

GUPTA

CLASSES

Current Affairs

April-2024

English

Part-2



GUPTA

CLASSES

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

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

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) met on April 3-5, 2024, and released **1st Bi-monthly Monetary Policy** of Financial Year 2024-25 (FY25) i.e. 'Monetary Policy Statement, 2024-25 Resolution of the MPC' which kept India's real Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) **growth** at **7%** for FY25 with FY25's Q1 (April-June) at 7.1%, Q2 (July-September) at 6.9%, Q3 (October-December) at 7%, and Q4 (January-March) at 7%.

i. The MPC kept the policy rates unchanged.

Category	Rates
Policy Repo Rate	6.50%
Fixed Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%
Marginal Standing Facility (MSF) Rate	6.75%
Standing Deposit Facility (SDF) Rate	6.25%
Bank Rate	6.75%
Cash Reserve Ratio (CRR)	4.50%
Statutory Liquidity Ratio (SLR)	18%

ii. RBI kept the repo rate unchanged at **6.5%** for the **7th consecutive time** to reduce inflation and make sure people expect lower prices while ensuring it works effectively. [Click here to read more](#)

18. Which of the following Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs)'s Certificate of Registration (CoR) was not cancelled by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in April 2024?

- 1) Ujjivan Financial Services Limited
- 2) Kundles Motor Finance Private Limited
- 3) Jiwanjyoti Deposits and Advances Limited
- 4) Nithya Finance Limited
- 5) Bhatia Hire Purchase Private Limited

Answer- 1) Ujjivan Financial Services Limited

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India(RBI) has cancelled the Certificate of Registration(CoR) of Four Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in the exercise of powers conferred on it under Section 45-IA (6) of the RBI Act, 1934.

i. The 4 NBFCs are,

- Kundles Motor Finance Private Limited (Bareilly, Uttar Pradesh-UP)- CoR cancelled with effect from 12th March 2024.
- Nithya Finance Limited (Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu-TN) – CoR cancelled w.e.f 14th March 2024.
- Bhatia Hire Purchase Private Limited (Bathinda, Punjab) – CoR cancelled w.e.f 19th March 2024.
- Jiwanjyoti Deposits and Advances Limited (Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh) – CoR cancelled w.e.f 21st March 2024.

Note: Following the cancellation of CoR the NBFCs shall not transact the business of a Non-Banking Financial Institution(NBFI) as defined in clause (a) of Section 45-I of the RBI Act, 1934.

19. In April 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of Rs. 1 Crore on _____(Banks) for non-compliance with certain directions issued by RBI.

- 1) HDFC Bank
- 2) IDFC First Bank
- 3) RBL Bank
- 4) Tamilnad Mercantile Bank
- 5) UCO Bank

Answer- 2) IDFC First Bank

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs 1 crore** on **IDFC First Bank Limited** for non-compliance with certain directions issued by RBI on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.

- The penalty was imposed in the exercise of the power vested in RBI under the provisions of section 47 A (1) (c) read with sections 46 (4) (i) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

i. RBI has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 49.70 lakhs on LIC Housing Finance Limited for non-compliance with certain provisions of 'Non-Banking Financial Company – Housing Finance Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2021'.

- The penalty was imposed in exercise of powers vested in RBI conferred under section 52A of the National Housing Bank Act, 1987.

20. Which bank has recently (in April '24) signed an MoU with Paymart India Pvt Ltd to launch an innovative Virtual Automated Teller Machine (ATM) (VATM) facility?

- 1) Punjab National Bank
- 2) Bank of Maharashtra
- 3) RBL Bank
- 4) Jammu & Kashmir Bank
- 5) Karnataka Bank

Answer- 4) Jammu & Kashmir Bank

Explanation:

Jammu & Kashmir Bank Limited (**J&K Bank**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **Paymart India Pvt Ltd** to launch an innovative Virtual Automated Teller Machine (**ATM**)(**VATM**) **facility**. The collaboration aims to introduce cardless cash withdrawals for the Bank's customers through local merchants in the neighbourhood.

- Customer's smartphone with the J&K Bank's mobile app "mPAY – Delight" serves as the Virtual Card and the merchant's smartphone with the app acts as the VATM.

21. Name the regulatory body/Government agency that has recently (in April '24) received the International Organization for Standardization/ International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC) 27001:2022 certification.

- 1) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- 2) Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority
- 3) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India
- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 5) Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India

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

Explanation:

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has received the International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission (**ISO/IEC**) **27001:2022 certification** for its

- Information Security Management System (ISMS) at the Primary Data Centre,
- ISMS at the Disaster Recovery site, and
- Security Operations Control (SOC) and Network Operations Control (NOC) Operations.

i. SEBI received this certification following an audit by the certification body under the accreditation of the National Accreditation Board for Certification Bodies (NABCB), a member of the International Accreditation Forum (IAF).

22. Which bank has recently (in April '24) raised USD 500 million from Dubai International Financial Centre (DIFC) to fund overseas business growth?

- 1) Bank of Baroda
- 2) Canara Bank
- 3) Karnataka Bank
- 4) Andhra Bank
- 5) Union Bank of India

Answer- **5) Union Bank of India**

Explanation:

The Union Bank of India (**UBI**), has raised **USD 500 million** (about Rs 4,200 crore) from foreign markets to fund overseas business growth.

i. The fund was arranged by Dubai International Financial Centre (**DIFC**), Dubai Branch, United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- There would be two tranches of a USD 500 million syndicated term loan with terms of three and five years each (USD 400 million and USD 100 million for Green Shoe).
- **Note:** The first tranche of USD 100 million was drawn on 3rd April 2024.

23. Which company has recently (in April '24) launched the new Metal Corporate Platinum Card?

- 1) Mastercard
- 2) SBI Card
- 3) American Express
- 4) Discover Card
- 5) Visa

Answer- 3) American Express

Explanation:

On April 5 2024, **American Express** launched the new **Metal Corporate Platinum Card**, designed to meet the changing needs of business owners and entrepreneurs in India.

- The card offers best-in-class advantages including Taj Epicure Plus Membership and Gold Elite Status at Marriott Bonvoy.

24. Which company has recently (in April '24) partnered with the Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) to offer micro-loans for gig workers?

- 1) Onionlife Private Limited
- 2) Lendingkart Technologies Private Limited
- 3) Chargebee Private Limited
- 4) Instamajo Technologies Private Limited
- 5) PB Fintech Limited

Answer- 1) Onionlife Private Limited

Explanation:

The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has partnered with the Bengaluru(Karnataka) based fintech startup **Onionlife Private Limited** to use its technology platform KarmaLife for a pilot to offer micro-loans for gig workers.

- This will enhance financial inclusion in India's gig economy.

25. Which company has recently (in April '24) launched six index funds with a minimum investment of Rs 5,000 during the New Fund Offer (NFO) period?

- 1) Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund
- 2) Tata Mutual Fund
- 3) SBI Mutual Fund
- 4) Zerodha Mutual Fund
- 5) Edelweiss Mutual Fund

Answer- 2) Tata Mutual Fund

Explanation:

On April 8, 2024, **Tata Mutual Fund**/Tata Asset Management Private Limited launched **six index funds** offering a new investment opportunity with a minimum investment of **Rs 5,000** during the New Fund Offer (NFO) period, which runs from April 8 to April 22, 2024.

i. The new index funds are Tata Nifty Auto Index Fund, Tata Nifty Realty Index Fund, Tata Nifty Financial Services Index Fund.

ii. The other **three are industry first** viz. Tata Nifty MidSmall Healthcare Index Fund, Tata Nifty 500 Multicap India Manufacturing 50:30:20 Index Fund, and Tata Nifty 500 Multicap 50:30:20 Infrastructure Index Fund.

26. Which bank has recently (in April '24) partnered with the Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (SINE) at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay to empower startups across India?

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

Answer- 4) Canara Bank

Explanation:

Canara Bank and the Society for Innovation and Entrepreneurship (**SINE**) at the Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) **Bombay**, Mumbai (Maharashtra) have partnered to empower startups across India.

i. Under the Canara Bank's Start-Up Scheme, financial assistance at an attractive return on investment (ROI) will be provided for establishment, promotion, and modernization.

27. Name the company that has recently (in April '24) signed a definitive agreement with the International Finance Corporation (IFC) to raise funds of Rs 330 crores.

- 1) Metropolis Healthcare Ltd
- 2) Fortis Healthcare Limited
- 3) Apollo Hospitals Enterprise Limited
- 4) Artemis Medicare Services Limited
- 5) Aster DM Healthcare Limited

Answer- 4) Artemis Medicare Services Limited

Explanation:

Artemis Medicare Services Limited (AMSL) has signed a definitive agreement with the International Finance Corporation (**IFC**), a member of the World Bank Group, to raise funds of **Rs 330 crores** in the form of Compulsorily Convertible Debentures (CCDs).

i. The IFC's investment will assist AMSL in enhancing healthcare accessibility and quality by supporting its growth plans in bed capacity, introducing newer medical treatment specialities, and building cardiac care centres in Tier 2 and 3 cities.

ii. This will also encourage women to pursue careers in medicine and advance their professional growth.

28. According to data released by the General Insurance Council (GIC) in April 2024, the General Insurance industry experienced a growth of _____ in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24).

- 1) 12.78%
- 2) 15.71%
- 3) 12.31%
- 4) 15.02%
- 5) 16.45%

Answer- 1) 12.78%

Explanation:

According to data released by the **General Insurance Council (GIC)**, the General Insurance industry experienced a growth of **12.78%** in the Fiscal Year 2023-24 (**FY24**) reaching their Gross direct premium underwritten to Rs 2,89,731 crore from Rs 2,56,894 crore in FY23.

- i. Premiums of general insurers grew by 14.24% Year-on-Year (Y-o-Y) to Rs 2.45 trillion in FY24.
ii. But, FY24 growth is lower than when compared with 16% achieved in FY23. [Click here to read more.](#)

29. Which bank has recently (in April '24) carried out a Credit Default Swap (CDS) trade worth Rs 25 crore with Standard Chartered Bank India?

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

Answer- 2) State Bank of India

Explanation:

The State Bank of India (SBI) and Standard Chartered Bank India carried out the Credit Default Swap (CDS) trade worth **Rs 25 crore**. This marks the 1st CDS transaction since the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued revised CDS guidelines in 2022.

- i. The trade involved a 1-year rupee CDS featuring REC.

30. According to data released by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) in April 2024, the National Pension System (NPS) Assets Under Management (AUM) experienced _____ year-on-year (Y-o-Y) growth during the Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24).

- 1) 15.8%
- 2) 27.9%
- 3) 41.1%
- 4) 10.9%
- 5) 30.5%

Answer- 5) 30.5%

Explanation:

As per the latest data from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), the National Pension System (NPS) Assets Under Management (AUM) experienced **30.5%** year-on-year (Y-o-Y) growth during the Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24), reaching **Rs 11.73 lakh Crore in FY24** from Rs 8.98 lakh crore in FY23.

- This is higher than the 27% y-o-y increase seen in NPS assets in FY23.

31. Which company recently (in April' 24) signed a two-year MoU with the Singapore Tourism Board (STB) to promote Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for Indians travelling in Singapore?

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

Answer- 4) PhonePe

Explanation:

In April 2024, The Singapore Tourism Board (**STB**), a lead development agency for tourism, Singapore, signed a **two-year** Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **PhonePe** to promote Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**) for Indians travelling in **Singapore**.

- The MoU allows customers to instantly make cross border transactions between India and Singapore directly from their existing Indian bank accounts.

32. Which payment bank has recently (in April' 24) introduced Aadhaar ATM Service for Convenient Cash Withdrawals?

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

Answer- **2) India Post Payments Bank**

Explanation:

In April 2024, The India Post Payments Bank (**IPPB**) introduced the **Aadhaar ATM service facility** for its users. It works on the principle of the Aadhaar Enabled Payment System (AePS), which was introduced by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).

- This IPPB Online Aadhaar ATM facility will enable customers to avail cash without visiting a bank or an Automated teller machine (ATM) and simply avail cash at their doorsteps with the help of a postman/gramin dak sevak.

33. As per the report 'Asian Development Outlook (ADO) April 2024' released by the Asian Development Bank (ADB), India's Gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for FY25 raised to _____ from 6.7%.

