

# **GUPTA**

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# **CLASSES**

**CURRENT AFFAIRS**

**MAY 2024**

**English**

**Part-2**



**GUPTA**

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**CLASSES**

- In September 2023, SEBI required the social enterprises that raised funds through SSE to disclose the annual impact report within **90 days** from the end of financial year.
- Not-for-profit organisations (NPOs) registered on the SSE are required to show their annual activities on the exchange for FY24.
- SEBI has appointed **two** additional agencies – ICMAI Social Auditors Organisation under the Institute of Cost Accountants of India (ICAI) and ICSI Institute of Social Auditors under the Institute of Company Secretaries of India as Self-Regulatory Organisations (SROs) to assess the societal impacts of social activities carried out by social enterprises.

**68. In May 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1 crore and Rs 91 lakh on \_\_\_\_\_ and Yes Bank Limited, respectively, for violating banking rules.**

- 1) DCB Bank Limited
- 2) IDFC First Bank Limited
- 3) ICICI Bank Limited
- 4) Tamilnad Mercantile Bank Limited
- 5) HDFC Bank

Answer- **3) ICICI Bank Limited**

**Explanation:**

**i.** The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs 1 crore** on **ICICI Bank Limited** for sanctioning term loans to certain entities to replace budgetary resources for specific projects without proper due diligence.

- ICICI Bank was imposed a penalty for non-compliance of 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.

**ii.** The RBI has also imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs 91 lakh** on **Yes Bank Limited** for multiple violations of banking norms.

- Yes Bank has violated RBI regulations by charging fees on accounts with zero balance and opening internal accounts in customers' names for unauthorised purposes such as parking funds and routing customer transactions.

**69. In May 2024, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) launched a Retail Direct Mobile Application and a Fintech Repository.**

**The RBI also launched a \_\_\_\_\_ (portal), which allows individuals or entities to apply online for regulatory approvals, licenses, and authorisations from the RBI.**

- 1) SARTHI portal
- 2) PM-SURAJ portal
- 3) SWATI Portal
- 4) PRAVAAH portal
- 5) CSpace portal

Answer- **4) PRAVAAH portal**

**Explanation:**

On 28th May 2024, the Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), **Shaktikanta Das** launched 3 major initiatives namely – the Platform for Regulatory Application, Validation, and Authorisation (**PRAVAAH**) portal, **RBI Retail Direct Mobile Application** and a **Fintech Repository**. The main objective of these initiatives is to enhance regulatory processes, facilitate retail investment, and provide comprehensive data on the fintech sector.



- These 3 initiatives were announced by RBI in its bi-monthly statement on Development and Regulatory Policies in April 2023, April 2024, and December 2024 respectively.
- PRAVAAH Portal: It is a centralized, secure web-based platform that will allow individuals or entities to apply online for regulatory approvals, licenses, and authorizations from the RBI.
- RBI Retail Direct Mobile Application: The app will facilitate seamless and convenient access to retail investors to buy and sell Government-Securities (G-Sec) directly from their smartphones (available on Android and iOS).
- Fintech Repository: It will provide comprehensive data on fintech firms including regulated and unregulated firms.

**70. Which bank has recently (in May '24) collaborated with Poonawalla Fincorp Limited to launch a co-branded eLITE RuPay Credit Card?**

- 1) Federal Bank
- 2) Indian Bank
- 3) State Bank of India
- 4) HDFC Bank
- 5) IndusInd Bank

Answer- **5) IndusInd Bank**

**Explanation:**

**Poonawalla Fincorp Limited**, a Cyrus Poonawalla group Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC) in collaboration with **IndusInd Bank**, launched the co-branded, **Poonawalla Fincorp IndusInd Bank eLITE RuPay Credit Card**, to redefine and elevate the banking experience of customers by offering various rewards and benefits.

- To ensure safe cashless transactions, '**Total Protect**', a first-of-its-kind program has been introduced that covers an amount equal to the credit limit on the card.
- Poonawalla Fincorp Ltd. is only involved in the marketing and distribution of this co-branded credit card under a revenue-sharing arrangement with IndusInd Bank.

**71. In May 2024, the Government of India (GoI), through the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC), announced a relief assistance of USD 1 million for Landslide-Hit**

- 1) Sri Lanka
- 2) Papua New Guinea
- 3) Kenya
- 4) Bhutan
- 5) Haiti

Answer- **2) Papua New Guinea**

**Explanation:**

The Government of India (**GoI**) through the Forum for India-Pacific Islands Cooperation (FIPIC), announced a relief assistance of **USD 1 million** for **Papua New Guinea** (PNG) following a massive **landslide** that occurred on 24 May 2024 in Enga Province, PNG that buried over 2,000 people.

- As committed to Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR), India's immediate relief assistance aims to support relief, rehabilitation, and reconstruction efforts.



**72. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) notified a framework to allow the privately placed Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) to issue subordinate units?**

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

**Answer- 5) Securities and Exchange Board of India**

**Explanation:**

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (**SEBI**) has notified a framework which allowed the privately placed Infrastructure Investment Trusts (InvITs) to issue subordinate units.

- This new framework was introduced by SEBI in the exercise of the powers given under **Section 30** read with **Sections 11 and 12 of SEBI Act, 1992** and made certain amendments to Securities and Exchange Board of India (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) Regulations, 2014.
- Now, Amended regulations called as **Securities and Exchange Board of India (Infrastructure Investment Trusts) (Amendment) Regulations, 2024**.
- The Framework aims to narrow the valuation gap due to a difference in valuation done by sponsor(seller) for an asset and that by InvIT (buyer).
- **InvITs** are investment instruments similar to mutual funds which allow individuals and institutional investors to make direct investment of money in infrastructure projects to earn a small portion of the income as a return.

**73. Name the scheme that was recently (in May '24) launched by the Bank of Maharashtra to offer financial support for food and agro-based industries.**

- 1) Mahatari Vandana Yojana
- 2) Vikas Spoorty
- 3) Maha Krishi Samrudhi Yojana
- 4) Svyam Siddha
- 5) Mahila Samman Saving Certificate Scheme

**Answer- 3) Maha Krishi Samrudhi Yojana**

**Explanation:**

**Bank of Maharashtra**(BoM) introduced the **Maha Krishi Samrudhi Yojana** (MKSy), a pivotal initiative to offer financial assistance to **Food and Agro-Based industries** and Agri infrastructure projects including startups which are involved in processing activities, and the development of agricultural infrastructure facilities.

- Individuals, proprietorships, partnership concerns, Farmer Producer Companies (FPCs), private limited companies, public limited companies, and limited liability partnership(LLP) concerns are eligible for assistance under MKSY.
- It offers term loans, working capital/Export credit, Letters of Credit (LCs), and Bank Guarantees (BGs) with a maximum loan limit of up to **Rs. 100 Crore** (no limit on minimum amount).
- Under MKSY, the repayment period for term loans is up to 10 years. All working capital loans are repayable on demand.



# ECONOMY AND BUSINESS

**1. As per the recently (in May' 24) released report of National Council of Applied Economic Research's (NCAER) Monthly Economic Review (MER) for April 2024, it is projected that the Indian economy will grow faster than \_\_\_\_\_ in the financial year 2024-2025 (FY25).**

- 1) 7.5%
- 2) 7%
- 3) 6.8%
- 4) 6.1%
- 5) 6.6%

**Answer- 2) 7%**

**Explanation:**

The New Delhi, Delhi-based National Council of Applied Economic Research (NCAER) in its [Monthly Economic Review \(MER\) April 2024](#) projected the Indian economy to grow faster than 7% in the financial year 2024-2025 (FY25).

- Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) for manufacturing reached a 16-year high at 59.1 in March 2024 from 56.9 in February 2024, indicating robust expansion.

**2. Which company has recently (in May' 24) signed an MoU with Nagar Nigam Haridwar to establish a Waste-to-Green Energy Plant?**

- 1) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
- 2) Khanij Bidesh India Limited
- 3) THDCIL – UJVNL Energy Company Limited
- 4) Remine India private limited
- 5) Indraprastha Gas Limited

**Answer- 3) THDCIL – UJVNL Energy Company Limited**

**Explanation:**

**THDCIL – UJVNL Energy Company Limited (TUECO)** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with **Nagar Nigam** (municipal corporation) Haridwar, Uttarakhand, to establish a waste-to-green energy plant worth Rs 140 crores.

- This initiative aims to convert 400 tonnes per day of municipal solid waste into 140 tonnes of green charcoal.
- Nagar Nigam Haridwar has allocated around 10 acres of land at Sarai for the construction of this plant.

**3. Which company has recently (in May' 24) signed an MoU with Norway Based Ocean Sun to implement Floating Solar Energy Technology in India?**

- 1) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- 2) NHPC Limited
- 3) REC limited
- 4) Solar Energy Corporation of India Limited
- 5) NTPC Green Energy Limited

**Answer- 2) NHPC Limited**

**Explanation:**

**NHPC Limited**, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with Norway based **Ocean Sun AS** to explore various facets of cooperation to demonstrate Ocean Sun's **floating solar energy technology** based on photovoltaic panels which would be mounted on hydro-elastic membranes, at sites identified by NHPC.

- This is in line with NHPC's efforts towards sustainable development and addition of renewable energy capacity.

