

GUPTA

CLASSES

Current Affairs

October-2023

English

Part-5



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CLASSES

35. Who is the present Chairman (Part-time) of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI), as of October 2023?

- 1) Jayanth Agrawal
- 2) Neelkanth Mishra
- 3) Rajesh Kumar
- 4) Satyanarayana
- 5) Atul Kumar Chaudhary

Answer- **2) Neelkanth Mishra**

Explanation:

About Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI):

It is a statutory authority, to create Unique Identification (UID) Numbers named Aadhaar to all citizens of India.

It was established under the provisions of the Aadhaar Act, 2016 ("Aadhaar Act 2016") on 12 July 2016 by the Government of India, under the MeitY.

Chairperson (Part-time)- Neelkanth Mishra

CEO- Amit Agrawal

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Founded on- 28 January 2009

36. In which state Ralamandal Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- **5) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Madhya Pradesh (MP):

Chief Minister- Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor- Mangubhai C. Patel

Wildlife Sanctuary- Ralamandal Wildlife Sanctuary; Ratapani Wildlife Sanctuary

Tiger Reserve- Bandhavgarh Tiger Reserve; Kanha Tiger Reserve

37. How many member states are there in the World Health Organisation (WHO) as of October 2023?

- 1) 182
- 2) 165
- 3) 140
- 4) 194
- 5) 123

Answer- **4) 194**

Explanation:

About World Health Organisation (WHO):

It is the United Nations agency that connects nations, partners and people to promote health, keep the world safe and serve the vulnerable

Director General – Dr Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus

Established – 1948

Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland

Member states – 194

38. Where is the Headquarters of the World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA) located?

- 1) Montreal, Canada
- 2) Bonn, Germany
- 3) London, United Kingdom
- 4) Brussels, Belgium
- 5) Rome, Italy

Answer- **1) Montreal, Canada**

Explanation:

About World Anti-Doping Agency (WADA):

It is an international independent agency to lead a collaborative worldwide movement for doping-free sport.

President – Witold Bańka

Established – 1999

Headquarters – Montreal, Canada

39. Who is the present Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIFL) as of October 23?

- 1) Prakash Rao
- 2) Praveen Sharma
- 3) Rajiv Dhar
- 4) Ajay Agarwal
- 5) Atish Mathur

Answer- **3) Rajiv Dhar**

Explanation:

About National Investment And Infrastructure Fund Limited(NIIFL):

Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) – Rajiv Dhar

Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi

Established in – 2015

40. Which country, along with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has recently (in Oct '23) launched a project to prepare for artificial intelligence (AI) supervision?

- 1) Netherlands
- 2) France
- 3) Germany
- 4) Switzerland
- 5) Greece

Answer- **1) Netherlands**

Explanation:

The **Netherlands** and the United Nations' Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) launched a project to help prepare Europe's national agencies to supervise artificial intelligence (AI).

i. The project, undertaken with support of the European Commission, comes ahead of the passage of the AI Act, the broad legislation that is expected to govern AI use in Europe.

41. In October 2023, SpaceX launched 22 of its Starlink internet satellites into Low Earth Orbit (LEO) through _____ rocket from Florida, in the United States of America (USA).

- 1) Falcon 1e
- 2) Grasshopper
- 3) Falcon 9
- 4) Starship
- 5) Falcon 5

Answer- **3) Falcon 9**

Explanation:

On 5th October 2023, **SpaceX** launched a new batch of Starlink internet satellites to low-Earth orbit.

The **Falcon 9 rocket** with **22 Starlink satellites** lifted off from Space Launch Complex 40 (SLC-40) at Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.

i. The launch marked the eighth flight for Falcon 9's first-stage booster supporting this mission, which previously launched CRS-26, OneWeb Launch 16, Intelsat IS-40e, and four Starlink missions.

Following stage separation, the first stage landed on the Just Read the Instructions dronship stationed in the Atlantic Ocean.

42. In October 2023, India won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-19 Championship 2023 by defeating _____ (country) held at the Dashrath Rangasala Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal.

- 1) Bangladesh
- 2) Nepal
- 3) Pakistan
- 4) Bhutan
- 5) Sri Lanka

Answer- **3) Pakistan**

Explanation:

India won the South Asian Football Federation (SAFF) Under-19 Championship 2023 after defeating **Pakistan** 3-0 in a dominating display in the finals at the Dashrath Rangasala Stadium in Kathmandu, Nepal. Manglenthang Kipgen and Gwngwmsar Goyary scored for India.

43. Name the personality who has been recently (in Oct '23) honoured by Indian Air Force (IAF) for his contribution in the Indo-Pakistani War of 1965.

- 1) Lieutenant Naik Karam Singh
- 2) Lieutenant Somnath Sharma
- 3) Lieutenant Yogendra Singh Yadav
- 4) Lieutenant Sanjay Kumar
- 5) Lieutenant Alfred Tyrone Cooke

Answer- **5) Lieutenant Alfred Tyrone Cooke**

Explanation:

Remembering the 1965 India-Pakistan war, the Indian Air Force (IAF) honoured **Lieutenant Alfred Tyrone Cooke** for his contribution in the war. An aerial display of mock air combat was held that showed how the Kalaikunda base was saved during the **Indo-Pakistani War of 1965**.

- i.** Lieutenant **Alfred Tyrone Cooke** is credited for saving the Kalaikunda base from East Pakistan (now Bangladesh) after it launched a raid on the base in 1965. He was honoured by Vir Chakra in the same year.
- ii.** The war started on April 24, 1965, when the Pakistan Army attacked Indian territory in the Rann of Kutch and entered many miles inside the Indian territory. This act of illegal occupation of Indian territory constituted violation of the Indo-Pak Border Agreement of 1960.

44. In which state Nameri National Park is located?

- 1) Jharkhand
- 2) Mizoram
- 3) Tripura
- 4) Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Assam

Answer- **5) Assam**

Explanation:**About Assam:**

Governor – Gulab Chand Kataria

Chief Minister – Himanta Biswa Sarma

National Parks – Manas National Park, **Nameri National Park**

Wildlife Sanctuaries – Bornadi Wildlife Sanctuary, Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary

45. Pradhan Mantri Awas yojana-Urban(PMAY-U) was implemented by _____(Ministry) in 2015.

- 1) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- 2) Ministry of Rural Development
- 3) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- 4) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- 5) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Answer- **3) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (**MoHUA**) has been implementing the Pradhan Mantri Awas yojana-Urban (**PMAY-U**) since June 2015.

- i.** The beneficiaries of the scheme include the Economically weaker section (EWS), low-income groups (LIGs) and Middle Income Groups (MIGs).

46. The Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 (MRTP Act) was repealed and replaced by Competition Act, 2002, which was recommended by _____ (committee).

- 1) Narasimham Committee
- 2) Raghavan committee
- 3) Rajiv Mehrishi Committee
- 4) Pradip Shah Committee

5) Rangarajan Committee

Answer- **2) Raghavan committee**

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has been established to enforce the competition law under the Competition Act, 2002.

i. It should be noted that on the recommendations of the **Raghavan committee**, the Monopolies and Restrictive Trade Practices Act, 1969 (MRTP Act) was repealed and replaced by the Competition Act, 2002.

47. In which state Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park is located?

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

Answer- **2) Jharkhand**

Explanation:

Bhagwan Birsa Biological Park is located in Ranchi, **Jharkhand**. It is 104 ha of area of mildly undulating topography with natural dry deciduous Sal forests & water bodies in and around it. It provides a natural habitat for wild animals to live in peace and harmony with nature.

i. It is situated on the Ranchi-Ramgarah section of National Highway 33, on the outskirts of Ranchi and about 20 kms from it.

48. In which state Sanjay-Dubri Tiger Reserve is located?

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

Answer- **5) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

The **Sanjay-Dubri Tiger Reserve** comprises Sanjay National Park and the Dubri Wildlife Sanctuary, both of which cover more than 831 sq.km and are located in Sidhi District, **Madhya Pradesh**.

i. Sanjay-Dubri National Park and Tiger Reserve was established in 1975 to conserve the biodiversity rich forest area of the district. Comprising an Evergreen Sal forest, it is home to about 152 species of birds 32 species of mammals, 11 species of reptiles, 03 species of amphibian and many more, 34 species of freshwater fishes.

49. In which state Atapaka Bird Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- **2) Andhra Pradesh**

Explanation:

Atapaka Bird Sanctuary, situated on the Kolleru Lake in the Indian state **Andhra Pradesh**, is the home to a vast repertoire of birds. It is especially known for sheltering Pelicans.

i. It spans over an area of 673 square kilometres with wetland marsh habitat extending across two districts namely West Godavari and Krishna. Atapaka Bird Sanctuary falls under Kaikalur forest range.

50. In which state Mrugavani National Park is located?

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

Answer- **2) Telangana**

Explanation:

About Telangana:

Chief Minister- K. Chandrashekar Rao

Governor- Tamilisai Soundararajan

National Parks- Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park; Mahaveer Harina Vanasthali National Park; **Mrugavani National Park**

51. Who is the present Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of North East Small Finance Bank (NESFB) as of October 2023?

- 1) Rupali Kalita
- 2) R Baskar Babu
- 3) Rajeev Yadav
- 4) Sanjay Agarwal
- 5) Govind Singh

Answer- **1) Rupali Kalita**

Explanation:

About North East Small Finance Bank (NESFB):

North East Small Finance Bank Limited is the wholly owned subsidiary of RGVN (North East) Microfinance Limited.

Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) – Rupali Kalita

Headquarters – Guwahati, Assam

Established in – 2015

52. In which year PayU India was found?

- 1) 2009
- 2) 2011
- 3) 2014
- 4) 2019
- 5) 2016

Answer- **3) 2014**

Explanation:

About PayU India:

Chief Executive Officer(CEO)– Anirban Mukherjee

Headquarters– Gurugram, Haryana

Founded in– 2014

53. In October 2023, Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant announced that Goa is set to host the 37th edition of the National Games, featuring a record-breaking _____ sporting disciplines.

- 1) 39
- 2) 43
- 3) 49
- 4) 52
- 5) 60

Answer- **2) 43**

Explanation:

Goa Chief Minister Dr. Pramod Sawant and the State Sports Minister revealed that **Goa** is set to make history by hosting the 37th edition of the National Games, featuring a record-breaking **43 sporting disciplines**.