- 1) 7.0%
- 2) 7.5%
- 3) 7.3%
- 4) 7.1%
- 5) 7.4%

Answer- **1) 7.0%**

Explanation:

On April 11, 2024, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) in its '**Asian Development Outlook (ADO) April 2024**' raised India's Gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast for **FY25 to 7%** from 6.7% amid robust growth which will be driven by public and private sector investment demand and gradual improvement in consumer demand.

i. This growth estimate is, however; lower than 7.6% projected for 2023.

34. In April 2024, National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (NIIF) invested _____ in iBus Network And Infrastructure Pvt Ltd(iBUS) to support the growth of digital infrastructure in India.

- 1) USD 200 million
- 2) USD 450 million
- 3) USD 500 million

4) USD 600 million

5) USD 390 million

Answer- **1) USD 200 million**

Explanation:

In April 2024, National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (**NIIF**) has invested **USD 200 million** (about Rs 1660 crores) in **iBus** Network And Infrastructure Pvt Ltd (iBUS), a Bengaluru(Karnataka)-based Digital Infrastructure Solutions Company, to support the growth of the digital infrastructure in India.

- The NIIF will hold a significant majority stake in iBUS after the completion of the transaction.
- The investment, in line with India's Digital India Mission, was made through **NIIF's Master Fund**.

35. Name the company that has recently (in April '24) partnered with Policybazaar to offer its Insurance Products on Policybazaar Platform.

1) TATA AIG General Insurance Company Limited

2) Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance Company Limited

3) Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited

4) ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited

5) SBI General Insurance Company Limited

Answer- **4) ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited**

Explanation:

ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Limited has partnered with the insurance platform **Policybazaar** to provide a comprehensive product portfolio of ICICI Lombard to the wide user base of Policybazaar.

- ICICI Lombard offers a range of products that span motor, health, travel, home, and business insurance.
- i. This partnership aims to enhance insurance distribution, ensuring coverage reaches every corner of India through a seamless digital platform.

36. Which company has recently (in April' 24) partnered with eSewa and Hotel Association of Nepal (HAN)-Pokhara to promote digital payments through Unified Payments Interface (UPI) on the Nepal payment processor Fonepay Network?

1) Paytm

2) Freecharge

3) GooglePay

4) Razorpay

5) PhonePe

Answer- **5) PhonePe**

Explanation:

Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based Fintech company **PhonePe**, has partnered with **eSewa**, a digital wallet service of Nepal and the Hotel Association of Nepal (**HAN)-Pokhara** (a regional association of HAN, Nepal) to promote digital payments through Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**) on the Nepal payment processor Fonepay Network.

- This partnership is a part of the 19th Fewa New Year Festival which will be held in Nepal from 11th to 14th April 2024.

37. Which bank has recently (in April '24) partnered with FISDOM to offer stock broking services and 3 in 1 Accounts (Savings, Demat, and Trading accounts)?

- 1) Punjab and Sind Bank
- 2) UCO Bank
- 3) Karnataka Bank
- 4) Bank of Baroda
- 5) State Bank of India

Answer- 3) Karnataka Bank

Explanation:

Karnataka Bank Ltd, a leading private sector Bank partnered with **FISDOM** to offer stock broking services and **3 in 1 Accounts** (Savings, Demat, and Trading accounts) through the "KBL Mobile Plus", the mobile banking app of Karnataka Bank.

i. The partnership focuses on enhancing the current value proposition of enabling customers by providing seamless access to stocks and mutual funds.

- It will empower customers to access investment opportunities and trading functionalities within a single, user-friendly interface.

38. In April 2024, _____ (company/agency) received the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s Nod to Operate as an Online Payment Aggregator.

- 1) Cashfree Payments
- 2) Tata Pay
- 3) Razorpay Software Private Limited
- 4) Computer Age Management Services Limited
- 5) EnKash

Answer- 4) Computer Age Management Services Limited

Explanation:

Computer Age Management Services Ltd (CAMS), India's largest mutual fund transfer agency, has received a Certificate of Authorisation from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an online payment aggregator.

- CAMS obtained in-principle authorisation from RBI in February 2023.

39. According to the Tracxn Geo Quarterly Report released by Tracxn in April 2024, Indian fintech startups raised USD 550.8 million across 33 deals in the first quarter (Q1) of Calendar Year (CY) 2024 (Q1CY2024), marking a _____ increase from Q4 of 2023.

- 1) 43%
- 2) 64%
- 3) 41%
- 4) 71%
- 5) 59%

Answer- 5) 59%

Explanation:

According to **Tracxn Geo Quarterly Report** released by market intelligence platform Tracxn, in first quarter (Q1) of Calendar Year (CY) 2024 (**Q1CY2024**), Indian fintech startups raised **USD 550.8 million** across 33 deals, marking a **59%** increase from **Q4 of 2023's** USD 346.7 million raised in 53 deals.

- Despite this surge, funding declined on a year-on-year (Y-o-Y) basis by 57% compared to Q1 of 2023's USD 1.3 billion.
- India ranked 3rd globally in fintech funding, behind the United States (US) and China.
- Alternative lending, RegTech (Regulatory Technology), and Banking Tech were the top-performing segments in Q1 2024, with alternative lending dominating funding with USD 491 million. [Click here to read more](#)

40. Which company has recently (in April' 24) partnered with PayU to enhance cross border payments for Indian merchants?

- 1) CapitalOne
- 2) eBay
- 3) Coinbase
- 4) PayPal
- 5) Klarna

Answer- **4) PayPal**

Explanation:

PayU, a leading online payment solution, announced its partnership with **PayPal**, an American multinational fintech company. The strategic partnership aims to improve the **cross border payment** experience for **Indian merchants**.

- PayU will leverage **PayPal ISU2.0 API**(Application Programming Interface) to provide customers access to more personalised , secure and inclusive payment experience.

41. Which company has recently (in April' 24) formed a Joint Venture (JV) with BlackRock to set up a wealth management and broking business in India?

- 1) Aditya Birla Finance
- 2) Jio Financial Services
- 3) Larsen & Toubro Finance
- 4) Bajaj Finance Limited
- 5) Tata Capital Financial Services

Answer- **2) Jio Financial Services**

Explanation:

On April 16, 2024, **Jio Financial Services (JFS)**, the financial services arm of Reliance Industries Ltd (RIL), and BlackRock, Inc. and **BlackRock Advisors Singapore Pte (BlackRock)** signed an agreement to form **50:50 Joint Venture (JV)** to set up a wealth management and broking business in India.

- This involves incorporating a wealth management firm and a brokerage company, each requiring separate licences from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI).
- India is now a leading global investment destination, with the number of Demat accounts reaching 15.1 crore by March 2024, including a surge of 31 lakh new accounts in the same month(March).

42. In April 2024, the Reserve Bank of India(RBI) mandated all Regulated entities (REs) to provide key facts statements (KFS) to all new retail and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) borrowers with effect from _____.

- 1) 1st August 2024
- 2) 1st September 2024
- 3) 1st October 2024
- 4) 1st November 2024
- 5) 1st December 2024

Answer- 3) 1st October 2024

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank Of India(RBI) has mandated all Regulated entities (REs) (banks and financial institutions) to provide comprehensive key facts statements (KFS) to all new retail and Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) borrowers with effect from **1st October 2024**. This is a part of RBI's effort to increase lending practices' transparency.

- KFS will include a computation sheet of the annual percentage rate (APR) and the loan's amortisation schedule over the loan tenor.
- KFS will be provided to borrowers with a unique proposal number with a validity period of at least 3 working days for loans with a tenor of 7 days or more and 1 working day for loans with a tenor of less than 7 days.

43. According to the Economic Research Department (ERD) report released by the State Bank of India (SBI) in April 2024, the total amount of deposits in senior citizen accounts increased by _____ to Rs 34.367 lakh crore at the end of December 2023.

- 1) 115%
- 2) 158%
- 3) 136%
- 4) 124%
- 5) 143%

Answer- 5) 143%

Explanation:

As per the State Bank of India (SBI) Economic Research Department (ERD) report, the **total amount of deposits** in senior citizen accounts increased by **143%** to Rs 34.367 lakh crore at the end of December 2023 from Rs 13.724 lakh crore in 2018.

i. The report revealed that senior citizens term deposit accounts increased by about **81%** to around 7.4 crore in December 2023 from 4.1 crore in 2018.

ii. The report estimated that at least 7.3 crore of these accounts have a balance of over **Rs 15 lakh** and fetch interest of 7.5% on these deposits.

44. Which bank has recently (in April' 24) partnered with India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation(IMGCC) to provide mortgage guarantee-backed home loan products in the affordable housing segment?

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

5) Bank of Baroda

Answer- **2) Bank of India**

Explanation:

Bank of India(**BOI**), an Indian Public Sector Bank(**PSB**), has signed an agreement with India Mortgage Guarantee Corporation(**IMGIC**) to provide mortgage guarantee-backed home loan products in the affordable housing segment.

- The collaboration will cover salaried and self-employed home loan customers in the affordable housing segment.

45. Which company has recently (in April' 24) launched its 1st edition of IdeationX to encourage Insurance innovations among Young Minds?

- 1) State Bank of India Life Insurance
- 2) Aditya Birla Sun life Insurance
- 3) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- 4) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- 5) HDFC Life Insurance

Answer- **1) State Bank of India Life Insurance**

Explanation:

State Bank of India Life Insurance Company Limited (**SBILIFE**), one of the leading private life insurance companies in India has launched its **1st edition of IdeationX**, a groundbreaking initiative that aims to transform the future of the insurance industry.

- In alignment with the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India's (IRDAI) vision of 'Insurance for All by 2047', SBI Life's IdeationX is an innovative platform that aims to encourage and engage the **young aspiring minds** from the B-Schools across the country to come up with new ideas.

46. Name the Life Insurance company that has recently (in April '24) partnered with the Jana Small Finance Bank (SFB) to offer life insurance products to the customers of Jana SFB.

- 1) Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- 2) Max Life Insurance
- 3) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- 4) State Bank of India Life Insurance
- 5) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance

Answer- **5) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance**

Explanation:

Jana Small Finance Bank(**SFB**) Limited has partnered with **Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Limited** to offer life insurance products to the customers of Jana SFB.

- The life insurance products will include long-term savings and retirement solutions.

47. Which bank has recently (in April' 24) collaborated with Shoppers Stop Limited to launch a new Co-branded credit card?

- 1) Canara Bank
- 2) Axis Bank
- 3) Federal Bank
- 4) HDFC bank

5) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer- **2) Axis Bank**

Explanation:

Axis Bank Limited collaborated with **Shoppers Stop Ltd** to launch “**Axis Bank Shoppers Stop Credit Card**”, a co-branded Credit Card, to enhance the shopping experience for cardholders, both online and offline at an event at the Shoppers Stop Malad store, in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- This card marks the extension of Axis Bank’s credit card portfolio into the omnichannel shopping space.

48. Which of the following State Rural Livelihoods Mission(SRLM) has recently (in April’ 24) signed an MoU with Small Industries Development Bank of India(SIDBI) to extend Prayaas scheme to Self-Help Group(SHG) individual women through Cluster Level Federations(CLFs)?

- 1) Jeevika, Bihar SRLM
- 2) UMED, Maharashtra SRLM
- 3) Swarna Jayanti, Punjab SRLM
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

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

Explanation:

The Small Industries Development Bank of India(**SIDBI**) in association with Women’s World Banking(WWB) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **Jeevika, Bihar** State Rural Livelihoods Mission(**SRLM**) and **UMED, Maharashtra-SRLM** to extend Prayaas scheme to Self-Help Group(SHG) individual women through Cluster Level Federations(CLFs).

- To develop a market-driven solution that will provide long-term economic stability to women-led SHG CLFs.

49. Which regulatory body/Government office has recently (in April ’24) constituted a standing committee to transform GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) into Climate Finance Hub?

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

Answer- **2) International Financial Centres Authority**

Explanation:

The International Financial Centres Authority (**IFSCA**) constituted a standing committee to prepare a framework for launching climate finance products. The committee aims to transform **GIFT City** (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) into a climate finance hub.

- i. The committee is expected to submit its report to the government by the end of May 2024.
- ii. Banks in GIFT City have already set aside 5% of credit for green and sustainable projects.

50. Which bank has recently (in April' 24) collaborated with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to introduce eco-friendly NCMC (National Common Mobility Cards) debit and prepaid cards?