**4. Which organisation/regulatory body has recently (in May' 24) raised India's Gross domestic product (GDP) growth forecast by 40 basis points to 6.6% for FY25 (2024-25)?**

- 1) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 2) International Monetary Fund
- 3) Reserve Bank Of India
- 4) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- 5) Fitch

Answer- **4) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development**

**Explanation:**

According to "OECD Economic Outlook, Volume 2024 Issue 1", Paris(France) based Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (**OECD**) has raised India's GDP (Gross domestic product) growth forecast for FY25 (2024-25) by 40 basis points (bps) to 6.6% from 6.2% projected earlier.

- Global GDP growth is projected at 3.1% in 2024 and 3.2% in 2025 supported by factors including stronger real income growth and lower policy interest rates.
- India's GDP is projected at 7.8% in FY24, and around 6.5% in both FY25 and FY26, driven by strong investment despite sluggish private consumption.
- The 2024 Interim Union Budget aims for consolidation, setting a fiscal deficit target at 5.1% of GDP for FY25.

**5. In May 2024, the India Ratings and Research (Ind-Ra) Private Limited , a wholly owned subsidiary of Fitch group, raised India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast for fiscal year 2024-2025 (FY25) to\_\_\_\_\_ from 6.5%.**

- 1) 7.5 %
- 2) 7.0%
- 3) 8.5%
- 4) 6.6%
- 5) 7.1%

Answer- **5) 7.1%**

**Explanation:**

On May 6 2024, The India Ratings and Research (**Ind-Ra**) Private Limited , a wholly owned subsidiary of **Fitch group**, raised India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) growth forecast for fiscal year 2024-2025 (**FY25**) to **7.1%** from 6.5%.

- Ind-Ra expects average **retail and wholesale inflation** at **4.6%** and **2.9%**, respectively, in FY25.
- Ind-Ra expects private final consumption expenditure (**PFCE**) to grow by 7.0% year-on-year in FY25, marking a three-year high.



- The capital expenditure continues to support investment demand, with Gross Fixed Capital Formation (**GFCE**) forecast to increase by **8.5 %** year on year in FY25.
- Ind-Ra expects goods and services exports to expand by **6.6%** year on year and imports to grow by 8.8% year on year in FY25, up from 1.5% and 10.9%, respectively, in FY24.

**6. Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Limited (TSSEZL) and HHP Five Private Limited (Hygenco) has recently (in may '24) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish\_\_\_\_\_ project in Odisha's Ganjam district.**

- 1) Semiconductor Fabrication
- 2) Automobile In-Plant
- 3) Carbon-Fibre Plant
- 4) Green Hydrogen
- 5) Steel Plant

Answer- **4) Green Hydrogen**

**Explanation:**

Tata Steel Special Economic Zone Limited (**TSSEZL**) and HHP Five Private Limited (**Hygenco**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to establish a **green hydrogen** and green ammonia project at TSSEZL's Gopalpur Industrial Park (GIP) in Odisha's Ganjam district.

**7. Which country has recently (in may '24) signed a 20-year Agreement with Adani Green Energy Limited(AGEL) to develop Wind Power Stations?**

- 1) United Arab Emirates
- 2) Sri Lanka
- 3) France
- 4) Guyana
- 5) Bhutan

Answer- **2) Sri Lanka**

**Explanation:**

The Government of **Sri Lanka** signed a Power Purchase Agreement(PPA) for 20 years with Adani Green Energy Limited(**AGEL**), part of Adani Group to develop wind power stations in Sri Lanka.

- As per the agreement, AGEL will be paid 8.26 cents per kilowatt-hours(kWh).
- AGEL will establish wind power stations in **Mannar** and **Pooner** in Sri Lanka.

**8. Moody's Ratings has recently (May '24) projected India's GDP to grow at 6.6% in fiscal year 2024-25 (FY25).**

**What is the estimated GDP growth rate for India in the fiscal year 2025-2026(FY 26)?**

- 1) 6.5%
- 2) 6.3%
- 3) 6.8%
- 4) 6.2%
- 5) 6.6%

Answer- **4) 6.2%**

**Explanation:**

On 14th May 2024, **Moody's Ratings** had projected that India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) to grow at **6.6% in FY25 (2024-25)** and **6.2% in FY26 (2025-26)**. It also mentioned that strong credit

demand fuelled by robust economic growth will give a boost to the profitability of Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs).

- It also estimated India's GDP growth **8%** in FY24(2023-24).
- Moody's Ratings highlighted that Aggregate Year-On-Year (Y-O-Y) loan growth at NBFCs increased from **10.8% (2022) to 20.8% (2023)**.
- It estimated that loans at NBFCs to grow about 15% in the next 12 to 18 months. This is due to the various types of lending such as: infrastructure financing by large Government-owned NBFCs and loans to small and medium-sized enterprises.

**9. In the May 2024 review of the MSCI Global Standard Indexes, 13 securities are scheduled to be added and 3 securities are to be removed from the India Index.**

**Which of the following companies is among the three securities being removed from the MSCI India Index?**

- 1) Paytm
- 2) JSW Energy
- 3) Canara Bank
- 4) Jindal Stainless Limited
- 5) Bank of India

Answer- **1) Paytm**

**Explanation:**

MSCI Inc.(formerly known as Morgan Stanley Capital International Inc.) has announced changes in constituents for the [MSCI Global Standard Indexes](#), which will take place as of close of 31st May 2024.

- As per the May 2024 review, **13 Securities** will be added to and **3 Securities** will be removed from the **India Index**.
- Following this, the net stock count will be 146 for India in the MSCI Global Standard Index.
- The 13 Securities **added** to MSCI India Index are Bosch Limited; **Canara Bank**; Indus Towers Limited ; **Jindal Stainless** Limited ; **JSW Energy** Limited ; Mankind Pharma; NHPC Limited; PB Fintech Limited; Phoenix Mills Limited ; Solar Industries India Limited ; Sundaram Finance Limited ; Thermax Limited and Torrent Power Limited.
- The 3 companies **removed** from MSCI India Index are **Berger Paints** India Limited; **Indraprastha Gas** Limited (IGL) and **Paytm** (One97 Communications Limited)

[Click here to read more](#)

**10. According to the 'World Economic Situation and Prospects (WESP) 2024 - Mid Year Update' by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA), what is the revised GDP projection for India in 2024?**

- 1) 6.8%
- 2) 6.1%
- 3) 6.5%
- 4) 6.9%
- 5) 6.2 %

Answer- **4) 6.9%**



**Explanation:**

The '[World Economic Situation and Prospects \(WESP\) 2024 – Mid Year Update](#),' published by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (**UN-DESA**), India's economy is estimated to expand by **6.9%** in **2024**. This is an upward revision from the 6.2% Gross domestic product (GDP) forecast made by the UN in January 2024.

- India's GDP Growth projection for 2025 remains unchanged at 6.6%.
- The report also anticipates a deceleration of consumer price inflation in India from **5.6%** in 2023 to **4.5%** in 2024. This is in line with the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) 2% to 6% medium-term target range.
- Global economy projected to grow by **2.7%** in 2024 (up by 0.3 percentage points from January 2024 forecast), and **by 2.8%** in 2025 (up by 0.1 percentage points).
- Asia's GDP growth forecast revised upwards to 5.8% in 2024, and 5.7% in 2025

[Click here to read more](#)

**11. As per the data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), what is the annual inflation rate based on the All India Consumer Price Index (CPI) for April 2024?**

- 1) 4.70%
- 2) 5.43%
- 3) 4.83%
- 4) 4.11%
- 5) 5.26%

Answer- **3) 4.83%**

**Explanation:**

As per the data from the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (**MoSPI**), The annual inflation rate based on all India Consumer Price Index (**CPI**) number is **4.83%** (Provisional) in **April 2024**, slightly down from 4.85% in March 2024, despite a continued surge in food prices. This decrease is attributed mainly to lower fuel prices.

- Corresponding inflation rate for rural and urban is 5.43% and 4.11%, respectively.
- The Consumer Price Index (CPI) -based retail inflation was 4.7% in April 2023.

**12. Which automobile company has recently (in May '24) secured an order worth Rs 250 crore from Northern Coal Fields Limited (NCL) for supplying 28 units of BH100 rear dump trucks?**

- 1) Ashok Leyland Limited
- 2) BMW Group
- 3) JSW MG Motor India Pvt Ltd
- 4) BEML Limited
- 5) Eicher Motors

Answer- **4) BEML Limited**

**Explanation:**

**BEML Limited** (formerly Bharat Earth Movers Limited) has secured an order worth **Rs 250 crore** from Northern Coalfields Limited (**NCL**) for supplying 28 units of **BH100** rear dump trucks.

- Under this order, the dumpers will be maintained through a 5-year Guaranteed Spare Parts contract, ensuring operational efficiency.

- The BH100 Rear Dump Truck can transport payloads of up to 100 tonnes, ideally for heavy-duty mining operations.

