bank on October 2, 1975 in Uttar Pradesh. The head office is at Moradabad, UP.

**19. Which committee recommended the introduction of a Liquidity adjustment facility in India?**

- 1) Narasimham Committee
- 2) Rangarajan Committee
- 3) Basel Committee
- 4) SS Tarapore Committee
- 5) A K Khandelwal Committee

**Answer- 1) Narasimham Committee**

**Explanation:**

**Narasimham Committee** was set up in 1998 on structural reforms, recommending merger of banks to solve the problem of **NPA**.

**i.** It recommended the introduction of a Liquidity adjustment facility in India.

**20. Which Insurance company has recently (in Jan '24) excluded the Red Sea shipping route from standard marine insurance?**

- 1) Aditya Birla General Insurance
- 2) Tata AIG General Insurance
- 3) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- 4) Star Health and Allied Insurance

5) Edelweiss General Insurance

Answer- **2) Tata AIG General Insurance**

Explanation:

**Tata AIG General Insurance** has excluded the **Red Sea** shipping route from standard **marine insurance** after rebel attacks on vessels in the area, while other insurers are raising premiums for cargo being carried through the vulnerable water channel that helps slash the maritime distance between continental Europe and Asia.

i. Cancellation notices in relation to war, terrorism, and piracy risks in the surrounding areas of the Indian Ocean, the Gulf of Aden and the Southern Red Sea have been sent out effective January 6, 2024.

**21. What is the tagline of Karnataka Bank ?**

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

Answer- **2) Your Family Bank Across India**

Explanation:

**About Karnataka Bank Limited(KBL):**

**Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) – Srikrishnan Harihara Sarma**

**Headquarters – Mangaluru, Karnataka**

**Established in – 1924**

**Tagline – Your Family Bank Across India**

**22. In January 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) decided to waive the Rs. 5 crore penalty that was previously imposed on \_\_\_\_\_ (Bank) due to a shortfall in soiled note remittances.**

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

Answer- **3) Bank of Baroda**

Explanation:

State-owned lender **Bank of Baroda (BOB)** announced the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has decided to waive the **Rs.5 crore penalty** that was previously imposed on it due to a shortfall in soiled note remittances.

- The penalty was attributed to a shortfall in soiled note remittances, indicating issues with the handling of notes that had undergone normal wear and tear.

**23. Name the Life Insurance company that has recently (in Jan '24) launched a unit-linked term insurance plan to offer life cover up to 100 times of the annual premium.**

- 1) Max Life Insurance
- 2) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- 3) HDFC Life Insurance
- 4) Bharti AXA General Insurance

5) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance

Answer- **2) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance**

**Explanation:**

**Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance** announced the launch of a **unit-linked term insurance plan** that offers life cover up to 100 times of the annual premium.

- The 'T.U.L.I.P' Term with Unit-Linked Insurance Plan also provides a customer the opportunity to earn returns like ULIP and additional protection against critical illnesses and accidental death.

**24. According to the data released by the Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI), Indian Mutual Fund Industry's assets under management crossed the Rs \_\_\_\_\_ mark in December 2023 for the first time.**

1) 60 lakh crore

2) 30 lakh crore

3) 40 lakh crore

4) 20 lakh crore

5) 50 lakh crore

Answer- **5) 50 lakh crore**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Mutual Fund industry's assets under management crossed the **Rs 50-lakh-crore** mark in **December 2023** for the **first time**.

- In 10 years, the industry Assets Under Management (AUM) has grown over six times from about Rs 8 lakh crore in 2013 to over Rs 50 lakh crore by 2023, data released by the industry trade body Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI).

**25. Who is the current (as of Jan '24) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of India Post Payments Bank Ltd (IPPB)?**

1) Venkatram Jayanthi

2) Anubrata Biswas

3) Rishi Gupta

4) Surinder Chawla

5) Shashi Arora

Answer- **1) Venkatram Jayanthi**

**Explanation:**

**About India Post Payments Bank Ltd (IPPB):**

**Chief Executive Officer(CEO) – Venkatram Jayanthi**

**Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi**

**Established in – 2018**

**Tagline – Aapka Bank, Aapke Dwaar**

**26. As of January 2024, Which company ranked first among arrangers for Indian offshore loans in 2023?**

1) HSBC Holdings plc

2) Bajaj Finance

3) Muthoot Finance



4) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services

5) Shriram Transport Finance

Answer- **1) HSBC Holdings plc**

**Explanation:**

**HSBC Holdings Plc** ranked **first among arrangers** for Indian offshore loans in 2023, toppling Japanese lenders from the top spot they'd held since 2020.