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

Answer- 4) Airtel Payments Bank

Explanation:

On April 18, 2024, **Airtel Payments Bank**, in collaboration with National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**), introduced eco-friendly **NCMC (National Common Mobility Cards) debit and prepaid cards** on April 18, 2024.

- These cards are powered by RuPay and are crafted from environmentally sustainable e-PVC material.
- This is in line with Airtel Payments Bank's commitment to India's One Nation, One Card vision.

51. Which company has recently (in April '24) partnered with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) to introduce its credit services on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI)?

- 1) GooglePay
- 2) Paytm
- 3) PhonePe
- 4) Amazon Pay
- 5) JioPay

Answer- 4) Amazon Pay

Explanation:

As per the report by Financial Express, **Amazon Pay** in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**) is set to introduce its credit services on the Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**).

- AmazonPay was granted a payment aggregator licence by the Reserve Bank of India(RBI) in February 2024. Also, it received permission from RBI for a Prepaid Payment Instrument (**PPI**).

52. Which company has recently (in April' 24) signed an MoU with South Indian Bank for financing dealers under the bank's dealer finance program?

- 1) Ashok Leyland
- 2) BharatBenz
- 3) TVS Motor Company
- 4) Bajaj Auto
- 5) Toyota Motor Corporation

Answer- 1) Ashok Leyland

Explanation:

On April 18 2024, **Ashok Leyland Limited**, a commercial vehicle maker, signed an Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **South Indian Bank** for **financing dealers** under the bank's dealer finance program.

- As part of the partnership, the South Indian Bank will provide competitive dealer finance options to the dealers of Ashok Leyland Limited.

53. Which regulatory body has celebrated its Silver Jubilee (25 years) on 19th April 2024?

- 1) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 2) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
- 3) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- 4) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- 5) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Answer- 2) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India

Explanation:

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**), the statutory body of insurance companies and intermediaries in India, marked the celebration of its **Silver Jubilee(25 year) on 19th April 2024.**

- IRDAI was formed as a statutory body under the **IRDAI Act, 1999** and was incorporated on 19th April 2000.
- In line with its vision of “Insurance for All by 2047”, IRDAI launched Bima Trinity, an all-in-one insurance product which covers health, life, property, and accident risks.
- IRDAI has removed the age cap on buying health insurance policies, effective from 1st April 2024. Now anyone, regardless of age, is eligible to purchase new health insurance. [Click here to read more](#)

54. Which Bank has recently (in April '24) associated with NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd. (NBBL) to introduce the National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) on its Bharat BillPay platform for the convenience of travellers?

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

Answer- 4) State Bank of India

Explanation:

NPCI Bharat BillPay Ltd. (NBBL), a wholly owned subsidiary of the National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**), in association with the State Bank of India (**SBI**), has onboarded the SBI National Common Mobility Card (NCMC) on its Bharat BillPay platform for the convenience of travellers. The introduction of NCMC Recharge as Bharat BillPay’s biller category will enable customers to recharge or top up their cards online.

55. Which company has recently (in April' 24) been renamed as 'Bandhan Life' by Bandhan Financial Holdings Limited (BFHL)?

- 1) Max Life Insurance
- 2) Bharti AXA Life Insurance
- 3) HDFC Life Insurance
- 4) Aegon Life Insurance
- 5) Aviva Life Insurance Co.Limited

Answer- 4) Aegon Life Insurance

Explanation:

Bandhan Financial Holdings Limited (**BFHL**), the promoter of Bandhan Bank, has renamed **Aegon Life Insurance** as **Bandhan Life**.

- The new logo (**growing 'bud'**) and the tagline '**Bharat Ki Udaan, Bandhan Se**' also unveiled.

56. Which company has recently (in April '24) received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the payment aggregator (PA) license?

- 1) CRED
- 2) Intuit
- 3) Verifone
- 4) Leap Finance
- 5) Kinara Capital

Answer- 1) CRED

Explanation:

CRED, a Bengaluru (Karnataka) based fintech unicorn company, has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) for the payment aggregator (PA) licence.

i. It usually takes about six months after the in-principle nod for a company to get the final approval from the RBI.

57. Which of the following statements is/are correct with respect to the list of top 50 largest banks in Asia-Pacific Region by Assets – 2024 released by The S&P Global Market Intelligence?

A) China's Industrial and Commercial Bank of China limited retained its position as the largest bank in Asia pacific as well as in the world in 2023.

B) ICICI Bank, 2nd largest private sector bank in India, has made its debut with the rank 48th position in the top 50 Asia-Pacific lender list in 2023.

C) State Bank of India, India's largest Public Sector Bank(PSB), has ranked 20th in 2023.

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

Answer- 5) All A, B & C

Explanation:

Three Indian Banks namely, the State Bank of India (SBI), HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank are featured in the list of top 50 largest banks in Asia-Pacific Region by Assets – 2024 released by The S&P Global Market Intelligence.

- China's Industrial and Commercial Bank of China limited retained its position as the largest bank in Asia pacific as well as in the world in 2023.
- SBI, India's largest Public Sector Bank(PSB), has improved its ranking to 20th in 2023 from 21 in 2022. SBI's assets valuation stands at USD 780.05 billion in 2023.
- ICICI Bank, 2nd largest private sector bank in India, has made its debut in the top 50 Asia-Pacific lender list in 2023. It is currently ranked 48th position. [Click here to read more](#)

58. In April 2024, _____ Multilateral Development Banks (MDBs) launched a new “Global Collaborative Co-Financing” Platform at the International Monetary Fund(IMF) and World Bank Spring meetings 2024, which took place in Washington D.C.(USA).

- 1) 7
- 2) 8
- 3) 9
- 4) 10
- 5) 11

Answer- 4) 10

Explanation:

On the sidelines of the 2024 International Monetary Fund(IMF) and **World Bank** Spring meetings which took place in Washington D.C.(U.S.A.) on 20th April 2024, **10** Multilateral Development Banks (**MDBs**) jointly launched the **Global Collaborative Co-financing platform**.

- This digital initiative aims to transform the development finance landscape.
- The 10 MDBs are: Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank(AIIB), World Bank Group(WBG), African Development Bank(AfDB), Asian Development Bank(ADB), Council of Europe Development Bank(CEB), European Bank for Reconstruction and Development (EBRD), European Investment Bank(EIB), Inter-American Development Bank(IDB), Islamic Development Bank(IsDB), and New Development Bank(NDB).

59. Which neobank has recently (in April' 24) received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to issue Prepaid Payment Instruments (PPIs) including prepaid cards and prepaid wallets?

- 1) Chime
- 2) Revolut India
- 3) Monzo
- 4) Upgrade
- 5) Nubank

Answer- 2) Revolut India

Explanation:

Revolut India, a neobank backed by Tiger Global and Softbank, has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) to issue Prepaid Payment Instruments (**PPIs**) including prepaid cards and prepaid wallets.

- This will allow Revolut India to operate as a domestic player in India's financial landscape.
- i.** The new licence complements Revolut India's existing licences from the RBI, allowing it to function as a **Category-II** Authorised Money Exchange Dealer (**AD II**).
- ii.** On 5 April 2024, RBI governor Shaktikanta Das proposed linking PPIs through third-party Unified Payments Interface (UPI) apps, similar to bank account holders.

60. Which organisation has recently (in April '24) released its Climate Strategy 2030 document to promote green financing?

- 1) Small industries Development Bank of India
- 2) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- 3) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 4) Centre of Science and Technology for Rural Development

5) National Housing Bank

Answer- **2) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development**

Explanation:

National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (**NABARD**) released its **Climate Strategy 2030 document**.

- The document was released by Shaji K.V., Chairman, NABARD on the occasion of **World Earth Day** (22nd April, 2023).

Key Pillars of Climate Strategy 2030:

- i. Accelerating green lending across sectors
- ii. Playing a broader market-making role
- iii. Internal green transformation of NABARD
- iv. Strategic Resource Mobilisation

61. Which bank has recently (in April' 24) introduced a suite of financial products including Banking Industry's first ATM Insurance?

- 1) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited
- 2) Suryoday Small Finance Bank Limited
- 3) Equitas Small Finance Bank
- 4) Au Small Finance Bank Limited
- 5) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited.

Answer- **4) Au Small Finance Bank Limited**

Explanation:

On 23rd April 2024, AU Small Finance Bank (**AU SFB**) Limited introduced a suite of financial products aimed at enhancing customer satisfaction.

- This included **two new credit cards**, the **AU SPONT Rupay Credit Card** and the **Secured Credit Card – NOMO** (No Missing Out) and **ATM** (Automated teller machine) **Insurance**.
- The NOMO Credit Card is AU SFB's first secured credit card, backed by a Fixed Deposit (FD). It was developed in collaboration with VISA.
- The AU SPONT Rupay Credit Card was developed in collaboration with NPCI (National Payments Corporation of India) .
- ATM Insurance allows its customers to purchase insurance through ATMs using their debit cards.

62. Name the bank that has recently (in April' 24) become the first bank to execute the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) programmable Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) pilot to compensate farmers for carbon credits.

- 1) IndusInd Bank Limited
- 2) HDFC Bank Limited
- 3) Bank of Baroda
- 4) Punjab National Bank
- 5) Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited

Answer- **1) IndusInd Bank Limited**

Explanation:

IndusInd Bank Limited became the **1st bank** to successfully execute the Reserve Bank of India's **(RBI)** programmable Central Bank Digital Currency **(CBDC) pilot**, to compensate farmers for carbon credits.

- This pilot project is executed in collaboration with Circularity Innovation Hub India Private Limited **(CIH)**, as an alternate form of CBDC.
- As part of this pilot, IndusInd Bank initiated the programmable CBDC disbursement to 50 farmers in Ratnagiri district, Maharashtra, and plans to cover 1000 farmers.

63. Which company has recently (in April' 24) launched "UPI Switch" in partnership with Airtel Payments Bank?

- 1) PayPal
- 2) GooglePay
- 3) Paytm
- 4) PhonePe
- 5) RazorPay

Answer- **5) RazorPay**

Explanation:

On 23rd April 2024, Razorpay Software Private Limited **(Razorpay)**, online instant payment company launched its own Unified Payments Interface **(UPI)** infrastructure with **"UPI Switch"**, a next-generation cloud based innovation, in partnership with **Airtel Payments Bank**.

- UPI Switch is powered by Technology Service Providers (TSPs) for banks.
- It is designed to handle up to **10,000 Transactions per Second (TPS)** at any given time.
- It will also enable 5 times faster access to UPI innovations for businesses, compared to the industry standards of 10 months.

Note: In March 2024, total UPI transactions in India increased by **55%** to 13.44 billion.

64. Which bank has recently (in April' 24) partnered with Tata Power Solar to boost solar energy adoption?

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

Answer- **3) Indian Bank**

Explanation:

Indian Bank, an Indian public sector bank **(PSB)**, has announced its partnership with Tata Power Solar Systems Limited **(TPSSL)** to promote **solar energy adoption** by providing financial support to residential consumers for installations.

- This strategic partnership aims to provide financial support under Pradhan Mantri (PM) Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana for installations of solar rooftop up to 3 KiloWatt (KW) and extend support for installations ranging from **3 to 10 KW** under the regular scheme.
- Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi launched the **PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana** in February 2024. The scheme was approved with a total outlay of **Rs.75,021 crore**.

- Under PM Surya Ghar Muft Bijli Yojana, residential consumers can avail loans up to Rs. 2 lakh at an annual interest rate of 7%.

65. In April 2024, Macquarie Asset Management launched an electric vehicle (EV) financing and end-to-end solution platform _____ in India.

- 1) LenDenClub
- 2) Wayflyer
- 3) Vertelo
- 4) NeoGrowth
- 5) GoFundMe

Answer- **3) Vertelo**

Explanation:

Macquarie Asset Management, part of Australia's diversified financial giant Macquarie Group has launched an electric vehicle **(EV) financing** and end-to-end solution **platform 'Vertelo'**.

- Vertelo pledges a substantial **USD 1.5 billion** investment aimed at electrifying fleets of buses and cars in India.
- Vertelo offers a range of solutions including financing, fleet management, and charging infrastructure.