**13. In May 2024, ICRA Limited (formerly Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency of India Limited) projected India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth of \_\_\_\_ in fiscal year 2023-2024 (FY24).**

- 1) 6.9 %
- 2) 6.5%
- 3) 7.8%
- 4) 6.7%
- 5) 7.5 %

Answer- 3) 7.8%

**Explanation:**

**ICRA Limited** (formerly Investment Information and Credit Rating Agency of India Limited) has projected India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) growth to moderate to a four-quarter low of **6.7%** in 4th Quarter (Q4) of FY2024 from **8.4%** in Q3 of the fiscal year 2023-2024 (FY24).

- For **FY24** (full fiscal year), ICRA has expects **GDP** and Gross Value Added (**GVA**) growth of **7.8%** and **7.0%** respectively.
- The growth in GVA is estimated to ease from 6.5% in Q3 of FY24 to 5.7% in Q4 FY24.
- ICRA expects the gap between GDP and GVA growth to moderate from **185** basis points (**bps**) in Q3 FY24 to **100 bps** in **Q4 FY24**.
- ICRA estimates industrial GVA growth to moderate to **7.9%** in Q4 from 10.4% in Q3.

**14. In May 2024, Indian Oil Corporation Limited exported its first-ever parcel of XP100, India's 1st superior 100-octane premium fuel, from Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT) to \_\_\_\_\_ in \_\_\_\_\_ (country)**

- 1) Abu Dhabi National Oil Company; United Arab Emirates
- 2) Lanka IOC; Sri Lanka
- 3) Panasonic Energy Co. Ltd; Japan
- 4) IHI Corporation; Japan
- 5) Bangla IOC; Dhaka

Answer- 2) Lanka IOC; Sri Lanka

**Explanation:**

Indian Oil Corporation Limited (**IOCL**), a leading energy company in India, exported its **first-ever** parcel of **XP100, India's 1st superior 100-octane premium fuel**, from Jawaharlal Nehru Port Trust (JNPT), Nava Sheva, Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra to **Lanka IOC**, a subsidiary of IOCL in Sri Lanka.

- The domestically developed XP100, leverages IndianOil's indigenous Octamax Technology, designed for high-end vehicles. It is distinguished by its exceptional anti-knock properties.
- XP100 reduces engine deposits and emissions in high compression ratio engines, optimizing vehicle performance and longevity while minimizing maintenance.

**15. Name the company that has become India's third unicorn (with a valuation of USD 1 billion and above) in 2024.**

- 1) Krutrim
- 2) Razorpay



- 3) Perfios
- 4) Swiggy
- 5) Porter

Answer- **5) Porter**

**Explanation:**

Bengaluru(Karnataka)-based logistics services platform, **Porter** has become **3rd Unicorn** of India in 2024, with valuation of around USD 1 billion.

- Porter became unicorn after completing a fresh internal round, where individuals bought shares from the employee stock ownership plan (ESOP) pool at a valuation of USD 1 billion.
- So far, Ola's Artificial Intelligence (AI) startup **Krutrim** and Fintech-focussed Software as a Service (SaaS) firm **Perfios** are the other two Indian startups that emerged as Unicorn in 2024.

**Note:**A unicorn is a term used to describe privately owned startups or companies whose valuation is more than **USD 1 billion**.

**16. According to the Bombay Stock Exchange (BSE) data from 21st May 2024, India's market capitalization to \_\_\_\_\_ ratio has recorded a 15-year high of 140.2%.**

- 1) Fiscal Deficit
- 2) Foreign direct investment
- 3) Foreign portfolio investment
- 4) Gross Domestic Product
- 5) Inward Remittance

Answer- **4) Gross Domestic Product**

**Explanation:**

According to the Bombay Stock Exchange (**BSE**) data, India's market capitalization to Gross Domestic Product ratio (**mcap-to-GDP**) has recorded growth of 15-year high of **140.2%**. This increase is significantly higher compared to **95.8%** at the end of March 2023.

- On 21 May 2024, the total mcap of the **4,357 companies** available for trading on the BSE reached **Rs 414.46 trillion or USD 5 trillion** as against India's GDP at current prices of **Rs 296.6 trillion** in FY24.[Click here to read more](#)

**Note:** India's mcap-to-GDP ratio registered growth of all-time high of **149.4%** at the end of December 2007, with combined mcap of BSE listed and traded companies had reached **Rs 71.7 trillion** compared to India's GDP at current prices of **Rs 48 trillion**.

**17. Which bank/financial institution has recently (in May '24) revised India's GDP growth projection for the Calendar Year 2024 to 6.7% from 6.6% by increasing 10 Basis Points (bps)?**

- 1) Goldman Sachs
- 2) Morgan Stanley
- 3) Citigroup Inc
- 4) Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
- 5) Standard Chartered

Answer- **1) Goldman Sachs**

**Explanation:**

**Goldman Sachs Group Inc** has revised its projection for India's Growth Domestic Product (**GDP**) for Calendar Year 2024 (CY24), upwards by **10 Basis Points (bps) to 6.7% from 6.6%**.



- It has also estimated that Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will cut the interest rates in the 4th Quarter (Q4) of the current Calendar Year (CY24) or Q3FY25(2024-25).
- As per analysts at Goldman Sachs, core inflation in India to bottom out in 2nd Quarter (Q2) of CY24 and will increase to 4% to 4.5% in 2nd half of CY24.
- It also estimated easing cycle of total 50 bps rate cuts from RBI, with 1st interest rate cuts of 25 bps each in Q4-CY24 and Q1-CY25.

**18. As per the SBI's Economic Research Department report published in May 2024, overall India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is expected to touch \_\_\_\_\_ for Fiscal Year 2023-24 (FY24).**

- 1) 7.3%
- 2) 8%
- 3) 7.0%
- 4) 7.4%
- 5) 7.8%

Answer- 2) 8%

**Explanation:**

According to State Bank of India (SBI's) **Economic Research Department report**, overall India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth is expected to touch **8%** for FY24. While SBI's Artificial Neural Network (ANN) model with 30 high-frequency indicators projected that India's GDP growth will be **7.4%** for the 4th Quarter (Q4) of **FY24(2023-24)**.

- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has estimated India's GDP growth will be **7.3%**, **7.5%** and **7.0%** for Q4FY24, Q1FY25 and for full FY25 respectively.
- The rural economy is picking up with the percentage of accelerating indicators and showed growth acceleration which increased to **75% (in March 2024)** compared to 56% (in February 2024) and 60%(in January 2024).
- Global headline inflation will decrease from an annual average **6.8% (2023) to 5.9% (2024)** further to **4.5%** in 2025(International Monetary Fund (IMF) estimate).
- Corporate Good Value Added (GVA) increased to 18%(in Q4FY24) from 20%(in Q4FY23).

**19. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) projected that bank credit growth is expected to lower by ~200 basis points (bps) (2%) to ~14% in the financial year 2024-2025 from ~16% in FY24?**

- 1) State Bank of India
- 2) General Insurance Council
- 3) CRISIL Ratings Limited
- 4) Reserve Bank of India
- 5) NITI Aayog

Answer- 3) **CRISIL Ratings Limited**

**Explanation:**

According to the domestic rating agency, **CRISIL Ratings Limited**, a subsidiary of CRISIL Limited, **Bank credit growth** is expected to moderate by ~200 basis points (bps) (2%) to ~14% in the financial year **2024-2025**, following robust growth of ~16% in the last financial year 2023-2024.

- The growth of FY25 is modulated by a high base effect, revised risk weights, and slightly lower Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth at 6.8% in FY25, as against 7.6% in FY24.



- Corporate Credit (~45% of bank credit) is expected to grow at ~13%, driven by private sector industrial capex.
- Retail Credit (~28% of bank credit) is expected to grow fastest at ~16%, despite a slight moderation from ~17% in fiscal 2024.
- Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) is expected to grow at ~15% (from 19% in FY24).

**20. In May 2024, Reliance-backed Radisys India Limited formed a consortium called Next-Gen Infrastructure Company (NGIC) with a few other firms to launch 5G services across \_\_\_\_\_ (country).**

- 1) Comoros
- 2) Mauritius
- 3) Seychelles
- 4) Timor-Leste
- 5) Ghana

**Answer- 5) Ghana**

**Explanation:**

The Reliance backed **Radisys India Limited** has formed a **consortium** called **Next-Gen Infrastructure Company (NGIC)** for the **Government of Ghana** in collaboration with Nokia Corporation, Tech Mahindra Limited, Ascend Digital Solutions Limited, K-NET Private Limited and Mobile Network Operators (MNOs), at Ghana and Telecel Ghana.

- The NGIC has been awarded a 5G licence and expected to launch 5G services across **Ghana** within the next six months, followed by expansion to other parts of Africa.
- It will be the first 5G Mobile Broadband Shared Infrastructure Entity to build a nationwide 4G/5G network.

## **MoU's AND AGREEMENTS**

**1. Under which scheme did the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) recently (in May '24) sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M) to initiate two pilot projects?**

- 1) Pradhanmantri Suryodaya Yojana
- 2) Pradhan Mantri Vishwakarma Yojana
- 3) Lakhpati Didi Yojana
- 4) Drone Didi Yojana
- 5) Pradhan Mantri Kisan SAMPADA Yojana

**Answer- 4) Drone Didi Yojana**

**Explanation:**

On May 10, 2024, Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (**MSDE**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Mahindra & Mahindra Ltd. (M&M) to initiate two Pilot Projects under the **Drone Didi Yojana**.