- i.** The event promises to be a celebration of athletic prowess, camaraderie, and is to feature the introduction of several exciting sports disciplines.
- ii.** Compared to the previous edition in Gujarat, which featured 36 disciplines, and Kerala's 2015 edition with 33, this year's National Games will be the largest ever.
- iii.** The Olympic-style multisport event will witness participation from 28 states and 8 union territories and is scheduled to take place from October 26th to November 9th.
- iv.** The 37th National Games will mark the debut of several new sports disciplines on the medal stage, including beach football, roll ball, golf, sepaktakraw, Sqay martial arts, Kalliyarapattu, and pencak silat.

54. Name the company that has recently (in Oct ' 23) signed an MoU with the Northern Region Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute (NRFMTTI) to encourage skill development among the youth.

- 1) Bajaj Auto Limited
- 2) Hyundai Motor Company
- 3) Tata Motors Limited
- 4) Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd
- 5) Maruti Suzuki India Limited

Answer- **4) Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd**

Explanation:

The Northern Region Farm Machinery Training and Testing Institute (**NRFMTTI**), Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Govt. of India based in Hisar, Haryana, has signed Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with one of India's foremost manufacturers of tractors and agricultural machinery **Mahindra and Mahindra Ltd.**, Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- i.** The strategic partnership aims to foster skill development among the youth, equipping them with the necessary expertise for a career in the field of farm mechanization.

- ii. The MoU outlines a collaborative effort to offer comprehensive training programs that will prepare young individuals for the challenges and opportunities in the agricultural machinery industry.
- iii. The primary objective of this partnership is to bridge the gap between industry requirements and the skill sets possessed by the youth, ultimately strengthening the workforce in the farm mechanization sector.

55. In October 2023, Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the _____ (state)'s Valley Queen Heritage Train.

- 1) Nagaland
- 2) Assam
- 3) Sikkim
- 4) Mizoram
- 5) Rajasthan

Answer- **5) Rajasthan**

Explanation:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi virtually inaugurated the **Rajasthan's** Valley Queen Heritage Train, which will commence its journey from Marwar Junction to Khamlighat starting on 5th October, 2023

- i. The Valley Queen Heritage Train is Rajasthan's only heritage train service.
- ii. It replicates the design of a 150-year-old steam engine, providing passengers with a nostalgic experience.

56. Where is the Dudhwa Tiger Reserve located?

- 1) Assam
- 2) Karnataka
- 3) Jharkhand
- 4) Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **4) Uttar Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Uttar Pradesh:

Chief Minister- Yogi Aditya Nath

Governor- Anandiben Patel

Wildlife sanctuaries – Katarniya Ghat Wildlife Sanctuary, Hastinapur Wildlife Sanctuary, National Chambal Sanctuary

Tiger Reserve – Pilibhit Tiger Reserve, **Dudhwa Tiger Reserve**, Amangarh (buffer of Corbett TR)

57. In which state Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- 1) Uttarakhand
- 2) Jharkhand
- 3) Rajasthan
- 4) Odisha
- 5) West Bengal

Answer- **3) Rajasthan**

Explanation:

The **Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary** is located in the Rajsamand District of **Rajasthan** State.

- i. The Kumbhalgarh Wildlife Sanctuary is located on the fringes of the Aravalli mountain range and is home to indigenous tribes like Bhil, Garasia and the nomadic Raika pastoralists, who are against the idea of declaring it as a tiger reserve as they fear displacement.
- ii. Moreover, there is no documented history of the tiger population in the Kumbhalgarh forest. India's apex tiger conservation body, the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), has declared two more tiger reserves in Rajasthan

58. In which state, Karnala Bird Sanctuary is located?

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

Answer- **3) Maharashtra**

Explanation:

About Maharashtra:

Chief Minister- Eknath Shinde

UNESCO Heritage Sites – Ellora Caves , Chhatrapati Shivaji Terminus (formerly Victoria Terminus)
Sanctuary – **Karnala Bird Sanctuary** , Great Indian Bustard Sanctuary

59. The Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary is located in _____ (state).

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

Answer- **2) Odisha**

Explanation:

The National Green Tribunal (NGT) recently addressed a serious issue concerning the **Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary**, located in the Balasore district of **Odisha**. The NGT's intervention reflects its commitment to safeguarding the delicate balance between development and conservation.

i. Kuldiha Wildlife Sanctuary is situated in the northeastern part of Odisha, bordering the Simlipal National Park. Covering an expanse of 272.75 square kilometers, this sanctuary is a part of the Eastern Highlands moist deciduous forests ecoregion, boasting a diverse range of flora and fauna.

60. In which state Kallanai Dam is located?

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

Answer- **1) Tamil Nadu**

Explanation:

Kallanai Dam (Oldest Dam in India) is built (in running water) across the Kaveri river flowing from Tiruchirapalli District to Thanjavur district, **Tamil Nadu**, India.

i. It was built by Karikala cholan of Chola dynasty.

61. In which state/UT, Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the unveiling of a 72-foot-tall statue of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay in September 2023?

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

Answer- **2) Delhi**

Explanation:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi during the unveiling of a 72-foot-tall statue of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyay on his birth anniversary, in New Delhi, **Delhi** on 25th September 2023 .

i. Antyodaya Diwas Day 2023 was observed across India on 25th September 2023 to commemorate the birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya, former leader of the political party Bharatiya Jana Sangh (BJS), which was a precursor to the Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP).

ii. 25th September 2023 marks the 107th birth anniversary of Pandit Deendayal Upadhyaya.

62. Who is currently serving as the President of the World Bank Group as of October 2023?

- 1) Raj Subramaniam
- 2) Sanjay Mehrotra
- 3) Punit Renjen
- 4) Vasant Narasimhan
- 5) Ajay Banga

Answer- **5) Ajay Banga**

Explanation:

About World Bank (WB):

President (WB Group)- Ajay Banga

Establishment - 1944

Headquarters - Washington D.C, United States (US)

Members - 189 member states

63. Who is the present Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)?

- 1) Rakesh Ranjan
- 2) Gopal Natarajan
- 3) Aditi Namdeo
- 4) Rajesh Bansal
- 5) Atish Mathur

Answer- **4) Rajesh Bansal**

Explanation:

Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH):

The Reserve Bank Innovation Hub is a wholly owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) set-up to promote and facilitate innovation across the financial sector.

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) – Rajesh Bansal

Headquarters – Bengaluru, Karnataka

Established in – 2022

64. Dominican _____ is the currency of the Dominican Republic.

- 1) Franc
- 2) Riel
- 3) Peso
- 4) Taka
- 5) Euro

Answer- 3) Peso

Explanation:

About Dominican Republic:

President – Luis Abinader

Capital – Santo Domingo

Currency – Dominican Peso

65. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) 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:

REC Limited is registered with Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as non-banking finance company (NBFC), Public Financial Institution (PFI) and Infrastructure Financing Company (IFC).

Chairman & Managing Director (MD) – Vivek Kumar Dewangan

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Established in – 1969

66. In which year, the World Trade Organization was established?

- 1) 1976
- 2) 1995
- 3) 1990
- 4) 1997
- 5) 2000

Answer- 2) 1995

Explanation:

About World Trade Organization (WTO):

Director-General – Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala

Headquarters – Geneva, Switzerland

Established in – 1995

67. Kali Tiger Reserve is located in _____ (state).

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

Answer- 1) Karnataka

Explanation:

Kali Tiger Reserve, earlier known as Dandeli-Anshi Tiger Reserve is located in Uttara Kannada District of **Karnataka** State. This belt of Uttara Kannada district is a part of the Western Ghats.

ii. The Tiger Reserve comprises two important protected areas of the region viz., Dandeli Wildlife Sanctuary and Anshi National Park.

68. The High-Speed Craft (HSC) Cheriya pani commenced its trial run from Nagapattinam port Tamil Nadu, India to Kankesanthurai in Sri Lanka on 8th October 2023.

The HSC Cheriya pani is owned by the _____.

- 1) Sagarmala Development Company Limited
- 2) Shipping Corporation of India
- 3) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- 4) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- 5) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers

Answer- 2) Shipping Corporation of India

Explanation:

The High-Speed Craft (HSC) Cheriya pani, owned by the **Shipping Corporation of India**, and a 14-member crew arrived at Nagapattinam. The vessel commenced its trial run from Nagapattinam port, Tamil Nadu, India on 8th October 2023 and took roughly three hours to reach Kankesanthurai in Sri Lanka, which is roughly 60 nautical miles away.

69. Who is the current (as of Oct '23) Chairperson of the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)?

- 1) Rakesh Joshi
- 2) S. N. Rajeswari
- 3) Parmod Kumar Arora
- 4) Suchindra Misra
- 5) Debasish Panda

Answer- 5) Debasish Panda

Explanation:

About Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI):

Chairperson – Debasish Panda

Headquarters – Hyderabad, Telangana

Establishment – 1999 (Incorporated on 1st April 2000)

70. In which year, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) was established?

- 1) 1965
- 2) 1948

3) 1944

4) 1974

5) 1961

Answer- **3) 1944**

Explanation:

About International Monetary Fund (IMF):

Managing Director – Kristalina Georgieva

Headquarters– Washington, D.C, USA

Establishment– 1944

71. In which state Okhla Bird Sanctuary is located?

1) Bihar

2) Uttar Pradesh

3) Madhya Pradesh

4) Karnataka

5) Maharashtra

Answer- **2) Uttar Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Uttar Pradesh:

Chief Minister (CM)- Yogi Adityanath

Governor- Anandiben Mafatbhai Patel

Bird Sanctuary- Samaspur Bird Sanctuary; **Okhla Bird Sanctuary**

Festival- Ayudha Pooja; Lath Mar Holi

72. In which state Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

1) Madhya Pradesh

2) Karnataka

3) Uttar Pradesh

4) Kerala

5) Odisha

Answer- **3) Uttar Pradesh**

Explanation:

Suhelwa Wildlife Sanctuary is located in the state of **Uttar Pradesh**. It is one of the important places in the Bhabar-Tarai Eco-System area which is rich in biodiversity.

i. The Suhelwa Wildlife Division is situated on the Indo-Nepal International Border.