66. Name the India's first all-in-one Payment Device that has been released by BharatPe in April 2024.

- 1) BharatPe U
- 2) BharatPe One
- 3) BharatPe Pro
- 4) BharatPe Card
- 5) BharatPe Edge

Answer- **2) BharatPe One**

Explanation:

BharatPe launched **BharatPe One**, **India's first all-in-one payment product** that integrates POS (point of sale), QR code, and speaker into one device.

- It is equipped with a high-definition touchscreen display, 4G, and Wi-Fi connectivity, and is powered by the latest Android operating system.
- It is designed to simplify transactions for merchants, offering payment acceptance options including dynamic and static QR code, tap-and-pay, and debit and credit cards.

67. Which of the following statements is/are "correct" with respect to the Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Asset Reconstruction Companies) Directions, 2024?

A) As per the directions, ARCs by March 31, 2024, to reach a minimum NOF of Rs 200 crore, and Rs 300 crore by March 31, 2026.

B) ARCs can also invest in short-term instruments like money market mutual funds, certificates of deposit, and corporate bonds/commercial papers with a rating of AA or higher by an eligible credit rating agency (CRA).

C) Every ARC must maintain a capital adequacy ratio of at least 15% of its total risk-weighted assets.

- 1) Only A

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

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

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) issued Master Direction – Reserve Bank of India (Asset Reconstruction Companies) Directions, 2024 in exercise of its powers conferred by Sections 3, 9, 10, 12 and 12A of the Securitization and Reconstruction of Financial Assets and Enforcement of Security Interest (SARFAESI) Act, 2002 (54 of 2002) which came into effect from April 24, 2024.

- Under this, RBI raised the Minimum Capital Requirement for ARCs from **Rs 100 crore to Rs 300 crore**.
- ARCs can also invest in short-term instruments like money market mutual funds, certificates of deposit, and corporate bonds/commercial papers with a rating of AA or higher by an eligible credit rating agency (CRA).
- Every ARC must maintain a capital adequacy ratio of at least **15%** of its total risk-weighted assets.[Click here to read more.](#)

68. In April 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed _____ Monetary Penalty on NABFINS for Non-Compliance.

- 1) Rs 5 lakh
- 2) Rs 10 lakh
- 3) Rs 15 lakh
- 4) Rs 20 lakh
- 5) Rs 25 lakh

Answer- **2) Rs 10 lakh**

Explanation:

Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) in exercise of its powers conferred on RBI under the provisions of clause (b) of sub-section (1) of section 58 G read with clause (aa) of sub-section (5) of section 58 B of the RBI Act 1934 imposed a monetary penalty of Rs **10 Lakh on NABFINS Limited**, Bengaluru, Karnataka which is a subsidiary of National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD).

- NABFINS Limited was non-compliant with certain provisions of the Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) – Systemically Important Non-Deposit taking Company and Deposit taking Company (Reserve Bank) Directions, 2016.

69. In April 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) restricted _____ (bank) from Adding New Customers Online and Issuing New Credit Cards.

- 1) HDFC Bank Limited
- 2) Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited
- 3) Indian Overseas Bank
- 4) State Bank of India
- 5) Indian Bank

Answer- **2) Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited**

Explanation:

On April 24, 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) in exercise of its powers under Section 35A of the Banking Regulation (**BR**) Act, 1949, barred **Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited** from onboarding of new customers through its online and mobile banking channels and issuing fresh credit cards.

- Kotak Mahindra Bank's IT risk and information security governance did not meet regulatory standards for two consecutive years, despite corrective action plans. As a result, the bank experienced frequent outages in Core Banking System (CBS) and digital channels, culminating in a disruption on April 15, 2024.
- Bank of Baroda (**BoB**) banned from onboarding customers on the **Bob World app** since October 2023.

70. Which company has recently (in April' 24) got the Reserve Bank of India (RBI's) approval to operate as Payments Aggregator?

- 1) PayPal
- 2) Paytm
- 3) PhonePe
- 4) GooglePay
- 5) PayU

Answer- **5) PayU**

Explanation:

PayU Payments Private Limited(PayU), a leading payments solution provider, has received in-principle approval from the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) to operate as a payment aggregator (**PA**).

- The approval reflects PayU's commitment to fostering a robust digital payment infrastructure in India in alignment with the Government of India's **Digital India initiative** and progressive RBI regulations.

71. Which regulatory body has recently (in April' 24) signed an MoU with the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH) to fastrack digital agri lending?

- 1) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- 2) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development
- 3) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
- 4) National Housing Bank
- 5) Securities and Exchange Board of India

Answer- **2) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development**

Explanation:

On April 25, 2024, the National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development announced its partnership with the Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (**RBIH**), a wholly-owned subsidiary of the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**), to develop a system that will help speed up the **process of agricultural loans**.

- According to the agreement, NABARD will integrate its electronic Kisan Credit Card (**e-KCC**) loan origination system portal with Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit(**PTPFC**) of **RBIH**.
- The digitization of agricultural lending will ensure instant delivery of credit to farmers. The collaboration will simplify the loan process and reduce the turnaround time for loans from **3-4 weeks to 5 minutes for 12 crore farmers** in India.

72. Which credit card provider has recently (in April' 24) launched its first core Travel credit card with 3 variants (Miles Elite, Miles Prime, Miles)?

- 1) Axis Card
- 2) HDFC Card
- 3) American Express
- 4) SBI Card
- 5) ICICI Card

Answer- 4) SBI Card

Explanation:

SBI Cards and Payment Services Limited (**SBI Card**) introduces its first travel-focused credit card, '**SBI Card MILES**,' featuring three variants:

SBI Card Miles Elite, SBI Card Miles Prime, and SBI Card Miles.

- The cards are available on Mastercard and RuPay networks.
- The ELITE variant has a joining and annual fee of Rs. 4,999 + taxes, while PRIME and MILES variants cost Rs 2,999 and Rs 1,499 + taxes, respectively
- The Travel Credits can be converted into Air Miles / Hotel Points of respective partners.

73. Which company has recently (in April' 24) received an approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) to launch India's 1st Nifty Non-Cyclical Consumer Index Fund?

- 1) SBI Mutual Fund
- 2) Groww Mutual Fund
- 3) Axis Mutual Fund
- 4) ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund
- 5) Kotak Mahindra Mutual Fund

Answer- 2) Groww Mutual Fund

Explanation:

Groww Mutual Fund, an asset management company (AMC), has received approval from the Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) to launch **India's inaugural Nifty Non-Cyclical Consumer Index Fund**.

- This open-ended scheme, set to launch in the first week of May 2024, will be managed by Abhishek Jain and bench-marked against the Nifty Non-Cyclical Consumer Index TRI (Total Return Index), comprising top 30 stocks from sectors like consumer goods and services, telecom, textiles, entertainment, etc.

74. Which regulatory body/credit rating agency has recently (in April' 24) approved CRISIL ESG Ratings & Analytics Limited as a Category 1 provider of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ratings?

- 1) Investment Information and Credit rating agency
- 2) Reserve Bank of India
- 3) S&P Global Ratings
- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 5) Credit Analysis & Research Limited

Answer- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India

Explanation:

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has approved CRISIL ESG Ratings & Analytics Limited (CRISIL ESG Ratings), a wholly owned subsidiary of CRISIL Ratings Ltd (CRL), as a Category 1 provider of Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) ratings.

- ESG ratings process includes the analysis of more than 500 unique data points across ESG aspects for each company. It will help the investors to measure and monitor ESG risks and enable them to identify investment opportunities considering long-term sustainability of business.
- The principal shareholder of an ESG rating agency is mandated to have a minimum ownership of 26% in said agency for a minimum of 5 years subsequent to receiving regulatory approval.

75. Which company has recently (in April' 24) launched India's first upgradable Automated Teller Machine (ATM)?

- 1) Groww Pay Services Private Limited.
- 2) Aurionpro Payment Solutions Private Limited
- 3) Hitachi Payment Services Private Limited
- 4) Lemonpay Payment Solutions Private Limited
- 5) India1 Payments Limited

Answer- **3) Hitachi Payment Services Private Limited**

Explanation:

Hitachi Payment Services Private Limited, a 100% subsidiary of Hitachi Ltd., launched India's first upgradable Automated Teller Machine (**ATM**) that can be converted to a cash recycling machine (**CRM**) as and when a bank needs it, eliminating the need for a separate CRM.

- These upgradable machines feature UPI-enabled cash deposits and withdrawals.
- CRM enables customers to make cash deposits and withdrawals in the same machine.

76. What should be the minimum net worth of Small Finance Banks (SFBs) (as of April' 24) at the end of the previous quarter(audited)to be eligible for conversion into Universal Banks(UBs)?

- 1) Rs 100 crore
- 2) Rs 300 crore
- 3) Rs 1000 crore
- 4) Rs 5 crore
- 5) Rs 500 crore

Answer- **3) Rs 1000 crore**

Explanation:

On 26th April 2024, Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) laid out a framework in the form of eligibility conditions for the voluntary transition of Small Finance Banks(**SFBs**) to Universal Banks(**UBs**).

- RBI laid down some conditions for conversion of SFBs into UBs like these SFBs must have minimum paid-up capital of **Rs 1000 crore**, satisfactory track record of performance for **minimum 5 years** etc.
- These conditions are in reference to "**Guidelines for 'on-tap' Licensing of Small Finance Banks in Private Sector**" issued on 5th December, 2019. These guidelines provide a transition path for SFBs to convert into UBs.

Note: On 1st April 2024, RBI approved the merger of Fincare SFB into AU Small Finance Bank Limited. Now, there are 11 SFBs in India. [Click here to read more](#)

Option Revision:

1. The minimum paid-up equity capital of the payments bank shall be **Rs. 100 crore**. The payments bank shall be required to maintain a minimum capital adequacy ratio of 15 percent of its risk weighted assets (RWA) on a continuous basis, subject to any higher percentage as may be prescribed by RBI from time to time.

2. RBI has raised the minimum capital requirement for ARCs to begin securitisation to **Rs 300 crore**, compared with Rs 100 crore earlier on October 11, 2022.

4. The Regional Rural Banks (Amendment) Bill, 2014 was introduced by the Minister of Finance, Mr. Arun Jaitley, in Lok Sabha on December 18, 2014. The Bill seeks to amend the Regional Rural Banks Act, 1976. The Act provides for the authorised capital of each RRB to be **Rs 5 crore**.

77. Which regulatory/ statutory body has recently (in April' 24) notified a framework for Category I and Category II Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs) in the infrastructure sector to raise debt by pledging the equity of their investee companies?

- 1) Reserve Bank Of India
- 2) Competition Commission of India
- 3) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 5) International Financial Services Centres Authority

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

Explanation:

Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has notified a framework for **Category I and Category II Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs)** in the infrastructure sector to raise debt by pledging the equity of their investee companies.

- In this regard, SEBI (AIF) Regulations, 2012 has been amended and notified SEBI (AIF) (second amendment) Regulations, 2024.
- **Category I and Category II AIFs** can create encumbrances on invested companies' equity in the infrastructure sector to facilitate debt raising, under Regulation 16(1)(c) and 17(c) of AIF Regulations, subject to compliance with RBI regulations. [Click here to read more](#)

Option Revision:

1. In February 2024 **RBI** revised the eligibility norms for the inclusion of Urban Co-operative Banks (UCBs) in the Second Schedule to RBI Act, 1934 - issued under sub clause (a) of sub section (6) of section 42 of the RBI Act 1934.

2. In March 2024 - Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MOCA) notified that the provisions of sections 20, 35 & 40 of the Competition (Amendment) Act, 2023 will come into force with effect from 6th March 2024. Allows **Competition Commission of India (CCI)** to impose a penalty on the global turnover of a company for engaging in activities that distort competition.

3. In January 2024 - **Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority (IRDAI)** removed the requirement of case-to-case approval for investment in IDF - NBFCs by insurance companies. The investment should be - with Note 3 - Regulation 9 of IRDAI (Investments) Regulations 2016.

78. Which organisation has recently (in April' 24) pledged USD 23.6 billion in 2023 to help Asia and Pacific Progress on Sustainable Development?

- 1) World Bank
- 2) Asian Development Bank
- 3) National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development
- 4) Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank
- 5) New Development Bank

Answer- **2) Asian Development Bank**

Explanation:

The Asian Development Bank(**ADB**) pledged **USD 23.6 billion** from its own resources in 2023 which also include USD 9.8 billion for climate action, to help **Asia and Pacific** progress on sustainable development.