- Data compiled by Bloomberg show the British bank was the bookrunner on roughly USD 4 billion of US-currency transactions in 2023.
- Borrowing by billionaire Mukesh Ambani's Reliance Group contributed to HSBC's business. Reliance took out a total of USD 6.4 billion last year via multiple banks, according to the statistics.
- HSBC won business from state-backed banks, including a USD 1 billion term loan facility from the State Bank of India, according to Chetan Joshi, the bank's head of debt financing in the country.

**27. What is the tagline of Indian Bank?**

1) We Understand Your World

2) Support All the Way

3) Your own bank

4) Together We Can

5) Your Perfect Banking Partner

Answer- **3) Your own bank**

**Explanation:**

**About Indian Bank:**

**Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) – Shanti Lal Jain**

**Headquarters – Chennai, Tamil Nadu**

**Established in – 1907**

**Tagline – Your own bank**

**28. \_\_\_\_\_ is a rate at which the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) gives loans to commercial banks against government securities.**

1) Repo rate

2) Reverse repo rate

3) Statutory Liquidity Ratio

4) Bank Rate

5) Cash reserve ratio

Answer- **1) Repo rate**

**Explanation:**

**Repo rate** – Repo rate is the rate at which RBI gives loans to commercial banks against government securities.

**Reverse repo rate** – A reverse repo rate is a rate at which RBI borrows money from commercial banks.

**29. Credit Information Companies (CIC) in India are regulated by \_\_\_\_\_**

- 1) Reserve Bank of India
- 2) Bombay Stock Exchange
- 3) National Stock Exchange
- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 5) Competition Commission of India

**Answer-1) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**

**Explanation:**

Credit Information Companies(CIC) in India are regulated by the **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**.

- Presently, four Credit Information Companies(CIC) , viz. Transunion CIBIL Limited , Equifax Credit Information Services Private Limited, Experian Credit Information Company of India Private Limited and CRIF High Mark Credit Information Services Private Limited

**30. NEFT is a nationwide payment system facilitating one-to-one funds transfer.**

**In NEFT, what does 'E' stand for?**

- 1) Exchange
- 2) Electronic
- 3) E-commerce
- 4) Earned
- 5) Equity

**Answer- 2) Electronic**

**Explanation:**

National **Electronic** Funds Transfer (**NEFT**) is a nation-wide payment system facilitating one-to-one funds transfer.

**i.** Under this Scheme, individuals, firms and corporates can electronically transfer funds from any bank branch to any individual, firm or corporate having an account with any other bank branch in the country participating in the Scheme.

**31. Who is the current (as of Jan '24) President & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of ICICI Bank Canada?**

- 1) S. Madhavan
- 2) Sandeep Batra
- 3) Neelam Dhawan
- 4) Rakesh Jha
- 5) Vikash Sharma

**Answer- 5) Vikash Sharma**

**Explanation:**

**About ICICI Bank Canada:**

**President & CEO- Vikash Sharma**

**Established in** December 2003

**Headquarters-** Toronto, Canada

**32. In which year, the International Energy Agency (IEA) was established?**

- 1) 1970
- 2) 1986

3) 1990

4) 1974

5) 1982

Answer- 4) 1974

**Explanation:**

**About International Energy Agency (IEA):**

It is an autonomous intergovernmental organization which provides policy recommendations, analysis and data on the entire global energy sector.

**Established: 1974**

**Executive Director:** Fatih Birol

**Headquarter:** Paris, France

**Member nations:** 31 (India joined IEA as association member nation in 2017)

**33. Who is the present Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH), as of January 2024?**

1) Rakesh Ranjan

2) Gopal Natarajan

3) Aditi Namdeo

4) Rajesh Bansal

5) Atish Mathur

Answer- 4) **Rajesh Bansal**

**Explanation:**

**About Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH):**

It is a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India, focuses on promoting and facilitating an environment that accelerates innovation across the financial sector,

**Chief Executive Officer (CEO)– Rajesh Bansal**

**Headquarters–** Bengaluru, Karnataka

**Established –** 2022

**34. Which of the following is the objective of EXIM Bank?**

1) Providing financial assistance to exporters and importers

2) Promoting India abroad

3) Regulating the country's international trade

4) Reducing imports gradually

5) None of the above

Answer-1) **Providing financial assistance to exporters and importers**

**Explanation:**

The objectives of EXIM Bank: **Providing financial assistance to exporters and importers**, and functioning as the principal financial institution for coordinating the working of institutions engaged in financing export and import of goods and services with a view to promoting the country's international trade.