73. In which state Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve is located?

1) Rajasthan

2) Punjab

3) Karnataka

4) Gujarat

5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **5) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

Pachmarhi Biosphere Reserve is a protected area located in the Satpura Range of **Madhya Pradesh**, India. It was established in 1999 and covers an area of 4,926 square kilometers, making it the largest biosphere reserve in Madhya Pradesh.

i. The reserve is home to a diverse range of flora and fauna, including over 1,000 plant species, 50 mammal species, and 250 bird species.

74. In which state, 'Pong Dam Lake Wildlife Sanctuary' is located?

- 1) Arunachal Pradesh
- 2) Himachal Pradesh
- 3) Uttarakhand
- 4) Assam
- 5) Nagaland

Answer- **2) Himachal Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Himachal Pradesh (HP):

Chief Minister- Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu

Governor- Shiv Pratap Shukla

Wildlife Sanctuaries – Nargu Wildlife Sanctuary, **Pong Dam Lake Wildlife Sanctuary**, and Rakcham-Chitkul Wildlife Sanctuary

Airports- Kullu Manali Airport, Shimla Airport, Kangra Airport

75. In which year, Loktak lake in Manipur was designated as a wetland of International Importance under the Ramsar Convention?

- 1) 2010
- 2) 2006
- 3) 2000
- 4) 1990
- 5) 1995

Answer- **4) 1990**

Explanation:

Keibul Lamjao National Park is the only floating park in the world and it is located in the Loktak lake of Manipur.

i. It has the unique ecosystem called 'Phumdi' (a Manipuri word meaning floating mats of soil and vegetation).

ii. This is the last natural habitat of the brow-antlered deer (Sangai) , the dancing deer of Manipur.

iii. **Loktak lake** was initially designated as a wetland of international importance under the Ramsar Convention in **1990**. Later it was also listed under the Montreux Record in 1993.

76. As of October 2023, How many Credit Information Companies (CIC) are in India?

- 1) Seven
- 2) Four
- 3) Six
- 4) Five
- 5) Eight

Answer- **2) Four**

Explanation:

Credit Information Company (**CIC**) or Credit Bureau is an RBI-licensed and authorized organization that collects, maintains and analyses the consumer and business credit information of individuals and companies across the nation, as provided by the financial institutions.

Currently, **four** credit bureaus operate in India: 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.

77. As of October 2023, How many Public Sector Banks (PSB) are in India?

- 1) 13
- 2) 8
- 3) 10
- 4) 9
- 5) 12

Answer- **5) 12**

Explanation:

India currently has **12 Public Sector Banks (PSB)**- Bank of Baroda (BOB), Bank of India (BOI), Bank of Maharashtra (BOM), Canara Bank, Central Bank of India, Indian Bank, Indian Overseas Bank (IOB), Punjab & Sind Bank, PNB, State Bank of India (SBI), UCO Bank, and Union Bank of India (UBI)

78. In which state Ranthambore National Park is located?

- 1) West Bengal
- 2) Jharkhand
- 3) Rajasthan
- 4) Madhya Pradesh
- 5) Haryana

Answer- **3) Rajasthan**

Explanation:

About Rajasthan:

Chief Minister – Ashok Gehlot

Governor – Kalraj Mishra

National parks: Ranthambore National Park; Mukundra Hills National Park, Keoladeo National Park

79. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Chairman & Director of Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI)?

- 1) Reji Mathai
- 2) Praveen Sharma
- 3) Atish Mathur
- 4) Indrai Sharma
- 5) Rajiv Singh

Answer- **1) Reji Mathai**

Explanation:

About Automotive Research Association of India (ARAI):

Chairman & Director- Dr. Reji Mathai

Headquarters- Pune, Maharashtra

Established in- 1966

80. Iranian _____ is the Currency of Iran.

1) Shekel

2) Rial

3) Dram

4) Dinar

5) Rupiah

Answer- 2) Rial

Explanation:

About Iran:

Capital- Tehran

Currency- Iranian Rial

President- Ebrahim Raisi

81. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Chief of the Air Staff?

1) A P Singh

2) Sandeep Singh

3) Ravi Gopal

4) VR Chaudhari

5) Arjan Singh

Answer- 4) VR Chaudhari

Explanation:

About Indian Air Force (IAF):

Chief of the Air Staff - VR Chaudhari

Headquarters - New Delhi, Delhi

Established in - 1932

Motto - Touching the sky with Glory

82. As of October 2023, _____ to be partner country for Tamil Nadu's Global Investors Meet in January 2024.

1) Australia

2) Singapore

3) Indonesia

4) Germany

5) France

Answer- 1) Australia

Explanation:

Australia will be a partner country for **Tamil Nadu's Global Investors Meet** in January 2024.

i. Philip Green, the Australian High Commissioner to India announced that Australia along with its official delegates will participate in the upcoming Global Investors Meet 2024.

ii. Green was speaking at the 34th Annual day celebrations of the Indo-Australian Chamber of Commerce in Chennai.

83. What is the capital of Israel ?

- 1) Nazareth
- 2) Jerusalem
- 3) Acre
- 4) Haifa
- 5) Tel Aviv

Answer- **2) Jerusalem**

Explanation:

The Capital of Israel is **Jerusalem** and Israeli Shekel is the currency of Israel.

i. Presently, Benjamin Netanyahu is the Prime Minister of Israel & Isaac Herzog is the present President.

Note- Israel has formally **declared war** on Hamas, setting the stage for a major military operation in Gaza as fighting continues to rage on Israeli soil.

- Tanks and personnel carriers could be seen on the move near the Israel-Gaza border, after Hamas – an Islamist militant group – launched an unprecedented and highly coordinated surprise assault that has so far killed over 700 Israelis.

84. The biggest commercial port in India, _____, completed 25 years of its operations on 7th October 2023.

- 1) Paradip Port
- 2) Haldia port
- 3) Mundra Port
- 4) Kandla Port
- 5) Jawaharlal Nehru port

Answer- **3) Mundra Port**

Explanation:

Mundra Port, which is the country's biggest commercial port and a flagship facility of Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ), on 7th October 2023, completed **25 years** of its operations. Since the berthing of its first ship, MT Alpha on October 7, 1998, the port has contributed at least Rs 2.25 lakh crore to the state and national exchequer.

i. The port facilities include the largest coal, natural gas, and auto terminals, among others.

85. iGOT Karmayogi managed, governed, and operated by Karmayogi Bharat is a comprehensive online portal to guide government officials in their capacity building journey. Karmayogi Bharat is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set-up under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 by _____ (Department).

- 1) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances
- 2) Department of Home Affairs
- 3) Department of Electronics & IT
- 4) Department of Personnel and Training
- 5) Department of Financial Services

Answer- **4) Department of Personnel and Training**

Explanation:

Karmayogi Bharat, in partnership with Sashastra Seema Bal (**SSB**), launched 12 courses designed to bridge competency gaps and are tailored to needs, and aspirations of officials. The courses will enable a fundamental shift from rule-based to role-based training.

i. The SSB Capacity Building unit under Shri Paresh Saxena (IG, Training) has developed the courses that are available both in English and in Hindi.

ii. iGOT Karmayogi (<https://igotkarmayogi.gov.in/>), managed, governed, and operated by Karmayogi Bharat-DoPT, is a comprehensive online portal to guide government officials in their capacity building journey.

- Karmayogi Bharat is a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) set-up under Section 8 of the Companies Act, 2013 by **Department of Personnel and Training**, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions as a 100% Government owned Company under National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) — Mission Karmayogi.

iii. The portal combines 6 functional hubs for online learning, competency management, career management, discussions, events, and networking. More than 24 lakh learners from across the government spectrum are currently registered on the iGOT Platform having access to over 740 courses.

86. Which company has recently (in Oct '23) won 810 MW Solar PV project capacity from Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Nigam Limited (RRVUNL)?

- 1) Power Grid Corporation of India
- 2) NLC India Limited
- 3) NTPC Limited
- 4) Coal India
- 5) Power Finance Corporation

Answer- **2) NLC India Limited**

Explanation:

NLC India Limited, a Navratna Central Public Sector Undertaking (CPSE) under the Ministry of Coal has won **810 MW Solar PV project capacity** from Rajasthan Rajya Vidyut Nigam Limited (RRVUNL).

i. NLCIL has successfully garnered the entire capacity of the 810 MW tender floated by RRVUNL in December 2022, for developing the project RRVUNL's 2000 MW Ultra Mega Solar Park at Pugal Tehsil, Bikaner District, Rajasthan. The Letter of Intent for this project has been issued by RRVUNL.

ii. This achievement marks a significant step forward in NLCIL's commitment to clean and sustainable energy solutions.

87. In October 2023, the State Science Museum and Planetarium, a Centre for Scientific Learning and Creativity (CSLC) was inaugurated in _____ (state).

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

Answer- **3) Himachal Pradesh**

Explanation:

The **State Science Museum and Planetarium in Himachal Pradesh**, a Centre for Scientific Learning and Creativity (CSLC), was inaugurated by Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu in Shoghi, near Shimla, on October 7, 2023.

i. The complex, established by the Himachal Pradesh Council for Science, Technology, and Environment (HIMCOSTE), will be managed and curated by Solan-based Shoolini University, the No.1 Private University in India (The World University Rankings & QS World University Rankings).

88. In which year 'United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME)' was formed?

- 1) 2001
- 2) 2008
- 3) 2004
- 4) 2006
- 5) 2000

Answer- **3) 2004**

Explanation:

About the United Nations Inter-Agency Group for Child Mortality Estimation (UN IGME):

UN IGME is led by UNICEF and includes the World Health Organization (WHO), the World Bank Group and the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, Population Division.

Formed in – 2004

89. Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport is situated in which state?

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

Answer- **2) Uttar Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Uttar Pradesh (UP):

Chief Minister (CM) – Yogi Adityanath

Governor – Anandiben Patel

Zoological Park – Shaheed Ashfaq Ullah Khan Prani Udyan; Sarnath Deer Park

Airports – Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport; **Lal Bahadur Shastri Airport**

90. In which year Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) was Established?

- 1) 1995
- 2) 1996
- 3) 1990
- 4) 1994
- 5) 1992

Answer- **5) 1992**

Explanation:

About Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI):

Chairperson- Madhabi Puri Buch

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Establishment- 1992

91. In which state 'Chail Wildlife Sanctuary' is located?

- 1) Andhra Pradesh
- 2) Uttarakhand
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Bihar
- 5) Himachal Pradesh

Answer- 5) Himachal Pradesh

Explanation:

About Himachal Pradesh:

Chief Minister- Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu

Governor- Shiv Pratap Shukla

Wildlife Sanctuary- Bandli Wildlife Sanctuary; **Chail Wildlife Sanctuary**

UNESCO heritage site- Great Himalayan National Park Conservation Area; Mountain Railways of India

92. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Star Health and Allied Insurance?