- The amount is raised through loans, grants, equity investments, guarantees and technical support provided to governments and the private sector.
- ADB also raised an additional **USD16.4 billion** in co-financing through its strong partnerships.
- These figures are among the financial and operational results published by ADB in its Annual Report 2023 on 25th April, 2024.

Option Revision:

1. In March 2024, The **World Bank(WB)** approved a new project worth USD 452 million to improve connectivity for over 1.8 million people living in rural areas of Assam. The Assam Resilient Rural Bridges Program will strengthen the resilience and management of roads and bridges to help people living in 1,739 villages. Project approved for fiscal year 2024.

3. National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) plans to raise up to Rs 40,000 crore (USD4.8 billion) in local currency bonds, according to people familiar with the matter, as the newly created Indian lender aims to more than double its loan disbursement.

4. In January 2024, **Asian Infrastructure Investment Bank (AIIB)** invested INR 486 Crore (approximately USD 58.4 million) in Sustainable Energy Infra Trust (SEIT) for AIIB's project 'India: Project Meridian'.

Key Points: SEIT is India's largest renewable energy Infrastructure Investment Trust (InvIT).

79. Which life insurance company has recently (in April' 24) partnered with Peerless Financial Products Distribution Ltd. (PFDDL) for corporate agency tie-ups?

- 1) Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance
- 2) HDFC Life Insurance
- 3) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- 4) Future Generali India Life Insurance
- 5) Aditya Birla Sun Life Insurance

Answer- **2) HDFC Life Insurance**

Explanation:

HDFC Life Insurance, one of India's leading insurers, and Peerless Financial Products Distribution Limited (**PFDDL**) join hands in a corporate agency tie-up. This partnership would enable PFDDL to distribute HDFC Life's life insurance products to its customers.

- Through this tie-up, PFDDL would offer financial protection to its customers and provide both digital and physical platforms for customer convenience.

- The partnership aims to strengthen HDFC Life's presence in eastern India. The tie-up would further bolster the reach of HDFC Life in **Tier 2 and Tier 3 cities** across the 42 locations of PFPDL.

Option Revision:

1. In February 2024, Thrissur (Kerala) based ESAF Small Finance Bank(SFB) announced a bancassurance partnership with **Edelweiss Tokio Life Insurance Company Limited** to offer life insurance products to a wider range of customers, particularly those in underserved communities.
3. On 17th February 2024, the **Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)** launched 'LIC Amritbaal Plan 874', a new Non-Linked, Non-Participating, Individual, Savings, Life Insurance plan. The plan is designed to meet the higher education and other financial needs of the child.
4. Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **Future Generali India Life Insurance Company Limited (FGILI)** has launched a comprehensive women's health insurance plan 'Health PowHER' designed specifically for women. The plan aims to address the various needs of women across the different stages of their lives.

80. Which organisation has recently (in April' 24) partnered with the Foundation for Innovation & Research in Science & Technology (F.I.R.S.T) at Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur to boost innovation in Mobile Financial Services (MFS) and Fintech solutions?

- 1) Ericsson India
- 2) LeRemitt
- 3) Digivridhhi
- 4) Flywire corporation
- 5) Revolut

Answer- **1) Ericsson India**

Explanation:

Ericsson India and the Foundation for Innovation & Research in Science & Technology (F.I.R.S.T) at the Indian Institute of Technology **(IIT) Kanpur**, Uttar Pradesh(UP) have signed a 2-year partnership to boost innovation in Mobile Financial Services (MFS) and Fintech solutions.

- This aims to leverage Ericsson's global expertise and **F.I.R.S.T's innovation** ecosystem to create groundbreaking solutions.
- Ericsson's wallet platform supports over 400 million registered mobile wallets, processing 2.8 billion transactions valued at over USD 40 billion monthly.

Option Revision:

2. In February 2024, **Yes Bank Limited** and **LeRemitt** partnered to create a cross-border platform to enable MSME to conduct international transactions.
3. In January 2024, **Karnataka bank** partnered with **Digivridhhi** to provide financial services to support dairy farmers. The services offered to Village Dairy Cooperative Societies associated with Milk Unions of Karnataka Milk Federation (KMF).
4. State Bank of India (SBI) in collaboration with the United States of America based **Flywire Corporation** to simplify cross border education payments for Indian students pursuing studies abroad.

81. In April 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced the investment limit by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) in Government Securities (G-Sec) will remain unchanged at ___ of outstanding stock for FY25.

- 1) 12
- 2) 15
- 3) 5.1
- 4) 6
- 5) 10.5

Answer- 4) 6

Explanation:

On 26th April 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that the investment limit by Foreign Portfolio Investors (FPI) in Government Securities (G-Sec) will remain unchanged at 6% of outstanding security stocks for FY25(2024-25).

- The FPI limits for investment in the state government securities (SGSs) and corporate bonds are maintained at 2% and 15% respectively. Of outstanding security stocks for FY25.
- RBI has also notified that the aggregate limit of the national amount of Credit Default Swaps(CDS) sold by foreign portfolio investors will be 5% of the outstanding stock of corporate bonds.

Option Revision:

1. Public Sector Banks: In India, Public sector banks must maintain a minimum CAR of **12%**.

Commercial Banks: Commercial banks must maintain a minimum CAR of 9%.

2. In April 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued [Master Direction- Reserve Bank of India Asset Reconstruction Companies\) Directions 2024](#).

- Every ARC must maintain a capital adequacy ratio of at least **15%** of its total risk-weighted assets.

I[∞]=K

3. The government expects fiscal deficit to be 5.1 % of the gross domestic product (GDP) for the financial year 2024-2025 (FY25): Budget 2024

- To finance the fiscal deficit in FY25, the gross and net market borrowings through dated securities during 2024-25 are estimated at ₹14.13 and 11.75 lakh crore respectively- both less than that in FY24.

82. Which company has been recently (in April 2024) directed by the Reserve Bank of India to stop the issuance and operations of its Prepaid Payment Instruments(PPIs) & refund the balances to its customers?

- 1) IIFL finance Limited
- 2) TalkCharge Technologies Private Limited
- 3) Infibeam Avenues Limited
- 4) JM Financial Products Limited
- 5) Bajaj Finance Limited

Answer- 2) TalkCharge Technologies Private Limited

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has directed Gurugram(Haryana)-based fintech firm **Talkcharge Technologies Private Limited(Talkcharge)** to stop the issuance and operations of its Prepaid

Payment Instruments (PPIs) or wallets and refund the balances held in the wallets within 45 days (by May 17, 2024).

- The cash loading of PPIs is limited to Rs 50,000 per month subject to overall limit of the PPI.

Option Revision:

1. RBI directed **IIFL Finance Limited** (formerly known as India Infoline Ltd) to cease and desist sanctioning or disbursing gold loans or assigning/ securitising/ selling any of its gold loans w.e.f March 4, 2024.

3. In March 2024, Gandhinagar (Gujarat) based **Infibeam Avenues Limited** received final authorisation from the RBI to operate an Online Payment Aggregator (PA) for its payment gateway brand, CCAvenue.

4. In March 2024, RBI had barred Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **JM Financial Products Ltd (JMFPL)** from financing against shares and debentures including sanction and disbursement of loans against initial public offering (IPO) of shares with immediate effect (5th March 2024).

83. In April 2024, REC Limited secured a green loan of Japanese Yen (JPY) 60.536 (~Rs 3250 crore) from _____ to finance green projects in India.

- 1) Japan International Cooperation Agency
- 2) Exim Bank India
- 3) Asian Development Bank
- 4) Japan Bank for International Cooperation
- 5) Servizi Assicurativi del Commercio Estero

Answer- **5) Servizi Assicurativi del Commercio Estero**

Explanation:

REC Limited (formerly Rural Electrification Corporation Limited) has secured a green loan of Japanese Yen (**JPY) 60.536 (~Rs 3250 crore)** from Servizi Assicurativi del Commercio Estero (**SACE**), an Italian export credit agency, to finance green projects in India.

- The green facility benefits from an 80% guarantee by SACE under the "Green Push Strategy" initiative.
- In January 2024, REC Limited issued its inaugural JPY 61.1 billion 5-year, 5.25-year and 10-year Green bonds, issued under its USD 10 billion Global Medium Term Notes Programme.

Option Revision:

2. On February 6 2024, the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) provided Rs 9,000 Crore to **Exim Bank of India** after GoI guarantees on decade-old loans extended to African countries.

3. On January 9 2024, the **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** raised USD 5 Billion in dual-tranche global benchmark bonds to propel development initiatives across Asia and the Pacific.

4. In March 2024, NTPC Limited inked a pact with Japan Bank for International Cooperation (**JBIC**) for sourcing foreign currency loans of USD 200 million (JPY 30 billion / Rs 1650 crore)

The facility has been extended under JBIC's 'Global action for Reconciling Economic growth and Environment preservation' ("GREEN") initiative.

84. Which Fintech company has recently (in April' 24) launched an offline Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based 'Scan and Pay' service that enables users to scan QR codes for payments directly from their bank accounts?

- 1) PhonePe
- 2) Cred

3) Amazon Pay

4) Razorpay

5) Paymart

Answer- **2) Cred**

Explanation:

Fintech company **Cred** has launched an offline Unified Payments Interface (**UPI**)-based '**Scan and Pay**' service that enables users to scan **QR codes** for payments directly from their bank accounts.

- Cred aims to encourage its users to use the app to scan QR codes at high-end retail stores such as supermarkets, restaurants, beauty salons, fashion outlets, etc.
- Merchants can opt for various terminal types, including portable devices, kiosks, or dynamic QR code displays, powered by Razorpay Point of Sale (**POS**) and Pine Labs.

Option Revision:

1. In April 2024, the Singapore Tourism Board (STB)- a two-year MoU - **PhonePe** to promote Unified Payments Interface (UPI) for Indians travelling in Singapore.

- The MoU - customers - cross border transactions - India and Singapore -from Indian bank accounts.

3. In April 2024, As per the report by Financial Express, **Amazon Pay** in partnership with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) is set to introduce its credit services on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).

4. In April 2024, Razorpay Software Private Limited (**Razorpay**), an online instant payment company launched its own Unified Payments Interface (UPI) infrastructure with "UPI Switch", a next-generation cloud based innovation, in partnership with Airtel Payments Bank.

85. Which bank has recently (in April' 24) partnered with HCL Software for Digital Transformation?

1) Bank of Baroda

2) DBS Bank India

3) RBL Bank

4) Yes Bank

5) State Bank of India

Answer- **5) State Bank of India**

Explanation:

The State Bank of India (**SBI**) has entered into a five-year agreement with HCLSoftware, the software business unit of HCLTech, to digitally transform its customer interaction framework by utilising the HCL Unica platform.

- It will provide hyper-personalised communication across the SBI's diverse digital marketing channels while adhering to the Digital Personal Data Protection Act (DPDPA).

Option Revision:

1. In January 2024, **Bank of Baroda (BoB)**, one of India's leading public sector banks launched a special retail short-term deposit scheme named Bob 360 Term Deposit Scheme. The scheme offers higher interest rates for Domestic Term Deposits to Residents/Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) and Resident Senior Citizens for 360 days.

2. On January 18, 2024, **DBS Bank India Limited** announced collaboration with StartupTN, a nodal agency of Tamil Nadu (TN) Government, to foster entrepreneurship in TN.

4. In January 2024, **Yes Bank Limited**, has become the first Indian bank to execute an export finance transaction on the International Trade Financing Services Platform (ITFS) of RXIL Global IFSC Limited (RXIL Global), a subsidiary of Receivables Exchange of India Limited (RXIL).

ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

1. Which companies have recently (in March' 24) signed an MoU with Tejas Networks Limited and Telecom Egypt (TE) to replicate its experience of implementing the Bharatnet (Rural Broadband Project) and National Knowledge Network (NKN) projects in Egypt?

- 1) ITIDA (Information Technology Industry Development Agency)
- 2) NTI (National Telecom Institute)
- 3) AT&T (American Telephone and Telegraph)
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 1 & 3

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

Explanation:

Tejas Networks Limited signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Telecom Egypt (TE), **ITIDA** (Information Technology Industry Development Agency), and **NTI** (National Telecom Institute) to replicate its experience of implementing the Bharatnet (Rural Broadband Project) and NKN (National Knowledge Network) projects in **Egypt**.

i. Telecom Egypt is the **1st** ever telecom operator in Egypt which provides all telecom services to its customers. The company owns a **45% stake** in Vodafone Egypt.

