

# **GUPTA**

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# **CLASSES**

## **Current Affairs**

**June 2024**

**English**

**Part-2**



**GUPTA**

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**CLASSES**

- INSILLION enables RSGI to integrate with the IRCTC, to offer embedded Group Personal Accident (**GPA**) insurance policies alongside **e-ticket purchases** via **INSILLION's** Application Programming Interface (API) platform.
- RSGI partnered with INSILLION to rapidly launch an embedded insurance offering using INSILLION's API platform and cloud architecture.

**53. Which finance institution has recently (in June 2024) secured a corporate agent licence from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)?**

- 1) Star Housing Finance Limited
- 2) Aditya Birla Finance Limited
- 3) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited
- 4) L&T Finance Limited
- 5) Muthoot Microfin Limited

Answer- **5) Muthoot Microfin Limited**

**Explanation:**

**Muthoot Microfin Limited** (MML) has secured a **corporate agent licence** from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) to provide insurance products to its consumers while increasing its income and earnings.

**i.** This licence reinforces MML's commitment to financial inclusion by providing insurance coverage that addresses the risks faced by the most vulnerable parts of society.

**ii.** It enhances MML's ability to collaborate with insurance partners, enabling the customisation of products that meet the specific needs of its Bottom Of the Pyramid (**BOP**) customers in rural and semi-urban India.

**54. Name the new digital investment platform that was recently (in June '24) launched by HDFC Bank to simplify investment processes.**

- 1) Digital Intelligence Platform
- 2) SmartWealth
- 3) OneX
- 4) ABHFL-Finverse
- 5) IdeationX

Answer- **2) SmartWealth**

**HDFC Bank Limited**, India's leading private sector bank, has launched '**HDFC Bank SmartWealth**', a new digital investment platform designed to make wealth services accessible to every Indian.

- This platform aims to simplify and bring transparency to the investment process.
- The **SmartWealth** Application (**App**) enables users to create **SmartJars**, which gives personalised portfolio plans that can be modified or paused anytime.
- It also provides an enhanced experience with a **virtual** Relationship Manager (**RM**) for real-time assistance and personalised support.

**55. Which bank has recently (in June 2024) signed an MoU with the Indian Army to offer a defense salary package with a host of facilities including free insurance cover?**

- 1) Punjab and Sind Bank
- 2) Federal Bank
- 3) Canara Bank

4) Bank of India

5) HDFC bank

Answer- **1) Punjab and Sind Bank**

**Explanation:**

**Punjab and Sind Bank** (PSB), an Indian public sector bank, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the **Indian Army** (IA) to offer a **defense salary package** with a host of facilities including free insurance cover.

- PSB has introduced banking solutions, special accounts and services for various segments, demonstrating its commitment to societal impact and sustainability.
- The MoU provides the serving personnel, veterans and trainees with personal accident insurance (Death/Disability) cover up to **Rs 1 crore** and an air accidental cover of **Rs 1.2 crore**.
- The **PSB Gaurav Bachat SB Salary account** is designed to provide for the distinct banking requirement of serving and retired personnels.
- PSB has introduced the **PSB Pink debit card** powered by RuPay for women during its **117th Foundation Day** which was celebrated on June 24 2024.

**56. Which company has recently (in June '24) launched a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) app 'Super.Money' to offer financial services?**

1) Codleo

2) Tech Fini

3) Flipkart

4) Talkcharge

5) Chargebee

Answer- **3) Flipkart**

**Explanation:**

The E-commerce platform, **Flipkart** has launched a **Unified Payments Interface (UPI) app 'Super.Money'** to offer payments, credit, deposits and other digital financial services.

- As part of the **beta version**, the app will be available for the first 1 Lakh users and its logo features a QR code and 5% cashback on various transactions including food and travel.
- The app is now available in partnership with **Axis Bank Limited**, and it offers credit through **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (USBL)**. It also offers coupons, scratch cards or coins for making UPI payments.

**57. In June 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) introduced a revised \_\_\_\_\_ Currency Swap framework for 2024-27.**

1) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)

2) BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa)

3) Group 20 (G20)

4) Association of Southeast Asian Nations(ASEAN)

5) European Union (EU)

Answer- **1) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (SAARC)**

**Explanation:**

On 27th June 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) introduced the revised South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation (**SAARC**) Currency Swap framework for **2024-27**, in concurrence with the Government of India (**GoI**).

- According to this framework, the RBI would enter into bilateral swap agreements with SAARC central banks, who wish to avail the swap facility.
- As per the framework, a separate Indian Rupee (INR) Swap window has been introduced worth **Rs 250 billion**, to provide various concessions for swap support in INR.
- RBI will continue to provide swap arrangement in USD and Euro through a separate US Dollar/ Euro Swap Window worth **USD 2 billion**.

**58. Name the housing finance company that has recently (in June '24) signed a USD 60 million Non-Convertible Debentures (NCDs) financing agreement with the Asian Development Bank (ADB) to offer housing loans for women.**

- 1) Star Housing Finance Limited
- 2) Piramal Capital & Housing Finance
- 3) Aadhar Housing Finance Limited
- 4) LIC Housing Finance Limited
- 5) Tata Capital Housing Finance Limited

Answer- **3) Aadhar Housing Finance Limited**

**Explanation:**

The Asian Development Bank (**ADB**) has signed a **USD 60 million** Non-Convertible Debentures (**NCDs**) financing agreement with the Aadhar Housing Finance Limited (**AHFL**), one of the largest affordable housing finance companies in India. As of 25 June 2024, **USD 30 million** has been disbursed.

- The funds will support housing loans for women and address the shortage of financing in low-income housing and affordable housing segments in India.
- India faces a significant housing shortage, estimated at 26.3 million homes in urban areas and nearly double that in rural areas.

**59. In June 2024, Mindspace Business Parks Real Estate Investment Trusts (Mindspace REIT) secured a Sustainability-Linked Bond(SLB) worth Rs 650 crore from the \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Asian Development Bank
- 2) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- 3) Japan International Cooperation Agency
- 4) International Finance Corporation
- 5) European Investment Bank

Answer- **4) International Finance Corporation**

**Explanation:**

Mindspace Business Parks Real Estate Investment Trusts (**Mindspace REIT**), has secured a Sustainability-Linked Bond(**SLB**) worth **Rs 650 crore** from the World Bank member **International Finance Corporation** (IFC).

- It has become the **first** Indian Real Estate Investment Trust(REIT) to issue such bonds.

- The bonds have been issued for the tenure of **7 years** with final redemption date of June 24, **2031**, at a coupon of **7.94%** per annum, payable quarterly. These bonds are to be listed on the Wholesale Debt Market (WDM) segment of the Bombay Stock Exchange(BSE Limited).

**60. The Reserve Bank of India's(RBI) gold reserves held overseas declined to their lowest level in six years by the end of March 2024, accounting for 47% of the total reserves accumulated since December 2017.**

**As of March 2024, the RBI's total gold holdings stood at \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) 682.6 tonnes
- 2) 822.1 tonnes
- 3) 856.4 tonnes
- 4) 658.4 tonnes
- 5) 549.5 tonnes

**Answer- 2) 822.1 tonnes**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India's(RBI) **gold reserves** held overseas declined to **their lowest level in six years** by the end of March 2024, accounting for **47%** of the total reserves accumulated since **December 2017**.

- By the end of March 2024, the RBI's total gold holdings stood at **822.1 tonnes** and its at-home holdings increased from 39% in 2021 to 53% in March 2024.
- The share of gold reserves held domestically by central banks rose from **50%** in **2020** to **68%** by **December 2023**, with expectations of further increase to **74%** within the next **five years**.

**61. Name the fintech company that has recently (in June '24) received final authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an online payment aggregator.**

- 1) EBANX
- 2) CleverTap
- 3) PayU
- 4) Fonepay Payment Service Ltd
- 5) Hitachi Payment Services Pvt. Ltd

**Answer- 5) Hitachi Payment Services Pvt. Ltd**

**Explanation:**

Noida(Uttar Pradesh) based **Hitachi Payment Services Pvt. Ltd** has received final authorization from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to operate as an **Online Payment Aggregator** under the Payments and Settlement Systems Act, 2007.

- This licence would enable the company to expand its digital solutions & services stack to encompass a comprehensive suite of innovative and merchant friendly payment options including Unified Payments Interface(UPI), netbanking, cards and wallets along with value-added services.

**62. In June 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) raised the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) limit or financial accommodation for state governments and Union Territories (UTs) to \_\_\_\_\_ with effect from July 1, 2024.**

- 1) Rs 54, 247 crore
- 2) Rs 60,118 crore
- 3) Rs 68, 582 crore
- 4) Rs 47, 010 crore
- 5) Rs 56, 641 crore

**Answer- 2) Rs 60,118 crore**

**Explanation:**

On 28th June 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it has raised Ways and Means Advances (WMA) limit or financial accommodation for state governments and Union Territories (UTs) by **28%**, from Rs 47, 010 crore (fixed in April 2022) to **Rs 60, 118 crore** and will come effect from, **1st July, 2024**.

- The WMA limit has been raised based on the recommendations made by the group formed by the RBI which comprises finance secretaries of various states to address the expenditure data of states for recent years.
- RBI announced that Special Drawing Facility (SDF) availed by state governments/ UTs will continue to be linked to the quantum of their investments in marketable securities, issued by the Government of India (GoI), including Auction Treasury Bills (ATBs).
- WMAs are temporary advances given by the RBI to the government to tide over any mismatch in receipts and payments. [Click here to read more](#)

**63. In June 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 29.60 lakh on \_\_\_\_\_ for card rule violations.**

- 1) ICICI Bank Limited
- 2) Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB)
- 3) Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)
- 4) Bank of Baroda(BoB)
- 5) State Bank of India (SBI)

**Answer- 3) Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)**

**Explanation:**

On 24th June 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs 29.60 lakh** on The Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC) for non-compliance with directions issued by RBI on 'Credit Card, Debit Card and Rupee Denominated Co-branded Pre-paid Card operations of Banks' reiterated in 'RBI (Credit Card and Debit Card – Issuance and Conduct) Directions, 2022.

- The penalty was imposed in the exercise of powers vested in RBI under the provisions of Section 47A(1)(c) read with Section 46(4)(i) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.
- RBI conducted the Statutory Inspection for Supervisory Evaluation (ISE 2022) with reference to the financial position of HSBC as on 31st March 2022.

**64. In June 2024, RBI launched an exclusive 2-hour window called 'Finquiry' for fintechs to visit the FinTech department of the RBI in Mumbai, Maharashtra.**

**The window will be available on the last working \_\_\_\_\_ of every month from 3 to 5 pm.**

- 1) Monday
- 2) Saturday
- 3) Tuesday
- 4) Wednesday
- 5) Friday

**Answer- 4) Wednesday**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India(RBI) launched an exclusive 2-hour window called '**Finquiry**' for fintechs to visit the FinTech department of the RBI in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- This initiative aims to provide a platform for fintechs to seek clarity and discuss fintech-related queries directly with RBI officials.
- This will foster better communication and understanding between RBI and the fintech companies.
- The window, launched on 26th June 2024, will be available on the last working **Wednesday** of every month from 3 to 5 pm.

**65. Which Insurance Company has recently (in June '24) launched the 'Bridge the Gap' campaign to educate the public about the role of life insurance?**

- 1) Future Generali India Life Insurance Company
- 2) HDFC Life Insurance Company
- 3) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- 4) SBI General Insurance Company
- 5) Max Life Insurance Company

**Answer- 2) HDFC Life Insurance Company**

**Explanation:**

On the sidelines of National Insurance Awareness Day 2024(28th June 2024), **HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited** introduced the '**Bridge the Gap**' campaign to educate the public about the role of life insurance.

- This initiative aims to clarify the benefits of life insurance and inform the public about its importance.
- HDFC Life has partnered with **ET NOW**, an English-language business and finance news channel in India, to produce a series of informative chat shows featuring discussions with HDFC Life leaders and their partners. This will cover various aspects of financial planning with life insurance, including protection, child plans, and retirement options.

## **ECONOMY AND BUSINESS**

**1. In May 2024, Morgan Stanley, in its '2024 Global Economic Midyear Outlook' report, projected India's GDP growth of \_\_\_\_ in 2024.**

- 1) 6.6%
- 2) 7.6%

3) 6.5%

4) 7%

5) 6.8%

Answer- **5) 6.8%**

**Explanation:**

**Morgan Stanley's** report, the [2024 Global Economic Midyear Outlook](#), indicates that growth in India is becoming more broad-based across both on the consumer and business spending side. The report forecasts **6.8% growth** in **2024** (against the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 7%), and **6.5%** in **2025**, and inflation is expected to stay within the 2-6% comfort zone.

- Retail inflation stands at 4.83% in April 2024 (the lowest in the past 11 months), within RBI's comfort zone (2 - 6 %) but slightly above the ideal scenario of 4%.
- India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth reached 8.4% in the October-December quarter of FY 2023-24, maintaining its position as the fastest-growing major economy.
- India's GDP is ranked 5th globally, after the United States (US), China, Germany, and Japan, with an estimated value of around USD 3.7 trillion.