**About Export and Import (EXIM) Bank of India:**

**Establishment–** 1982

**Headquarters–** Mumbai, Maharashtra

**35. Which bank has recently (in Jan '24) raised Rs. 5,000 crore through its second Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance for the current financial year at a coupon rate of 8.34%?**

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

**Answer- 3) State Bank of India**

**Explanation:**

State Bank of India (SBI) had raised **Rs. 5,000 crore** through its second **Basel III compliant Additional Tier 1 bond issuance** for the current financial year at a coupon rate of 8.34%.

- The tenor of these bonds is perpetual with a call option after 10 years and every anniversary thereafter.
- The issue attracted overwhelming response from a wide range of investors with 108 bids of Rs. 5,294 crore and was oversubscribed by about 2.65 times against the base issue size of Rs. 2,000 crore.

**36. Who is the present (as of Jan '24) Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of YES Bank?**

- 1) Prashant Kumar
- 2) Shyam Srinivasan
- 3) Sandeep Bakhshi
- 4) Sumant Kathpalia
- 5) Ajay Kumar Srivastava

**Answer- 1) Prashant Kumar**

**Explanation:**

**About Yes Bank Limited:**

**Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Prashant Kumar**

**Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra**

**Established in – 2004**

**Tagline – Experience Our Expertise**

**37. Who is the current (as of Jan '24) Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SBI Life Insurance Company Limited?**

- 1) Ravi Krishnamurthy
- 2) Amit Jhingran
- 3) Sangramjit Sarang
- 4) Anand Pejavar
- 5) Dinesh Kumar Khara

**Answer- 2) Amit Jhingran**

**Explanation:**

**About SBI Life Insurance Company Limited:**

**Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Amit Jhingran**

**Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra**

**Incorporated in – 2000**

**Tagline – Apne Liye. Apno Ke Liye**

**38. Who is the current (as Jan '24) Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited?**

- 1) Rishi Mathur
- 2) Anuj Mathur
- 3) Jyoti Vaswani
- 4) Akshay Dhand
- 5) Kiran Yadav

**Answer- 2) Anuj Mathur**

**Explanation:**

**About Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited:**

Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited is a joint venture (JV) promoted by Canara Bank (51%) and HSBC Insurance (Asia Pacific) Holdings Limited (26%).

**Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) – Anuj Mathur**

**Headquarters – Gurugram, Haryana**

**Established in – 2008**

**39. Which bank has recently (in Jan '24) become India's first lender to achieve the milestone of 2 crore credit cards in force (CIF)?**

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

**Answer- 5) HDFC Bank**

**Explanation:**

**HDFC Bank**, India's largest private sector bank, has become the **first lender** in the country to achieve the milestone of **2 crore credit cards** in force (**CIF**).

- HDFC Bank started the credit card business in 2001 with the launch of its first credit card. The bank reached the milestone of 1 crore CIF in 2017, a journey that has spanned approximately 16 years.
- HDFC Bank doubled this CIF count to 2 crore in exactly 6 years and 1 month.

**40. In January 2024, the State Bank of India (SBI) formally removed the 'fraud' tag from \_\_\_\_\_ (company).**

- 1) STCI Finance Limited
- 2) Religare Finvest Limited
- 3) Magma Fincorp Limited
- 4) Ambit Finvest Private Limited
- 5) Capital First Limited

**Answer- 2) Religare Finvest Limited**

**Explanation:**

The State Bank of India (SBI) has formally removed the 'fraud' tag from Religare Finvest Ltd (RFL), following a Delhi High Court order from December, in a move that could pave the way for the non-bank financier to resume lending.

- RFL, a wholly-owned subsidiary of Religare Enterprises Ltd (REL), has been under the Reserve Bank of India's corrective action plan since January 2018.