- 2 Centres of National Skill Training Institute (NSTI) in Hyderabad, Telangana and Noida, Uttar Pradesh (UP) were selected for the Pilot Projects, focusing on empowering rural women in agriculture.

- The partnership plans to skill 500 women across exclusive batches of 20 women each at NSTI centres, through a 15-day curriculum approved by the Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA).

**2. Which company has recently (in May '24) signed an MoU with the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) for the manufacturing and supply of indigenous marine-grade aluminium?**

- 1) Remine India
- 2) ReNew
- 3) Hindalco
- 4) JSW Group
- 5) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited

Answer- **3) Hindalco**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Coast Guard (**ICG**) has signed an Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Hindalco Industries Limited** for the manufacturing and supply of indigenous **marine-grade aluminium** to Indian public and private shipyards for **ship construction**.

- The MoU will provide benefits such as **quarterly pricing, priority in supplies** and **turnover discount** and also aims to facilitate better planning and cost management for shipbuilding projects by providing stable and predictable pricing over time.

**3. Which country has recently (in May '24) signed a long-term contract with India for the operation of the Shahid Beheshti Port Terminal at Chabahar Port?**

- 1) Kuwait
- 2) Cuba
- 3) Iran
- 4) Bhutan
- 5) Sri Lanka

Answer- **3) Iran**

**Explanation:**

On 13th May 2024, India and Iran signed a long-term contract of 10 years to operate the Shahid Beheshti Port Terminal at Chabahar Port, Iran. This will boost regional connectivity and trade ties.

- The contract was signed by India Ports Global Limited (**IPGL**), a wholly-owned subsidiary of India Ports Global Chabahar Free Zone (**IPGCFZ**) and by Port and Maritime Organisation (**PMO**), Iran.
- As per the contract, IPGL is committed to invest approximately **USD 120 million** in equipping the port.
- India has also offered a credit window of **USD 250 million** for mutually identified projects aimed at enhancing Chabahar-related infrastructure.

**4. Which company has recently (in May '24) signed an agreement with Norway's Yara Clean Ammonia ( world's largest trader and distributor of Ammonia) to supply renewable ammonia?**

- 1) Larsen & Toubro
- 2) NTPC Green Energy Limited
- 3) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited



4) Greenko Zeroc

5) Adani Energy Solutions Ltd

Answer- **4) Greenko Zeroc**

**Explanation:**

Hyderabad-based **Greenko Zeroc** signed an agreement with Norway's **Yara Clean Ammonia** which is the largest trader and distributor company of ammonia in the world to supply renewable ammonia to Norwegian firm.

- As per this term sheet and the subsequent off-take agreement, Greenko Zeroc, production arm of renewable energy firm **AM Green** will supply up to 50% green ammonia to Yara from Phase 1 of its ammonia production facility in **Kakinada, Andhra Pradesh(A.P.)**.

**5. Which organisation/Industry has recently (in May '24) signed an MoU with the India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA) to promote the electronics and semiconductor industry in India?**

- 1) Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India
- 2) Confederation of Indian Industry
- 3) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- 4) Dholera Semiconductor Fabrication
- 5) National Association of Software and Services Companies

Answer- **3) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry**

**Explanation:**

The Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (**FICCI**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA)**, to promote innovation, bolster the semiconductor and electronics industry, and fortify supply chains.

- The main objective of this strategic alliance between FICCI and IESA is to set up a Joint Task Force on semiconductors and future critical technologies and to conduct technology consultative roundtables and to foster business partnerships.

**6. Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (AIC) has recently (in May'24) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with \_\_\_\_\_ to widen the reach of its cattle insurance product "Sampoorna Pashudhan Kawach".**

- 1) Indian Railways
- 2) India Post
- 3) CSC e-Governance Services India Limited
- 4) NABARD
- 5) State Bank of India

Answer- **3) CSC e-Governance Services India Limited**

**Explanation:**

Agriculture Insurance Company of India Ltd. (**AIC**) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with CSC e-Governance Services India Ltd. (**CSC**) at AIC Head Office, New Delhi, Delhi, to widen the reach of its cattle insurance product "**Sampoorna Pashudhan Kawach**," designed to protect farmers' livestock from unforeseen risks.

- Through this MoU, CSC shall serve as a pivotal distribution channel, leveraging its vast digital network of 6 lakh Common Service Centres (CSCs) across rural India.



- This partnership shall further cover AIC's other Products like Saral Krishi Bima, Sampoorna Ritu Kavach, etc.

**7.Name the organisation that has recently (in May '24) signed an MoU with the Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying to enhance the Digitalization of Vaccine Cold Chain Management, Capacity Building, and Communication Planning.**

- 1) Open Network for Digital Commerce
- 2)United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India
- 3) National Dairy Development Board
- 4) National Farmers' Welfare Programme Implementation Society
- 5) NABARD

**Answer- 2)United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India**

**Explanation:**

On 20th May 2024, the **Department of Animal Husbandry & Dairying (DAHD)**, Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying (**MoFAHD**), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India** to enhance the Digitalization of Vaccine Cold Chain Management, Capacity Building, and Communication Planning at UNDP Country office in New Delhi, Delhi.

- Under this, UNDP will support **India's first animal vaccine supply chain management system** in partnership with the DAHD.
- New technology and Artificial Intelligence (**AI**) based **Animal vaccine Intelligence Network (AVIN)** developed by **UNDP** will enable real-time monitoring of the vast cold chain infrastructure to ensure vaccines are managed and delivered nationwide at the right quantity, quality, time, and temperature.

**8. Which bank/financial institution has recently (in may'24)signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Airbus Helicopters for financing the purchase of Airbus helicopters in India?**

- 1) State Bank of India
- 2) Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited
- 3) Bank of Baroda
- 4) Small Industries Development Bank of India
- 5) Export-Import Bank of India

**Answer- 4) Small Industries Development Bank of India**

**Explanation:**

The Small Industries Development Bank of India (**SIDBI**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **Airbus Helicopters** for financing the purchase of Airbus helicopters in India.

- The MoU was signed by **Rahul Priyadarshi**, Chief General Manager(CGM), SIDBI and **Sunny Guglani**, Head of Airbus Helicopters, India and South Asia.
- The MoU will enable both Airbus Helicopters and SIDBI to identify potential civil helicopter operators in India who are interested in financing solutions for the purchase of helicopters.



**9. In May 2024, RITES Limited, the export arm of Indian Railways, signed a USD 111.26 million (approximately Rs 915 crore) contract agreement to supply 200 Broad-Gauge (BG) passenger carriages to \_\_\_\_\_ Railways.**

- 1) Philippines
- 2) Bhutan
- 3) Guyana
- 4) Bangladesh
- 5) Sri Lanka

**Answer- 4) Bangladesh**

**Explanation:**

On 20th May 2024, **RITES Limited**, export arm of Indian Railways, signed a **USD 111.26 million** (approximately **Rs 915 crore**) contract agreement to supply 200 Broad-Gauge (BG) passenger carriages to Bangladesh Railways.

- The contract is funded by Luxembourg-based **European Investment Bank (EIB)**.
- The contract includes a **36-month** supply and commissioning period, followed by a **24-month** warranty period.

**10. Which company has recently (in May '24) signed a grid agreement with National Grid Plc's Electricity System Operator (ESO) to build the power infrastructure required to switch its Port Talbot site in Wales, the United Kingdom (UK), to a green steel project?**

- 1) Kutch Copper Limited
- 2) Jindal Steel
- 3) Tata Steel
- 4) Bharat Aluminium Company Limited
- 5) Essar Steel

**Answer- 3) Tata Steel**

**Explanation:**

**Tata Steel Limited** has signed a grid agreement with **National Grid Plc's Electricity System Operator (ESO)** to build the power infrastructure required to switch its Port Talbot site in Wales, the United Kingdom(UK), to a green steel project.

- The National Grid Plc ESO will construct a new electrical framework to power Tata Steel's **3.2 million-ton electric arc furnace** by the end of 2027, replacing the aging blast furnaces.
- National Grid Plc ESO manages electricity network in England and Wales.
- Tata Steel's electric arc furnace aims to cut emissions **30%** by 2030 and reach **net zero** by 2045.

**11. Name the bank that has recently (in may'24) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with VST Tillers Tractors Limited to provide financial solutions for farmers purchasing tractors and farm mechanization products.**

- 1) IndusInd Bank Limited
- 2) Axis Bank
- 3) Karnataka Bank
- 4) Punjab & Sind Bank
- 5) Indian Bank

**Answer- 2) Axis Bank**

**Explanation:**

Bengaluru(Karnataka) based **VST Tillers Tractors Limited (VST)**, a farm equipment manufacturer, has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with **Axis Bank Limited** to provide financial solutions for farmers purchasing tractors and farm mechanization products.

- Under the MoU, Axis Bank will offer financial solutions through its 5370 branches to VST's prospective customers.
- The partnership aims to provide easy access to credit facility for adapting farm mechanization.