2. Which country's Satellite Communications Association, ABRASAT has recently (in March '24) signed an MoU with SatCom Industry Association of India (SIA-India) to boost advancement in the space sector?

- 1) France
- 2) Germany
- 3) Singapore
- 4) Saudi Arabia
- 5) Brazil

Answer- **5) Brazil**

Explanation:

The SatCom Industry Association of India (SIA-India) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Brazilian Association of Satellite Telecommunications Companies (**ABRASAT** - Associação Brasileira das Empresas de Telecomunicações por Satélite) to boost advancement in the space sector.

i. The MoU aims to foster collaboration and drive innovative ventures and technological cooperation between **India** and **Brazil**.

3. In March 2024, A joint venture between the Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL) and Salasar Techno Engineering Limited (STEL) received a Rs 60 crore transmission project in _____ (country).

- 1) Egypt
- 2) Rwanda
- 3) Nigeria
- 4) Angola
- 5) Brazil

Answer- 2) Rwanda

Explanation:

A Joint Venture (JV) between the **Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (RVNL)** and **Salasar Techno Engineering Limited (STEL)**, the private steel manufacturer, has bagged “Rwanda Transmission System Reinforcement and Last Mile Connectivity project (**TSRLMC**)”, a transmission project of Rwanda in Central Africa.

- The project is valued at about **Rs 60 crore** (USD 7.152 million).
- i. The order, secured from the Energy Development Corporation Limited (EDCL), is set to be executed by the STEL in **18 months**.
- RVNL owns **51% stake** in the joint venture, while STEL owns the remaining 49%.

4. Which company has recently (in April '24) signed a multi-year deal worth USD 100 million with an Airbus Atlantic group entity to supply 2300 varieties of metallic components?

- 1) Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- 2) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 3) BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited
- 4) Lockheed Martin India Private Limited
- 5) Mahindra Aerostructures Private Limited

Answer- 5) Mahindra Aerostructures Private Limited

Explanation:

Mahindra Aerostructures Private Limited (MASPL) has signed a multi-year deal worth USD 100 million with an **Airbus Atlantic** group entity.

- i. As per the deal, Mahindra Aerostructures will supply nearly **2300 varieties of metallic components** to Airbus Atlantic in France from its manufacturing unit in India.
- ii. MASPL will manufacture and deliver metallic components and small assemblies for the entire Airbus commercial aircraft family, including the **A320 series**.

5. As of April 2024, the Indian government has raised Rs. _____ in 2023-24 by selling its stakes in about 10 state-run companies.

- 1) Rs. 16,500 crores
- 2) Rs. 20,800 crores
- 3) Rs. 25,879 crores
- 4) Rs. 18,987 crores
- 5) Rs. 33,808 crores

Answer- 1) Rs. 16,500 crores

Explanation:

In the fiscal year 2023-24, the **Indian government** has raised **Rs. 16,500 crores** through **stake sales** in about 10 state-run companies. This amount however fell short by about 9% compared to the internal target of Rs 18,000 crore.

- i. Despite lower stake sale receipts, the government received higher dividends from state-run companies, totaling about Rs 63,000 crore in 2023/24, surpassing the target of Rs. 50,000 crore.

6. Which company has recently (in April '24) signed a binding term sheet with Japan's Panasonic Energy to manufacture cylindrical lithium-ion cells in India?

- 1) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited
- 2) Reliance Industries Limited
- 3) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- 4) Nayara Energy Limited
- 5) Numaligarh Refineries Limited

Answer- 3) Indian Oil Corporation Limited

Explanation:

State-owned refiner **Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL)** and Japan's **Panasonic Energy Co. Ltd.**, a Panasonic Group company have signed a binding term sheet for a proposed joint venture (JV) to manufacture cylindrical lithium-ion cells in India for 2-and 3-wheel vehicles and energy storage systems.

i. Through the partnership with Panasonic Energy, IOCL aims to address environmental challenges, such as reducing carbon dioxide (CO₂) emissions.

7. According to the World Bank(WB)'s South Asia Development Update in April 2024, India's economy is projected to grow by ____ in 2024.

- 1) 8.1%
- 2) 7.5%
- 3) 9.1%
- 4) 11.8%
- 5) 12.7%

Answer- 2) 7.5%

Explanation:

World Bank(WB)'s South Asia Development Update April 2024 – Jobs for Resilience, stated that India's economy is projected to grow by **7.5%** in 2024, a revision of 1.2% from 6.3% estimated in the October 2023 report.

i. India's output growth is forecasted to reach 7.5% in FY 2023-24 (FY24) before moderating to 6.6% in FY25, primarily due to a deceleration in investments.

ii. South Asia is projected to maintain its status as the fastest-growing Emerging Market and Developing Economy (EMDE) region globally for the next two years, with growth anticipated at 6.1% in 2025.

iii. The WB in its semi-annual economic outlook titled 'East Asia and Pacific April 2024 Economic Update, April 2024: Firm Foundations of Growth' projected East Asia and Pacific's (EAP) growth to ease to 4.5% in 2024 from 5.1% in 2023, with developing EAP excluding China expected to pick up to 4.6% from 4.4% in 2023. [Click here to read more.](#)

8. Which company has recently (in April '24) signed an agreement with the Bayerische Motoren Werke (BMW) Group to establish an Automotive Software and Information Technology (IT) development hub in Pune, Bengaluru, and Chennai?

- 1) Tech Mahindra Limited
- 2) Wipro Limited
- 3) Infosys Technologies Private Limited
- 4) Tata Technologies Limited

5) Hindustan Computers Limited

Answer- **4) Tata Technologies Limited**

Explanation:

The Bayerische Motoren Werke (**BMW**) Group, and **Tata Technologies Limited**, a subsidiary of Tata Motors Limited, have signed an agreement to form a Joint Venture (JV) to establish an Automotive Software and Information Technology (IT) development Hub in Pune (Maharashtra), Bengaluru (Karnataka) and Chennai (Tamil Nadu).

i. Bengaluru and Pune will be the main centres of operations and development. In **Chennai**, the primary focus would be on business **IT solutions**.

9. NTPC Limited has declared permanent closure of its Barauni Thermal Power Station Stage-I (2×110 megawatt) in _____ from March 31, 2024.

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

Answer- **4) Bihar**

Explanation:

NTPC Limited (formerly known as National Thermal Power Corporation), India's leading power utility, officially declared the **permanent closure** of its **Barauni Thermal Power Station Stage-I** (2×110 megawatt (MW)) in **Bihar** from March 31, 2024.

- The closure encompasses 2 units (Units 6 & 7), along with all Auxiliary systems except CHP, Switchyard, Ash Dyke, and Township.

i. NTPC established in 1975, boasts a total installed capacity of 75,418 MW (including Joint Ventures (JVs)) and aims to achieve a capacity of 130 gigawatts (GW) by 2032.

10. Name the company that has recently (in April '24) signed an agreement with Bangalore International Airport Ltd (BIAL) to develop Bengaluru as a premier aviation hub for southern India.

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

Answer- **3) Air India**

Explanation:

Tata-Group-owned **Air India** and Bangalore International Airport Ltd (**BIAL**) have entered into an agreement to develop Bengaluru (Karnataka) as a **premier aviation hub** for southern India. This agreement aims to boost air travel connectivity to and from India over the next few years.

i. Air India (along with other Tata Group airlines – Air India Express (AIX), and Vistara) and BIAL will collaborate to enhance international air connectivity, operational efficiency, and passenger experience, over the next 5 years.

11. According to Moody's Analytics report titled "APAC Outlook: Listening Through the Noise" released in April 2023, India's GDP is expected to decrease to _____ in 2024 from 7.7% growth recorded in 2023.

- 1) 6.5%
- 2) 6.7%
- 3) 6.3%
- 4) 6.1%
- 5) 6.8%

Answer- 4) 6.1%

Explanation:

According to **Moody's Analytics report** titled "**APAC Outlook: Listening Through the Noise,**" India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) is expected to **decrease** to **6.1%** in **2024** from 7.7% growth recorded in 2023.

- The report estimated that the overall APAC(Asia-Pacific) region will show a growth of 3.8% in 2024 whereas the global economy will show a growth of 2.5%.
- As per the report, India's Consumer Price inflation rate is around 5% which is close to the inflation target range of **2% to 6%** set by the Reserve Bank of India(RBI).

12. According to the report released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), in April 2024, the Indian economy is expected to grow by _____ in 2024.

- 1) 7.1%
- 2) 6.9%
- 3) 6.8%
- 4) 6.5%
- 5) 6.7%

Answer- 4) 6.5%

Explanation:

According to the report released by the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (**UNCTAD**), the Indian economy is expected to grow by **6.5 per cent in 2024 as compared to 6.7 percent in 2023.**

- A UN Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) report has projected the global economy to grow at 2.6 percent in 2024 from 2.5 percent projected earlier. [Click here to read more](#)

13. According to the World Economic Outlook(WEO) – Steady But Slow: Resilience Amid Divergence released by the International Monetary Fund (IMF) in April 2024, India's GDP growth forecast by 30 basis points(bps) to _____ for FY25.

- 1) 6.1%
- 2) 8.2%
- 3) 7.7%
- 4) 6.8%
- 5) 7.9%

Answer- 4) 6.8%

Explanation:

On 17th April 2024, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) released its bi-annual report titled **World Economic Outlook(WEO) – Steady But Slow: Resilience Amid Divergence (April 2024)**.

According to the report IMF has raised India's GDP(Gross Domestic Product) growth forecast by 30 basis points(bps) to **6.8%** for fiscal year 2025(FY25) and retained the forecast for FY26 at 6.5%.

i. India's GDP grew by an impressive 7.8% in FY 2024(2023-2024), higher than the 6.7% predicted in IMF's January 2024 report. [Click here to read more](#)

14. According to the report 'Viksit Bharat @2047' released by PHDCCI (PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry) in April 2024, India's economy is projected to grow at _____ in FY25.

- 1) 8.5-8.7%
- 2) 7.4-7.6%
- 3) 7-7.2%
- 4) 8-8.3%
- 5) 8.3-8.5%

Answer- **4) 8-8.3%**

Explanation:

PHDCCI (PHD Chamber of Commerce and Industry) in its report on '**Viksit Bharat @2047**' projects India's economy to grow at **8-8.3%** in FY25, with a forecasted Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of USD 34.7 trillion by 2047 and a per capita income of USD 21,000.

i. India's economy to reach USD **7 trillion** by **2030**.

15. Which Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) has recently (in April '24) partnered with Blockchain For Impact (BFI) to accelerate Healthcare Innovation in India under the BFI-Biome Virtual Network Program?

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

Answer- **5) IIT Kanpur**

Explanation:

On April 16 2024, The Indian Institute of Technology (**IIT**) **Kanpur**, Uttar Pradesh and **Blockchain For Impact (BFI)**, foundation in Bengaluru (Karnataka), announced a strategic partnership, under the BFI-Biome Virtual Network Program to nurture innovations and drive advancements in healthcare in India.

i. As part of this partnership, BFI will support IIT Kanpur in promoting entrepreneurial initiatives through the Startup Incubation & Innovation Centre (SIIC), IIT Kanpur.

ii. The BFI will allocate over **USD 150,000** across three years to develop programs specifically tailored to healthcare-focused startups at IIT Kanpur's SIIC.

16. In April 2024, the ReNew Energy Global PLC (ReNew) and JERA Co. Inc. signed an initial agreement to assess a green ammonia production project in _____ (state).

- 1) Rajasthan
- 2) Karnataka

- 3) Maharashtra
- 4) Odisha
- 5) Gujarat

Answer- **4) Odisha**

Explanation:

On April 18, 2024, ReNew Energy Global PLC (**ReNew**) and **JERA Co. Inc., Japan's largest power generation company**, signed an initial agreement to assess a green ammonia production project in **Odisha**.

- i.** This is in line with India's ambitious National Green Hydrogen Mission(NGHM) and Japan's clean energy transition goals.
- ii.** ReNew, through its subsidiary ReNew E-Fuels Private Limited, and JERA will jointly evaluate a green ammonia production project in Paradip, Odisha.
- iii.** This project will utilise 500 MegaWatt (MW) of high-capacity utilisation factor (CUF) renewable energy to produce green hydrogen.