- 1) Ashok Ojha
- 2) Atish Mathur
- 3) Ajay Kumar
- 4) Praveen Sharma
- 5) Anand Roy

Answer- 5) Anand Roy

Explanation:

About Star Health and Allied Insurance:

Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer- Anand Roy

Headquarters- Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Establishment- 2006

93. The sixth edition of the Unmanned Systems Exhibition (UMEX) and Simulation and Training Exhibition (SIMTEX) is scheduled to take place at _____ (country) in January 2024.

- 1) United States of America
- 2) United Arab Emirates
- 3) United Kingdom
- 4) France
- 5) Australia

Answer- 2) United Arab Emirates

Explanation:

The sixth edition of the Unmanned Systems Exhibition (UMEX) and Simulation and Training Exhibition (SIMTEX) is scheduled to take place in January 2024 under the patronage of Sheikh Hazza bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Ruler of **Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates**.

- i. UMEX and SimTEX the only exhibitions of their kind in the region which specialise in unmanned systems, simulation, training, and robotics in the commercial and defence sectors will be in Abu Dhabi.
- ii. ADNEC Group is organising UMEX and SimTEX 2024 exhibitions and the conference that accompanies them in cooperation with the UAE Ministry of Defence, with the aim of providing an ideal platform for stakeholders in the unmanned systems, simulation, training, and robotics sectors, including manufacturers, operators, and end-users.

94. Name the auxiliary military organisation/defence sector that has recently (in Oct '23) inducted its first batch of Mandarin-trained officers to support the regular Army's efforts to enhance expertise in the Chinese language.

- 1) Border Security Force
- 2) Northern Bengal Mounted Rifles
- 3) Bihar Light Horse
- 4) Surma Valley Light Horse
- 5) Territorial Army

Answer- **5) Territorial Army**

Explanation:

The **Territorial Army (TA)** has inducted its first batch of Mandarin-trained officers and posted them to forward areas along the LAC in support of the regular Army's drive to enhance expertise in the Chinese language, Tibetology and the like amid the continuing military confrontation in eastern Ladakh.

- The Territorial Army of India is an auxiliary military organisation of part-time volunteers that provides support services to the Indian Army.
- i. The **Indian Territorial Army (TA)** is a second line of defence after the regular Indian Army; it is not a profession, occupation or a source of employment.
- It is only meant for those people who are already in mainstay civilian professions; in fact, gainful employment or self-employment in a civil profession is a prerequisite for joining the TA.
 - The duties of the TA include "relieving the Regular Army from static duties", while also providing assistance to civil authorities in times of natural calamities and tragedies.
 - They also help civil administration with providing essential services in areas where state machinery is stretched or there are security threats.
 - Volunteers of the TA usually serve in uniform for a few days every year, so that they can bear arms for national defence in times of dire need or national emergencies.

95. The Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment has launched the SHRESHTA scheme which provides Residential Education for Students in High Schools.

In SHRESHTA, what does 'T' stand for?

- 1) Term
- 2) Targeted
- 3) Technical

4) Teaching

5) Transfer

Answer- **2) Targeted**

Explanation:

In a move towards promoting education and the socio-economic development of Scheduled Castes (SCs) in India, the **Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment** has launched the "Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in **Targeted** Areas" (SHRESHTA).

- The primary objective of SHRESHTA is to expand the reach of government development initiatives and address service deficiencies in SC-dominant areas within the education sector.
- The scheme aims to achieve this through the collaboration of grant-in-aid institutions run by non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and residential high schools offering high-quality education.
- SHRESHTA envisions creating an environment conducive to the socio-economic upliftment and holistic development of SC students while securing their future opportunities.
- SHRESHTA Schools (Best CBSE/State Board Affiliated Private Residential Schools): Under this mode, a specific number of meritorious SC students from States/Union Territories are selected through the National Entrance Test for SHRESHTA (NETS), conducted by the National Testing Agency (NTA).
- These selected students are admitted to the best private residential schools affiliated with CBSE/State Boards in the 9th and 11th grades, enabling them to complete their education up to the 12th standard. The selection process involves identifying the best-performing CBSE-based private residential schools with over 75% pass percentage for the past three years.

96. In which state/UT, India's largest construction and demolition (C&D) plant has inaugurated in October 2023?

1) Gujarat

2) Jammu and Kashmir

3) Odisha

4) Delhi

5) Maharashtra

Answer- **4) Delhi**

Explanation:

Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal inaugurated **India's largest construction and demolition (C&D) plant** in Delhi's Burari area. The Chief Minister also inspected the plant along with officials.

i. The Chief Minister said that out of 6500 tonnes of debris generated in the national capital around 5000 metric tonnes of debris will be processed in the Burari plant.

ii. The first phase of the Graded Response Action Plan (GRAP) has been implemented in Delhi aimed at curbing dust pollution in the capital.

97. Name the personality who has been recently (in Oct ' 23) selected for the Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram 2022.

1) Shiv Kumar Dhyani

2) Devashree Nayak

3) Rajendra Choudhary

4) Archana Singh

5) P. K. Ramachandran Nair

Answer- **5) P. K. Ramachandran Nair**

Explanation:

P. K. Ramachandran Nair, a leading researcher in agroforestry, has been selected for the **Kerala Sasthra Puraskaram 2022**, instituted by the State government to honour scientists of Kerala origin.

- Dr. Ramachandran Nair is currently Distinguished Professor Emeritus, Agroforestry and International Forestry, University of Florida, United States.
- The Science Award is instituted jointly by the Science and Technology Department, Government of Kerala, and the Kerala State Council for Science, Technology and Environment (KSCSTE).
- Dr. Ramachandran Nair was chosen for his outstanding scientific contributions, in particular to the field of agroforestry. The award carries a cash prize of ₹ 2 lakh, citation and plaque.
- The Kerala government had chosen agricultural scientist M.S. Swaminathan and theoretical physicist Thanu Padmanabhan for the 2021 edition of the award.

98. Emmy-nominated costume designer _____, who worked on the Star War series 'The Mandalorian' has passed away in October 2023.

- 1) Shawna Trpcic
- 2) Jean Paul Gaultier
- 3) Ann Bishop Roth
- 4) Giorgio Armani
- 5) Thomas Carlyle Ford

Answer- **1) Shawna Trpcic**

Explanation:

Emmy-nominated costume designer **Shawna Trpcic**, who worked on the Star War series **The Mandalorian**, **The Book of Boba Fett** and **Ahsoka**, has passed away at 56.

i. Shawna has worked in **The Ballad of John St George**, **Frankenstein's Monster's Monster**, **Frankenstein**, **Carry Tiger To Mountain**, **Revival**, **Witches of East End**, **The Cabin in the Woods**, **This Is the End**, **Firefly**, **Angel**, **K-ville**, **Torchwood**, **Husbands**, **Lust for Love** and **Dollhouse**.

i. She got Emmy nominations for her work in **The Mandalorian "Chapter 22: Guns For Hire"** (2023), **The Book Of Boba Fett** (2022) and **The Mandalorian "Chapter 13: The Jedi"** (2021). For her design work in **Boba Fett**, Shawna won a **Costume Designers Guild Award**.

99. In which state 'Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve' is located?

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

Answer- **5) Rajasthan**

Explanation:

About Rajasthan:

Chief Minister (CM) – Ashok Gehlot

Governor – Kalraj Mishra

Wildlife Sanctuaries – Gajner Wildlife Sanctuary; Kaila Devi Sanctuary

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

100. Which state government has recently (in Sept '23) adopted AI-enabled robotic technology in Umiam Lake to keep it free of pollutants?

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

Answer- **2) Meghalaya**

Explanation:

The **Meghalaya** government adopted AI-enabled robotic technology in Umiam Lake to keep it free of pollutants. **Umiam Lake** is also known as Barapani Lake.

i. It was created by damming the Umiam River in the early 1960s. It is encircled by lush green East Khasi hills. It is one of the biggest artificial lakes in Meghalaya

101. In which state South Lhonak Lake is located?

- 1) Arunachal Pradesh
- 2) Assam
- 3) Sikkim
- 4) Mizoram
- 5) Manipur

Answer- **3) Sikkim**

Explanation:

Fourteen people have been killed and 102, including at least 23 Army personnel, are missing in **Sikkim** as of after the **South Lhonak Lake**, a glacial lake situated in the state's northwest at 17,000 ft, burst due to incessant rains, leading to the release of water in downstream areas.

i. This caused the rise of water levels in Teesta river that flooded at least four districts, including Mangan, Gangtok, Pakyong and Namchi on 4th October 2023.

102. In which state 'Marat Longri Wildlife Sanctuary' is located?

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

Answer- **1) Assam**

Explanation:

About Assam:

Chief Minister- Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor- Gulab Chand Kataria

Airports- Jorhat Airport (Rowrah Airport); Salonibari airport

Wildlife Sanctuary- Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary; **Marat Longri Wildlife Sanctuary**

103. In which state Ghughwa National fossils Park is located?

- 1) Himachal Pradesh
- 2) Uttarakhand
- 3) Maharashtra
- 4) Arunachal Pradesh
- 5) Madhya Pradesh

Answer- **5) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Madhya Pradesh:

Chief Minister- Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor- Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

National Park- Kuno National Park; Ghughwa National fossils Park

Wildlife Sanctuary- Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary; Orchha Wildlife Sanctuary

104. In which state 'Ghosu Bird Sanctuary' is located?

- 1) Nagaland
- 2) Manipur
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Odisha
- 5) Assam

Answer- **1) Nagaland**

Explanation:

About Nagaland:

Chief Minister- Neiphiu Rio

Governor - La Ganesan

Wildlife Sanctuary - Rangapahar Wildlife Sanctuary

Bird Sanctuary - Ghosu Bird Sanctuary

105. Where is the Headquarters of the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA) located?

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

Answer- **5) Vienna, Austria**

Explanation:

About International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA):

Director General- Rafael Mariano Grossi

Headquarters - Vienna, Austria

Establishment - 1957

106. In which year, the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM) was established?

- 1) 1920
- 2) 1942

3) 1930

4) 1946

5) 1952

Answer- **1) 1920**

Explanation:

About the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM):

President- Ajay Singh

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment- 1920

107. Where is the Headquarters of the International Olympic Committee (IOC) located?

1) New York City, United States of America

2) Vienna, Austria

3) London, United Kingdom

4) Paris, France

5) Lausanne, Switzerland

Answer- **5) Lausanne, Switzerland**

Explanation:

About International Olympic Committee (IOC):

The International Olympic Committee is the guardian of the Olympic Games and the leader of the Olympic Movement.