**12. Which company has recently (in may'24) partnered with Tata Communications Limited to launch Webex Calling with Cloud Public Switched Telephone Network (PSTN) for enterprises doing business in India?**

- 1) SpaceX
- 2) HCL Software
- 3) Cisco
- 4) Microsoft
- 5) Google

Answer- **3) Cisco**

**Explanation:**

**Tata Communications Limited**, a global communications technology player, has partnered with **Cisco Systems, Inc** to launch **Webex Calling** with cloud Public Switched Telephone Network (**PSTN**) for enterprises doing business in India

- The 'Webex Calling' by Tata Communications will be a **first-of-its-kind** service in India that will be offered by integrating Cisco's Webex Calling with the cloud voice services of Tata Communications GlobalRapid platform.
- Webex Calling is a modern and comprehensive business phone system that provides enterprise-grade calling via a globally available cloud platform, with over **14 million** users around the world.

**13. Which company has recently (in May '24) handed over a green hydrogen fuel cell bus to the Indian Army at the National War Memorial, India Gate, New Delhi, Delhi?**

- 1) BEML Limited
- 2) Mishra Dhatu Nigam Limited
- 3) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- 4) Tata Technologies Limited
- 5) Ashok Leyland

Answer- **3) Indian Oil Corporation Limited**

**Explanation:**

Indian Oil Corporation Ltd. (**IndianOil**) has handed over a state-of-the-art **green hydrogen fuel cell bus** to the **Indian Army** at the National War Memorial, India Gate, New Delhi, Delhi. This will promote sustainable, eco-friendly transportation solutions.

- **IndianOil** and the **Indian Army** also signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to pioneer the deployment of hydrogen fuel cell technology for heavy-duty e-mobility.
- The handing over and MoU signing ceremony were held in the presence of General Manoj Pande, Chief of Army Staff (CAS) and Shrikant Madhav Vaidya, Chairman of IndianOil.



**14. Which company has recently (in May '24) entered into a technology licensing agreement with Norway-based 'Nel Hydrogen Electrolyser AS' to make electrolyzers for green hydrogen production?**

- 1) Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Limited
- 2) SJVN Limited
- 3) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited
- 4) Reliance Industries Ltd
- 5) Vedanta limited

**Answer-4) Reliance Industries Ltd**

**Explanation:**

**Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)** has entered into a technology licensing agreement with **Norway-based Nel Hydrogen Electrolyser AS**, a fully-owned subsidiary of Norway-based Nel ASA, aimed at accelerating its investments to make electrolyzers, particularly for the production of **green hydrogen**.

- The agreement provides the RIL with an exclusive licence for Nel's **alkaline electrolyzers** in India and also allows it to manufacture the alkaline electrolyzers for internal use globally.
- This will help RIL meet its ambitious goal of **1-1-1** (one kilo of green hydrogen available for USD1 in a decade) for green-hydrogen production and the global goal is largely towards USD2 per kg by 2030.

**15. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) partnered with the National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC) to advance skill development and lifelong learning in India and globally?**

- 1) International Society for Krishna Consciousness
- 2) Coal India Limited
- 3) International Labour Organization
- 4) National Institute for Entrepreneurship and Small Business Development
- 5) V.V. Giri National Labour Institute

**Answer- 3) International Labour Organization**

**Explanation:**

The National Skill Development Corporation (**NSDC**) under the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (**MSDE**) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the International Labour Organization (**ILO**) to advance skill development and lifelong learning in India and globally.

- This partnership aims to empower individuals across the globe, by equipping them with essential competencies and qualifications, thereby enhancing employability and sustainable economic growth.
- A key aspect of the partnership is the implementation of the Skill India Digital Hub (**SIDH**).
- Governments, workers' and employers' organizations in ILO's member countries will be able to use SIDH to digitize systems, processes, skills delivery, and job matching, based on a cost-effective model.

**16. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) signed a Technology Transfer Agreement (TTA) with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) for a 50 Kilowatt (KW) alkaline electrolyser system for hydrogen production?**

- 1) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre
- 2) Indian Space Research Organisation



- 3) National Remote Sensing Centre
- 4) Indira Gandhi Centre for Atomic Research
- 5) National Institute of Renewable Energy

Answer- **1) Bhabha Atomic Research Centre**

**Explanation:**

Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (**BHEL**) has signed a Technology Transfer Agreement (**TTA**) with the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre (**BARC**) for a **50 Kilowatt (KW) alkaline electrolyser system** for hydrogen production.

- Under this partnership, BHEL aims to scale up Indigenous Alkaline Electrolyser Technology and commercialise it for application in sectors such as refineries, fertiliser, steel, transportation.
- This will be a step further in BHEL's contribution to the National Green Hydrogen Mission (**NGHM**) and Atma Nirbhar Bharat Abhiyan.

**17. Which of the following ministries has recently (in May '24) signed an MoU with CSC eGovernance Services India Limited to provide the eMigrate services through Common Services Centres (CSCs) in India?**

**A) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology**

**B) Ministry of Home Affairs**

**C) Ministry of External Affairs**

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

Answer- **2) Only A & C**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of External Affairs (**MEA**), Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**), and **CSC eGovernance Services India Limited**, a Special Purpose Vehicle (SPV) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to provide the eMigrate services through Common Services Centres (CSCs) in India.

- The MoU was signed during the conference of the National Workshop on 'Powering Transformation through User Experience and User interface (UI/UX) for Digital Governance' held on May 28th 2024 at **New Delhi**, Delhi.
- The eMigrate project is undertaken to assist **blue-collar workers** going to Emigration Check Required (**ECR**) countries.
- The project was designed to address challenges experienced by migrant workers by making the emigration process online smooth.

**18. Which institute has recently (in May '24) partnered with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) to inaugurate the DRDO-Industry-Academia Centre of Excellence (DIA CoE) on its campus?**

- 1) IIT Patna
- 2) IIT Madras
- 3) IIT Kanpur



- 4) IIT Bombay
- 5) IIT Kharagpur

Answer- **3) IIT Kanpur**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Institute of Technology Kanpur (**IITK**) has partnered with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) and inaugurated the DRDO-Industry-Academia Centre of Excellence (**DIA CoE**) on IITK campus for interdisciplinary research in next-generation defence technologies.

- **Sanjay Tandon**, former director of the Institute of Technology Management (ITM) at Mussoorie, Uttarakhand, has been appointed as the director of the centre of excellence at IITK.
- The centre aims to lead focused research in various defence verticals, such as advanced nanomaterials, accelerated material design, high-energy materials, and bioengineering.

## **APPOINTMENTS AND RESIGNATIONS**

**1. Who has been recently (in May' 24) appointed as the Director General (DG) of National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE) for a period of 3 years?**

- 1) Daljit Singh Chaudhary
- 2) Nawaf Salam
- 3) Mohammad Rihan
- 4) Sukhbir Singh Sandhu
- 5) Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal

Answer- **3) Mohammad Rihan**

**Explanation:**

**Dr. Mohammad Rihan**, a Professor from the Electrical Engineering Department at Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) in Aligarh, Uttar Pradesh has assumed the role of Director General (DG) at the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE).

- He will serve at NISE on deputation for an initial term of 3 years, with the potential for an extension of up to 2 years.
- Dr. Mohammad Rihan's appointment to the position of DG was endorsed by a selection committee of experts and senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officers.
- The selection committee's recommendation received official approval from the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC).

**2. Who has been recently (in May' 24) appointed as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Jio Financial Services Limited for 3 Years?**

- 1) Praveen Achuthan Kutty
- 2) Hitesh Kumar Sethia
- 3) Sanjiv Aggarwal
- 4) Deepesh Nanda
- 5) Ajith Kumar KK

Answer- **2) Hitesh Kumar Sethia**

**Explanation:**

The Ministry of Corporate Affairs (**MCA**) has approved the appointment of Hitesh Kumar Sethia as Managing Director(MD) and Chief Executive Officer(CEO) of Jio Financial Services Limited (JFSL) for a period of 3 years(with effect from 15th November, 2023).

- The approval for the appointment is in accordance with various provisions of the Companies Act(2013).

**3. Who has been recently (in May' 24) elected as a New Prime Minister (PM) of Solomon Islands?**

- 1) Bjarni Benediktsson
- 2) Vo Thi Anh Xuan
- 3) Jeremiah Manele
- 4) Peter Pellegrini
- 5) Gabriel Attal

Answer- **3) Jeremiah Manele**

**Explanation:**

**Jeremiah Manele**, former Foreign Minister of the **Solomon Islands** was sworn in as the new **Prime Minister** (PM) of the Solomon Islands by winning the PM vote in the secret ballot after the results of the 2024 national election failed to deliver a majority to any political party.

- Jeremiah Manele replaced Manasseh Sogavare, who served as PM of Solomon Islands for 4 terms.
- The Solomon Islands conducted “joint elections” for the first time in 2024, holding simultaneous province, city council, and national elections.

**4. Who has been recently (in May' 24) appointed as the President of Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal(GSTAT) by the Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)?**

- 1) PS Dinesh Kumar
- 2) BR Gavai
- 3) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra
- 4) Ajay Manikrao Khanwilkar
- 5) Jaya Verma Sinha

Answer- **3) Sanjaya Kumar Mishra**

**Explanation:**

The Appointment Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved the appointment of **Sanjaya Kumar Mishra**, the former Chief Justice (CJ) of the High Court (HC) of Jharkhand, as the President of Goods and Services Tax Appellate Tribunal (**GSTAT**).