## CA STATIC GK

**1. Who is the current (as of Jan '24) President of the International Chess Federation (Fédération Internationale des Échecs (FIDE))?**

- 1) Akaki Iashvili
- 2) Victor Bologan
- 3) Konstantin Kiselev
- 4) Emil Sutovsky
- 5) Arkady Dvorkovich

Answer- **5) Arkady Dvorkovich**

**Explanation:****About Federation International des Echecs or International Chess Federation(FIDE):**

**President** – Arkady Dvorkovich

**Deputy President** – Vishwanathan Anand

**Headquarters** – Lausanne, Switzerland

**Established** – 1924

**2. In which state Takhni-Rehmapur 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

**3. In which state/UT Hemis National Park is located?**

- 1) Uttarakhand
- 2) Assam
- 3) Ladakh
- 4) Sikkim
- 5) Arunachal Pradesh

Answer- **3) Ladakh**

**Explanation:**

**About Ladakh:**

**Lieutenant Governor** – B.D. Mishra

**National Park** – Hemis National Park

**Wildlife Sanctuary** – Changthang Wildlife Sanctuary, Karakoram Wildlife Sanctuary

**4. In December 2023, Ujjain Smart City developed an application 'Ujjain Parksmart' for vehicle packing facilities for devotees visiting Mahakaleshwar temple in Ujjain, \_\_\_\_\_ (state).**

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

Answer- **1) Madhya Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

**Ujjain Smart City** has developed an application 'Ujjain Parksmart' for vehicle packing facilities for devotees visiting Mahakaleshwar temple located in Ujjain, **Madhya Pradesh**. Ashish Pathak is current Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ujjain Smart City.

- The application has been launched given the increasing number of devotees here and it is available on the Google Play Store. Four parking lots situated around the temple have been linked with the app in which the devotees can book parking spaces for their vehicles.
- The devotees can easily book slots in advance to park their vehicles before their arrival.

**5. Which state government has recently (in Dec '23) inaugurated the Kalaignar Centenary Bus Terminus at Kilambakkam?**

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

Answer- **1) Tamil Nadu**

**Explanation:**

**Tamil Nadu** Chief Minister MK Stalin inaugurated the Kalaignar Centenary Bus Terminus named after former Chief Minister M Karunanidhi at Kilambakkam in Chennai.

- The bus terminus was inaugurated as part of the centenary birthday celebration of the former Chief Minister who was also the Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam (DMK) chief.
- Born on June 3, 1924, Karunanidhi entered the Tamil Nadu assembly in 1957 and became the chief minister in 1969 after then-chief minister and DMK leader CN Annadurai's death. He passed away in 2018.

**6. 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 Rachela Pass.
- Recently, the fresh image of a Royal Bengal Tiger, taken via trap cameras at the Neora Valley National Park in the hills of West Bengal, has confirmed the presence of the big cats at an altitude of 10,509 feet above sea level.

**7. India is not a member of \_\_\_\_\_.**

1) World Trade Organization (WTO)

2) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB)

3) International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes(ICSID)

4) New Development Bank(NDB)

5) International Finance Corporation(IFC)

Answer- **3) International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes(ICSID)**

**Explanation:**

India is a member of four of the five constituents of the World Bank Group viz., International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD), International Development Association (IDA), International Finance Corporation (IFC) and Multilateral Investment Guarantee Agency (MIGA).

- India is not a member of the International Centre for Settlement of Investment Disputes because of little exposure to investment disputes.
- ICSID is the world's leading institution devoted to international investment dispute settlement. States have agreed on ICSID as a forum for Investor-State dispute settlement in most international investment treaties and in numerous investment laws and contracts.

**8. The Reserve Bank of India was established on the recommendation of \_\_\_\_\_ committee.**

1) Dhar Committee

2) Hilton-Young Commission

3) Percy Mistry Committee

4) Raghuram Rajan Committee

5) Narasimham Committee

Answer: **2) Hilton-Young Commission**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) was established based on the recommendations of the **Hilton-Young Commission**, also known as the Royal Commission on Indian Currency and Finance.

**9. As of January 2024, How many member countries are in the Asian Development Bank (ADB)?**

1) 35

2) 68

3) 58



4) 49

5) 50

Answer- 2) 68

**Explanation:**

**About Asian Development Bank (ADB):**

**President** – Masatsugu Asakawa

**Headquarters** – Manila, Philippines

**Established in** – 1966

**Members** – 68 member countries

**10. 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.

**11. In which state 'Karnala Bird Sanctuary' is located?**

1) Kerala

2) Karnataka

3) Madhya Pradesh

4) Telangana

5) Maharashtra

Answer- 5) Maharashtra

**Explanation:**

**Karnala Bird Sanctuary** is located in the Raigad District of **Maharashtra**.

i. It is a habitat of woodland birds in the Western Ghats & was one of the favoured areas of well-known ornithologist Dr Salim Ali.

ii. It also forms a catchment area of the Patalganga River.