**2. In May 2024, Coal India Limited (CIL) incorporated Bharat Coal Gasification and Chemicals Ltd (BCGCL) as its subsidiary to pursue a coal-to-chemical operation.**

**CIL holds a majority of 51% in BCGCL, while the remaining 49% is owned by\_\_\_\_\_.**

1) JSW Group

2) GAIL India Ltd

3) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation

4) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd

5) ReNew Energy Global PLC

Answer- **4) Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd**

**Explanation:**

**Coal India Limited (CIL)** incorporated **Bharat Coal Gasification and Chemicals Ltd (BCGCL)**, a subsidiary to pursue a **coal-to-chemicals operation**. BCGCL will produce ammonia and nitric acid as intermediate products and ammonium nitrate as end product

- **CIL** holds a majority **51%** stake in BCGCL while the remaining **49%** is owned by Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (**BHEL**).
- CIL has also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **GAIL (India) Limited** to set up a coal-to-synthetic natural gas project at Eastern Coalfields Limited (**ECL**), in Burdwan, West Bengal, at an estimated cost of Rs 13,052 crore.

**3. In May 2024, Moody's Ratings projected India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to grow by 6.8% in 2024 and \_\_\_\_\_ in 2025.**

1) 6.2%

2) 6.5%

3) 6.4%

4) 6.3%

5) 6.8%

Answer- **2) 6.5%**



**Explanation:**

**Moody's Ratings' Global Macro Outlook 2024-25** (May 2024 update) has projected India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) to grow by **6.8% in 2024** followed by **6.5% in 2025**, attributing to strong economic expansion and post-election policy continuity.

- Moody's anticipates that Indian economy should register 6-7% annual real GDP growth.
- India's real GDP surged to 7.7% in 2023 (up from 6.5% in 2022), driven by robust government capital spending and manufacturing activity.
- Despite sporadic food price pressures, inflation eases to 4.8% (headline) and 3.2% (core) in April 2024.

**4. According to the Provisional Estimates (PE) of Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the FY24 (2023-24) released by the National Statistical Office (NSO) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI).**

**As per the NSO's Provisional Estimates, Real GDP is expected to grow at \_\_\_\_\_ in FY24.**

- 1) 7.5%
- 2) 8.2%
- 3) 9.6%
- 4) 7.2%
- 5) 7.8%

**Answer- 2) 8.2%**

**Explanation:**

On 31st May 2024, the National Statistical Office (NSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) released the Provisional Estimates (PE) of Annual Gross Domestic Product (GDP) for the **FY24 (2023-24)** and Quarterly estimates of GDP for **Q4 (January-March) of FY24**, both at Constant (2011-12) and Current Prices.

- Real GDP at Constant Prices is set to reach a level of Rs 173.82 lakh crore in FY24, against the First Revised Estimates (FRE) of GDP for FY23 of Rs 160.71 lakh crore.
- Real GDP is expected to grow at **8.2%** in FY24 as compared to the growth rate of 7.0% in FY23(2022-23).
- India's GDP growth rate in Q4FY24 grew by 7.8% and Gross Value Added (GVA) is estimated to grow at 6.3%.
- Per Capita National Income increased from **Rs 99,404 in FY23 to Rs 1,06,744 in FY24**. [Click here to read more](#)

**5. Which country has topped the Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) to India with USD 11.77 billion in FY24 (2023-24) as per the Department for Promotion of Industry, and Internal Trade (DPIIT) data?**

- 1) Japan
- 2) United States of America
- 3) Mauritius
- 4) Singapore
- 5) Netherlands

**Answer- 4) Singapore**

**Explanation:**

According to the latest data released by Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry, Government of India (**GoI**), India received the highest Foreign Direct Investment (**FDI**) from **Singapore** in FY24 (**2023-24**) despite FDI equity inflows into the country decreased by about **3.5%** in FY24, from **USD 46.03 billion** (FY23) to **USD 44.42 billion** (FY24) due to global economic uncertainties.

- Though Singapore emerged as the biggest investor in India, FDI from Singapore decreased by around 32% to **USD 11.77 billion** in FY24.
- **Mauritius** emerged as the **2nd** biggest investor in India, with investment of **USD 7.97 billion** in FY24, followed by United States of America (**U.S.A.**) (USD 4.99 billion), **Netherlands** (USD 4.93 billion), **Japan** (USD 3.17 billion), **the United Arab Emirates** (UAE) (USD 2.9 billion), **Germany** (USD 505 million), and **Cayman Islands** (USD 342 million).
- India received the highest ever FDI inflows of **USD 84.83 billion** in **FY22 (2021-22)**. [Click here to read more](#)

**6. Which country has become India's third largest export destination in FY24 with an export value of about USD 22.36 billion?**

- 1) United Arab Emirates
- 2) China
- 3) The Netherlands
- 4) The United States of America
- 5) The United Kingdom

Answer- **3) The Netherlands**

**Explanation:**

As per the data of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (**MOCI**), the **Netherlands** emerged as the **third largest export destination** in **FY24** after the United States of America (USA) and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- India's exports to the Netherlands increased by **3.5%** to **USD 22.36 billion** in FY24 as compared to USD 21.61 billion in FY23.
- In FY24, the **bilateral trade** between India and the Netherlands fell slightly to USD 27.34 billion, compared to USD 27.58 billion in FY23.
- India's **trade surplus** with the Netherlands has **increased to USD 17.4 billion in FY24** from USD 13 billion in FY23.
- During FY24, India received about **USD 5 billion** in Foreign Direct Investment (**FDI**) from the Netherlands.

**7. Which financial institution/Bank has recently (in June '24) estimated India's economic growth to remain at 7% in the April-June 2024 quarter?**

- 1) Asian Development Bank
- 2) DBS Bank
- 3) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- 4) Fitch Ratings
- 5) World Bank

Answer- **2) DBS Bank**

**Explanation:**

Singapore-based **DBS Bank Ltd** (formerly known as Development Bank of Singapore Limited) retained its projection for India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) at **7%** for FY25 (**2024-25**).

- It also projected India's GDP growth to remain at **7%** for **Q1 (April to June 2024)** of FY25.
- GDP growth for **Q4(January-March 2024)** of FY24 increased to **7.8%** year on year(yoy). This figure is revised from **8.6%** yoy.

**8. In June 2024, Goldman Sachs Group, Inc. raised India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast for the Calendar Year (CY) 2024 by 20 basis points (bps) to \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) 6.9%
- 2) 6.2%
- 3) 6.6%
- 4) 7%
- 5) 7.3%

Answer- **1) 6.9%**

**Explanation:**

Foreign Brokerage **Goldman Sachs Group, Inc.**, has raised India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) **growth** forecast for the Calendar Year (**CY**) **2024**, by 20 basis points (bps) to **6.9%** from the earlier projection of 6.7%.

- Goldman Sachs has projected India's **GDP** growth at **6.8%** for the current fiscal (**FY2024-25**).
- Goldman Sachs expects the Central government to meet the 2024-25 fiscal deficit target of 5.1% of GDP from a higher-than-budgeted dividend from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

**9. Which organisation has released its report titled "Global Economic Prospects (GEP) – June 2024," stating that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth projection for FY25 (2024-2025) was revised to 6.6%.**

- 1) Moody's
- 2) Brand Finance
- 3) Asian Development Bank
- 4) Reserve Bank of India
- 5) World Bank

Answer- **5) World Bank**

**Explanation:**

According to the **World Bank's** biannual report titled "[Global Economic Prospects \(GEP\) – June 2024](#)", India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) growth projection for FY25 (2024-2025) was revised from **6.4%** (projected in January 2024) to **6.6%**.

- It has also revised India's GDP growth by **20 basis points** (bps) each to **6.7%** and **6.8%** for FY26 (2025-26) and FY27 (2026-27) respectively.
- The report estimated that **global growth** will remain stable at **2.6%** in FY25.
- The global growth is expected to marginally increase to **2.7%** in **FY26** and remain the same for **FY27**.

**10. The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) has recently (June 2024) estimated India's Gross Domestic Product(GDP) to grow by \_\_\_\_\_ in 2024.**

- 1) 8%
- 2) 7%
- 3) 8.3%
- 4) 6.8%
- 5) 8.1%

**Answer- 1) 8%**

**Explanation:**

On 13th June 2024, The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) estimated India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth at 8% in 2024. It has underscored that policy interventions, specifically which aimed to improve the Ease of Doing of Business (EODB), have significantly contributed to strengthen the Indian Economy.

- It also expected that inflation is more likely to be within the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)'s target range of 4 to 4.5% in 2024.

**11. Which organisation (in June 2024) projected that India's GDP growth is expected to maintain a potential growth rate of 6.5-7% year-on-year for FY 2026 to FY 2030?**

- 1) UBS Securities India Pvt Ltd
- 2) World Bank
- 3) Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development
- 4) S&P Global Market Intelligence
- 5) SBI Research

**Answer- 1) UBS Securities India Pvt Ltd**

**Explanation:**

According to UBS Securities India Pvt Ltd, a stockbroker and merchant banking company, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) is expected to sustain a potential growth rate of **6.5% - 7%** year-on-year (Y-o-Y) between FY 2025-26 (FY26) and FY 2029-30 (FY30).

- In FY25, India is projected to grow at **7%**, as post-pandemic recovery in the capital expenditure (capex) cycle, driven by government spending, and strong residential real estate demand.

**12. Fitch Ratings, in its "Global Economic Outlook (GEO) for June 2024" report, has projected India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth to \_\_\_\_ for fiscal year FY25 (2024-25).**

- 1) 8%
- 2) 6.7%
- 3) 7.2%
- 4) 7.5%
- 5) 7%

**Answer- 3) 7.2%**

**Explanation:**

Global rating agency **Fitch Ratings** released its report titled "**Global Economic Outlook (GEO) for June 2024**", has raised its projection for India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth by 20 basis points (bps) from **7%** (projected in March 2024) to **7.2%** for fiscal year FY25 (2024-25).

- This projection is mainly driven by improving consumer spending and increasing investments.
- But, India's GDP growth for **FY26** (2025-26) and **FY27** (2026-27) will remain unchanged at **6.5%** and **6.2%** respectively.
- The report raised the global growth forecast in 2024, to **2.6% from 2.4%** projected earlier.
- Fitch estimated that inflation will decrease to **4.5%** by the end of FY2025 and will be **4.3%** on an average for FY26 and FY27

**13. Name the company that has recently (in June '24) launched the world's first large-scale 100% hydrogen-ready engine power plant.**

- 1) Adani Green Energy Limited
- 2) Mindgrove Technologies
- 3) Wärtsilä
- 4) Reliance Industries Limited
- 5) Bloom Energy

Answer- **3) Wärtsilä**

**Explanation:**

**Wärtsilä Oyj Abp**, Finland-based company has launched the **world's first large-scale 100% hydrogen-ready engine power plant** to enable the net-zero power systems.

- The **Wärtsilä 31** is an efficient medium-speed 4-stroke marine engine, which synchronises with the grid within 30 seconds from start command, ensures energy security through fuel flexibility and offers unparalleled load following capabilities and high part load efficiency
- It can run on natural gas, **25% hydrogen (H<sub>2</sub>) by volume blends** and has completed more than 1 million running hours, with over **1,000 MegaWatt (MW)** installed capacity globally.
- The hydrogen-ready engine power plant concept has been certified by (Technischer Überwachungsverein – Technical Inspection Association) **TÜV SÜD**.

**14. According to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) June 2024 monthly bulletin, India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will be \_\_\_\_\_ in Q1 (April-June) FY25 (2024-25).**

- 1) 6.6%
- 2) 7.3%
- 3) 6.8%
- 4) 6.5%
- 5) 6.9%

Answer- **2) 7.3%**

**Explanation:**

On 19th June 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) released the **June 2024** issue of its monthly Bulletin. As per RBI's latest bulletin, it is quite optimistic that India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) will be **7.3%** in Q1 (**April-June**) **FY25 (2024-25)** .

- This GDP is in line with the projection made by RBI in its 2nd bi-monthly Monetary Policy released on 7th June 2024.
- It is also expected that the Current Account Deficit (CAD) for FY24 (2023-24) to be **lower than 1% of GDP**.
- It is mandatory for RBI to maintain Retail or Head inflation within the target of **4%** with a margin of 2% on either side.

- RBI highlighted that India's GDP growth rate of **7.8%** in Q4(Jan-March) FY24 (2023-24) was better than expected and India's GDP for full FY24 was at **8.2%**.

**15. In June 2024, S&P Global Ratings, in its report titled 'Economic Outlook Asia-Pacific Q3 2024', projected India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth at \_\_\_\_\_ for FY25 (2024-25).**

- 1) 7%
- 2) 6.8%
- 3) 6.5%
- 4) 8%
- 5) 7.5%

Answer- **2) 6.8%**

**Explanation:**

On 24th June 2024, **S&P Global Ratings** (previously Standard & Poor's) released its **Economic Outlook Asia-Pacific Q3 2024**. It has retained India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth projection at **6.8%** for FY25 (2024-25) and cited high interest rates and lower fiscal boost are the main factors which would temper the demand in the non-agricultural sectors.