- The Government of India established the GSTAT to facilitate the resolution of disputes within the business sector. GSTAT aims to commence the operations from 1st July 2024.

**5. The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has recently (in May '24) approved the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as Part-Time Chairman of HDFC Bank Limited.**

- 1) Ashwani Kumar
- 2) Anil Kumar Lahoti
- 3) Atanu Chakraborty
- 4) S Ravindran



5) Harun Rashid Khan

Answer- **3) Atanu Chakraborty**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the reappointment of **Atanu Chakraborty** as **Part-Time Chairman** of **HDFC Bank Limited** for 3 years with effect from 5th May 2024 to 4 May 2027.

- Following this, the Board of Directors of HDFC Bank has also approved the reappointment of Atanu Chakraborty as Part-Time Chairman and **Independent Director** of HDFC Bank for 3 years.
- Atanu Chakraborty, a 1985 batch Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer of Gujarat cadre, retired as Secretary of Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance in April 2020.

**6. Which Bank has recently(in May '24) appointed Sanjeev Nautiyal as its Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) for 3 years with effect from 1 July 2024?**

- 1) Ujjivan SFB
- 2) AU SFB
- 3) SBM Bank
- 4) Jana SFB
- 5) Equitas SFB

Answer- **1) Ujjivan SFB**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved the appointment of **Sanjeev Nautiyal** as the Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of the Ujjivan Small Finance Bank Limited (**Ujjivan SFB**) for 3 years with effect from 1 July 2024. He will join the Bank before taking charge as the MD and CEO and will be designated as the President in the interim.

- The current MD and CEO, Ittira Davis, was re-appointed for 2 years, starting January 14, 2023. He is set to be released before his original term expiry.

**7. Who has been recently (in May '24) appointed as the chairperson of Special Olympics Asia Pacific Advisory Council?**

- 1) Mary Kom
- 2) Shiny Wilson
- 3) Narsingh Yadav
- 4) Mallika Nadda
- 5) P.T. Usha

Answer - **4) Mallika Nadda**

**Explanation:**

**Dr. Mallika Nadda**, President of Special Olympics(SO) Bharat(India), has been appointed as Chairperson of Special Olympics Asia-Pacific Advisory Council(**APAC**) for 3 years with effect from 1st May 2024 till 31st March 2027.

- As the chairperson of APAC, Mallika Nadda will represent the entire Special Olympics Asia Pacific (SOAP) region which includes 34 countries.
- She will be SO Bharat representative on the APAC. SO Bharat is a permanent member of APAC.

**Awards/Accolades:**

i. She was honoured with **Rajiv Gandhi Manav Seva Award** in 2010 by Ministry of Women and Child Development(MoWCD) in recognition of her contribution in the field of child development.

ii. She was awarded with the **Derozio Award** in 2011 in the field of education and human enrichment.

**8. Who took charge as the Chairman- cum- Managing Director (CMD) of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited (NSIC) on 2nd May 2024?**

- 1) Rajendra Prasad Goyal
- 2) Dr. Subhransu Sekhar Acharya
- 3) Ravindra Kumar Tyagi
- 4) P Santhosh
- 5) Sivasubramanian Ramann

Answer- **2) Dr. Subhransu Sekhar Acharya**

**explanation:**

On 2nd May 2024, **Dr. Subhransu Sekhar Acharya** assumed charge of Chairman- cum- Managing Director (**CMD**) of the National Small Industries Corporation Limited (**NSIC**), a Mini Ratna (category-II) Government of India Enterprise under Ministry of Micro Small and Medium Enterprises (MoMSME).

- He replaced **Vipul Goel**, Joint Secretary of the MoMSME, who has been serving as CMD (additional charge) since July 2023.
- Prior to this appointment, Subhransu Sekhar Acharya was serving as the Chief General Manager, Small Industries Development Bank of India (**SIDBI**), New Delhi (Delhi) since 2022.

**9. Who has been recently (in May '24) appointed as Vice-Chief of Naval Staff?**

- 1) Krishna Swaminathan
- 2) Dinesh K Tripathi
- 3) Radhakrishnan Hari Kumar
- 4) Brajesh Mehrotra
- 5) Anish Dayal Singh

Answer - **1) Krishna Swaminathan**

**Explanation:**

On 1 May 2024, **Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan** assumed charge as the **Vice Chief of Naval Staff**. He previously served as Chief of Personnel at the Naval Headquarters (NHQ) in New Delhi, Delhi. He replaced Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi who assumed charge as Chief of Naval Staff (CNS).

- He was a recipient of Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (2021) and Vishisht Seva Medal.

**10. In May 2024, Who was elected as the New President of the Republic of Panama?**

- 1) Laurentino Cortizo Cohen
- 2) José Raúl Mulino
- 3) Prabowo Subianto Djojohadikusumo
- 4) Alexander Stubb
- 5) Javier Milei

Answer- **2) José Raúl Mulino**

**Explanation:**

On 5th May 2024, José Raúl Mulino (64 years old), former Minister of Public Security, was elected as the New President of the Republic of Panama. He won the 2024 Presidential election by securing 34% of the total votes.



- He will take office as the head of state and head of the government, for a single five-year term on 1st July 2024.
- He will succeed Laurentino Cortizo Cohen, who has been serving as the President of Panama since 2019.

**11. Who has been recently (in may '24) appointed as the Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm Money, a subsidiary of One97 Communications Limited?**

- 1) Rakesh Singh
- 2) Naveen Tahilyani
- 3) Matam Venkata Rao
- 4) Ashish Vijayakar
- 5) Hitesh Kumar Sethia

Answer- **1) Rakesh Singh**

**Explanation:**

In April 2024, Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based **Paytm Money Ltd**, the wholly-owned subsidiary of One97 Communications Limited, has appointed **Rakesh Singh** as its new Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**). He was appointed following the resignation of **Varun Sridhar**, who has been serving as CEO of Paytm Money since 2020.

- Prior to this appointment, Rakesh Singh was serving as the CEO of broking services at PayU-backed **Fisdom**, a discount brokerage firm, for over 5 years.

**12. UNICEF (United Nations Children's Fund) India has recently (in may '24) named bollywood actress Kareena Kapoor Khan as its \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Youth Advocate
- 2) National celebrity Ambassador
- 3) Celebrity Advocate
- 4) Goodwill Ambassador
- 5) Brand Ambassador

Answer- **2) National celebrity Ambassador**

**Explanation:**

On May 4, 2024, **UNICEF** (United Nations Children's Fund) India named Bollywood Actress **Kareena Kapoor Khan** as its **National celebrity Ambassador**. In this role, she will advocate for children's rights to early development, health, education, and gender equality.

- The appointment comes with the celebration of the **75th year** of UNICEF's partnership with India.

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**13. Who has been recently (in may '24) elected as the 7th First Minister of Scotland, succeeding Humza Yousaf?**

- 1) John Ramsay Swinney
- 2) Luis Montenegro
- 3) Ousmane Sonko
- 4) Simon Harris
- 5) Petteri Orpo

Answer- **1) John Ramsay Swinney**

**Explanation:**

On May 7 2024, Scotland Parliament elected **John Ramsay Swinney**, the leader of Scottish National Party (SNP) as the 7th **First Minister of Scotland**.

- He succeeds **Humza Haroon Yousaf**, who formally resigned from the role on May 7 2024.
- He will be formally appointed with a Royal Warrant from His Majesty King Charles III of the United Kingdom(UK).

**Note:** Scotland is a country within the United Kingdom (UK). UK is made up of four constituent states: England, Wales, Scotland, and Northern Ireland.

**14. Who has been recently (in May '24) reappointed as the Prime Minister (PM) of Russia?**

- 1) Gabriel Attal
- 2) Mikhail Mishustin
- 3) Ilham Aliyev
- 4) Luis Filipe Montenegro
- 5) Aleksandar Vučić

Answer- **2) Mikhail Mishustin**

**Explanation:**

On 10th May 2024, Russian President Vladimir Putin has proposed the reappointment of **Mikhail Vladimirovich Mishustin**(58) as Prime Minister (PM) of Russia. He proposed his name for **State Duma**, lower house of the Federal Assembly of Russia.

- Mishustin who held the post of Russia's PM for last 4 years, submitted his resignation to the Cabinet on 7th May 2024, when Vladimir Putin officially sworn-in as President of Russia for the 5th term during a ceremony held at Kremlin Palace, Moscow, Russia.

**15. Who has been recently (in may '24) appointed as Chairperson of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (NABH)?**

- 1) Jagjit Pavadia
- 2) Joyshree Das Verma
- 3) Shashi Kumar Singh
- 4) Pramod Kumar Tiwari
- 5) Rizwan Koita

Answer- **5) Rizwan Koita**

**Explanation:**

**Rizwan Koita**, an entrepreneur, philanthropist, and Director of the Koita Foundation (KF) has been appointed Chairperson of the National Accreditation Board for Hospitals and Healthcare Providers (**NABH**).

- He replaced Padma Shri Dr. Mahesh Verma, Vice Chancellor of Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (IPU) in Delhi, who assumed the role of Chairperson NABH in 2022.

**Note:** NABH, a constituent board of the Quality Council of India (QCI), sets benchmarks for quality and accredits healthcare organizations.