**12. The Unique Identification Authority of India is a statutory authority under which ministry?**

1) Ministry of Science and Technology

2) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

3) Ministry of Rural Development

4) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

5) Ministry of Home Affairs

Answer- 2) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

**Explanation:**

Aadhaar is a Unique Identification number (**UID**) issued by the Unique Identification Authority of India (**UIDAI**), which is a statutory authority established under the provisions of the Aadhaar (Targeted Delivery of Financial and Other Subsidies, Benefits and Services) Act, 2016 ("Aadhaar Act 2016").

**i. UIDAI** was established on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India, under the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**).

**13. In December 2023, the European Union imposed a prohibition on the direct or indirect import, purchase or transfer of \_\_\_\_\_ from Russia.**

- 1) Electronic Equipment
- 2) Pharmaceutical products
- 3) Organic chemicals
- 4) Diamonds
- 5) Silvers

Answer- **4) Diamonds**

**Explanation:**

In December 2023, the European Union (**EU**) adopted a twelfth package of economic and individual restrictive measures in view of the continued Russian war of aggression against Ukraine.

**i. The EU** is imposing a prohibition on the direct or indirect import, purchase or transfer of **diamonds** from Russia.

- This prohibition applies to diamonds originating in Russia, diamonds exported from Russia, diamonds transiting Russia and Russian diamonds when processed in third countries. A direct ban applies to non-industrial natural and synthetic diamonds as well as diamond jewellery, as of 1 January 2024.
- Furthermore, an indirect import ban of Russian diamonds when processed (i.e. cut and/or polished) in third countries, including jewellery incorporating diamonds originating in Russia, will be phased in progressively as of 1 March 2024 and be completed by 1 September 2024.
- This phasing-in of indirect import bans is justified by the need to deploy a traceability mechanism that enables effective enforcement measures and minimises disruptions for the EU market.
- The ban of Russian diamonds is part of a G7 effort to develop an internationally coordinated diamond ban that aims at depriving Russia of this important revenue source.

**14. Who is the present (as of Jan '24) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Skill Development Corporation(NSDC)?**

- 1) Mohit Mathur
- 2) Ajay Kumar Raina
- 3) Ved Mani Tiwari
- 4) Maneesh Mishra
- 5) Sanjeev Singh

Answer- **3) Ved Mani Tiwari**

**Explanation:**

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

i. National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) is a not-for-profit public limited company incorporated under section 25 of the Companies Act, 1956 (corresponding to **section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013**).

ii. NSDC was set up by the Ministry of Finance(MoF) as a Public Private Partnership (PPP) model.

**Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Ved Mani Tiwari**

**Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi**

**Established in – 2008**

**15. Which of the following is Not a Central Public Sector Undertakings under the Ministry of Defence?**

- 1) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 2) Bharat Electronics Limited
- 3) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- 4) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- 5) Yantra India Limited

**Answer- 4) Cochin Shipyard Limited**

**Explanation:**

As of January 2024, There are sixteen Central **Public Sector Undertakings** under the administrative control of the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence.

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- Bharat Electronics Limited
- Bharat Dynamics Limited
- BEML Limited
- Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited
- Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited
- Goa Shipyard Limited
- Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- Advanced Weapons & Equipment India Limited
- Gliders India Limited
- Troop Comforts Limited
- Armoured Vehicles Nigam Limited
- Munitions India Limited
- Yantra India Limited
- India Optel Limited

**16. Which Life Insurance bank is the official partner for the Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) Domestic and International Season 2023-26?**

- 1) HDFC Life Insurance Limited
- 2) Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Limited
- 3) TATA AIA Life Insurance Limited
- 4) SBI Life Insurance Limited
- 5) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Limited

Answer- **4) SBI Life Insurance Limited**

**Explanation:**

Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) announced **SBI Life Insurance Limited** as the official partner for the BCCI Domestic and International Season 2023-26 on September 20, 2023.

- This is a three-year deal, and the partnership will begin with the upcoming three-match ODI series against Australia, starting September 22, 2023.

**17. Which country will host the 30th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) (COP 30)?**

- 1) Italy
- 2) Azerbaijan
- 3) United Arab Emirates
- 4) Egypt
- 5) Brazil

Answer- **5) Brazil**

**Explanation:**

The 28th Conference of the Parties of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)(COP 28) was held in Expo City, Dubai, The United Arab Emirates(UAE) from 30th November to 12th December 2023.