- The agency also noted that India's economic growth continues to surprise on the upside as it revised India's GDP up to **8.2%** for full FY24(2023-24).
- While, S&P Global Ratings has raised its projection for India's GDP from 6.1% (projected in March 2024) to **6.9%** for FY26 (2025-26), and also, raised India's GDP for **FY27 (2026-27)** from 6.2% (projected in March 2024) **to 7%**.
- S&P Global Ratings also estimated that India's retail inflation for FY25 will be at **4.5%**. This projection about inflation is in alignment with the RBI's retail inflation projections for FY25 which is estimated at 4.5%, with **Q1 at 4.9%, Q2 at 3.8%, Q3 at 4.6% and Q4 at 4.5%**.

**16. Which organisation/bank has recently (in June '24) reported that India's Current Account Deficit (CAD) was 0.7% of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (USD 23.2 billion) in the Financial Year 2023-2024 (FY 24)?**

- 1) Reserve Bank of India
- 2) National Statistical Office
- 3) World Bank
- 4) National Payments Corporation of India
- 5) ICRA Limited

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

**Explanation:**

The **Reserve Bank of India** (RBI) states that India's Current Account Deficit (CAD) reduced to **0.7%** of Gross Domestic Product (GDP) (USD 23.2 billion) in the Financial Year 2023-2024(**FY 24**) from 2% of GDP (USD 67 billion) in FY23.

- India's current account recorded a surplus of **USD 5.7 billion**, or **0.6%** of the GDP during the January-March 2024 quarter of FY24, driven by a lower merchandise trade deficit.
- In Q3 FY24, the CAD was USD 8.7 billion (1% of GDP).
- Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) recorded a net inflow of **USD 44.1 billion** in FY24 after an outflow of USD 5.2 billion in FY23. Meanwhile, net Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow reduced to **USD 9.8 billion** in FY24, down from USD 28 billion in FY23.[Click here to read more](#)

**17. According to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) recent data, India's external debt as of March-end 2024 was \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) USD 432 billion
- 2) USD 663.8 billion
- 3) USD 345 billion
- 4) USD 510 billion
- 5) USD 280.5 billion

**Answer- 2) USD 663.8 billion**

**Explanation:**

According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) official data released on 25th June 2024, India's external debt at end-March 2024 was at **USD 663.8 billion**, saw an increase of **USD 39.7 billion** over its level at end-March 2023.

- The **external debt to Gross Domestic Product (GDP) ratio** (which included both government and non-government debt) decreased from **19.0%** (at end-March 2023) to **18.7%** (at end-March 2024).
- As per RBI's data, the government's external debt and non-government sector's external debt was at **4.2%** and **14.5%** of India's GDP.
- RBI underscored if the valuation effect of US dollar and other major currencies such as: Yen, the Euro and Special Drawing Rights (SDR) which amounted to **USD 8.7 billion** were excluded then; external debt would have increased by **USD 48.4 billion** at end-March 2024 over end-March 2023.

**18. Which shipbuilding company has recently (in June '24) signed an agreement with Germany-based Carsten Rehder Schiffsmakler und Reederei GmbH & Co. KG to build and deliver four multi-purpose vessels at a cost of USD 54 million?**

- 1) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- 2) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- 3) Goa Shipyard Limited
- 4) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited
- 5) L&T Shipbuilding Limited

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

**Explanation:**

Defence Public Sector Undertakings (DPSU) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Limited, has signed an agreement with **Germany-based Carsten Rehder Schiffsmakler und Reederei GmbH & Co. KG** to build and deliver four multi-purpose vessels each with a **Dead Weight Tonnage (DWT) of 7,500** at a cost of approximately **USD 54 million**.

- The contract will be executed in **33 months**, with an option of building another four ships.
- The vessels will be 120 metres long and 17 metres wide, with a maximum draft of 6.75 metres and each vessel with a **single cargo** hold to accommodate bulk, general, and project cargoes.

**19. How much in assets did the Government of India monetize during the financial year 2023-2024, according to data released by NITI Aayog?**

- 1) Rs 1.8 lakh crore
- 2) Rs 11.73 lakh Crore

- 3) Rs 1.56 lakh crore
- 4) Rs 1 lakh crore
- 5) Rs 11.5 lakh Crore

Answer- **3) Rs 1.56 lakh crore**

**Explanation:**

According to the official data released by National Institution for Transforming India (**NITI Aayog**). The Government of India (GoI) has monetized assets worth **Rs 1.56 lakh crore** in Financial year 2023-2024 (**FY24**) as against the set target of Rs 1.8 lakh crore, under the National Monetisation Pipeline (NMP).

- This represents a 159% increased compared to the achievement in FY2021-22.
- The total monetisation under NMP since its launch in 2020-2021 stands at **Rs 3.85 lakh crore**.
- Under NMP, the total target FY22 and FY23 was around **Rs 2.50 lakh crore** against which **Rs 2.30 lakh crore** was achieved.
- Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (**MoRTH**) has topped in terms of the performance of individual Ministries in FY24, with monetised assets worth **Rs 40, 314 crore**.

**20. What is the projected Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth rate for India in the Financial Year 2024-25, according to the 'Monthly Economic Review (MER) June 2024' published by the National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER)?**

- 1) 6.8%
- 2) 7.5%
- 3) 6.6%
- 4) 7%
- 5) 7.2%

Answer- **2) 7.5%**

**Explanation:**

The National Council of Applied Economic Research (**NCAER**) in its [Monthly Economic Review \(MER\) June 2024](#), projected that India's Gross domestic product (**GDP**) to grow at **7.5%** in Financial year 2024-25 (**FY25**).

- For India, the growth projections for FY25 have been revised upward various domestic and international agencies. The range of projections for India for the FY25 is between 7.2% to 6.2%.
- **Global growth projections** for 2024 have been raised by the International Monetary Fund (**IMF**), the **World Bank** and other rating agencies. The growth rate is projected to be between **3.2% to 2.6%** in **2024**.
- The Government of India (GoI) contained its fiscal deficit at 5.6% of nominal GDP for **FY24** as compared to the Revised Estimate (RE) of 5.8% of nominal GDP, and the Budget Estimate (BE) of 5.9% of nominal GDP.



# MoU's AND AGREEMENTS

**1. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) signed an MoU with the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) to strengthen their collaboration and improve climate services in agriculture?**

- 1) United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
- 2) United Nations Development Programme
- 3) Food and Agriculture Organization
- 4) World Meteorological Organisation
- 5) World Trade Organization

Answer- **4) World Meteorological Organisation**

**Explanation:**

The World Meteorological Organization (**WMO**) and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (**FAO**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to strengthen their collaboration to improve the provision and use of **climate services in agriculture**, increase resilience and climate adaptation.

- The MoU aims to extend and strengthen an existing partnership for another 10 years.
- Under this MoU, WMO and FAO will collaborate on areas of mutual interest in relation to weather, ocean, climate, hydrological, and related environmental services and their application for resilience and adaptation of the global agrifood system

**2. In May 2024, Adani International Ports Holdings Private Limited (AIPH) signed a 30-year concession agreement to operate and manage Container Terminal 2 (CT2) at Dar es Salaam Port in \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Mauritius
- 2) Iran
- 3) Myanmar
- 4) Tanzania
- 5) Sri Lanka

Answer- **4) Tanzania**

**Explanation:**

Adani International Ports Holdings Private Limited (**AIPH**) has signed a **30-year concession agreement** with the Tanzania Ports Authority (**TPA**) to operate and manage Container Terminal 2 (**CT2**) at Dar es Salaam Port, Tanzania.

- **Dar es Salaam Port** is a gateway port with a well connected network of roadways and railways.
- With four berths, the CT2 can handle 1 million Twenty-foot Equivalent Unit (TEU) of cargo annually and it handled 0.82 million TEU of containers in 2023, estimated to be **83%** of Tanzania's total container volumes.

**3. Which company/ organisation has recently (in June '24) signed a MoU with the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) for Coastal Community Empowerment?**

- 1) Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation
- 2) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- 3) Reliance Foundation
- 4) Tata Sons
- 5) Indian Space Research Organisation

**Answer- 3) Reliance Foundation**

**Explanation:**

The **Reliance** Foundation and the Hyderabad (Telangana) – based Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (**INCOIS**), an autonomous body under the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India (GoI), have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to **empower** the inhabitants of **coastal** areas.

- Reliance Foundation and INCOIS will work to leverage ocean data, enhancing climate resilience and disaster mitigation under this collaboration.
- Reliance Foundation aims to reach nearly **25%** of active marine fishermen families in India, primarily in eight states.

**4. In May 2024, the Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSE&L) under the Ministry of Education signed an MoU with \_\_\_\_\_ to create an institutional framework for the Digital Library Platform 'Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya'.**

- 1) All India Council of Technical Education
- 2) Sahitya Akademi
- 3) National Book Trust
- 4) University Grants Commission
- 5) National Programme on Technology Enhanced Learning

**Answer- 3) National Book Trust**

**Explanation:**

The Department of School Education & Literacy (DoSE&L), Ministry of Education (**MoE**), Government of India (GoI) has signed a Memorandum of understanding (**MoU**) with the National Book Trust (**NBT**) to create an institutional framework for **Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya**, a Digital Library Platform.

- This collaboration aims to enhance the accessibility of non-academic books for children and adolescents across India.
- The Rashtriya E-Pustakalaya aims to resolve the 'last mile' accessibility issue for many states by offering over 10,000 books in more than 100 languages within the next 2-3 years.

**5. Which central university has recently (in May '24) signed three MoUs with Nokia, Plasser India, and Jacobs to strengthen the partnership between industry and academia?**

- 1) Central University of South Bihar
- 2) Central University of Punjab
- 3) University of Delhi
- 4) Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya
- 5) Central University of Kerala

**Answer- 4) Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya**

**Explanation:**

Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) has signed **three** Memorandum of Understanding (MoUs) with **Nokia Corporation, Plasser (India) Private Limited, and Jacobs Solutions Inc.** to strengthen the partnership between industry and academia.

- The MoU with Nokia will focus on collaboration with research in the domain of **5G/6G** communications targeting air, land and sea transportation use cases including Standards development, Smart Factory/Automation, AI/ Generative Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) Labs.
- Under this MoU, Plasser and GSV will collaborate in the field of research, teaching, and training of students to deepen their understanding on topics related to rail sector.
- The **MoU with Jacobs** will enhance advancement in the field of research, teaching, and training activities pertaining to the transport, rail and semiconductor sectors.

**6. In June 2024, the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with \_\_\_\_\_ to set up a special Tele MANAS cell for the armed forces.**

- 1) Indian Army
- 2) Armed Forces Medical Services
- 3) Ministry of Defence
- 4) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- 5) Central Armed Police Forces

Answer- **3) Ministry of Defence**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) to facilitate collaboration in operating a **special Tele Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele-MANAS) Cell.**

- Tele MANAS Cell, the National Telemental Health Helpline of MoHFW, is a pilot project for a period of two years at the **Armed Forces Medical College (AFMC) in Pune (Maharashtra).**
- Tele MANAS is the digital extension of the District Mental Health Programme (DMHP), offering comprehensive, integrated, and inclusive **24/7 tele-mental health services.**
- This initiative provides toll-free number, **14416**, in each State and Union Territory (UT) for easy access to mental health support.

**7. Which institute has recently (in June'24) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS) to collaborate on research and training?**

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

Answer- **5) IIT Hyderabad**

**Explanation:**

The **Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS)** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) **Hyderabad** to collaborate on **research and training.**

- The MoU aims to foster innovation and research in developing novel medical devices and addressing health issues specific to soldiers serving in varied terrains.

- IIT Hyderabad, with its departments of Biotechnology, Biomedical Engineering, and Bioinformatics, will provide the necessary technical expertise to tackle the diverse medical challenges faced by the Armed Forces.

**8. Which department has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with four banks to onboard them as System for Pension Administration-Raksha (SPARSH) service centres to assist pensioners?**

- 1) Department of Pharmaceuticals
- 2) Defence Accounts Department
- 3) Department of Posts
- 4) Department of Land Resources
- 5) Department of Revenue

**Answer- 2) Defence Accounts Department**

**Explanation:**

The Defence Accounts Department (**DAD**) of the Ministry of Defence (**MoD**) has signed a Memorandum of understanding (**MoU**) with four banks to onboard them as **System for Pension Administration – Raksha** (SPARSH) service centres across **1,128 branches** of these banks in India.

- The four banks were the Bank of India (BOI), Canara Bank, Central Bank of India (CBI) and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (USFBL).
- The SPARSH is a web-based system for processing pension claims and crediting the pension directly into the bank accounts of defence pensioners without any external intermediary.

**9. Which company has recently (in June'24) signed a sales and purchase agreement with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) for the supply of LNG up to 8 lakh Metric Tons Per Annum (MTPA) to India?**

- 1) QatarEnergy
- 2) Petronet LNG Limited
- 3) TotalEnergies
- 4) ONGC Videsh Limited
- 5) Saudi Aramco

**Answer- 3) TotalEnergies**

**Explanation:**

On 4th June 2024, French energy major **TotalEnergies** signed agreements with Indian Public Sector Enterprise (PSE), **Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL)** and **Korea South-East Power Co Ltd** for the supply of Liquefied Natural Gas (**LNG**) over a medium to long term period.