President – Thomas Bach

Headquarters – Lausanne, Switzerland

Established in – 1894

108. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Chief of the Army Staff?

1) General Manoj Pande

2) General Kanwal Jeet Singh Dhillon

3) General Rajiv Atma Ram

4) General H Dharmarajan

5) General Deepak Bhardwaj

Answer- **1) General Manoj Pande**

Explanation:

About Indian Army:

Chief of the Army Staff – General Manoj Pande

Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi

Established – 1895

109. Who has been recently (in Oct '23) appointed as the Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SBM Bank India?

1) Shyam Sundar Barik

2) Ameet N. Patel

3) Sudha Ravi

4) Dipak Agarwal

5) Sattar Hajee Abdoula

Answer- **4) Dipak Agarwal**

Explanation:

SBM Bank India, the wholly owned local subsidiary of Mauritius-headquartered SBM Bank (Mauritius), has appointed **Dipak Agarwal** as its deputy chief executive officer.

- i. Dipak Agarwal has been appointed as its deputy CEO and head of business. He was previously the head of corporate banking.
- ii. The bank refuted this, pointing out that the tenure of Sidharth Rath, the current CEO, is set to expire only in November 2024.

110. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) chief of Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) India?

- 1) Oba Yuichi
- 2) Ando Naoki
- 3) Miyazaki Katsura
- 4) Ikura Yoshinobu
- 5) Saito Mitsunori

Answer- **5) Saito Mitsunori**

Explanation:

Japan International Cooperation Agency (**JICA**) **India** chief **Saito Mitsunori** announced that Japan's premier international cooperation and development agency, JICA, is interested in partnering with India in infrastructure projects in Southeast Asia, Africa and the Pacific.

- i. He also pointed to JICA's plans with the newly announced Bay of Bengal Northeast Corridor, which aims to build infrastructure in India and Bangladesh and construct a new industrial value chain.

111. Name the state government that has recently (in Oct '23) launched a poverty alleviation scheme, Orunodoi 2.0.

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

Answer- **2) Assam**

Explanation:

Assam launched a poverty alleviation scheme **Orunodoi 2.0**. Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma launched the process of distributing Orunodoi Cards to new beneficiaries as he presented cards to some new beneficiaries at a programme held at Kokrajhar.

- i. Under Orunodoi 2.0, new beneficiaries numbering around 7.30 lakh will be added to the beneficiary list taking the total number of beneficiaries under Orunodoi to 26 lakh. In Kokrajhar District, a total of 21 thousand beneficiaries will be added to Orunodoi 2.0.

112. Who has been recently (in Oct '23) appointed as the Vice President of Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN)?

- 1) Vivek Jain
- 2) Jayanth Kumar
- 3) Praveen Sharma

- 4) Atish Mathur
- 5) Samiran Gupta

Answer- **5) Samiran Gupta**

Explanation:

The Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (**ICANN**) announced that **Samiran Gupta** rejoined ICANN on October 3 as **Vice President**, government and intergovernmental organisation (IGO) engagement for the APAC region and Stakeholder Engagement South Asia.

i. The organisation said Gupta will primarily oversee ICANN's engagement and participation in IGO and multilateral forums in the region, including meetings and initiatives of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and engaging with regional governments on the United Nations Global Digital Compact and the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS)+20 process.

113. Name the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) that has recently (in Oct '23) signed an MoU with the Supreme Court to emerge technologies for court proceedings.

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

Answer- **2) IIT Madras**

Explanation:

The Supreme Court has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) **Madras** for the collaboration on using artificial intelligence (AI) and emerging **technologies for court proceedings.**

i. The apex court under the leadership of the Chief Justice of India Justice DY Chandrachud is driving technological enhancement in making its process automated, user-friendly and citizen-centric to enhance access to justice.

114. Name the personality who has created the National record in the men's 100m event at the 62nd National Open athletics championships in October 2023.

- 1) H.H. Manikanta
- 2) Mohan Kumar
- 3) Parinaaz Dhaliwal
- 4) Jora Singh
- 5) Angad Vir Singh

Answer- **1) H.H. Manikanta**

Explanation:

H.H. Manikanta created the **National record** in the **men's 100m event** with a fine performance in the **62nd National Open athletics championships** at the Sree Kanteerava Stadium, Bengaluru, Karnataka.

i. In the semi final heats round, Manikanta seared past the finish line with a timing of 10.23s, erasing the previous mark set by Amiya Mallick (10.26s) in 2016.

ii. Odisha's Mallick, incidentally, was in the heats alongside Manikanta, and finished fourth (10.58s).

iii. Manikanta finished ahead of Railways' Elakkiyadasan K (10.49sec) and Tamil Nadu's Sai Siddharth (10.55sec).

115. In which state 'Nahar Wildlife Sanctuary' is located?

- 1) Gujarat
 - 2) Uttar Pradesh
 - 3) Rajasthan
 - 4) Haryana
 - 5) Madhya Pradesh
- Answer- **4) Haryana**

Explanation:

About Haryana:

Chief Minister- Manohar Lal

Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

Zoological Park – Mini Zoo and Rohtak Zoo

Wildlife Sanctuary – Chhilchhila Wildlife Sanctuary, **Nahar Wildlife Sanctuary**

116. In which state Salonibari airport is located?

- 1) Assam
 - 2) Sikkim
 - 3) Arunachal Pradesh
 - 4) Uttar Pradesh
 - 5) Uttarakhand
- Answer- **1) Assam**

Explanation:

About Assam:

Chief Minister- Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor- Gulab Chand Kataria

Airports- Jorhat Airport (Rowrah Airport); **Salonibari airport**

Wildlife Sanctuary- Deepor Beel Wildlife Sanctuary; Marat Longri Wildlife Sanctuary

117. The Kheoni Wildlife Sanctuary is located in which state?

- 1) Bihar
 - 2) Uttar Pradesh
 - 3) Madhya Pradesh
 - 4) Jharkhand
 - 5) Maharashtra
- Answer- **3) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

About Madhya Pradesh:

Chief Minister- Shivraj Singh Chouhan

Governor- Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel

National Park- Madhav National Park; Satpura National Park

Wildlife Sanctuary- National Chambal Gharial Wildlife Sanctuary, **Kheoni Wildlife Sanctuary**

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

119. Which of the following countries does not share a border with Israel?

- 1) Iraq
- 2) Syria
- 3) Jordan
- 4) Egypt
- 5) Lebanon

Answer- **1) Iraq**

Explanation:

Israel, officially the State of Israel, a country in the Middle East bordering the eastern end of the Mediterranean Sea. Israel **borders** Egypt, Jordan, Lebanon, Syria, and the Palestinian territories of West Bank and the Gaza Strip; it shares maritime borders with Cyprus.

120. Where is the Headquarters of the International Energy Agency (IEA) located?

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

Answer- **2) Paris, France**

Explanation:

About International Energy Agency (IEA):

Executive Director- Dr Fatih Birol

Headquarters- Paris, France

Establishment- 1974

121. Who is the current (as of Oct '23) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Skyroot Aerospace Private Limited?

- 1) Sireesh Kumar
- 2) Vasudevan Gnanagandhi
- 3) Eswaran
- 4) Kishore Tallam
- 5) Pawan Kumar Chandana

Answer- **5) Pawan Kumar Chandana**

Explanation:

About Skyroot Aerospace Private Limited:

Co-founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)– Pawan Kumar Chandana

Headquarters– Hyderabad, Telangana

Established in – 2018

122. Where is the Headquarters of Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI) located?

- 1) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 2) Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- 3) Hyderabad, Telangana
- 4) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- 5) Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Answer- 1) Mumbai, Maharashtra

Explanation:

About Association of Mutual Funds in India (AMFI):

CEOs– N. S. Venkatesh and Balkrishna Kini

Headquarters– Mumbai, Maharashtra

Incorporated on– August 22, 1995

Note- AMFI is the association of all the AMCs of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) registered mutual funds in India. As of now, all the 44 AMCs that are registered with SEBI, are its members.

123. Name the oceanographic research vessel of Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) that embarked on a two-month long Sagar Maitri (SM) Mission-4 from Southern Naval Command (SNC), Kochi in October 2023.

- 1) Indian Navy Ship (INS) Nireekshak
- 2) Indian Navy Ship (INS) Nirupak
- 3) Indian Navy Ship (INS) Sagardhwani
- 4) Indian Navy Ship (INS) Makar
- 5) Indian Navy Ship (INS) Darshak

Answer- 3) Indian Navy Ship (INS) Sagardhwani

Explanation:

Indian Navy Ship **(INS) Sagardhwani**, an oceanographic research vessel of Naval Physical & Oceanographic Laboratory (NPOL) of Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**), embarked on a two-month long Sagar Maitri **(SM) Mission-4** from South Jetty, Southern Naval Command (SNC), **Kochi** on October 12, 2023.

- Sagar Maitri is a novel initiative of DRDO that supports the broad objective of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi's policy declaration 'Safety and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR)' to promote closer cooperation in socio-economic aspects as well as more significant scientific interaction, especially in ocean research among Indian Ocean Rim (IOR) countries.
- Under the aegis of this policy, DRDO initiated a scientific component named 'MAITRI (Marine and Allied Interdisciplinary Training and Research Initiative)', which focuses on establishing long-term collaboration with IOR countries in the field of 'Ocean Research and Development'.
- In the SAGAR MAITRI programme, INS Sagardhwani will retrace the tracks of INS Kistna, which participated in the International Indian Ocean Expedition during 1962-65.