- Azerbaijan will host COP29 from November 11 to 22, 2024 and **Brazil** will host **COP30** from November 10 to 21, 2025.

**18. In December 2023, The Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR), \_\_\_\_\_ (city) developed a new high-yielding variety of black pepper named IISR Chandra.**

- 1) Hisar, Haryana
- 2) Kozhikode, Kerala
- 3) Raipur, Chhattisgarh
- 4) Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh
- 5) Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

Answer- **2) Kozhikode, Kerala**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Institute of Spices Research (**IISR**), **Kozhikode (Kerala)**, has successfully developed a new high-yielding variety of **black pepper**.

- The variety named '**IISR Chandra**' is the result of an extensive research and development process at the Institute which has also completed the whole genome sequencing of the variety.
- Two pepper varieties- Cholamundi and Thommankodi - were crossed to produce a hybrid variety which was back-crossed with Thommankodi ensuring the retention of all the desired parental traits
- '**IISR Chandra**' boasts distinctive traits that set it apart from existing varieties. With its long spike, compact setting and bold berries, this variety has the potential to yield an impressive 7.5 kg of pepper per vine.

**19. Who among the following is 'Not' appointed by the President of India?**

- 1) Chairman of Union Public Service Commission
- 2) Chief Justice of India

- 3) Solicitor General of India
- 4) Comptroller Auditor General
- 5) Attorney General of India

Answer- **3) Solicitor General of India**

**Explanation:**

The **President of India** is the head of state of the Republic of India. The President is the formal head of the executive, legislature, and judiciary of India and is also the commander-in-chief of the Indian Armed Forces.

**The Following Post can be appointed by the President of India:**

- Prime Minister
- Finance Commissioner
- Election Commissioner
- The Governor of a State
- Comptroller Auditor General
- Chief Justice of India and the Judges of the Supreme Court
- Attorney General of India
- Chairman and members of the Union Public Service Commission
- He is also speaker, deputy speaker of Lok Sabha, and chairman/deputy chairman of Rajya Sabha.
- As per Article 74 of the Indian Constitution, there shall be a Council of Ministers to be headed by the Prime Minister for the purpose of advising the President. Such Ministers are appointed by the President as advised by the Prime Minister.

**20. Name the personality who has recently (in Jan '24) launched a new startup 'OppDoor' to provide end-to-end solutions to e-commerce firms.**

- 1) Deepinder Goyal
- 2) Kunal Shah
- 3) Sachin Bansal
- 4) Abhay Soi
- 5) Binny Bansal

Answer- **5) Binny Bansal**

**Explanation:**

Flipkart co-founder **Binny Bansal** has launched his new startup **OppDoor** to provide end-to-end solutions to e-commerce firms. Bansal had parted ways with Flipkart following its acquisition by Walmart in 2018. It is the first time he has come up with his venture after leaving Flipkart.

- Bansal's startup, named OppDoor, will provide services to e-commerce firms related to design, product, human resource, and other backend support, according to media reports. These services will be provided to enterprises willing to expand their businesses to other regions by leveraging network platforms like Amazon and others.
- The startup is registered in Singapore and was established in May 2021. The company is operating as a venture capital firm and was earlier known as 'Three State Ventures Pte Ltd.' The company is receiving investment from different startups across India (like Curefood, and Scapia).

**21. In January 2024, Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) announced that the year 2024 will be christened as 'Year of Human Resource Development and Discipline'.**

**Who is the current (as of Jan '24) CMD of the IREDA?**

- 1) Ram Nihal Nishad
- 2) Ajay Yadav
- 3) Pradip Kumar Das
- 4) Padam Lal Negi
- 5) Bijay Kumar Mohanty

**Answer- 3) Pradip Kumar Das**

**Explanation:**

On the occasion of New Year 2024, Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Ltd. (IREDA) **Pradip Kumar Das** has announced that the year **2024** will be christened as '**Year of Human Resource Development and Discipline**' to mark IREDA's future roadmap into new strategic sectors and geographies.

**22. In which state, Kanha Tiger Reserve is located?**

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

**Answer- 2) Madhya Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

The first ever art exhibition of its kind, named the '**Silent Conversation: From Margins to the Centre**' organized by the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC) and Sankala Foundation in New Delhi from 3rd – 5th November 2023 concluded successfully.