**16. Who has been recently (in May '24) re-elected as the Chairman of Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited( IFFCO)?**

- 1) Balvir Singh
- 2) Dileep Sanghani



3) Anil Kumar Lahoti

4) Jay Shah

5) Shamalbhai B Patel

Answer- **2) Dileep Sanghani**

**Explanation:**

The Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited (**IFFCO**) has re-elected **Dileep Sanghani** as its **Chairman** during the 15th Representative General Body (RGB) elections for its Board of Directors at IFFCO Sadan, New Delhi, Delhi.

- Balvir Singh has been retained as the Vice Chairman of IFFCO.

**Note:** IFFCO, a leading fertilizer company, is the world's number one cooperative (as of February 22, 2024).

**17. Who has been recently (in May '24) appointed as the new Managing Director (MD) of IIFL Securities Limited?**

1) Narendra Jain

2) Amitabh Chaudhry

3) Nemkumar H

4) Srinii Pallia

5) Shaji Varghese

Answer- **3) Nemkumar H**

**Explanation:**

IIFL Securities Limited (formerly known as India Infoline Limited), a leading financial services company has appointed **Nemkumar H** as its new Managing Director (MD) for a period of **5 years**, with effect from 15th May, 2024.

- He has succeeded **R. Venkataraman** who served as Chairman and MD of the company. His term as MD of the company expired on 14th May, 2024.
- The company has also appointed **Narendra Jain** as Whole-Time Director for another 5-year term.

**18. Who has been recently (in May '24) appointed as the new Executive Director of the UN Multi – Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO)?**

1) Alain Noudéhou

2) Astrid Schomaker

3) Kamal Kishore

4) Ruchira Kamboj

5) Arindam Bagchi

Answer- **1) Alain Noudéhou**

**Explanation:**

The United Nations Development Programme has appointed **Alain Noudéhou** of **Benin** as the new Executive Director of the UN Multi – Partner Trust Fund Office (MPTFO).

- He will succeed Jennifer Topping of Canada, who will complete her tenure by the end of May 2024.

### **About United Nations Development Programme**

UNDP was established in 1966 by the General Assembly of the United Nations. It works in 170 countries and territories to eradicate poverty and reduce inequality.

**Administrator** – Achim Steiner

**Headquarters**– New York, United States

### **19. In May 2024, Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla assumed charge as the Chief of Personnel of the \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Indian Coast Guard
- 2) Indian Air Force
- 3) Indian Army
- 4) Indian Navy
- 5) National Disaster Response Force

Answer- **4) Indian Navy**

#### **Explanation:**

On May 10, 2024, Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla, assumed charge as the Chief of Personnel of the Indian Navy(IN). He will succeed **Vice Admiral Krishna Swaminathan** who assumed charge as Vice Chief of The Naval Staff.

#### **Career/Achievement of Vice Admiral Sanjay Bhalla:**

- He is an awardee of the Nao Sena Medal (NM) and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM)
- Commissioned in IN on 1 January 1989, his 35-year career with various specialist, staff, and operational roles, both afloat and ashore.

### **20. Who has been recently (in May '24) named as Singapore's new Prime Minister (PM)?**

- 1) Succes Masra
- 2) Lawrence Wong
- 3) Alexander Stubb
- 4) Bassirou Faye
- 5) Anwar Ibrahim

Answer- **2) Lawrence Wong**

#### **Explanation:**

**Lawrence Wong Shyun Tsai**, a United States (US) trained economist and a former civil servant, was sworn in as the **fourth Prime Minister (PM) of Singapore** since independence.

- The President of Singapore, **Tharman Shanmugaratnam**, administered the oath to Wong on May 15, 2024.
- Wong succeeded **Lee Hsien Loong** who relinquished his position after **20 years (2004-2024)**.
- He will be leading the fourth generation People's Action Party (PAP) or 4G government as the Prime Minister and the Finance Minister.
- He is set to hold the post until the general election which is set to be held by **November 2025**.



**21. Who has been recently( in May '24) appointed as the Executive Director(ED) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?**

- 1) R Lakshmi Kanth Rao
- 2) T. Rabi Sankar
- 3) Harun Rashid Khan
- 4) Rakesh Mohan
- 5) Muneesh Kapur

Answer- **1) R Lakshmi Kanth Rao**

**Explanation:**

**Lakshmi Kanth Rao** assumed charge as **Executive Director** (ED) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) with effect from 10th May 2024. Before this, he served as Chief General Manager-in-Charge in the Department of Regulation, RBI.

- As an ED, he oversees the Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation, the Right to Information Act (FAA), and the Department of Communication.

**22. Who has been recently(in May '24) elected as the president of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA)?**

- 1) Arvind Panagariya
- 2) Kapil Sibal
- 3) Bhushan Ramakrishna Gavai
- 4) Indra Mani Pandey
- 5) Pradeep Kumar Rai

Answer- **2) Kapil Sibal**

**Explanation:**

**Kapil Sibal**, senior advocate and former Union Minister of Law and Justice has been elected as the **President of Supreme Court Bar Association** (SCBA) for the **fourth time**.

- Kapil Sibal won the election by securing **1,066 votes**, defeating **Pradeep Kumar Rai**, a senior advocate who secured 689 votes.
- Sibal would take over from the incumbent, senior advocate Adish C. Aggarwala
- **Other Appointments:** Rachna Srivastava, senior advocate has been elected as the Vice President and Vikrant Yadav, advocate as Secretary of SCBA.

**23. Who has been recently(in May '24) appointed as Prime Minister(PM) of the Republic of Croatia?**

- 1) Andrej Plenkovic
- 2) Ousmane Sonko
- 3) Luis Montenegro
- 4) Simon Harris
- 5) Robert Fico

Answer- **1) Andrej Plenkovic**

**Explanation:**

On 17th May 2024, **Andrej Plenkovic** (54 years), incumbent Croatian Prime Minister(PM) and President of the Croatian Democratic Union (HDZ) party, has been appointed as **PM of the Republic of Croatia** for 3rd consecutive term.

- He has been serving as the PM of Croatia since 19th October **2016**.

- HDZ party has won 61 seats while the Homeland Movement (DP) won 14 seats.

**24. Who has been recently (in May '24) elected as the President of the Republic of Chad?**

- 1) Gabriel Attal
- 2) Félix-Antoine Tshisekedi Tshilombo
- 3) Peter Pellegrini
- 4) Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno
- 5) Bola Ahmed Tinubu

Answer- **4) Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno**

**Explanation:**

**Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno** has been elected as the **President of the Republic of Chad**. He has been serving as the head of the state of Chad since April **2021**.

- Mahamat Idriss Déby Itno, son of Late President of Chad **Idriss Déby**, ran as the candidate of the Patriotic Salvation Movement Party(**MPS**).
- He won the 2024 presidential election of Chad with 61% of the total votes.

**25. Which life insurance company has recently (in May '24) appointed Rushabh Gandhi as its new MD and CEO for a period of 5 years, with effect from (w.e.f) 1st July, 2024?**

- 1) State Bank of India Life Insurance Company
- 2) IndiaFirst Life Insurance
- 3) Aegon Life Insurance
- 4) Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company
- 5) Aviva Life Insurance

Answer- **2) IndiaFirst Life Insurance**

**Explanation:**

The Board of IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company Limited has approved the appointment of **Rushabh Gandhi** as its new Managing Director (**MD**) and Chief Executive Officer (**CEO**) for a period of **5 years**, with effect from (w.e.f) **1st July, 2024** or the date of regulatory approvals, whichever is earlier.

- The appointment will come effective only after the final approval of Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (**IRDAI**), company shareholders and statutory clearances.

**26. Who has been recently (in May 2024) appointed as the President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) for the years 2024–25?**

- 1) Rajiv Memani
- 2) R.Mukundan
- 3) Sanjiv Puri
- 4) Hitesh Kumar Sethia
- 5) R. Dinesh

Answer- **3) Sanjiv Puri**

**Explanation:**

**Sanjiv Puri**, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of ITC Limited, formally took charge as **President** of the Confederation of Indian Industry (**CII**) for the years **2024–25**.

- Sanjiv Puri has succeeded R. Dinesh, Chairman of TVS Supply Chain Solution (TVS SCS), who served as President of CII for 2023-24.



- **Rajiv Memani**, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Ernst &Young (EY), India has been named as President-designate for 2024-25.
- **R.Mukundan**, CEO and MD of Tata Chemicals Ltd. named as Vice-President of CII for 2024-25.

**27. Who was recently (in May '24) sworn in as the 16th President of Taiwan (Republic of China (ROC)) in a ceremony held at the presidential office in Taipei?**

- 1) William Lai Ching
- 2) Felix Tshisekedi
- 3) Bernardo Arévalo
- 4) Tamas Sulyok
- 5) Tsai Ing-wen

Answer- **1) William Lai Ching**

**Explanation:**

**Dr William Lai Ching-te**, a doctor turned politician was sworn in as the **16th President of Taiwan** (Republic of China (ROC)) in a ceremony held at the presidential office in Taipei. The First Lady and **Vice President Bi-khim Hsiao** also attended the inaugural celebrations.

- **William Lai Ching-te** succeeded **Tsai Ing-wen**, the **1st** female head of state of **Taiwan** and **Asia**, who served as president for 2 consecutive 4-year terms since 2016.
- **Bi-khim Hsiao** succeeded **Lai Ching-te** as the 16th Vice President of Taiwan.