- A Sales and Purchase Agreement was signed between **TotalEnergies** and **IOC Limited**. As per the agreement, TotalEnergies will supply up to **8 lakh Metric Tons Per Annum (MTPA)** of LNG to India. The supply of LNG will commence from **2026** for a period of **10 years**.
- TotalEnergies also signed a Head of Agreement (**HoA**) with **Korea South-East Power Ltd** to supply up to **5 lakh MTPA** of LNG to South Korea starting from **2027** for a period of **5 years**.

**10. Which ministry has recently (in June '24) signed a MoU with the Central Tuberculosis (TB) Division of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (MoHFW) for Collaborative action towards the elimination of Tuberculosis in India by 2025?**

- 1) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- 2) Ministry of Rural Development
- 3) Ministry of Mines
- 4) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- 5) Ministry of Labour & Employment

**Answer- 3) Ministry of Mines**

**Explanation:**

The **Ministry of Mines** (MoM) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the Central Tuberculosis (**TB**) Division of the Ministry of Health & Family Welfare (**MoHFW**) for collaborative and convergent action towards **elimination of TB** in India by **2025**.

- This partnership aims for collaborative field actions like webinars and other awareness-building initiatives under the **National TB Elimination Programme** (NTEP) by engaging the Central Public Sector Enterprises (CPSEs), attached offices, subordinate offices and autonomous bodies of the MoM.

**11. Which organisation has recently (in June '24) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Atal Incubation Center (AIC) at the Anna University Incubation Foundation in Chennai, Tamil Nadu to enhance the startup ecosystem?**

- 1) Indian Chamber of Commerce
- 2) Alliance of Digital India Foundation
- 3) Andhra Chamber of Commerce
- 4) Apna.co
- 5) National Skill Development Corporation

**Answer- 3) Andhra Chamber of Commerce**

**Explanation:**

The **Andhra Chamber of Commerce** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the Atal Incubation Center (**AIC**) at the **Anna University Incubation Foundation** in Chennai, Tamil Nadu to boost the startup ecosystem and support aspiring entrepreneurs.

- As per the joint initiative, the strategic tie-up would help both partners to utilise their strengths to reach a wider audience with the AIC, Anna University Incubation Foundation.
- The AIC will incubate start-ups with the Andhra Chamber of Commerce, promoting their events and outreach programs, focusing initially on social sectors.

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**12. Name the company/ organisation that has recently (in June '24) signed a cooperation agreement with the UAE's EDGE Group to set up R&D facilities.**

- 1) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 2) Adani Defence and Aerospace
- 3) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- 4) Mahindra Defence Systems Limited
- 5) Bharat Dynamics Limited

**Answer- 2) Adani Defence and Aerospace**

**Explanation:**

Adani Defence and Aerospace, defence subsidiary of Adani Enterprises Limited (**AEL**) signed a cooperation agreement with **EDGE Group**, one of the leading advanced technology and defence groups in the United Arab Emirates (**UAE**).

- It aims to establish an international platform **leveraging the defence and aerospace capabilities** of both companies to combine their expertise in missiles, weapons, unmanned platforms etc. and to meet the requirements of global and local customers.
- The agreement will also explore the option to set up a Research & Development (**R&D**) facilities in **India** and **the UAE**.

**13. Which institute has recently (in June '24) signed a MoU with Japan's Renesas Electronics Corporation for research and collaboration in Very-Large-Scale-Integration (VLSI) and embedded semiconductor systems?**

- 1) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Hyderabad
- 2) Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore(Bengaluru)
- 3) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Roorkee
- 4) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Bombay
- 5) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Patna

Answer- **1) Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Institute of Technology, Hyderabad(**IIT-H**), Telangana, and **Renesas Electronics Corporation, Japan's** leading supplier of advanced semiconductor solutions, have signed a **3-year** Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) for research and collaboration in Very-Large-Scale-Integration (**VLSI**) and embedded **semiconductor systems**.

- This partnership aims to strengthen India's semiconductor ecosystem and support the **"Make in India"** objective.
- The MoU aims to foster talent development to build a self-reliant semiconductor industry in India and enable Renesas to recruit talented employees from India.

**14. Which country's National Meteorological Office (ONAMET) has recently (in June '24) signed a MoU with the India Meteorological Department (IMD) to improve weather forecasting and monitoring?**

- 1) United Arab Emirates(UAE)
- 2) Dominican Republic
- 3) Bhutan
- 4) Mauritius
- 5) United States of America (USA)

Answer- **2) Dominican Republic**

**Explanation:**

**India Meteorological Department**(IMD), under the Ministry of Earth Sciences(MoES), Government of India(GoI), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the **National Meteorological Office** (Oficina Nacional de Meteorología – **ONAMET**) of the **Dominican Republic**.

- The MoU aims to enhance technical capacities at ONAMET for better forecasting and monitoring of meteorological phenomena in the Dominican Republic.

**15. With which country's Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC), Adani Group has recently (in June '24) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to set up a 570 Megawatt (MW) green hydro-electric plant?**

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

**Answer- 4) Bhutan**

**Explanation:**

Gautam Adani, Chairman of **Adani Group**, met with **Dasho Tshering Tobgay**, the Prime Minister (PM) of **Bhutan** and announced the signing of an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Bhutan's Druk Green Power Corporation (DGPC) for a **570 Megawatt (MW)** green hydro plant in the Chukha province, Bhutan.

- This collaboration marks a significant step towards sustainable energy development in Bhutan, aligning with global efforts towards carbon neutrality.
- DGPC, the only generation utility in Bhutan is a subsidiary of Druk Holding and Investments Limited.

**16. Which country has recently (in June 2024) signed an extension of the existing MoU with the Government of India on 'Refurbishing Personnel Administration and Governance Reforms' for another 5 years with effect from 8th July 2024?**

- 1) Kingdom of Saudi Arabia
- 2) Republic of the Gambia
- 3) Colombia
- 4) Singapore
- 5) Bhutan

**Answer- 2) Republic of the Gambia**

**Explanation:**

The Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances(**DARPG**), Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions(**MoPPGP**), **Government of India** and Public Service Commission, Office of the President, **the Republic of the Gambia** signed extension of the existing Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) on 'Refurbishing Personnel Administration and Governance Reforms' for another **5 years** with effect from (w.e.f) **8th July 2024**.

- The main objective of the MoU is to strengthen and promote bilateral cooperation between India and Gambia in Personnel Administration and Governance Reforms.
- **Note:** The existing MoU was signed on 8th July 2021 for a period of 3 years.

**17. Which department has recently (in June '24) signed an agreement with the National Dairy Development Board (NDDB) for the upgradation of Biocontainment Facility at Chaudhary Charan Singh National Institute of Animal Health (CCSNAH), Baghpat, Uttar Pradesh?**

- 1) Department of Biotechnology
- 2) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying
- 3) Department of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare
- 4) Department of Science and Technology

5) Department of Food and Public Distribution

Answer- **2) Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying**

**Explanation:**

Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (**DAHD**), Ministry of Fisheries Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAHD) signed an **agreement** with the National Dairy Development Board (**NDDB**) for the “**Upgradation of Biocontainment Facility and associated repair works** at Chaudhary Charan Singh National Institute of Animal Health (**CCSNIAH**)”, **Baghpat** (Uttar Pradesh).

- The estimated budget for the project is **Rs. 160 crores** and is planned to be executed within 20 months.
- Compliance with the changing technology and safety standards, meeting the bio-safety and bio-security guidelines.

**18. Which of the following has recently (in June '24) signed a MoU with the 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association (6G IA) and the 6G Flagship of Finland's Oulu University to develop secure and trusted telecommunication technology?**

- 1) Centre for Development of Telematics
- 2) ATC Telecom Infrastructure Pvt Ltd
- 3) Tejas Networks Limited
- 4) Bharat 6G Alliance
- 5) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

Answer- **4) Bharat 6G Alliance**

**Explanation:**

**Bharat 6G Alliance (B6GA)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with 6G Smart Networks and Services Industry Association (**6G IA**) and **6G Flagship** of Finland's Oulu University to further enable development of secure and trusted telecommunication technology including resilient supply chains.

- Under Bharat 6G Vision, the Department of Telecommunications (DoT) is already evaluating 470 proposals on '**Accelerated research on 6G**'.
- B6GA is an initiative of Indian industry, academia, national research institutions and standards organisations.
- 6G-IA is the **voice of European Industry** and Research for next generation networks and services.
- The 6G Flagship programme is a **research initiative** funded by the University of Oulu and the Research Council of Finland.

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

**1. Which country has taken over the chairmanship of the Colombo Process for the term (2024 - 2026) for the first time?**

- 1) Bangladesh
- 2) China
- 3) India
- 4) Sri Lanka
- 5) Cambodia



Answer- **3) India**

**Explanation:**

**India** has taken over the chairmanship of the **Colombo Process** for the term **(2024 – 2026)**. It is the **first time** that India has assumed the chairmanship of the Coulomb Process since its inception in 2003.

- It marks a significant step in India's efforts to enhance cooperation and address the challenges faced by migrant workers.
- Colombo Process is a regional consultation process of migrant worker origin countries from South and SouthEast (SE) Asia.
- The 12 Member States are: Afghanistan, Bangladesh, China, India, Indonesia, Nepal, Pakistan, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Thailand, Vietnam and Cambodia.

**2. In May 2024, IRDAI approved the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_, as Chairman of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited, effective from 30th June 2024.**

- 1) Hitesh Kumar Sethia
- 2) M S Ramachandran
- 3) Ravi Kumar Jha
- 4) P Santhosh
- 5) Sandeep Batra

Answer- **5) Sandeep Batra**

**Explanation:**

The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**) has approved the appointment of **Sandeep Batra**, as **Chairman** of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential Life Insurance Company Limited (**ICICI Prudential Life**), effective from 30 June 2024.

- He will replace the incumbent M S Ramachandran, who is set to retire as Chairman of the Board on 30 June 2024, having already completed the maximum age limit of 75 years.
- Batra has been associated with ICICI Group since 2000 and has been an Executive Director on the Board of ICICI Bank since 2018.

**3. Name the Indian diplomat who has recently (in June'24) retired from service after serving as India's Permanent Representative (PR) to the United Nations (UN) in New York, the United States of America (USA), from August 2022 to June 2024.**

- 1) Arindam Bagchi
- 2) Gita Sabharwal
- 3) Ruchira Kamboj
- 4) Narpal Singh
- 5) Kamal Kishore

Answer- **3) Ruchira Kamboj**

**Explanation:**

On 1st June 2024, Ambassador **Ruchira Kamboj**, India's first Woman Permanent Representative(PR) to the United Nations (UN), retired after over 35 years of distinguished service.

- She served as India's PR to the UN in New York, the United States of America(USA) from August 2022 to June 2024.
- Ruchira Kamboj is an Indian Foreign Service (IFS) Officer of the 1987 batch. She started her diplomatic career as the 3rd Secretary in India's Embassy to France(1989 to 1991).

- She has served as the Deputy Head of the Office of the Secretary-General at the Commonwealth Secretariat in London(the United Kingdom) and as India's Chief of Protocol from 2011 to 2014. She was the first and only woman to hold this position.

**4. Who has been recently( in June '24) elected as the 7th President of Iceland?**

- 1) Guðni Thorlacius Jóhannesson
- 2) Asif Ali Zardari
- 3) Mohammed Ishaq Dar
- 4) Michael D. Higgins
- 5) Halla Tomasdottir

Answer- **5) Halla Tomasdottir**

**Explanation:**

Icelandic businessperson, **Halla Tómasdóttir**, an Independent Candidate, has become the **7th President of Iceland** by winning the 2024 presidential election with 34.3% of the votes. Halla Tomasdottir take over as President of Iceland on **1st August 2024**.

- She will succeed **Guðni Thorlacius Jóhannesson**, who has been serving as the 6th President of Iceland since 2016.
- She will become the **2nd Woman President of Iceland** after Vigdis Finnbogadóttir, who was the first woman in the world to be democratically elected as president in 1980.

**5. Who has been recently (in June '24) elected as the first woman President of the United Mexican States(Mexico)?**

- 1) Andrés Manuel López Obrador
- 2) Zuzana Caputov
- 3) Nadia Calviño Santamaría
- 4) Mette Frederiksen
- 5) Claudia Sheinbaum

Answer- **5) Claudia Sheinbaum**

**Explanation:**

On 3rd June 2024, **Claudia Sheinbaum Pardo** of the Morena party, has been elected as the **first Female President** of the United Mexican States (**Mexico**). She will succeed her political mentor, **Andrés Manuel López Obrador**, who has been serving as President of Mexico since 2018.

- She will officially sworn-in as the President of Mexico for a 6-year term on **1st October 2024**.
- She will also become the 1st person of Jewish heritage to become the Head of State of Mexico.
- Sheinbaum is also the 1st woman to win a general election in the United States of America(USA), Mexico or Canada.