17. Which regulatory body/company has recently (in April' 24) established a new office in GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) in Gujarat?

- 1) Solar Energy Corporation of India
- 2) Reserve Bank of India
- 3) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency
- 4) Heavy Engineering Corporation Limited
- 5) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development

Answer- **3) Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency**

Explanation:

The Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency(**IREDA**) has established a new office in **GIFT City** (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City) in Gandhinagar, **Gujarat**.

- This will facilitate the financing of renewable and green hydrogen projects in foreign currencies and thereby, reducing financial cost for renewable and green hydrogen projects.
- It is estimated that India's storage capacity will reach around **400 GigaWatts-hour (GWh)** by **2030-32** with an investment of **Rs 3.5 lakh crore**.

18. Which company has recently (in April' 24) signed an MoU with Indus Towers Limited (ITL) to develop Renewable Energy Projects?

- 1) Adani Green Energy Limited
- 2) Tata Power Solar Systems Limited
- 3) Energy Development Company Limited
- 4) Hindustan Power Projects Private Limited
- 5) NTPC Green Energy Limited

Answer- **5) NTPC Green Energy Limited**

Explanation:

NTPC Green Energy Limited (**NGEL**) and Indus Towers Limited (**ITL**) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to address the need for pacing green energy objectives and the Indian government's efforts towards a **carbon-neutral economy**.

- This collaboration would look into the combined development of grid-connected renewable energy-based power projects such as solar, wind, and energy storage, as well as related solutions.

19. Which company has recently (in April' 24) signed an MoU with Council of Scientific & Industrial Research- Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (CSIR-IICT) for developing technology to convert carbon dioxide (CO₂) to Dimethyl Ether (DME)?

- 1) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation
- 2) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- 3) Steel Authority of India
- 4) Gas Authority Of India
- 5) National Thermal Power Corporation

Answer- 2) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

Explanation:

The Council of Scientific & Industrial Research- Indian Institute of Chemical Technology (**CSIR-IICT**) and Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (**BHEL**) Corporate Research and Development (R&D) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) for developing technology on capturing and converting carbon dioxide (**CO₂**) to Dimethyl Ether (**DME**) through **direct catalytic conversion**.

- This partnership is under the Department of Science and Technology's (**DST**) initiative on Carbon Capture and Utilisation (**CCU**), which aims to employ innovative technologies to combat carbon emissions and promote sustainable energy practices.

20. In April 2024, _____ (company/corporation) and TUMAS India Private Limited signed an MoU for collaboration in public transportation projects and infrastructure projects across India.

- 1) Indian Railway Finance Corporation
- 2) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited
- 3) Rail India Technical and Economic Service
- 4) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation
- 5) National High Speed Rail Corporation Limited

Answer- 2) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

Explanation:

Rail Vikas Nigam Limited (**RVNL**) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with M/s Turkish Engineering Consulting & Contracting – **TUMAS India Private Limited** for partnership and collaboration in public transportation projects and infrastructure projects across India.

RVNL and the Turkish firm aim to collaborate on executing railway infrastructure projects across various regions in India.

21. Which organisation has recently (in April' 24) signed an MoU with National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to establish ECO villages inspired by Govardhan EcoVillage (GEV) in Maharashtra?

- 1) Vishwa Jain Sangathan
- 2) International Society for Krishna Consciousness
- 3) International Swaminarayan Satsang Organization
- 4) National Hindu Students' Forum

5) Students Islamic Organisation of India

Answer- **2) International Society for Krishna Consciousness**

Explanation:

On April 22, 2024, the National Skill Development Corporation (**NSDC**) and the International Society for Krishna Consciousness (**ISKCON**) signed an Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to establish **ECO villages** inspired by Govardhan EcoVillage (**GEV**) in Maharashtra.

- Both entities will team up with Skill India Centers for skilling youth, women from tribal and marginalised communities in Uttar Pradesh (UP), Maharashtra, Rajasthan, Gujarat, and Madhya Pradesh (MP), with future expansion to other regions.

22. In April 2024, JSW Neo Energy Limited (JSW Neo) received a Letter of Award (LoA) for setting up a _____ megawatts (MW) Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS)-connected solar power project from NTPC Limited.

- 1) 450
- 2) 500
- 3) 650
- 4) 700
- 5) 850

Answer- **4) 700**

Explanation:

JSW Neo Energy Limited (**JSW Neo**), a wholly-owned subsidiary of JSW Energy Limited, one of India's leading private sector power-producing companies received a Letter of Award (**LoA**) for setting up **700 megawatts (MW) Inter-State Transmission System (ISTS)-connected solar power project** from NTPC Limited.

- The project is part of NTPC's tariff-based competitive bid initiative for 1,500 MW ISTS-connected Solar Power Projects (NTPC-ISTS-II).
- JSW Energy's current installed generation capacity stands at 7.2 GW, projected to reach 9.8 GW by the calendar year 2024 (CY24)

23. Which company has recently signed a Transfer of Technology (ToT) agreement with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Aerospace Laboratories (CSIR-NAL) for LCA Tejas Mk1A Bismaleimide (BMI) Engine Bay Door production?

- 1) Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- 2) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 3) Aeronautical Development Agency
- 4) Dynamatic Technologies Limited
- 5) Brahmos Aerospace Private Limited

Answer- **2) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited**

Explanation:

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**) has signed a Transfer of Technology (**ToT**) agreement with the Council of Scientific and Industrial Research – National Aerospace Laboratories (**CSIR-NAL**) to manufacture the Bismaleimide (BMI) Engine Bay Door (EBD) for the Light Combat Aircraft (**LCA Tejas Mk1A aircraft**).

- Under the agreement, HAL can directly produce these high-temperature resistant composite parts for the production of LCA Mk1A.

- The Tejas Mark (Mk)-1A aircraft successfully completed its first flight on 28th March 2024.

24. In April 2024, CELERITYX and MAFCOCS has collaborated for the deployment of _____ platform across 40,000 bank branches in Maharashtra.

- 1) Airbase
- 2) Pleo
- 3) Rydoo
- 4) OneX
- 5) Egencia

Answer- 4) OneX

Explanation:

On 22nd April 2024, **CELERITYX**, the enterprise networking solutions business of OneOTT Intertainment Limited(OIL) announced its collaboration with Maharashtra State Cooperative Credit Societies Federation(**MAFCOCS**) for the deployment of **OneX** platform across **40,000 bank branches in Maharashtra.**

- OneX has the potential to serve over 1 lakh branches across the country.
- CELERITYX received its first order from Samata Sahakari Patsanstha for its branches in Maharashtra.

25. Which airline has recently (in April' 24) signed a codeshare agreement with Japan's All Nippon Airways for simplifying the travel process between India and Japan.

- 1) IndiGo
- 2) Air India
- 3) SpiceJet
- 4) Vistara
- 5) GoFirst

Answer- 2) Air India

Explanation:

Tata-owned **Air India**, India's leading global airline, and All Nippon Airways (**ANA**), the largest **Japanese** carrier, have signed a codeshare agreement connecting their networks, **enhancing flight selections**, and simplifying the travel process between **India and Japan.**

- Commencing on **23 May 2024**, the codeshare agreement will allow passengers of both airlines to travel to their desired destination by combining flights between India and Japan with a single ticket.
- Air India will affix its '**AI**' designator code on ANA flights connecting Tokyo Haneda (Japan) with Delhi and Tokyo Narita (Japan) with Mumbai, Maharashtra.

26. Which company has recently (in April' 24) signed an MoU with the Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) for the supply of 9 lakh metric tonnes of limestone?

- 1) Nuclear Power Corporation of India
- 2) NHPC Limited
- 3) REC Limited
- 4) Tata Power Company Limited
- 5) NTPC Limited

Answer- 5) NTPC Limited

Explanation:

NTPC Limited (formerly National Thermal Power Corporation) and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (**RINL**) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) for the supply of **9 lakh metric tonnes of limestone** (lime chips – a by-product of the RINL) for the NTPC units across India for five years.

- Limestone is used as a raw material for the flue-gas desulphurisation system that is being installed at the coal-based thermal plants of the NTPC for the reduction of sulphur dioxide (SO₂) emissions.

27. In April 2024, the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (NIPFP) projected India's FY25 Gross domestic product (GDP) growth at _____.

- 1) 6.1%
- 2) 7%
- 3) 6.8%
- 4) 7.1-7.4%
- 5) 6.5%

Answer- **4) 7.1-7.4%**

Explanation:

On April 26, 2024, the National Institute of Public Finance and Policy (**NIPFP**) released its 'FY 2023-24: Year End Macroeconomic Review' during a seminar at its campus in New Delhi, Delhi.

It has estimated India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth at **7.1-7.4%** for **FY25 (2024-25)**, using high-frequency models.

- This economic growth will be driven by high Capital Expenditure (Capex) and Government investment in Public Goods.
- Asian Development Bank (ADB) and Fitch Ratings forecast India's growth at 7%, while International Monetary Fund (IMF), S&P Global Ratings, and Morgan Stanley predict 6.8% growth for FY25.

Option Revision:

1. In April 2024 Moody's - India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to decrease to **6.1%** in 2024 from 7.7% growth recorded in 2023.
2. In April 2024, Asian Development Bank (ADB)- raised India's -GDP- growth forecast for FY25 (2024-25) to **7%** from 6.7%.
3. In April 2024, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised India's GDP(Gross Domestic Product) growth forecast by 30 basis points(bps) to **6.8%** for fiscal year 2025(FY25) and retained the forecast for FY26 at 6.5%.

APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS

1. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer of Axis Capital Limited?

- 1) Parag Gude
- 2) Atul Mehra
- 3) Rajesh Kumar
- 4) Rakesh Sharma
- 5) Amith Patel

Answer- **2) Atul Mehra**

Explanation:

Axis Capital Limited (Erstwhile ENAM Securities Private Limited) has appointed **Atul Mehra** as its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), succeeding Salil Pitale, who held the interim MD & CEO position from 2018-2024.

i. Axis Capital has also appointed **Parag Gude** as the Chief Operating Officer (COO) of Institutional Equities and Dhaval Desai as Head of Cash Equities.

2. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of Tata International Limited (TIL)?

- 1) Ajay Rathore
- 2) Ashwini Kumar
- 3) Rajeev Singhal
- 4) Uthhav Singh
- 5) Rakesh Chandra

Answer- **3) Rajeev Singhal**

Explanation:

On April 1 2024, The Tata International Limited (**TIL**), the global trading and distribution arm of Tata Group, appointed **Rajeev Singhal** as its Managing Director (MD).

i. Rajeev Singhal succeeded Anand Sen, who attained retirement on March 31, 2024.

ii. Prior to his appointment he was serving as the Executive Director (ED) and Chief Operating Officer (COO) at TIL.

3. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the first woman Prime Minister of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC)?

- 1) Irene Esambo
- 2) Gertrude Kitembo Mpala
- 3) Wivine Mumba Matipa
- 4) Judith Suminwa Tuluka
- 5) Chantal Safu

Answer- **4) Judith Suminwa Tuluka**

Explanation:

Felix Tshisekedi, President of the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), appointed **Judith Suminwa Tuluka** as the **first woman Prime Minister** of the **DRC**.

i. She succeeded Jean-Michel Sama Lukonde who served as the Prime Minister of DRC since 2021.

4. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the Chief Secretary of Assam?

- 1) A P Das Joshi
- 2) Ravi Kota
- 3) Ravi Shankar Prasad
- 4) Tej Prasad Bhusal
- 5) Biswajit Pegu

Answer- **2) Ravi Kota**

Explanation:

Ravi Kota, Senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) Officer took charge as the new **Chief Secretary of Assam**, succeeding Paban Kumar Borthakur.

i. Dr. Ravi Kota, an IAS officer of the 1993 batch of Assam-Meghalaya cadre, previously served as the **Additional Chief Secretary of Assam's Finance, Industry, and Trade** section, as well as the Public Institutions Department.

- He continued to hold charge of Public Enterprises, Industries, and Commerce after assuming the office of Chief Secretary, even though departed from the Finance Department.