- The current mission (SM-4) plan includes scientific deployments onboard INS Sagardhwani in the Northern Arabian Sea and initiating collaborative research programmes with the Department of Marine Sciences & Fisheries at Sultan Qaboos University, Oman.
- INS Sagardhwani is a marine acoustic research ship designed and developed by NPOL, Kochi and constructed indigenously by GRSE Ltd. It was launched in July 1994.
- The NPOL is involved in studying the ocean environment and other related fields. The vessel has been engaging in extensive oceanic observing missions and research for the last 25 years.

124. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of IndusInd Bank?

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

Answer- **4) Sumant Kathpalia**

Explanation:

About IndusInd Bank Limited(Ltd):

Managing Director(MD) & Chief Executive Officer(CEO) – Sumant Kathpalia

Headquarters – Mumbai, Maharashtra

Established in – 1994

Tagline – We Make You Feel Richer

125. Who has been recently appointed (in Oct '23) as the Vice Chairman of Ceat and Zensar Technologies?

- 1) Atish Agrawal
- 2) Vivek Jain
- 3) Praveen Sharma
- 4) Ajay Kumar
- 5) Anant Goenka

Answer- **5) Anant Goenka**

Explanation:

Anant Goenka has been appointed as the vice chairman of the USD 4.4 billion RPG Group. He will continue to serve as the **vice chairman of Ceat and Zensar Technologies.**

i. In addition to his new role, Anant Goenka, who is the son of chairman Harsh Goenka, will continue to serve as the vice chairman of Ceat and Zensar Technologies.

ii. The company announced that the move strengthens the leadership at the group, ensuring stability and continuity in the long term.

126. In October 2023, India hosted the _____ edition of Pacific Asia Travel Association (PATA) Travel Mart 2023 at the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC), Pragati Maidan, in New Delhi, Delhi.

- 1) 41st
- 2) 46th
- 3) 49th

4) 52nd

5) 50th

Answer- 2) 46th

Explanation:

India hosted the **46th** edition of Pacific Asia Travel Association (**PATA**) **Travel Mart 2023** from Oct 4 to Oct 6 at the International Exhibition-cum-Convention Centre (IECC), Pragati Maidan, in New Delhi.

- PATA Mart saw the participation of around 1000 delegates, is one of the major international trade exhibitions catering to the tourism sector and it serves as a platform for trade interactions between global buyers and sellers.
- The Travel Mart was followed by the PATA Board meeting held where the Ministry of Tourism shared the Travel for LiFE initiative with the Board members. The PATA Board appreciated the initiative and the Ministry of Tourism, Government of India will work with PATA to expand the initiative across the Asia Pacific region.
- Mission LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) was formally launched by Hon'ble Prime Minister on 19th October 2022, in the presence of the UN Secretary General António Guterres, at the Statue of Unity, Ekta Nagar, Gujarat.

127. Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary located in _____ (state).

1) West Bengal

2) Maharashtra

3) Madhya Pradesh

4) Karnataka

5) Andhra Pradesh

Answer- 2) Maharashtra

Explanation:

About Maharashtra:

Governor – Ramesh Bais

Chief Minister – Eknath Shinde

National Park – Gugamal National Park, Tadoba National Park (tiger reserve)

Wildlife Sanctuary – Radhanagari Wildlife Sanctuary, Sagarshwar Wildlife Sanctuary

128. In which state, Kangra Airport is located?

1) Arunachal Pradesh

2) Himachal Pradesh

3) Uttarakhand

4) Assam

5) Nagaland

Answer- 2) Himachal Pradesh

Explanation:

About Himachal Pradesh (HP):

Chief Minister- Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu

Governor- Shiv Pratap Shukla

Wildlife Sanctuaries – Nargu Wildlife Sanctuary, Pong Dam Lake Wildlife Sanctuary, and Rakcham-Chitkul Wildlife Sanctuary

Airports– Kullu Manali Airport, Shimla Airport, **Kangra Airport**

129. The Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme (MGNREGS) was launched under _____ (Ministry).

- 1) Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship
- 2) Ministry of Rural Development
- 3) Ministry of Law and Justice
- 4) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- 5) Ministry of Labour and Employment

Answer- 2) Ministry of Rural Development

Explanation:

Mahatma Gandhi National Rural Employment Guarantee Scheme under the **Ministry of Rural Development** was initiated to enhance livelihood security in rural areas by providing at least 100 days of guaranteed wage employment in a financial year, to every household whose adult members volunteer to do unskilled manual work. It was launched in 2006.

130. In which state Bhitarkanika national park is located?

- 1) Tamil Nadu
- 2) Odisha
- 3) Andhra Pradesh
- 4) Maharashtra
- 5) West Bengal

Answer- 2) Odisha

Explanation:

Bhitarkanika National Park is located in Kendrapara district in the state of **Odisha**.

- It is India's second-largest mangrove ecosystem after the Sunderbans.
- It is a 145 Sq km large national park which was designated on 16th September 1998 and obtained the status of a Ramsar site in August 2002, i.e. the second Ramsar site of the State after the Chilika Lake.

131. In which year the World Resources Institute (WRI) was Founded?

- 1) 1979
- 2) 1995
- 3) 1982
- 4) 1992
- 5) 1976

Answer- 3) 1982

Explanation:

About the World Resources Institute (WRI):

President and CEO – Ani Dasgupta

Founded – 1982

Headquarters – Washington, DC, United States

132. In which state Bondla Zoological Park is located?

- 1) Gujarat
- 2) Maharashtra
- 3) Andhra Pradesh

- 4) Goa
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- **4) Goa**

Explanation:

About Goa:

Chief Minister (CM) – Dr Pramod Sawant

Governor– PS Sreedharan Pillai

Zoological Park – Bondla Zoological Park

Airport – Goa International Airport

133. In which state Rajaji Tiger Reserves is located?

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

Answer- **2) Uttarakhand**

Explanation:

Rajaji National Park is an Indian national park and tiger reserve spread over three districts of **Uttarakhand**: Haridwar, Dehradun and Pauri Garhwal.

i. It is situated along the hills and foothills of the Shiwalik ranges and represent the Shiwalik ecosystem.

ii. In the year 1983, Rajaji Wildlife Sanctuary was merged with Motichur and Chilla wildlife sanctuaries and made into Rajaji National Park. It was named after the famous freedom fighter Rajgopalachari popularly known as "Rajaji"

134. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Director General of Indian Space Association (ISpA)?

- 1) N. S. Raja Subramani
- 2) Manoj Kumar Katiyar
- 3) Upendra Dwivedi
- 4) Anil Kumar Bhatt
- 5) Suchindra Kumar

Answer- **4) Anil Kumar Bhatt**

Explanation:

About Indian Space Association (ISpA):

Director General– Lt Gen Anil Kumar Bhatt (Retd)

Headquarters– New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment– 2021

135. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of India Post Payments Bank (IPPB)?

- 1) Jayanthi Venkatramu
- 2) Suresh Sethi
- 3) Harish Srikrishnan
- 4) Satish Kumar Gupta

5) Vijay Shekar Sharma,

Answer- **1) Jayanthi Venkatramu**

Explanation:

About India Post Payments Bank (IPPB):

Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)- Jayanthi Venkatramu

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment- 2018

Motto - 'Every customer is important, every transaction is significant and every deposit is valuable, no matter the value.

136. In which year ICICI Bank was established?

1) 1994

2) 2000

3) 1997

4) 1998

5) 1992

Answer- **1) 1994**

Explanation:

About ICICI Bank Limited:

Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Sandeep Bakhshi

Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra

Established in - 1994

Tagline - Hum Hai Na Khayal Apka

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

1) Geneva, Switzerland

2) Paris, France

3) Rome, Italy

4) London, United Kingdom

5) Vienna, Austria

Answer- **1) Geneva, Switzerland**

Explanation:

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

Head of UNDRR- Mami Mizutori

Headquarters- Geneva, Switzerland

Established in- 1999

138. Name the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) that has recently (in Oct '23) developed a new material which can convert sunlight into heat energy with unprecedented efficiency.

1) IIT Madras

2) IIT Delhi

3) IIT Kanpur

4) IIT Bombay

5) IIT Indore

Answer- **4) IIT Bombay**

Explanation:

Scientists at the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay, (**IIT Bombay**) have developed a new material that **can convert sunlight** into heat energy with unprecedented efficiency.

- The material, called nanostructured hard-carbon florets (NCFs), is made by depositing carbon onto a substrate of amorphous dendritic fibrous nanosilica (DFNS), using a technique called chemical vapour deposition.
- The resulting material absorbs more than 97 per cent of the ultraviolet, visible and infrared light, and converts this into thermal energy. The heat produced can be transferred to either air or water for practical applications.
- The researchers have demonstrated that hollow copper tubes coated with NCFs can heat the air flown through them to over 346K. They have also demonstrated its ability to convert water into vapour with an efficiency of 186 per cent, the highest ever recorded.

139. In October 2023, Scientists analyzed the samples from the asteroid Bennu collected by the Osiris-Rex spacecraft of _____(company) and then dropped them off sealed in a capsule during a flyby of Earth in September 2023.

- 1) China National Space Administration
- 2) European Space Agency
- 3) SpaceX
- 4) National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- 5) Canadian Space Agency

Answer- **4) National Aeronautics and Space Administration**

Explanation:

Chunks of a 4.6bn-year-old asteroid brought to Earth last month show evidence of high levels of carbon and water, **National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)** announced as the space agency revealed preliminary findings from its pioneering **Osiris-Rex mission**. Scientists have been analyzing the samples from the asteroid Bennu since they were dropped off by a spacecraft flyby of the Utah desert on 24 September.

i. NASA's Osiris-Rex spacecraft collected the samples **three years ago** from the surface of Bennu and then dropped them off sealed in a capsule during a flyby of Earth in **September 2023**.

140. In October 2023, some co-operative sector leaders and experts formed the World Cooperative Economic Forum (WCEF) to provide voice to over three million co-operatives spread over all countries.