**6. Who was appointed as the Chairperson of the Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC) that has been recently (in June'24) reconstituted by the Supreme Court of India (SC)?**

- 1) Justice Anirudhha Bose
- 2) Justice Hima Kohli
- 3) Justice Sheel Nagu

4) Justice Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar

5) Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi

Answer- **2) Justice Hima Kohli**

**Explanation:**

On May 31 2024, The Supreme Court of India (**SC**) re-constituted **the Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee (GSICC)**. **Justice Hima Kohli** has been appointed as **Chairperson** to head the committee.

- The committee comprises a total of **12 members** from various fields.
- The appointments have been made by the chief Justice of India (CJI) Dr. DY Chandrachud in exercise of powers conferred by Clause 4(2) of the Gender Sensitisation & Sexual Harassment of Women at the SC of India (Prevention, Prohibition & Redressal) Regulations, 2013. [Click here to read more](#)

**7. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the Crown Prince of Kuwait by Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Sabah, the Emir of Kuwait?**

1) Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah

2) Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi

3) Sheikh Ahmad Abdullah Al- Ahmad Al- Sabah

4) Sultan Ibrahim ibni Almarhum Sultan Iskandar

5) Salman bin Abdulaziz Al Saud

Answer- **1) Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah**

**Explanation:**

**Sheikh Sabah Khaled Al-Hamad Al-Mubarak Al-Sabah** was officially sworn in as the **Crown Prince of Kuwait** before the Emir Sheikh Meshal Al-Ahmad Al-Jaber Al-Sabah(head of state of Kuwait).

- The sworn-in ceremony was held following an Emiri order which formally nominated Sheikh Sabah as the Crown Prince of Kuwait.
- This nomination also marks the first time a Kuwaiti crown prince is named whose father had not ruled as emir.

**8. Who has been recently (in June'24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited with effect from 1st July 2024?**

1) Rizwan Koita

2) Sameer Bansal

3) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra

4) Sanjeev Nautiyal

5) Amit Jhingran

Answer- **2) Sameer Bansal**

**Explanation:**

**PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited**, a private life insurer has appointed **Sameer Bansal** as its Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**). He will take charge of the post with effect from **July 1 2024**.

- He succeeds **Ashish Srivastava**, who has been appointed as **MD** for New York based **MetLife Inc.'s Global Shared Services team** in India.

**9. Name the former Cameroon Prime Minister (PM) who was elected as the President of the 79th session of the United Nations General Assembly(UNGA).**

- 1) Ousmane Sonko
- 2) Judith Suminwa Tuluka
- 3) Gustavo Lino Adrianzen Olaya
- 4) Philemon Yang
- 5) Dennis Francis

**Answer- 4) Philemon Yang**

**Explanation:**

The United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) elected **Ambassador Philemon Yang**, former Prime Minister (PM) of **Cameroon** by acclamation, as **President** for its **79th session** starting on **10 September 2024**.

- He will **succeed Ambassador Dennis Francis** of Trinidad and Tobago (TT), the President of the **78th Session** of the UNGA.
- The **theme** for the 79th session of the UNGA is **“Unity in diversity, for the advancement of peace, sustainable development, and human dignity for everyone everywhere”**.
- The **UNGA** elected **Denmark, Greece, Pakistan, Panama, and Somalia** as **non-permanent members** of the UN Security Council (UNSC) for **2-year terms** starting on **1 January 2025** and serving till **31 December 2026**. [Click here to read more](#)

**10. Who has been recently (in June '24) assumed the additional charge of Director General (DG) of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)?**

- 1) Vivek Kumar Gupta
- 2) Ravi Kumar Jha
- 3) Deepak Mohanty
- 4) H Venkatachalam Iyer
- 5) Kamal Kishore Soan

**Answer- 5) Kamal Kishore Soan**

**Explanation:**

On 31st May 2024, **Kamal Kishore Soan**, a senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer assumed the additional charge of Director General (DG) of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC) under the Ministry of Labour and Employment, Government of India (GoI).

- He is also serving as an Additional Secretary and Director General (DG), Labour Welfare in the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

**11. Who has recently (in June 2024) sworn in as the new Chief Minister (CM) of Sikkim?**

- 1) Prem Singh Tamang
- 2) Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu
- 3) Pema Khandu
- 4) Nayab Singh Saini
- 5) Lalduhawma

**Answer- 1) Prem Singh Tamang**

**Explanation:**

On 10th June 2024, **Prem Singh Tamang**, President of Sikkim Krantikari Morcha (**SKM**), took oath as the Chief Minister (**CM**) of **Sikkim** for the **second consecutive term**. He has been serving as the 6th CM of Sikkim since 2019.

- **Lakshman Prasad Acharya**, the **Governor** of **Sikkim** administered the oath of office and secrecy to Prem Singh Tamang and his Council of Ministers during the swearing-in ceremony held at Paljor Stadium, Gangtok, Sikkim.
- Sikkim Krantikari Morcha won the 2024 Sikkim assembly elections by **31 out of the 32 seats** while the opposition Sikkim Democratic Front (SDF) secured only one seat.

**12. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the Chief Secretary of Andhra Pradesh (AP)?**

- 1) Dileep Sanghani
- 2) Neerabh Kumar Prasad
- 3) Meenesh Shah
- 4) Sushil Sharma
- 5) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra

Answer- **2) Neerabh Kumar Prasad**

**Explanation:**

**Neerabh Kumar Prasad** has been appointed as the **Chief Secretary** of **Andhra Pradesh (AP)**. He is the 1987-batch Indian Administrative Service (**IAS**) officer of AP cadre.

- Neerabh Kumar replaces **K.S. Jawahar Reddy**, who is set to retire from service in June 2024 on attaining the age of superannuation.

**13. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the Acting Chairperson of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) of India following the retirement of the incumbent Chairman Justice Arun Kumar Mishra on 1st June 2024?**

- 1) Rekha Sharma
- 2) Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai
- 3) Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar
- 4) PS Dinesh Kumar
- 5) Vijaya Bharathi Sayani

Answer- **5) Vijaya Bharathi Sayani**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA) notified the appointment of **Vijaya Bharathi Sayani** as **Acting Chairperson** of the National Human Rights Commission (**NHRC**) of India with effect from 2nd June 2024 until the appointment of the New Chairperson of NHRC.

- She took over from **Justice Arun Kumar Mishra**, Former Supreme Court judge, whose term as Chairperson of NHRC ended on 1st June 2024.
- Sayani is currently serving as a **Member of NHRC** since December **2023**.
- The appointment was authorised by the President of India in exercise of powers conferred under Section 7(1) of the Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993.

**14. Who has been recently (in June '24), sworn in as the 18th Chief Minister of Andhra Pradesh (AP), succeeding Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, who served as CM of AP from 2019 to 2024?**

- 1) Buggana Rajendranath Reddy
- 2) Nitish Kumar
- 3) Chandrababu Naidu
- 4) Pawan Kalyan
- 5) N. Rangasamy

**Answer- 3) Chandrababu Naidu**

**Explanation:**

On 12th June 2024, Nara Chandrababu Naidu, the President of Telugu Desam Party (TDP), officially sworn-in as the 18th Chief Minister (CM) of Andhra Pradesh (AP). He became the CM of AP for the 4th time and 2nd time after the bifurcation of AP in 2014.

He succeeds Y.S. Jagan Mohan Reddy, President of Yuva Jana Sramika Rythu Congress Party (YSRCP), who served as CM of AP from 2019 to 2024.

Renowned Telugu actor and Janasena Party (JnS) President, Pawan Kalyan took oath as the Deputy CM of AP.

S. Abdul Nazeer, the Governor of AP administered the oath of office and secrecy to N. Chandrababu Naidu and his 24 Council of Ministers during the swearing-in ceremony held at Kesarpalli IT Park in Gannavaram on the outskirts of Vijayawada district, AP.

**15. Who recently (in June '24) became the 15th Chief Minister (CM) of Odisha, succeeding Naveen Patnaik, who served as the CM of Odisha from 2000 to 2024?**

- 1) Mohan Charan Majhi
- 2) Pema Khandu
- 3) Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu
- 4) Ajanta Neog
- 5) Brajesh Mehrotra

**Answer- 1) Mohan Charan Majhi**

**Explanation:**

Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP)'s Mohan Charan Majhi (52-year-old), a tribal leader and a 4-time Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA), took oath as the 15th Chief Minister (CM) of Odisha at a ceremony held at Janata Maidan in Bhubaneswar, Odisha. Odisha Governor Raghubar Das administered the oath and Mohan Majhi became the first BJP CM of Odisha.

Kanak Vardhan Singh Deo and Pravati Parida, were also sworn in as the deputy CMs of Odisha during the event.

With this, Pravati Parida became the 1st woman Deputy CM of Odisha.

Majhi succeeds Naveen Patnaik who served as the CM of Odisha from 2000 to 2024 (for 24 years and 98 days)

**Note:** Naveen Patnaik is the 2nd longest-served CM of India after Pawan Kumar Chamling, the 5-time CM of Sikkim (1994-2019), who served for 24 years and 165 days.

**16. Who was recently (in June '24) elected as the first Vice Chair of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) during the annual meeting of the ICC World Council held in Paris, France ?**

- 1) Mio Oka
- 2) Anil Kumar Lahoti

3) Harsh Pati Singhanian

4) Philippe Varin

5) Jaya Varma Sinha

Answer- **3) Harsh Pati Singhanian**

**Explanation:**

Harsh Pati Singhanian, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of JK Paper Ltd and Director of JK Organisation, has been elected as the First Vice-Chair of the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) headquartered in Paris, France.

Philippe Varin (France), a global industry leader, has been elected as Chair of the ICC. Philippe Varin succeeded Maria Fernanda Garza, who became the Honorary Chair of ICC.

Shinta Kamdani (Indonesia) and Patrick Obath(Kenya) have been elected as Vice-Chairs of the ICC.

The formal election was held during the annual meeting of the ICC World Council on 11 June 2024 in Paris.

The ICC World Council elects ICC's Chairmanship(including Chair, honorary chair, first vice chair and vice chair) and Secretary General, each of whom serves a three-year term.

**17. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as Director General (DG) of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI)?**

1) Mundkur Shyamprasad Kamath

2) Jyoti Vij

3) Rajendra Prasad Goyal

4) Ashwani Kumar

5) Anish Shah

Answer- **2) Jyoti Vij**

**Explanation:**

On 11th June 2024, The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) announced the appointment of Jyoti Vij as its Director General (DG). She will assume the charge of the FICCI Secretariat with immediate effect.

At present, she is serving as Additional DG at FICCI. Shailesh Pathak resigned from the post of Secretary General at the FICCI due to his personal reasons.

**18. Who has recently (in June 2024) taken oath as the Chief Minister (CM) of Arunachal Pradesh ?**

1) Eknath Shinde

2) Pema Khandu

3) Kamal Kishore

4) Chowna Mein

5) Pramod Sawant

Answer- **2) Pema Khandu**

**Explanation:**

On 13th June 2024, **Pema Khandu** of Bharatiya Janata Party (BJP) was sworn in as the Chief Minister (CM) of Arunachal Pradesh (AR) for the 3rd consecutive term at a ceremony held at Dorjee Khandu Convention Hall in Itanagar, AR. He has been serving as the CM of AR since 2016

- **Chowna Mein** took oath as the deputy CM of AR. He has been serving as Dy CM since 2016.
- The Oath was administered by Lt Gen (Retd) Kaiwalya Trivikram Parnaik, Governor of AR.

**19. Recently (June 2024) Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has appointed \_\_\_\_\_ as the National Security Advisor of India and \_\_\_\_\_ has been appointed as Principal Secretary to Prime Minister Narendra Modi.**

- 1) Ajit Doval; PK Mishra
- 2) Sheyphali B. Sharan; Manish Desai
- 3) Nalin Prabhat; Daljit Singh Chaudhary.
- 4) Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal; Charanjot Singh Nanda
- 5) Suman Bery ; Ravneet Kaur

**Answer- 1) Ajit Doval; PK Mishra**

**Explanation:**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) has approved the reappointment of **Ajit Kumar Doval** as the National Security Advisor (NSA) and **Pramod Kumar (PK) Mishra** as the Principal Secretary to Narendra Modi, the Prime Minister (PM) of India with effect from June 10 2024.

- Ajit Doval has been serving as the NSA since 30 May 2014 and has been appointed three consecutive times for the post.
- PK Mishra has been serving as the Principal Secretary to the PM since September 2019.
- The ACC has also approved the appointment of Amit Khare and Tarun Kapoor, retired IAS officers as Advisors to the PM. They have been appointed in the rank and scale of Secretary to Government for a period of two years with effect from 10th June 2024 or until further orders.

**20. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the President of South Africa?**

- 1) Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo
- 2) César Bernardo Arévalo de León
- 3) Tamás Sulyok
- 4) Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa
- 5) Bashar al-Assad

**Answer- 4) Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa**

**Explanation:**

On 14th June 2024, The South African Parliament re-elected **Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa**(71 year old) as the President of the Republic of South Africa for 2nd term. He will be inaugurated on 19th June 2024.