**i.** The exhibition was inaugurated by the Hon'ble President of India, Smt. Droupadi Murmu on 3rd November, 2023. The President was presented with a memento made by an artist belonging to the Mahar community of **Kanha Tiger Reserve in Madhya Pradesh**.

**Note-** The Chanakya Defence Dialogue 2023, a two-day groundbreaking event steered by the Indian Army in collaboration with the Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), concluded on Saturday with takeaways on security challenges in South Asia and the Indo-Pacific.

- The event organised in Manekshaw Centre on November 3 and 4, over six different sessions, was centred around the theme, 'Serving India and the Indo-Pacific Region: Collaborating for Comprehensive Security'.
- Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar graced the occasion and delivered a keynote address on November 3, 2023.

**23. Who has been recently (in Dec '23) appointed as the joint director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)?**

- 1) Rajesh Singh
- 2) V Chandrasekhar
- 3) Surender Kumar Rohilla

4) Subodh Kumar Jaiswal

5) Charu WaliKhanna

Answer- **2) V Chandrasekhar**

**Explanation:**

Clearing the proposal of the department of personnel and training, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) cleared the appointment of Gujarat-cadre IPS officer **V Chandrasekhar** as **joint director of the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI)**.

- According to an order issued by ACC in this regard, Chandrasekhar, a 2000-batch IPS officer will remain at the helm of CBI for a period of five years. The appointment marks the second tenure for Chandrasekhar who has earlier served as superintendent of police and deputy inspector general in CBI.

**24. What is the Tagline of Bank of Baroda (BoB)?**

1) Let's Make Money Simple

2) India's International Bank

3) Together We Can

4) Support All the Way

5) Always You First

Answer- **2) India's International Bank**

**Explanation:**

**About Bank of Baroda (BoB):**

**Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer(CEO)** – Debadatta Chand

**Headquarters** – Vadodara, Gujarat (Corporate centre is in Mumbai, Maharashtra)

**Established in** – 1908

**Tagline** – India's International Bank

**25. Who is the present (as of Jan '24) Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of the REC Limited?**

1) Atish Mathur

2) Jayanth Kumar

3) Praveen Sharma

4) Ajay Kumar

5) Vivek Kumar Dewangan

Answer- **5) Vivek Kumar Dewangan**

**Explanation:**

**About REC Limited:**

**Chairman & Managing Director (CMD)**– Vivek Kumar Dewangan

**Headquarters**– Gurugram, Haryana

**Established in**– 1969

**26. As of January 2024, Vietnamese electric vehicle maker, VinFast is set to open its first Indian manufacturing facility in \_\_\_\_\_, Tamil Nadu.**

1) Salem

2) Chennai

3) Thoothukudi

4) Coimbatore

5) Cuddalore

Answer- **3) Thoothukudi**

**Explanation:**

Vietnamese electric vehicle maker **VinFast** is set to open its **first Indian manufacturing facility** in Tamil Nadu (TN), where it will manufacture batteries for electric vehicles (EVs). The plant will be located in **Thoothukudi**, TN.

i. The company is planning to invest hundreds of millions of US dollars for the facility in a 400-acre space, for the first time in India.

- Established in 2017, the company owns a state-of-the-art automotive manufacturing complex that boasts up to 90% automation in Hai Phong of Vietnam.

**27. Name the Indian personality who has recently (in Jan '24) won the girls' under-19 title at the 2023 Scottish Junior Open squash held in Edinburgh.**

- 1) Anahat Singh
- 2) Dipika Pallikal
- 3) Joshna Chinappa
- 4) Tanvi Khanna
- 5) Akanksha Salunkhe

Answer- **1) Anahat Singh**

**Explanation:**

Talented Indian teenager **Anahat Singh** produced a dominant performance, bagging the girls' under-19 title at the **2023 Scottish Junior Open squash** held in Edinburgh, Scotland.

- Anahat claimed a 11-6, 11-1, 11-5 victory over home favourite Robyn McAlpine in the final. It capped off a spectacular year for Delhi's Anahat, who recorded the under-19 and senior National championship double and won the mixed doubles bronze along with Abhay Singh both at the Asian Games and in the inaugural Asian Mixed Doubles Championships.

**28. In December 2023, Beatrice Chebet from \_\_\_\_\_ (country) broke the women's world 5km record at the Cursa dels Nassos road race in Barcelona.**

- 1) Peru
- 2) Ethiopia
- 3) Brazil
- 4) Kenya
- 5) Argentina

Answer- **4) Kenya**

**Explanation:**

**Kenya's Beatrice Chebet** smashed the **women's world 5km record** at the Cursa dels Nassos road race in **Barcelona** on 31st December 2023.