_____ , President of the National Cooperative Union of India (NCUI), announced as one of the founding members of WCEF.

- 1) Deepak Jain
- 2) Dileep Bhai Sanghani
- 3) Ajay Sharma
- 4) Atish Mathur
- 5) Praveen Kumar

Answer- **2) Dileep Bhai Sanghani**

Explanation:

On the lines of the World Economic Forum, some co-operative sector leaders and experts have formed the World Cooperative Economic Forum (WCEF), to be based in New Delhi, claiming to provide voice to over three million co-operatives spread over all countries.

i. The WCEF will endeavour to promote cooperative thinking and cooperative movement, in addition to raising issues and concerns of the sector with governments and other stakeholders around the globe.

ii. **Dileep Bhai Sanghani**, President of the National Cooperative Union of India (**NCUI**), announced that he is one of the founding members of **WCEF**. Other members of the WCEF include Binod Anand, a member of the Committee on Legal Guarantee of MSP; Rakesh Arrawatia, a professor at the Institute of Rural Management Anand (IRMA); and Ashish Anand, founder of Whrrl, a company working in warehouse receipt finance.

141. In which state, Agasthyamalai Elephant Reserve is located?

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

Answer- **4) Tamil Nadu**

Explanation:

The Agasthyamalai Elephant Reserve located in **Tamil Nadu** with a total area of 1,19,748.26 hectares at Agasthyamalai in Tirunelveli and Kanyakumari district.

i. The Agasthyamalai Elephant Reserve ensures the conservation of the rich elephant habitats in the area and also enriches the health and connectivity of the elephant migratory paths in the landscape through proper research and effective management.

142. In the venture capital industry (as of Oct '23), the term unicorn refers to any startup that reaches a valuation of _____.

- 1) USD 1 billion
- 2) USD 2 billion
- 3) USD 5 billion
- 4) USD 4 billion
- 5) USD 3 billion

Answer- **1) USD 1 billion**

Explanation:

In the venture capital industry, the term **unicorn** refers to any **startup** that reaches a valuation of **USD 1 billion**. The term was first coined by Aileen Lee, founder of Cowboy ventures.

143. In which state Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- 1) Jharkhand
- 2) Mizoram
- 3) Tripura
- 4) Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Assam

Answer- **5) Assam**

Explanation:

About Assam:

Governor – Gulab Chand Kataria

Chief Minister – Himanta Biswa Sarma

National Parks – Manas National Park, Nameri National Park

Wildlife Sanctuaries – Bornadi Wildlife Sanctuary, **Chakrashila Wildlife Sanctuary**

144. In which state 'Pampadum Shola National Park' is located?

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

Answer- **3) Kerala**

Explanation:

About Kerala:

Chief Minister– Pinarayi Vijayan

Governor– Arif Mohammad Khan

National Parks– Eravikulam National Park, Silent Valley National Park, **Pampadum Shola National Park**

145. Which of the following is 'Not' an Indian credit rating agency?

- 1) Credit Rating and Information Services of India Limited
- 2) Brickwork Ratings
- 3) Moody's and Fitch Ratings
- 4) Investment Information and Credit rating agency
- 5) Credit Analysis & Research Ltd

Answer- **3) Moody's and Fitch Ratings**

Explanation:

A credit rating agency is a company which rates the debtors on the basis of their ability to pay back the debt in a timely manner.

i. There are mainly 4 credit rating agencies in **India** which are Credit Rating and Information Services of India Limited (CRISIL), Investment Information and Credit rating agency (ICRA), Credit Analysis & Research Ltd. (CARE) and ONICRA.

ii. Apart from these credit rating agencies, there are three more credit rating agencies which are also registered with SEBI. These are Fitch Ratings India Private Ltd., Brickwork Ratings India Private Limited, SME Rating Agency of India Ltd. (SMERA).

146. In which year the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) was established?

- 1) 1952
- 2) 1966
- 3) 1959
- 4) 1964
- 5) 1972

Answer- **5) 1972**

Explanation:

About the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP):

Executive Director- Inger Andersen

Establishment - 1972

Headquarters - Nairobi, Kenya

147. 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) - Ashok Gehlot

Governor - Kalraj Mishra

Wildlife Sanctuaries - Gajner Wildlife Sanctuary; Kaila Devi Sanctuary

Tiger Reserves - Ranthambore Tiger Reserve; Ramgarh Vishdhari Tiger Reserve

148. Where is the Headquarters of the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) located?

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

Answer- **2) Geneva, Switzerland**

Explanation:

About International Organization for Standardization (ISO):

President - Ulrika Francke

Headquarters - Geneva, Switzerland

Established in - 1947

149. In which year Ircon International Limited (IRCON) was established?

- 1) 1976
- 2) 1995
- 3) 1990
- 4) 1997
- 5) 2000

Answer- **1) 1976**

Explanation:

About Ircon International Limited (IRCON):

Chairman & Managing Director (CMD - Add.charge) - Brijesh Kumar Gupta

Headquarters – New Delhi, Delhi

Established in – 1976

150. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of RITES Limited (RITES)?

- 1) Raj Kumar Mangla
- 2) Sandeep Jain
- 3) Rahul Mithal
- 4) Arun Kumar Singh
- 5) Deepak Tripathi

Answer- **3) Rahul Mithal**

Explanation:

About RITES Limited (RITES):

Chairman & Managing Director(MD) – Rahul Mithal

Headquarters – Gurugram, Haryana

Established in – 1974

151. Which company has recently (in Oct '23) announced a Licensing and Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement with IN-SPACE which will provide Data Patterns with miniature SAR Radar capability?

- 1) Dynamatic Technologies Limited
- 2) Honeywell International India Pvt Ltd
- 3) Taneja Aerospace and Aviation Ltd
- 4) Paras Defence and Space Technologies
- 5) Data Patterns (India) Limited

Answer- **5) Data Patterns (India) Limited**

Explanation:

Data Patterns (India) Limited, a vertically integrated Defence and Aerospace electronics solutions provider, has announced a Licensing and Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement with IN-SPACE which will provide Data Patterns with miniature SAR Radar capability.

i. The ToT agreement was signed by G Kuppuswamy, Vice President, Data Patterns (India) Limited, and Rajeev Jyoti, Technical Director, IN-SPACE and A Arunachalam, Director, NSIL.

- The technology has been developed at the Space Applications Centre, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), and is the forerunner of ISRO's upcoming high-resolution Synthetic Aperture Radar (SAR) satellite, the NISAR ((NASA-ISRO Synthetic Aperture Radar) and made available for ToT to the industry by IN-SPACE.

ii. Kuppuswamy said that the technology will enable SAR radar development by Data Patterns, complementing the large portfolio of Radars already available from the company.

iii. Data Patterns expects to enhance this technology with the capability of its Artificial Intelligence tools for object detection and classification. This alliance is also a step towards better utilisation of India's space resources and increasing space-based activities.

152. The Abubshahar Wildlife Sanctuary is located in _____ (state).

- 1) West Bengal
- 2) Maharashtra

3) Madhya Pradesh

4) Uttar Pradesh

5) Haryana

Answer- **5) Haryana**

Explanation:

About Haryana:

Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

Chief Minister – Manohar Lal Khattar

Wildlife Sanctuaries – Chhilchhila Wildlife Sanctuary, Nahar Wildlife Sanctuary, **Abubshahar**

Wildlife Sanctuary

153. Which state Government has recently (in Oct '23) launched a cleanliness campaign called 'Swachch Tyohar, Swasth Tyohar' (Clean Festival, Healthy Festival) ahead of the upcoming festivals to maintain cleanliness in & around temples and other religious places?

1) Uttar Pradesh

2) Maharashtra

3) Madhya Pradesh

4) Odisha

5) Uttarakhand

Answer- **1) Uttar Pradesh**

Explanation:

The government of **Uttar Pradesh** has launched a cleanliness campaign called '**Swachch Tyohar, Swasth Tyohar**' (Clean Festival, Healthy Festival) ahead of the upcoming festivals.

i. The campaign aims to maintain cleanliness in and around temples and other religious places.

Municipal officials and employees have been instructed to ensure cleanliness of roads, areas around religious places, and Durga Puja pandals

ii. The urban development and energy departments have called for celebrating Navratri, Dussehra, and Diwali festivals as 'Swachch Tyohar, Swasth Tyohar' by giving the mantra 'Cleanliness is next to Godliness' for maintaining cleanliness in all municipal bodies of the state.

154. Name the state government that has recently (in Oct '23) announced a plan to adopt Full Depth Reclamation technology in road construction.

1) Mizoram

2) Assam

3) Himachal Pradesh

4) Sikkim

5) Uttarakhand

Answer- **3) Himachal Pradesh**

Explanation:

Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced that Roads will be constructed using Full Depth Reclamation technology for the first time in **Himachal Pradesh**.

i. Full-Depth Reclamation (FDR) is a technology in which the existing materials of a road are utilised and converted into a stable base.

ii. Out of which, 666 kms roads will be constructed using FDR technology, 556 kms roads by cement stabilization and the remaining 1460 kms roads will be constructed using traditional methods.

155. In which country, Union Minister of External Affairs S Jaishankar unveiled the bust of Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore in October 2023?

- 1) Malaysia
- 2) Vietnam
- 3) Indonesia
- 4) Thailand
- 5) Philippines

Answer- **2) Vietnam**

Explanation:

Minister of External Affairs Dr. S Jaishankar who is on a visit to **Vietnam**, on October 15, unveiled the bust of **Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore** at the International Friendship Park in Bac Ninh province.

- Popularly known as 'Gurudev', Tagore was primarily known as a writer, poet, playwright, philosopher and aesthetician, music composer and choreographer, founder of a unique educational institution – Visva- Bharati and a painter.
- Tagore wrote his first poetry aged He published his first poems aged 16 under the pen-name 'Bhanusimha'.
- He had spoken at the World Parliament for Religions in the years 1929 and 1937. He wrote the National Anthems of India and Bangladesh.
- In 1913, he became the first Indian to receive a **Nobel Prize in Literature** for his novel '**Geetanjali**'.