- Matamela Cyril Ramaphosa, the President of African National Congress (ANC) party, secured 283 votes in the 400 member house against Julius Malema, of Economic Freedom Fighters (EFF), who received just 44 votes.
- He became the President of South Africa for the 1st time in 2018, by replacing Jacob Zuma as both President and ANC Leader.

**21. Name the personality who has been recently (in June 2024) appointed as the Global Goodwill Ambassador of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR).**

- 1) Theo James
- 2) Vinícius Junior
- 3) Usain Bolt
- 4) Narendra Kumar Yadav
- 5) Neeraj Chopra

**Answer- 1) Theo James**



**Explanation:**

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (**UNHCR**), the UN Refugee Agency, has named **British actor**, producer, and model **Theo James** (Birth Name: Theodore Peter James Kinnaird Taptiklis) as its new **Global Goodwill Ambassador**.

- Goodwill Ambassadors are prominent public figures associated with UNHCR, enhancing the organization's global visibility through their influence, dedication, and hard work.

**22. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Dhanlaxmi Bank Limited?**

- 1) Atanu Chakraborty
- 2) Rajeev Singhal
- 3) Nidhu Saxena
- 4) Ajith Kumar KK
- 5) Subramanian Sundar

Answer- **4) Ajith Kumar KK**

**Explanation:**

Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of **Ajith Kumar KK** as the Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) of **Dhanlaxmi Bank Limited** for a **three-year tenure** with effect from **20th June 2024**.

- He succeeds **J.K Shivan**, whose has been serving as the MD & CEO of the Dhanlaxmi Bank since 2021.
- He is currently serving as the Chief Human Resources Officer(**CHRO**) at **Federal Bank Limited** in the cadre of president.

**23. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the Chairman of Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company Limited?**

- 1) Shashi Kumar Singh
- 2) Raghuram Iyer
- 3) Aeratu S. Rajeev
- 4) Raja Kumar
- 5) Akhil Gupta

Answer- **5) Akhil Gupta**

**Explanation:**

**Akhil Gupta** has been named as the **Chairman** of **Bharti AXA Life Insurance Company Limited**, wholly owned by Bharti Group. Currently he is serving as the Vice Chairman of Bharti Enterprises Limited.

- Gupta has over 40 years of professional expertise and has been instrumental in Bharti Airtel's growth since its inception.
- Bharti AXA Life Insurance has appointed two new Board of Directors (BOD) – **Dinesh Kumar Mittal** and **VV Ranganathan**.

**24. Who has recently (in June '24) assumed the charge as Chairman of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA) for the 3rd consecutive term?**

- 1) Jitendra Singh
- 2) Kishor Makwana

- 3) Dileep Sanghani
- 4) Mohammad Rihan
- 5) Ajay Kumar Sood

Answer- **1) Jitendra Singh**

**Explanation:**

**Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Minister of State (MoS) in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions(MoPP&P) has assumed the charge as **Chairman of the Indian Institute of Public Administration (IIPA)** for the **3rd consecutive term** at the IIPA campus in New Delhi, Delhi. He has been serving as Chairman of the IIPA since **2020**.

**i.** Dr Singh began his political journey in 2008. He was elected to the **Lok Sabha thrice** representing Udhampur Constituency, Jammu & Kashmir, in 2014, 2019, and 2024.

**ii.** Presently he has been serving as the:

- MoS (Independent Charge (I/C)) in the Ministry of Science and Technology(MoS&T); and Ministry of Earth Sciences(MoES).
- MoS, Prime Minister's Office (PMO); MoS, Department of Atomic Energy(DAE); MoS, Department of Space(DoS); and MoS, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions(MoPP&P).

**25. Who was recently (in June '24) appointed as the Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL) with effect from June 20, 2024?**

- 1) Rajendra Prasad Goyal
- 2) Manoj Jain
- 3) Sadanand Vasant Date
- 4) Ravindra Kumar Tyagi
- 5) Rushabh Gandhi

Answer- **2) Manoj Jain**

**Explanation:**

Navratna Defence Public Sector Undertaking (DPSU) **Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)** has appointed **Manoj Jain** as its new **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** with effect from **June 20 2024**.

- Prior to this position, he served as the Director (Research and Development – R&D) of BEL from September 2022 and additional charge of Bangalore complex Director from August 2023.
- He **succeeds Bhanu Prakash Srivastava** who served as CMD from November 2022 to June 19 2024. Presently Srivastava has been serving as the Director (other units) of BEL since April 20 2022.

**26. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the new Secretary of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) for a period of two years?**

- 1) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra
- 2) Sushil Sharma
- 3) Jagjit Pavadia
- 4) Atul Kumar Chaudhary
- 5) Vijayabharathi Sayani

Answer- **4) Atul Kumar Chaudhary**

**Explanation:**

The Government of India (GoI) has appointed **Atul Kumar Chaudhary** as the new **Secretary** of the **Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)** on a deputation on foreign service terms, initially for a period of two years.

- This appointment comes after the **superannuation of V Raghunandan** on May 31 2024.
- Currently, he has been serving as the Deputy Director General (DDG) in Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) since 2021.
- Atul Kumar Chaudhary is an **Indian Telecommunication Services (ITS)** officer of 1989-batch.

**27. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the new MD & CEO of HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company Limited?**

- 1) Satish Chandra
- 2) Ritesh Kumar
- 3) Anuj Tyagi
- 4) Atul Mehra
- 5) H Venkatachalam Iyer

Answer- **3) Anuj Tyagi**

**Explanation:**

**HDFC ERGO General Insurance Company Limited** has appointed **Anuj Tyagi** as its new Managing Director(**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer(**CEO**) with effect from **1st July 2024**.

- **Anuj Tyagi**, currently serving as the Joint MD of HDFC ERGO, will succeed **Ritesh Kumar**, who has been the MD & CEO of HDFC ERGO General Insurance since 2008. **Ritesh Kumar** is set to join the Board of Management of **ERGO International** as **Deputy Chief Operating Officer (COO)** with effect from **4th October 2024**

**28. Who recently (in June '24) got a one-year extension from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet(ACC) to serve as the Director of the Intelligence Bureau (IB) up to 30th June 2025?**

- 1) Bharat Lal
- 2) Piyush Anand
- 3) Sapna Tiwari
- 4) Tapan Kumar Deka
- 5) Pramod Kumar Tiwari

Answer- **4) Tapan Kumar Deka**

**Explanation:**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet(**ACC**) headed by Prime Minister(**PM**) Narendra Modi has approved a **one-year** extension in service to **Tapan Kumar Deka** as the **Director** of Intelligence Bureau (**IB**) beyond **30th June 2024** or until further orders, whichever is earlier.

- He will continue to serve as Director of IB until **30th June 2025**.
- Tapan Kumar Deka, a 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Himachal Pradesh(**HP**) cadre, began his 2 year tenure as IB chief in June 2022.

**29. In June 2024, \_\_\_\_\_ received approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) to continue serving as the Secretary-General (SG) of the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC) until 30th June 2025.**

- 1) Rizwan Koita
- 2) Bharat Lal
- 3) Matam Venkata Rao
- 4) Subhransu Sekhar Acharya
- 5) Sadanand Vasant Date

**Answer- 2) Bharat Lal**

**Explanation:**

The ACC has also approved the extension in service of **Bharat Lal** as **Secretary General (SG)** of the **National Human Rights Commission (NHRC)** on contract basis for a period of **one year** beyond 30th June 2024.

- He will continue his present position till **June 30, 2025**.
- He has been serving as the SG of NHRC in the rank and pay of secretary to the GoI on contract basis since 2023.

**30. South Korean (K-Pop) boy band 'Seventeen' has been recently (in June 2024) named as the first-ever \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Youth
- 2) UNICEF National Celebrity Ambassador
- 3) UNHCR Global Goodwill Ambassador
- 4) Goodwill Ambassador for Earth Hour
- 5) UN Women Goodwill Ambassador

**Answer- 1) UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador for Youth**

**Explanation:**

On 26 June 2024, **Audrey Azoulay, Director-General** of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), appointed **SEVENTEEN**, the **South Korean (K-Pop) boy band with 13 members**, as **UNESCO's first-ever Goodwill Ambassador for Youth**, during a ceremony held in Paris, France.

- UNESCO and K-pop group SEVENTEEN launched a joint program called "**Going Together – For Youth Creativity and Well-Being**", an ambitious joint grant programme for youth projects around the world.
- SEVENTEEN will contribute USD 1 million to finance this initiative.
- **Members of Seventeen(stage name):** S.Coups, Jeonghan, Joshua, Jun, Hoshi, Wonwoo, Woozi, The8, Mingyu, DK, Seungkwan, Vernon, and Dino.

**31. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as convener of the Group of Minister (GoM) of the reconstituted GST rate rationalisation panel?**

- 1) Rajeev Kumar
- 2) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra
- 3) Samrat Chaudhary
- 4) Manoj Panda
- 5) Suresh Khanna

**Answer- 3) Samrat Chaudhary**

**Explanation:**

The Goods and Services Tax (GST) Council has announced the appointment of **Samrat Chaudhary**, Deputy Chief Minister (CM), Bihar as new convener of the Group of Minister (GoM) of the reconstituted GST rate rationalisation panel.

- He will succeed **Suresh Khanna**, Finance Minister of Uttar Pradesh(UP) who has been serving as the convener of GST rate rationalization since October 2023.
- At present, the GST regime has 5 broad tax slabs of 0%, 5%, 12%, 18% and 28%. A cess is levied on luxury and demerit goods which is the highest i.e. **28%**.
- For the 2nd time, GST rate rationalisation panel was reconstituted.

**32. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SBI General Insurance Company Limited?**

- 1) Ajith Kumar
- 2) Naveen Chandra Jha
- 3) Ajay Kanwal
- 4) Subhransu Sekhar Acharya
- 5) Kishore Kumar Poludasu

Answer- **2) Naveen Chandra Jha**

**Explanation:**

**Naveen Chandra Jha** has been appointed as the new **Managing Director** and **Chief Executive Officer** (MD & CEO) of **SBI General Insurance Company Limited**. He was nominated by the parent company, State Bank of India (SBI) and **succeeds Kishore Kumar Poludasu**.

- Prior to this current role, he served as the **Deputy Managing Director of SBI**. He has been associated with the SBI since 1994 and has held several key positions during his tenure.

**33. Who has been appointed as the Next Secretary General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) to succeed Jens Stoltenberg in October 2024?**

- 1) Jeremiah Manele
- 2) John Ramsay Swinney
- 3) Mark Rutte
- 4) Bjarni Benediktsson
- 5) Ursula von der Leyen

Answer- **3) Mark Rutte**

**Explanation:**

The **North Atlantic Council** officially appointed **Mark Rutte**, the acting Prime Minister (**PM**) of the **Netherlands (Dutch)** as the next **Secretary General** (SG) of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (**NATO**).

- He will take office on **1st October 2024**, from the current NATO SG **Jens Stoltenberg**, former **PM of Norway** (2000-2001 and 2005-2013).
- **Jens Stoltenberg** has been serving as the **SG of NATO** since October **2014**. His 10-year term is set to conclude on 1st October 2024.
- 2024 marks the 75th anniversary of the founding of NATO.
- Mark Rutte's appointment was confirmed by the NATO ambassadors during a meeting at the NATO headquarters in Brussels, Belgium. The SG selection process was based on the consensus of all **32 Alliance member countries of NATO**.

**34. Who was recently (in June '24) elected as the Speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha (Lower House of Parliament) for a 2nd consecutive term?**

- 1) Shashi Tharoor
- 2) Om Birla
- 3) Shafiqur Rahman Barq
- 4) Shivraj Singh Chouhan
- 5) Kodikunnil Suresh

Answer- **2) Om Birla**

**Explanation:**

On 26th June 2024, **Om Birla** (61-year old), candidate of the ruling National Democratic Alliance (**NDA**), was elected as the Speaker of the **18th** Lok Sabha(Lower House of the Parliament) for a **2nd consecutive term** by a voice vote.

i.He was elected against the opposition Indian National Developmental Inclusive Alliance (**INDIA**) bloc's candidate, **Kodikunnil Suresh**, 8 time-Member of Parliament (MP) from Mavelikkara constituency, Kerala

ii. On 26th June 2024, Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla formally recognized Congress party leader, **Rahul Gandhi** as Leader of the Opposition (**LoP**) in the 18th Lok Sabha (Lower House of the Parliament).

[Click here to read more](#)

**35. Which bank has recently (in June '24) appointed Indian tennis player Sumit Nagal as its Brand Endorser?**

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

Answer- **1) Bank of Baroda**

**Explanation:**

On June 20 2024, the **Bank of Baroda** (BoB), a leading public sector bank in India, appointed **Sumit Nagal**, rising **Indian tennis player** as its **Brand Endorser**.

- This move aligns with the BoB's commitment to supporting talented and ambitious Indian sportspersons.
- The other BoB endorsers include **PV Sindhu (Badminton star)** and **Shafali Verma (Cricketing youth icon)**.