5. In April 2024, _____ won the Egyptian Presidential election for the 4th term.

- 1) Ahmed Safiq Sisi
- 2) Moussa Moustafa
- 3) Moustafa Madbouly
- 4) Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi
- 5) El Sayyid El- Badawi

Answer- **4) Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi**

Explanation:

Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi has taken oath as the **President of Egypt** for the **third term** in the New Administrative Capital of the country. The 69-year-old former army chief will continue with his presidential powers until 2030 that followed constitutional amendments that extended presidential terms to six years allowing him to stand for a third election.

i. He won the election in December 2023 with **89.6%** of the votes and with no major challengers.

6. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (ASSOCHAM)?

- 1) Ajay Singh
- 2) Aditya Ghosh
- 3) Sanjiv Kapoor
- 4) Vineet Agar
- 5) Sanjay Nayar

Answer- **5) Sanjay Nayar**

Explanation:

Sanjay Nayar, the Founder and Chairman of Sorin Investment Fund has taken over as President of the Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India (**ASSOCHAM**), India's oldest apex Industry chamber, for 2024-25. Previously, he served as the Vice President of ASSOCHAM.

i. Sanjay Nayar replaced Ajay Singh, Chairman & Managing Director(CMD) of Spicejet, who served as ASSOCHAM's President for 2023-24.

7. Who has been recently (in April '24) nominated as a member of the Athletic Commission of the Asian Athletics Association (AAA) for four years (2024-2028)?

- 1) G. V. Dhanalakshmi
- 2) M. D. Valsamma
- 3) Vandana Rao
- 4) Shiny Kurisingal Abraham Wilson
- 5) Kutty Saramma

Answer- 4) **Shiny Kurisingal Abraham Wilson**

Explanation:

Former Indian track and field athlete **Shiny Kurisingal Abraham Wilson** was nominated as a member of the **Athletic Commission of the Asian Athletics Association (AAA)** for four years (2024–2028).

- She was nominated as a member in a virtual meeting led by the Chairman of the Athletic Commission, Mohammad Suleiman (Qatar).
- ii. She became the **first** Indian woman to be the **flagbearer** for the Indian contingent at the 1992 Barcelona Olympics.
- iii. Shiny Wilson was awarded the **Padma Shri in 1998** in the field of sports and also received the **Arjuna Award in 1985**

8. In April 2024, Ousmane Sonko was appointed as the Prime Minister (PM) of _____ (Country).

- 1) Ghana
- 2) Morocco
- 3) Tanzania
- 4) Cameroon
- 5) Senegal

Answer- 5) **Senegal**

Explanation:

The Senegal President Bassirou Diomaye Faye appointed **Ousmane Sonko** as the Prime Minister **(PM)** of **Senegal** in his first act as President.

- i. Ousmane Sonko replaced Sidiki Kaba as the new prime minister. Sidiki Kaba was appointed as the prime minister by former President Macky Sall in March 2024.
- ii. Bassirou Diomaye Faye was newly appointed as the President of Senegal on April 2 2024.

9. Who has recently (in April '24) taken charge as the Principal Director General (PDG) of the Press Information Bureau (PIB)?

- 1) Sheyphali B. Sharan
- 2) Durga Shakti Nagpal
- 3) Usha Padhee
- 4) Preethi Raj
- 5) Rajni Sekhri Sibal

Answer- 1) **Sheyphali B. Sharan**

Explanation:

On April 1, 2024, **Sheyphali B. Sharan** took charge as the Principal Director General (PDG) of the Press Information Bureau (PIB) by succeeding Manish Desai, who attained retirement on March 31, 2024.

- i. Sheyphali Sharan, an Indian Information Service **(IIS) Officer of 1990** batch, became the fifth woman officer to head PIB.
- ii. She has also served as the Director of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (Department of Traditional Systems of Medicine/AYUSH) from 2002 to 2007 and the Ministry of Finance (Department of Economic Affairs 2013 to 2017).

10. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the 8th Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)?

- 1) Anja Karliczek
- 2) Annegret Kramp
- 3) Renate Künast
- 4) Christine Lambrecht
- 5) Astrid Schomaker

Answer- **5) Astrid Schomaker**

Explanation:

António Guterres, Secretary-General (SG) of the United Nations (UN), appointed **Astrid Schomaker** of Germany as the 8th Executive Secretary of the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity **(CBD)**.

i. With this appointment, She becomes the CBD's first Executive Secretary from Germany.

- David Cooper of the United Kingdom (UK), Acting Executive Secretary of CBD (since February 2023), will continue his role until Schomaker assumes her functions.
- David Cooper succeeded Elizabeth Maruma Mrema, who was appointed as Deputy Executive Director of the UN Environment Programme (UNEP).

11. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as a member of the Economic Advisory Panel of the World Bank Group (WBG)?

- 1) Rakesh Mohan
- 2) Chandran
- 3) Amit Patel
- 4) Shaktikanta Das
- 5) Raghuram Rajan

Answer- **1) Rakesh Mohan**

Explanation:

The World Bank has appointed **Rakesh Mohan**, Former Deputy Governor (DG) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as a member in the Economic Advisory Panel of World Bank Group **(WBG)**.

- Nicholas Stern, IG Patel Professor of Economics and Government at the London School of Economics, United Kingdom (U.K.) will be the chairman of Economic Advisory Panel of WBG
- Indermit Gill, Chief Economist of the World Bank Group (WBG) and Senior President for Development Economics will co-chair the panel.
- The panel members will have a tenure of **two years**.

12. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the Presiding Officer of the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) for 4 years?

- 1) Justice V.M. Shyam Kumar
- 2) Justice M.A Abdul Hakkim
- 3) Justice Devendra Kumar Upadhyaya
- 4) Justice Pratinidhi Srinivasacharya Dinesh Kumar
- 5) Justice S. Vaidyanathan

Answer- **4) Justice Pratinidhi Srinivasacharya Dinesh Kumar**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Finance has appointed **Justice Pratinidhi Srinivasacharya (PS) Dinesh Kumar**, former Chief Justice (CJ) of Karnataka High Court(HC) as the **Presiding Officer** of the Securities Appellate Tribunal (**SAT**) for 4 years, or until he attains the age of 70 years.

- PS Dinesh Kumar succeeds Justice Tarun Agarwala, Who served as the Presiding Officer of SAT from December 2018 to December 2023.

i. Dheeraj Bhatnagar, former Principal Chief Commissioner of Income Tax (Delhi), was appointed as a **Technical Member of SAT** for 4 years, or until he attained the age of 60 years.

- Dheeraj Bhatnagar succeeds Justice MT Joshi, who served as a member of SAT from March 2019 to February 2023.

13. Who has been recently (in April '24) selected as the Chairman of the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Limited (NCDFI)?

- 1) T Nandakumar
- 2) Dilip Rath
- 3) Meenesh Kumar Champaklal Shah
- 4) Milind Rathore
- 5) Ashish Shukla

Answer- **3) Meenesh Kumar Champaklal Shah**

Explanation:

Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB), **Dr. Meenesh Kumar Champaklal Shah** has been unanimously elected as the Chairman of the National Cooperative Dairy Federation of India Ltd. (**NCDFI**) in the Board elections held on 5 April 2024. He represents the Jharkhand Milk Federation on the board.

i. Dr. Meenesh Shah replaced Mangal Jit Rai, who served as Chairman of NCDFI for 2 terms from 2017 to 2024. [Click here to read more.](#)

14. Which of the following personalities have been recently (in April '24) appointed as part-time members of the Governing Board of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) by the Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA)?

- 1) M.P. Ram Mohan
- 2) Dinabandhu Mohapatra
- 3) Sidhil Sasi
- 4) Both 1 & 2
- 5) Both 2 & 3

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

Explanation:

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (MCA) has appointed **M.P. Ram Mohan**, a Professor at the Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad(Gujarat), and **Dinabandhu Mohapatra**, a Non-Executive Independent Director at Indiabulls Housing Limited, as part-time members of the Governing Board of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI).

- The appointment came into effect on 19th February 2024. They will hold the post for a period of 5 years or until they attain the age of 65 or until further orders.

15. Who won the Presidential election of the Slovak Republic in April 2024?

- 1) Robert Fico
- 2) Andrej Danko
- 3) Richard Sulík
- 4) Igor Matovic
- 5) Peter Pellegrini

Answer- **5) Peter Pellegrini**

Explanation:

Peter Pellegrini, former Prime Minister (PM) of Slovakia, is set to become the **President of the Slovak Republic**. He won the Slovakia presidential election 2024 defeating Ivan Korčok, a former diplomat, with 53% of the vote.

i. Pellegrini will succeed Zuzana Caputov, the first female President of Slovakia.

ii. He will be inaugurated as the **6th president of Slovakia** on 15th June 2024.

16. In April 2024, _____ became the first woman from India to serve as a jury member at the 2024 Summer Olympics.

- 1) Bilquis Mir
- 2) Saina Nehwal
- 3) P. T. Usha
- 4) Mary Kom
- 5) Prachi Yadav

Answer- **1) Bilquis Mir**

Explanation:

Bilquis Mir, a Water sports promoter and athlete (canoeist) from Jammu and Kashmir(J&K), is set to become the **first woman from India** to serve as a **jury member** at the 2024 Summer Olympics which is set to be held in Paris, France from 26th July to 11th August 2024.

- Bilquis was nominated as a jury member by the Indian Kayaking and Canoeing Association.

17. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as a full-time member of the 16th Finance Commission (FC) of India?

- 1) Manoj Panda
- 2) Arvind Panagariya
- 3) Ajay Narayan Jha
- 4) Soumya Kanti Ghosh
- 5) Anoop Singh

Answer- **1) Manoj Panda**

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) has appointed economist **Manoj Panda**, former Director of the Institute of Economic Growth (IEG), as a **full-time member** of the 16th **Finance Commission (FC) of India**. He will hold the office with effect from the date he assumes office up to the date of submission of Report or 31st October 2025.

- Panda was appointed to the 16th FC in lieu of Niranjana Rajadhyaksha, Executive Director at Artha Global.
- Rajadhyaksha was appointed as a full time member of 16th FC in January 2024.

18. In April 2024, Sushil Sharma was selected as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of _____(company).

- 1) THDC India Limited
- 2) SJVN Limited
- 3) NTPC Limited
- 4) ITI Limited
- 5) Coal India Limited

Answer- 2) SJVN Limited

Explanation:

Sushil Sharma, Director (Projects), SJVN Limited has been selected for the post of **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of SJVN Limited at a Public Enterprise Selection Board (PESB) selection panel meeting held on 8 April 2024.

i. He replaced Mrs. Geeta Kapur, Director (Personnel) of SJVN Ltd, who assumed the additional charge of CMD on 1st February 2024 after the relieving of Nand Lal Sharma, the previous CMD of SJVN Ltd.

19. Who has been recently (in April '24) named as the International Event Ambassador for the "16th edition of Tata Consultancy Services' (TCS) World 10K Bengaluru (Karnataka)"?

- 1) Yemisi Ogunleye (Germany)
- 2) Raoua Tlili (Tunisia)
- 3) Dame Valerie Adams (New Zealand)
- 4) Mya Lynn Lesnar (United States of America)
- 5) Sarah Mitton (Canada)

Answer- 3) Dame Valerie Adams (New Zealand)

Explanation:

New Zealand's shot putter **Dame Valerie Adams**, a 4-time World Champion, and 2-time Olympic Gold medallist has been named the **International Event Ambassador** for the "16th edition of Tata Consultancy Services' (TCS) World 10K Bengaluru (Karnataka)" to be held on 28th April 2024.

i. She also won a silver in the 2016 Summer Olympics in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil; and a bronze medal in the 2020 Summer Olympics in Tokyo, Japan.

ii. She became the 1st woman to win 4 consecutive world gold medals in the World Athletics Championships, claiming shot put crowns in 2007, 2009, 2011, and 2013.

20. Who has been recently (in April '24) appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) and Managing Director (MD) of Wipro Limited?

- 1) Rishad Premji
- 2) Tulsi Naidu
- 3) N. S. Kannan
- 4) Srinivas Pallia
- 5) Deepak M Satwalekar

Answer- 4) Srinivas Pallia

Explanation:

Srinivas (Srini) Pallia was appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) and Managing Director (**MD**) of **Wipro Limited**, effective from 7th April 2024.

i. Srinivas Pallia succeeds Thierry Delaporte, who served as the CEO and MD from June 2020 to April 2024.