156. In which year "Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI)" was established?

- 1) 1927
- 2) 1959
- 3) 1934
- 4) 1960
- 5) 1942

Answer- **1) 1927**

Explanation:

About Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI):

President-Elect- Subhrakant Panda

Established - 1927

Headquarters - New Delhi, Delhi

157. In which state Orang National Park is located?

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

Answer- **3) Assam**

Explanation:

About Assam:

Governor - Gulab Chand Kataria

Chief Minister – Himanta Biswa Sarma

National Parks – **Orang National Park**, Dihing Patkai National Park, Raimona National Park

Wild life Sanctuaries – Burachapori Wildlife Sanctuary, Panidihing Wildlife Sanctuary

158. What is the capital of Iran?

- 1) Tehran
- 2) Amman
- 3) Jerusalem
- 4) Baghdad
- 5) Astana

Answer- **1) Tehran**

Explanation:

About Iran:

President- Ebrahīm Raʿīs al-Sādātī (Ebrahim Raisi)

Capital- Tehran

Currency- Iranian rial

159. In which state Arabithittu Wildlife Sanctuary is located?

- 1) Andhra Pradesh
- 2) Uttar Pradesh
- 3) Karnataka
- 4) Madhya Pradesh
- 5) Gujarat

Answer- **3) Karnataka**

Explanation:

About Karnataka:

Chief Minister- Siddaramaiah

Governor- Thaawar Chand Gehlot

National Park- Anshi National Park, Bandipur National Park

Wild Life Sanctuary- Arabithittu Wildlife Sanctuary; Bhimgad Wildlife Sanctuary

160. Which of the following points are 'correct' with respect to the Electoral Bonds?

- A) An Electoral Bond is like a promissory note that may be purchased by a person who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India.**
- B) Reserve Bank of India is authorised to issue and encash these bonds.**
- C) Electoral Bonds would have a life of only 15 days during which it can be used for making donation only to the political parties registered under section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 (43 of 1951).**

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

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

Explanation:

An Electoral Bond is like a **promissory note** that may be purchased by a person who is a citizen of India or incorporated or established in India.

i. It was introduced with the Finance Bill, 2017, and the Electoral Bond Scheme was notified in 2018.

ii. **State Bank of India** is authorised to issue and encash these bonds, which are valid for fifteen days from the date of issuance through its 29 Authorised Branches

- A citizen of India or a body incorporated in India will be eligible to purchase the bond.
- Electoral Bond (s) would be issued/purchased for any value, in multiples of Rs.1,000, Rs.10,000, Rs.1,00,000, Rs.10,00,000 and Rs.1,00,00,000 from the Specified Branches of the State Bank of India (SBI).

Electoral Bonds would have a life of **only 15 days** during which it can be used for making donation only to the political parties registered under section 29A of the Representation of the Peoples Act, 1951 (43 of 1951) and which secured not less than one percent of the votes polled in the last general election to the House of the People or a Legislative Assembly.

161. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Director General of Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS)?

- 1) Vivek Jain
- 2) Pramod Kumar Tiwari
- 3) Ashish Tripathi
- 4) Mamta Upadhyay Lal
- 5) Ajay Kumar Sharma

Answer- **2) Pramod Kumar Tiwari**

Explanation:

About Bureau of Indian Standards (BIS):

Director General- Pramod Kumar Tiwari

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment- April 1, 1987

162. Tanzanian _____ is the currency of Tanzania.

- 1) Koruna
- 2) Sterling
- 3) Krone
- 4) Shilling
- 5) Lats

Answer- **4) Shilling**

Explanation:

About Tanzania

Capital - Dodoma

Currency - Tanzanian shilling

President - Samia Suluhu Hassan

Prime Minister- Kassim Majaliwa

163. In which state Pilikula Biological Park is located?

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Karnataka

- 3) Telangana
- 4) Andhra Pradesh
- 5) Tamil Nadu

Answer- **2) Karnataka**

Explanation:

Pilikula Biological Park is located in Mangalore, Pilikula is an integrated theme park with a wide variety of features; Pilikula has many attractions of cultural and scientific interest.

- i. Pilikula extends over an area of 375 acres along the banks of Gurupura River.
- ii. Pilikula presently includes a Biological Park, Botanical and Medicinal Gardens, Regional Science Centre, Lake Garden and Boating, Heritage and Artisan Village, Jungle Lodges, Golf Course, Amusement and Water Park.

164. What is the capital of Ecuador?

- 1) Santiago
- 2) Quito
- 3) Bogota
- 4) Stanley
- 5) Brasilia

Answer- **2) Quito**

Explanation:

About Ecuador:

Capital- Quito

President- Guillermo Lasso

Currency- United States Dollar (US Dollar)

165. Where is Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary located?

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

Answer- **5) Tamil Nadu**

Explanation:

About Tamil Nadu:

Chief Minister- Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin

Wildlife Sanctuaries- Point Calimere Wildlife Sanctuary

Biosphere Reserves- Nilgiris Biosphere Reserve, Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve, and Agasthiyarmalai Biosphere Reserve

166. In which year the World Economic Forum (WEF) was established?

- 1) 1971
- 2) 1990
- 3) 1966
- 4) 1982
- 5) 1950

Answer- **1) 1971**

Explanation:

About the World Economic Forum (WEF):

Founder & Executive Chairman – Klaus Schwab

Establishment – 1971

Headquarters – Cologny, Geneva, Switzerland

167. Where is the Headquarters of the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD)?

- 1) Bonn, Germany
- 2) Ebene, Mauritius
- 3) Vienna, Austria
- 4) Geneva, Switzerland
- 5) Jakarta, Indonesia

Answer- **1) Bonn, Germany**

Explanation:

About United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD):

Executive Secretary– Ibrahim Thiaw (Mauritania)

Headquarters– Bonn, Germany

168. In which state/UT Nechiphu Tunnel is located?

- 1) Ladakh
- 2) Arunachal Pradesh
- 3) Maharashtra
- 4) Jammu and Kashmir
- 5) Andhra Pradesh

Answer- **2) Arunachal Pradesh**

Explanation:

The **Nechiphu Tunnel**, at an altitude of five thousand 700 feet, is a unique 500-metre-long D-shaped, Single Tube Double Lane Tunnel on the Balipara-Chariduar-Tawang road in West Kameng District in **Arunachal Pradesh**.

169. In October 2023, _____ became the second country after Bangladesh to eliminate lymphatic filariasis (LF) in 2023.

- 1) Cuba
- 2) Lebanon
- 3) Kenya
- 4) Lao People's Democratic Republic
- 5) Nigeria

Answer- **4) Lao People's Democratic Republic**

Explanation:

Lao People's Democratic Republic has eliminated lymphatic filariasis (LF), a disease that cripples and has significant social and economic impact on the affected communities according to the World Health Organization (WHO).

- i. This is the country's second neglected tropical disease (NTD) to be eliminated in six years, following the elimination of trachoma as a public health hazard in 2017.
- ii. Lao PDR became the second country after Bangladesh to eliminate lymphatic filariasis (LF) in 2023. Nineteen countries have been able to eliminate LF, according to the WHO progress report on the disease released on October 13, 2023.

170. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) President of the European Union (EU)?

- 1) Gaston Thorn
- 2) Ursula von der Leyen
- 3) José Manuel Barroso
- 4) Fredrik Reinfeldt
- 5) Jean-Claude Juncker

Answer- **2) Ursula von der Leyen**

Explanation:

Ursula von der Leyen is the present President of the European Union.

i. The European Union announced that it would launch a humanitarian air bridge operation consisting of "several flights" to Egypt aiming to bring supplies to humanitarian organisations on the ground in Gaza. The first two flights will take place, carrying humanitarian cargo from UNICEF including shelter items, medicines and hygiene kits.

171. In October 2023, the tallest statue of Dr B R Ambedkar, the principal architect of India's Constitution was inaugurated in a Maryland suburb of Washington, DC, United States of America(USA).

The 19 feet statue has been made by _____.

- 1) Anish Mikhail Kapoor
- 2) Neeraj Gupta
- 3) Ram Sutar
- 4) Subodh Gupta
- 5) Ravinder Reddy

Answer- **3) Ram Sutar**

Explanation:

The **tallest statue of Dr B R Ambedkar**, the principal architect of India's Constitution, outside India was formally inaugurated in a Maryland suburb of Washington, DC, United States of America(USA).

i. The 19 feet statue has been made by renowned artist and sculptor **Ram Sutar**, who also built the statue of Sardar Patel, called as Statue of Unity, and installed on an island in Narmada, metres downstream of the Sardar Sarovar Dam in Gujarat.

ii. The statue, which has been named "Statue of Equality", is a replica of the world's largest Ambedkar statue located in India's southern Hyderabad city which is 125 feet tall.

172. In which state, the commissioning of the Lichubagan reservoir with a 4.5 lakh-litre distribution capacity daily has recently (in Oct '23) inaugurated?

- 1) Madhya Pradesh
- 2) Jharkhand
- 3) Odisha
- 4) Assam

5) West Bengal

Answer- 4) Assam

Explanation:

Chief Minister of **Assam** Himanta Biswa Sarma inaugurated the commissioning of the Lichubagan reservoir with a 4.5 lakh-litre distribution capacity daily as part of the JICA-Assisted South Central Guwahati Water Supply Project to provide clean and safe drinking water to the residents of Guwahati.

- i. Speaking on the occasion, the Chief Minister announced that a wide distribution network spanning 130 kilometres has been established to facilitate the distribution of water from the reservoir.
- ii. The Lichubagan Distribution Zone is expected to provide water to approximately 20,000 households & the overall Lichubagan Zone will be commissioned in 3 phases, the first phase is commissioned.
- iii. This initial phase will comprise 7 District Metering Areas (DMA), which will provide potable water to 6,500 households in the Distribution Zone.

173. The 'Malyadi bird sanctuary' is located in which state?

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

Answer- 3) Karnataka

Explanation:

The **Malyadi bird sanctuary** is located in Kundapura taluk of Udupi district, **Karnataka** and recently, Indian Otter in Wetland are sighted in the Bird Sanctuary.

174. Who is the present (as of Oct '23) Chairman & Managing Director (CMD) of Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL)?

- 1) Ajay Sharma
- 2) Atish Mathur
- 3) Vivek Jain
- 4) Jayanth Kumar
- 5) Sanjeev Singhal

Answer- 5) Sanjeev Singhal

Explanation:

About Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Ltd (MDL):

Chairman & Managing Director(CMD) - Sanjeev Singhal

Headquarters - Mumbai, Maharashtra

Incorporated as a Private Company in - 1934

175. In which year the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) was established?

- 1) 1972
- 2) 1945
- 3) 1958
- 4) 1964