**36. Who has been recently (in June '24) appointed as the national president of the Indian Bullion and Jewellers Association (IBJA)?**

- 1) Mallika Nadda
- 2) Prithviraj Kothari
- 3) Dileep Sanghani
- 4) Manoj Mittal
- 5) Aksha Mohit Kamboj

Answer- **2) Prithviraj Kothari**

**Explanation:**

Mumbai, Maharashtra-based Indian Bullion and Jewellers Association (**IBJA**) has reconstituted its **governing board for 2024-2029** and **Prithviraj Kothari** of Riddi Siddhi Bullion Ltd has been appointed as the national **president**.

- Aksha Mohit Kamboj from Aspect Global Ventures Pvt Ltd was appointed as the national vice president. She becomes the 1st woman to hold the post.
- Surendra Mehta C.A. was appointed as the national secretary.

**37. In June 2024, the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances, and Pensions (MoPPG&P) approved the extension of the tenure of \_\_\_\_\_ as Chief Secretary (CS) of Andhra Pradesh (AP) for an additional 6 months.**

- 1) Ravi Kota
- 2) Rizwan Koita
- 3) T. Rabi Sankar
- 4) Neerabh Kumar Prasad
- 5) Santhi Kumari

Answer- **4) Neerabh Kumar Prasad**

**Explanation:**

The Department of Personnel and Training(DoPT), under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions(MoPPG&P), has approved the extension of the tenure of **Neerabh Kumar Prasad** as Chief Secretary(CS) of **Andhra Pradesh(AP)** for an additional 6 months with effect from 1st July 2024 to 31st December 2024.

- He has been serving as the CS of AP since 7th June 2024, succeeding K.S. Jawahar Reddy, who was transferred without a designated posting.

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**1. Which of the following Indian organisations is “not” featured among the top 100 ‘World’s Most Influential Companies of 2024’ by Time magazine?**

- 1) Serum Institute of India
- 2) Adani Group
- 3) Tata Group
- 4) Reliance Industries
- 5) Aditya Birla Group

Answer- **2) Adani Group**

**Explanation:**

**i.Three** Indian Companies namely Reliance Industries Limited (**RIL**), **Tata Group** and Serum Institute of India (**SII**) are featured on the “TIME100 Most Influential Companies 2024” published by TIME, the New York based American Magazine.

- This is the 4th edition of TIME’s annual list featuring world’s most Most Influential Companies.
- RIL and Tata Group are been featured under the “**Titans**” category and SII is featured under the “**Pioneer**” category

- **Rare Beauty**, founded by American Singer and Actor Selena Gomez, is featured under the “Leaders” categories.[Click here to read more](#)

**2. Which institute has recently (in May '24) received the Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024 from the World Health Organization (WHO) during the 77th World Health Assembly (WHA) held in Geneva, Switzerland?**

- 1) Armed Forces Medical College, Pune
- 2) National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bengaluru
- 3) Central Council for Research in Ayurvedic Sciences, New Delhi
- 4) All India Institute of Medical Science, New Delhi
- 5) Post Graduate Institute of Medical Education & Research, Chandigarh

**Answer- 2) National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences, Bengaluru**

**Explanation:**

The 77th World Health Assembly(**WHA 77**) was held in Geneva, Switzerland from **27th May to 1st June 2024**.

- The theme of 2024 WHA is “**All for Health, Health for All**”.
- Bengaluru(Karnataka)-based National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences (**NIMHANS**) bagged the **Nelson Mandela Award for Health Promotion for 2024** by **WHO**.
- WHA 77 unanimously adopted various amendments to the **International Regulations 2005 (IHR 2005)** based on **300 proposals** made by member states after COVID-19 Pandemic.
- **India** hosted a side event on Women, Children and Adolescent Health in partnership with Norway, United Nations Children’s Fund (**UNICEF**), United Nations Population Fund (**UNFPA**) and Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (**PMCH**) in Geneva, Switzerland.
- WHO launched new **Investment Round** aiming to raise **USD 7 billion** of funds to support countries to tackle global challenges such as: **climate change, displacement, poverty and inequality**.[Click here to read more](#)

**3. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) won the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society's (UN's WSIS) 2024 'Champion' Award at the WSIS+20 Forum in Geneva, Switzerland?**

- 1) Software Technology Parks of India (STPI)
- 2) National Association of Software and Service Companies (NASSCOM)
- 3) Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)
- 4) National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
- 5) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)

**Answer- 3) Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)**

**Explanation:**

The Centre for Development of Telematics (**C-DOT**) has won the United Nations World Summit on the Information Society (**UN's WSIS**) **2024 'Champion' Award** at the **WSIS+20 Forum in Geneva, Switzerland**.

- The award was given for the project '**Mobile-Enabled Disaster Resilience through Cell Broadcast Emergency Alerting**' which was recognised under Artificial Intelligence (**AI**), Category - 7 (**C-7**), E-environment, in the category of 'Benefits in all aspects of life - E-environment'.



- The WSIS+20 Forum 2024 is a High-Level Event which was conducted from 27th to 31st May 2024 by the International Telecom Union (ITU) in Geneva, Switzerland.

The **AI for Good Global Summit** was also organised along with WSIS, from 29th May to 31st May, 2024 at Geneva.

- C-DOT demonstrated cutting-edge telecom solutions such as an ITU-Common Alerting Protocol (**CAP**)- based early warning alert system and cell broadcast technology for disaster management, as well as **ASTR** (AI and Facial Recognition-powered Solution for Telecom SIM subscriber verification) for detecting Subscriber Identity Module (**SIM**) used in cyber fraud.

#### **4. Who has been recently (in June '24) named the Ernst & Young (EY) World Entrepreneur of the Year 2024?**

- 1) Mukesh Ambani
- 2) Radhakishan Damani
- 3) Nikhil Kamath
- 4) Vellayan Subbiah
- 5) Deepinder Goyal

Answer- **4) Vellayan Subbiah**

##### **Explanation:**

**Vellayan Subbiah**, Executive Vice-Chairman of Tube Investments of India (TII) and Chairman of Cholamandalam (Chola) Investment and Finance Company Limited has been named as the Ernst & Young (**EY**) **World Entrepreneur of the Year 2024** at an award ceremony held in Salle des Etoiles, Monaco.

- Vellayan was selected from among nearly 5,000 program participants that included 51 winners across 47 countries and jurisdictions competing for the global title.

#### **5. Name the sports personalities who has recently (June 2024) won the Dilip Bose Lifetime Achievement Award from the All India Tennis Association (AITA).**

- 1) Shubam Gill and Deepti Sharma
- 2) Nar Singh and Rohini Lokhande
- 3) Novak Djokovic and Aitana Bonmati
- 4) Neeraj Chopra and Sheetal Devi
- 5) Mahesh Bhupathi and Leander Paes

Answer- **2) Nar Singh and Rohini Lokhande**

##### **Explanation:**

All India Tennis Association(**AITA**) has honoured Delhi-based Tennis coach **Nar Singh** with the prestigious **Dilip Bose Award for Lifetime Achievement in Coaching**.

- AITA has introduced a **new Lifetime Achievement Award for Women's Coaches** and presented the **inaugural** award to **Rohini Lokhande** of Pune, Maharashtra, one of India's earliest women's coaches.
- The awards were presented during the 11th National coaches workshop which was held at the Poona Young Cricketers (PYC) Hindu Gymkhana in Pune, Maharashtra on June 7th-8th 2024.
- The AITA instituted a Dilip Bose Lifetime Achievement Award 2002 in honour of Dilip Bose, a renowned Indian tennis player. The award carries a cash prize of Rs. 50,000.

**6. Four Indian companies were featured among the top 100 in Kantar BrandZ's "2024 World's Most Valuable Global Brands". Which company retained the 1st position globally for the 3rd consecutive time?**

- 1) TCS
- 2) Microsoft
- 3) Apple
- 4) Google
- 5) Amazon

**Answer- 3) Apple**

**Explanation:**

According to the Kantar BrandZ, "[2024 World's Most Valuable Global Brands](#)" report, 4 Indian companies namely, **Tata Consultancy Service (TCS)**, **HDFC Bank**, **Airtel** and **Infosys** were featured among the top 100 most valuable global brands.

- **Apple** retained its **1st position** for the **3rd consecutive time** and has also become the 1st global brand to surpass USD 1 trillion in value with total valuation of USD 1016 billion, followed by Google with valuation of USD 753.5 billion and Microsoft with valuation of USD 712.9 billion with global ranking of 2nd and 3rd position respectively.

**Four Indian Brands Featured in the List**

Global Rank	Brand Name	Value (in USD)
46th	TCS	44.8 billion
47th	HDFC Bank	43.3 billion
73rd	Airtel	25.3 billion
74th	Infosys	24.7 billion

**7. Which organization was recently (in June 2024) honoured with the 'Best Conduct of Business Regulator' Award in the Asia Pacific region during the Asian Banker Summit 2024 in Hong Kong?**

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

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

**Explanation:**

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has been honoured with the '**Best Conduct of Business Regulator' Award** in the Asia Pacific by the Asian Banker for its focus on transparency, fairness, and investor protection in the securities markets in India.

- Kamlesh Chandra Varshney, Whole Time Member of SEBI received the award at the ceremony held during the Asian Banker Summit 2024 held on 23 May 2024 in Hong Kong. The theme of the summit was "Bridging innovation and resilience in finance".

**8. In June 2024, the Executive Board of the Sahitya Akademi announced a list of 24 recipients of its Bal Sahitya Puraskar and 23 winners of its Yuva Puraskar for the year 2024.**

**The winners of Bal Sahitya Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar 2024 will receive the cash reward of**

\_\_\_\_\_.

- 1) Rs 25,000
- 2) Rs 50,000
- 3) Rs 75,000
- 4) Rs 10,000
- 5) Rs 1,00,000

**Answer- 2) Rs 50,000**

**Explanation:**

On 15th June 2024, the Executive Board of the **Sahitya Akademi**, India's National Academy of Letters, an autonomous body under the Ministry of Culture chaired by Madhav Kaushik, President of Sahitya Akademi declared a list of **24** recipients of its **Bal Sahitya Puraskar** and **23** winners of its **Yuva Puraskar** for the year 2024.

- The winners of Sahitya Akademi's Bal Sahitya Puraskar and Yuva Puraskar 2024 will receive the award in the form of a casket containing an engraved copper plaque and a cheque of **Rs 50,000** each at a ceremony to be held later.

[Click here to read full list of winners](#)

**9. Name the renowned filmmaker who has been honoured with the V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award at the 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF).**

- 1) David Dhawan
- 2) Kumar Shahani
- 3) J F C Durai
- 4) Subbiah Nallamuthu
- 5) Adoor Gopalakrishnan

**Answer- 4) Subbiah Nallamuthu**

**Explanation:**

**Subbiah Nallamuthu**, a renowned wildlife filmmaker from Chennai(Tamil Nadu) was honoured with the **Dr V Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award** during the inauguration of the 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (**MIFF 2024**).

**i.**The award carries a cash prize of Rs 10 lakh, a trophy, and a citation.

**ii.**The 18th MIFF for Documentary, Short Fiction, and Animation film was organised by the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting(MIB).

**iii.**Subbiah Nallamuthu has won several national and international awards including the 5 National Film Awards which includes,

- Best Environment Film (2018) for The World's Most Famous Tiger.
- Best Exploration / Adventure Film (2015) for Life Force – India's Western Ghats.
- Best Non-Feature Film Cinematography (2012) for Tiger Dynasty.

**10. Name the Indian who has been named as the 'Land Hero' by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) on the occasion of "World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought" i.e. on 17th June 2024.**

- 1) Gauranshi Sharma
- 2) Siddesh Sakore
- 3) Kartik Verma
- 4) Nahid Afrin
- 5) Avantika Vandanapu

**Answer- 4) Siddesh Sakore**

**Explanation:**

**Siddesh Sakore**, a farmer from Kendur village, Maharashtra (India) and founder of AGRO RANGERS has been named as the '**Land Hero**' by the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (**UNCCD**) on the occasion of World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (**WDCCD**) i.e. on 17th June 2024.

- Sakore along with 9 others were recognised as '**Land Heroes**', during a programme of **30th** anniversary of the UNCCD hosted by the Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (**BMZ**), the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany in Bonn, Germany.
- The theme of 2024 WDCCD is, "**United for Land: Our Legacy. Our Future**".
- These land heroes were honoured in recognition of their work **to restore land**, boost resilience to drought, **develop sustainable agricultural businesses**, and harness technology and innovation to address global environmental challenges.

**11. According to Kroll's 'Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2023', who has been recognised as India's most valued celebrity with a brand value of USD 227.9 million?**

- 1) Shubman Gill
- 2) Yuvraj Singh
- 3) Rashmika Mandana
- 4) Virat Kohli
- 5) Mahendra Singh Dhoni

**Answer- 4) Virat Kohli**

**Explanation:**

According to **Kroll's [Celebrity Brand Valuation Report 2023: Brands, Business, Bollywood](#)**, Former Indian Cricketer team Captain **Virat Kohli** has reclaimed the top spot as India's most valued celebrity with a brand value of **USD 227.9 million**, USD 51 Million higher than 2022.