- The 23-year-old Beatrice Chebet time of 14 min 13sec improved on the previous women-only world record of 14:29 set by Ethiopia's Senbere Teferi in September 2021.

**29. In January 2024, a 7.5-magnitude earthquake hit Ishikawa prefecture in \_\_\_\_\_ (country).**

- 1) China
- 2) Japan



- 3) Indonesia
- 4) Sri Lanka
- 5) Bangladesh

Answer- **2) Japan**

**Explanation:**

On January 1, 2024, a **7.5-magnitude earthquake** hit Ishikawa prefecture in **Japan**, triggering tsunami waves over a meter high.

- **Tsunami is a Japanese term meaning “harbour wave,”** is a series of large ocean waves caused by underwater earthquakes or volcanic eruptions.
- The sudden displacement of a substantial water volume leads to the formation of tsunami waves.
- Earthquakes can displace large sections of the seabed, sending shockwaves through the water and creating towering waves.
- Similarly, underwater volcanic eruptions can displace water with explosive force, triggering tsunamis.
- The formation of tsunamis depends on various factors, including the shape of the ocean floor, the distance, and direction of the earthquake or volcanic eruption.

**i. Japan** is situated along the **‘Pacific Ring of Fire,’** the most active earthquake tectonic belt globally, featuring the Pacific, Eurasian, and Indo-Australian Plates.

- The continuous meshing and colliding of these plates result in frequent earthquakes, volcanic eruptions, and tsunamis.
- The ‘ring’ refers to “an imaginary horseshoe-shaped zone that follows the rim of the Pacific Ocean, where many of the world’s earthquakes and volcanic eruptions occur”.

**30. In which state Zagor, a dance-drama folk festival was celebrated in January 2024?**

- 1) Goa
- 2) Jharkhand
- 3) Assam
- 4) Mizoram
- 5) Sikkim

Answer- **1) Goa**

**Explanation:**

**Zagor, a dance-drama folk festival** was celebrated in **Goa**, where devotees invoke God throughout the night on 1st January 2024.

- It brings Hindus and Christians together, with the purohit, belonging to the Shirodkar family, singing oviyas or religious couplets in praise of Christian deities.

**i. Zagor** is a folk dance inherited from the Modern Marathi Theatre in Goa.

- It consists of two forms one of which belongs to the pernni community, while the other belongs to the christian Gawdas.
- Pernni Zagor concentrates on philosophical topics based on the origin of the universe.
- On the other hand the christian Gawdas has been taken from contemporary village life.

**31. In which year Professor Muhammad Yunus won the Nobel Peace Prize for his contributions to poverty alleviation and the empowerment of women in need?**

- 1) 2000
- 2) 2005
- 3) 2001
- 4) 2006
- 5) 2002

**Answer- 4) 2006**

**Explanation:**

Nobel Peace laureate Muhammad Yunus was convicted for violating Bangladesh's labour laws.

**i.** Professor Yunus and three of his Grameen Telecom colleagues were convicted under labour laws and sentenced to six months in simple imprisonment

- Recipient of the **2006** Nobel Peace Prize, Professor Muhammad Yunus is internationally recognised for his contributions to poverty alleviation and the empowerment of women in need. Professor Yunus has innovatively combined capitalism with social responsibility through the establishment of the Grameen Bank.
- This microcredit institution is dedicated to providing modest amounts of working capital to empower the poor for self-employment. Originating as an action-research project in 1976, the Grameen Bank has since expanded, offering collateral-free loans to 7.5 million clients across more than 82,072 villages in Bangladesh, with an impressive 97% being women.

**32. In which state 'Gajner Wildlife Sanctuary' is located?**

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

**Answer- 5) Rajasthan**

**Explanation:**

**About Rajasthan:**

**Chief Minister (CM)** – Bhajan Lal Sharma

**Governor** – Kalraj Mishra

**Wildlife Sanctuaries** – Gajner Wildlife Sanctuary; Kaila Devi Sanctuary

**Tiger Reserves** – Ranthambore Tiger Reserve; Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve

**33. In which state Udaypur Wildlife Sanctuary is located?**

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

**Answer- 3) Bihar**

**Explanation:**

**About Bihar:**

**Chief Minister**– Nitish Kumar