- Bollywood Actor Ranveer Singh, who topped the 2022 list, dropped to the **2nd** position with a brand value of **USD 203.1 million**.
- Shah Rukh Khan(3rd), Akshay Kumar(4th) and Alia Bhatt (5th) are among the **top 5**.
- This is the **9th** edition of Kroll's celebrity brand valuation report. [Click here to read more](#)

**12. In June 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) was honoured with the \_\_\_\_\_ (award) at the Central Banking Awards 2024 given by the London-based financial publisher Central Banking Publications.**

- 1) Whitley Gold Award
- 2) CIDC Vishwakarma Awards

- 3) Risk Manager of the Year
- 4) Laureate Award
- 5) World Forum Leadership Award

Answer- **3) Risk Manager of the Year**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) won the '**Risk Manager of the Year Award (2024)**' at the **Central Banking Awards 2024**, the 11th edition of the annual awards, presented by the **Central Banking Publications**, a London(the United Kingdom-UK) based financial publisher owned by Infopro Digital.

- Mumbai(Maharashtra) based **IRIS Business Services Limited** has also won the prestigious 'Global Central Banking Award 2024' for Technology Services in London.
- Previously, Shaktikanta Das, Governor, RBI had received the 'Governor of the Year' award in 2023.

i. Manoranjan Mishra, RBI's Executive Director received the award on behalf of the RBI during an award ceremony held in London, UK.

ii. Central bank of the year: **Central Bank of Brazil**

iii. Governor of the year: **Andriy Pysunny**, Governor of the National Bank of Ukraine.

[Click here for the complete list of 2024 winners.](#)

**13. Who has recently (in June '24) become the 1st Indian to be honoured with the 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award' of South Africa for the contribution to children's cinema?**

- 1) Anish Kapoor
- 2) Vinod Ganatra
- 3) Alok Shukla
- 4) Avantika Vandanapu
- 5) Santosh Sivan

Answer- **2) Vinod Ganatra**

**Explanation:**

**Vinod Ganatra**, a globally renowned **filmmaker** and editor from Gujarat, now based in Mumbai, Maharashtra has become the **1st Indian** to be honoured with the '**Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award**' of **South Africa** for his contribution to children's cinema.

- He was conferred with the award at the **7th Nelson Mandela Children's Film Festival** in Johannesburg, South Africa for his outstanding contribution to children's cinema.
- **18 July** is observed as **Nelson Mandela International Day**.
- He is the **only Indian** recipient of The **Liv Ullmann Peace Prize, Chicago**, for his Gujarati film, '**Harun-Arun**' at the 26th Chicago International Children's Film Festival.

**14. \_\_\_\_\_ won the 2024 One World Media(OWM) Press Freedom Award, an annual award presented by OWM, a United Kingdom(UK)-based non-profit organisation.**

- 1) Bilan Media
- 2) News State MPCG
- 3) Associated Press
- 4) Washington Post
- 5) Reuter

Answer- **1) Bilan Media**

**Explanation:**

**Bilan Media, Somalia's 1st and only all-women news team**, has won the **2024 One World Media (OWM) Press Freedom Award** during the 36th One World Media Awards (2024) ceremony held at Curzon Soho in London, United Kingdom (UK).

- With this award, **Bilan** became the **1st Somali media team** to receive this honour.
- This award recognises their courageous reporting over the past 2 years, which has addressed many taboo subjects and opened doors for women journalists in Somalia.
- **Bilan** was established by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in **2021** and has been **funded** by the European Union (EU) through UNDP since **2024**.

**15. Which bank has recently (in June '24) received the National Award from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for maximum enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY)?**

- 1) Axis Bank
- 2) Punjab National Bank
- 3) Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank
- 4) HDFC Bank
- 5) Indian Bank

Answer- **3) Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank**

**Explanation:**

Indian Regional Rural Bank (RRB), **Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB)** sponsored by **Canara Bank**, has received the National Award from the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) for maximum enrolment under Atal Pension Yojana (APY).

- The award was jointly presented by Vivek Joshi, Secretary, Department of Financial Services (DFS) under the Ministry of Finance (MoF), Government of India (GoI), and Deepank Mohanty, Chairman, PFRDA to Shreekanth M Bhandiwad, Chairman, KVGB at the ceremony held on 21st June 2024 in New Delhi, Delhi.
- So far, more than 4.27 lakh (i.e. **4,27,736**) combined accounts were opened by KVGB under APY.

**16. Name the city that has recently (in June 2024) become India's first UNESCO 'City of Literature'.**

- 1) Kozhikode
- 2) Bengaluru
- 3) Indore
- 4) Bhopal
- 5) Gwalior

Answer- **1) Kozhikode**

**Explanation:**

On 23rd June 2024, **Kozhikode** in north **Kerala** became the **first Indian city** to be officially declared as the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO) "**City of Literature**".

- P A Mohammed Riyas, Tourism Minister, Kerala unveiled the logo of the "City of Literature" by UNESCO.

- MB Rajesh, State Local Self Government Department (LSGD), Kerala in an official event held in Kozhikode, Kerala declared that from 2024 onwards, **23rd June** will be celebrated as the “**City of Literature**” **Day of Kozhikode** across Kerala. [Click here to read more](#)

**17. Which of the following Indian city has been recently (in June '24) recognised as a 'World Craft City' by the World Crafts Council AISBL (WCC-International)?**

- 1) Bengaluru
- 2) Srinagar
- 3) Hyderabad
- 4) Puri
- 5) Thiruvananthapuram

Answer- **2) Srinagar**

**Explanation:**

**Srinagar**, the summer capital of Jammu and Kashmir (J&K), has been officially recognised as a ‘**World Craft City**’ by the **World Crafts Council AISBL (WCC-International)**, a global non-profit organisation dedicated to preserving and promoting traditional craftsmanship.

- This honour celebrates the rich history and exceptional skills of Srinagar’s artisans, whose work has gained international acclaim.
- From 2014, nearly more than 60 cities across the world recognised as World Craft City. Indian cities **Mamallapuram** (Tamil Nadu), **Jaipur** (Rajasthan) and **Mysore** (Karnataka) were already added in the list of World Craft City.
- The WCC AISBL, celebrating its **60th anniversary** in **2024**, has been affiliated with the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (**UNESCO**) under Consultative Status since its inception in June 1964.

**18. Who has recently won the PEN(Poet, Playwright, Editors Essayist, Novelist) Pinter Prize 2024 for her 'unflinching and unswerving' writings?**

- 1) Jenny Erpenback
- 2) Mamta G. Sagar
- 3) Amitav Ghosh
- 4) Arundhati Roy
- 5) Salman Rushdie

Answer- **4) Arundhati Roy**

**Explanation:**

Renowned Indian Author ‘**Arundhati Roy**’ has won the prestigious **PEN(Poet, Playwright, Editors Essayist, Novelist) Pinter Prize 2024** for her ‘unflinching and unswerving’ writings.

- She is set to receive the award at a ceremony co-hosted by the British Library (BL), London, United Kingdom (UK) on **October 10 2024**.
- Some of her notable works includes: *The Cost of Living* (1999); *Power Politics* (2001); *Field Notes on Democracy: Listening to Grasshoppers* (2009); *Ministry of Utmost Happiness* (2017) and *Broken Republic: Three Essays* (2011).
- Roy won the prestigious **Booker Prize** for Fiction for her debut novel ‘*The God of Small Things*’ in 1997. She became the **first Indian writer** to win this award.

**19. Who has recently(in June '24) become the overall winner of the 2024 Commonwealth Short Story Prize for the story 'Aishwarya Rai'?**

- 1) Lakshmi Murdeshwar Puri
- 2) Pankaj Kumar Chatterjee
- 3) Angela Rodel
- 4) Sanjana Thakur
- 5) Arundhati Roy

Answer- **4) Sanjana Thakur**

**Explanation:**

On June 26, 2024, The **Commonwealth Foundation** announced **Sanjana Thakur**, an Indian writer from Mumbai (Maharashtra) as the **overall winner of 2024 Commonwealth Short Story Prize** for her story '**Aishwarya Rai**', a reversed adoption story.

- Thakur is the **third Indian writer** to win the prize, which was launched in 2012. Previously it was won by the Indian writers Parashar Kulkarni (2016) and Kritika Pandey (2020).
- The overall winner receives **5,000 Great British Pound(GBP)** and regional winners receive 2,500 GBP.

**Regional Winners of Commonwealth Short Story Prize 2024:**

Winner Name	Region	Story
<b>Sanjana Thakur</b>	<b>India (Asia)-Overall winner</b>	<b>Aishwarya Rai</b>
Reena Usha Rungoo	Mauritius (Africa)	Dite
Julie Bouchard	Canada (Canada and Europe)	What Burns (translated from French into English by Arielle Aaronson)
Portia Subran	Trinidad and Tobago (Caribbean)	The Devil's Son
Pip Robertson	New Zealand (Pacific)	A River Then the Road



# SUMMITS, CONFERENCES

**1. India participated in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS +20) Forum High-Level Event 2024 and the “AI for Good” Global Summit, held in \_\_\_\_\_ from 27th to 31st May 2024.**

- 1) Davos, Switzerland
- 2) Geneva, Switzerland
- 3) Kampala, Uganda
- 4) Dubai, the United Arab Emirates
- 5) Paris, France

**Answer- 2) Geneva, Switzerland**

**Explanation:**

**i. India participated in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS +20) Forum High-Level Event 2024** held in Geneva, Switzerland from 27th to 31st May 2024.

- This marks the 20 years of progress made in the implementation of the outcomes of the WSIS.

**ii. India also participated in the “AI for Good” Global Summit** held at the International Conference Center Geneva (CICG), Geneva, Switzerland from 30th to 31st May 2024.

- The summit was organised by ITU in partnership with 40 UN sister agencies and co-convened with the government of Switzerland.
- During the Summit, **India** officially took over the baton of **hosting the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly 2024** (WTSA-24) in New Delhi, Delhi from 15th to 24th October 2024. [Click here to read more](#)

**2. India participated in the inaugural Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum held in \_\_\_\_\_ from 5th to 6th June 2024.**

- 1) The United States of America
- 2) India
- 3) The Netherlands
- 4) Singapore
- 5) Indonesia

**Answer- 4) Singapore Explanation:**

**India participated in the inaugural Indo-Pacific Economic Framework for Prosperity (IPEF) Clean Economy Investor Forum** held in **Singapore** from **5th to 6th June 2024**.

- The Indian delegation to the forum was led by **Sunil Barthwal**, Secretary (Commerce) of the Ministry of Commerce and Industry (MoCI).
- IPEF was launched on **23rd May 2022** in Tokyo, Japan by the United States of America (USA) with Partners across the Indo-Pacific region.
- During the inaugural IPEF Investor Forum, the **IPEF partners** and the **Private Infrastructure Development Group** announced the operational launch of the IPEF Catalytic Capital Fund.
- 10 Indian Startups and Companies were selected in the Climate Tech Track to pitch their innovative ideas, technologies and solutions that contribute to mitigating or adapting to climate change. [click here to read more](#)

**3. Which of the following points is /are 'correct with respect to the recently (in June '24) concluded G7 summit in Italy?**

- A) Narendra Modi, PM of India, attended the 50th G7 summit for the fifth consecutive time.**  
**B) On the sidelines of the 50th G7 summit, leaders of G7 countries agreed to provide Ukraine with a loan worth USD 100 billion.**  
**C) The 51st G7 Summit will be in Kananaskis, Alberta, Canada in 2025.**

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

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

**Explanation:**

Italy, which holds the **Presidency** of the Group of Seven (**G7**) for 2024, hosted the **50th G7 summit** (G7 Italia 2024) in Borgo Egnazia, Fasano in Apulia, Italy from 13th to 15th June 2024.

- **Joe Biden**, President of the USA and **Volodymyr Zelensky**, President of Ukraine, signed a **10-year bilateral security agreement**, during the 2024 G7 summit held in Italy.
- Narendra Modi, PM of India, attended the 50th G7 summit for the fifth consecutive time. He participated in the Outreach Session on Artificial Intelligence, energy, Africa and the Mediterranean.
- On the sidelines of the 50th G7 summit, leaders of G7 countries agreed to provide Ukraine with a loan worth **USD 50 billion** through the interest earned on frozen Russian sovereign assets held in the EU and other jurisdictions.
- This marks the 7th G7 Summit hosted by Italy. Previously, Italy hosted the summit in 1980, 1987, 1994, 2001, 2009 and 2017
- **The 51st G7 Summit** will be in Kananaskis, Alberta, **Canada** in 2025..[Click here to read more](#)

## **COMMITTEE AND MEETING**

**1. Which Indian ministry has successfully hosted the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM-46) and the 26th Committee on Environmental Protection (CEP-26) from 20th to 30th May 2024 in Kochi, Kerala?**

- 1) Ministry of Tourism
- 2) Ministry of External Affairs
- 3) Ministry of Earth Sciences
- 4) Ministry of Science and Technology
- 5) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

Answer- **3) Ministry of Earth Sciences**

**Explanation:**

**India** has successfully hosted the 46th Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (**ATCM-46**) and the 26th Committee on Environmental Protection (**CEP-26**) from 20th to 30th May 2024 in Kochi, Kerala.

- ATCM-46 was held under the theme "**Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam**" (A Sanskrit phrase which means 'one Earth, one family, one future').