**28. Who has been recently (in may'24) re-elected as the President of Dominican Republic for 2nd Term?**

- 1) Prabowo Subianto Djojohadikusumo
- 2) Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona
- 3) José Raúl Mulino
- 4) Azali Assoumani
- 5) Leonel Fernandez

Answer- **2)Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona**

**Explanation:**

**Luis Rodolfo Abinader Corona** has been re-elected as the **President** of the **Dominican Republic** for **2nd four-year** term from 2024 to 2028. He has been serving as the President of the Dominican Republic since 2020.

- Abinader won the presidential election by securing 58.85% of the vote. Leonel Fernandez, former President, finished 2nd with 27.29% of the votes.
- In **2020**, he has been elected as the **54th President** of Dominican Republic for the period **2020-2024**.

**29. Who has been recently (in May '24) elected as the President of Vietnam for the 2021-2026 tenure?**

- 1) Srettha Thavisin
- 2) Prabowo Subianto Djojohadikusumo
- 3) To Lam
- 4) Sheikh Hasina
- 5) Abdel Fattah Al-Sisi

**Answer- 3) To Lam**

**Explanation:**

On 22nd May 2024, the 15th National Assembly of Viet Nam has elected General **To Lam** as the New **President** of the **Socialist Republic of Viet Nam** for the 2021-2026 tenure.

- He takes over from Vice President **Vo Thi Anh Xua**, who has been serving as the Interim President since 21st March 2024 following the resignation of President **Vo Van Thuong** on 20th March 2024.
- He holds the rank of four-star General in the People's Public Security Forces of Vietnam.
- He served as the **Deputy Minister** of Public Security of Vietnam from 2010 to 2016 and he became Minister of Public Security in April 2016.

**Note:** Tran Thanh Man, vice chairman of Viet Nam's National Assembly, has been named as the Chairman of the National Assembly.

**30. Who has been recently (in may '24) appointed as the whole time Executive Director of IDFC First Bank Limited for a period of 3 years?**

- 1) V. Vaidyanathan
- 2) Pradeep Natarajan
- 3) Atul Mehra
- 4) Rakesh Mohan
- 5) Ajith Kumar KK

**Answer- 2) Pradeep Natarajan**

**Explanation:**

The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has approved the appointment of **Pradeep Natarajan** as whole time Executive Director of IDFC First Bank Limited for a period of **3 years**.

- The appointment will come effective after the approval of the shareholders of bank.

**31. Name the chairperson of an expert committee that has been recently (in may'24) constituted by the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA) to position GIFT-IFSC as a "Global Commodity Trading Hub."**

- 1) Devendra Jhajharia
- 2) Vinod Kumar Paul
- 3) Rajeev Kher
- 4) K. Rajaraman
- 5) Anantha Nageswaran

**Answer- 3) Rajeev Kher**

**Explanation:**

The **International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA)** has constituted an expert committee to position Gujarat International Finance Tec-City- International Financial Services Centre (**GIFT-IFSC**) in Gandhinagar, Gujarat as "**Global Commodity Trading Hub**".

- The **21-member** expert committee will be **chaired** by **Rajeev Kher**, Former Secretary, Ministry of Commerce and Industry(MoCI).[Click here for the complete list of members](#)
- It will develop legal, regulatory and policy frameworks and incentive structures that will help to promote GIFT-IFSC as a Global Commodity Trading Hub.



**32. In May 2024, Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman of the \_\_\_\_\_, announced that he would be stepping down from the executive role and transitioning to a non-executive role by January 2025.**

- 1) World Bank
- 2) World Economic Forum
- 3) World Trade Organization
- 4) International Monetary Fund
- 5) International Finance Corporation

**Answer- 2) World Economic Forum**

**Explanation:**

**Klaus Schwab, Founder and Executive Chairman** of the World Economic Forum (WEF), will be stepping down from executive role and transition to non-executive role by **January 2025**.

- He will transition from Executive Chairman to Chairman of the Board of Trustees.
- He has also served as a member of the United Nations (UN) High-Level Advisory Board on Sustainable Development from 1993 to 1995 and Vice-Chairman of the UN Committee for Development Planning from 1996-1998.
- In 1970, he wrote the book 'Modern Management', conceptualizing stakeholder capitalism.

**33. In May 2024, the Government of India (GoI) appointed Justice \_\_\_\_ as the Acting Chief Justice (ACJ) of the Madhya Pradesh (MP) High Court (HC) and Justice \_\_\_\_\_ as the ACJ of Madras HC.**

- 1) Ashok Bhushan; Rakesh Kumar Jain
- 2) Ravi Vijay Kumar Malimath; Sanjay V. Gangapurwala
- 3) Sheel Nagu; R Mahadevan
- 4) Dinesh Kumar; Tarun Agarwala
- 5) BR Gavai; Sanjiv Khanna

**Answer- 3) Sheel Nagu; R Mahadevan**

**Explanation:**

**i.** On 22nd May 2024, the Government of India (GoI) appointed Justice **Sheel Nagu** as the **Acting Chief Justice (ACJ) of Madhya Pradesh (MP) High Court (HC)** in Jabalpur, MP.

- He will succeed Justice **Ravi Vijay Kumar Malimath**, CJ of MP HC, who is set to retire on 23rd May 2024.

**ii.** GoI has appointed Justice **R Mahadevan**, the senior-most puisne judge of the Madras HC, as the **ACJ of Madras HC** in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.

- He succeeds Justice **Sanjay V. Gangapurwala**, CJ of Madras HC, who retired from service on 23rd May 2024.

**34. In May 2024, the Delhi High Court (HC) appointed Justice Najmi Waziri (Retd) as Chairperson of the Ad-Hoc Administrative Committee to supervise the administration of \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Equestrian Federation of India
- 2) Wrestling Federation of India
- 3) All India Football Federation
- 4) Hockey India
- 5) Basketball Federation of India

### Answer- 1) Equestrian Federation of India

#### Explanation:

The **Delhi High Court** (HC) has appointed **Justice Najmi Waziri**, retired judge of Delhi HC, as the **Chairperson** of the **Ad-Hoc Administrative Committee** (AAC) to supervise the administration of the Equestrian Federation of India (**EFI**), the governing body for equestrian sports in India.

- The committee comprises former Chief Election Commissioner (CEC) of India **Dr. S.Y. Quraishi** as the Observer and Advocate **Rohini Musa** as Member of AAC.
- He was famously known as the '**Green Judge**' of Delhi for his efforts to enrich the greenery of New Delhi by asking litigants to plant 3.7 lakh trees.
- Justice Najmi Waziri was honoured with the **SKOCH India Law Award** in 2023 for the **Services to Justice**.

### 35. Who has been recently (in May 24) appointed as the Prime Minister of Chad replacing Succes Masra?

- 1) Mahamat Idriss Deby
- 2) Allamaye Halina
- 3) Feleti Penitala Teo
- 4) Luis Montenegro
- 5) Tamas Sulyok

### Answer- 2) Allamaye Halina

#### Explanation:

The Chadian **President Mahamat Idriss Deby Itno** has appointed Chad's former ambassador **Allamaye Halina** as the new **Prime Minister**(PM) of the **Republic of Chad**.

- Allamaye Halina replaced the opposition leader **Succes Masra**, who resigned from the post on 22nd May 2024.

**Note:** Deby was sworn in as President of Chad for a five-year term after winning the presidential election on May 6 2024.

### 36. Who has been recently (in may '24) appointed as the non-executive part-time chairman of ICICI Bank Limited?

- 1) Ajay Kanwal
- 2) Manoj Mittal
- 3) Sanjay Shukla
- 4) Shyamprasad Kamath
- 5) Pradeep Kumar Sinha

### Answer- 5) Pradeep Kumar Sinha

#### Explanation:

The former Cabinet Secretary **Pradeep Kumar Sinha** has been appointed as the **Non-Executive Part-time Chairman** of **ICICI Bank Limited**.

- He will succeed **Girish Chandra Chaturvedi** who is set to retire from the post on 30th June 2024.
- He will take over the position with effect from July 1, 2024, for a **three-year** term as per Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) approval.



**Note:** Pradeep Kumar Sinha has also been approved as an **Additional Independent Director** by the Board of Directors of ICICI Bank for a five-year term **(2024 to 2029)** during the meeting held from February 15-17, 2024.

**37. Which sports personality was recently (in may'24) named as a Tournament ambassador for the International Cricket Council (ICC) Men's T20 World Cup 2024?**

- 1) Mithali Raj
- 2) Sana Mir
- 3) David Warner
- 4) Shahid Afridi
- 5) Mahendra Singh Dhoni

Answer- **4) Shahid Afridi**

**Explanation:**

**Shahid Afridi**, Pakistan cricketer has been named as a **Tournament ambassador** for the International Cricket Council **(ICC) Men's T20 World Cup 2024** which will take place in the United States of America **(USA)** and **West Indies** from 1 to 29 June, 2024.

- He has joined **Chris Gayle, Yuvraj Singh and Usain Bolt** in the list of ambassadors.

**38. Who has been recently (in May '24) appointed as the Commandant of the National Defence Academy (NDA)?**

- 1) Kamal Kishore
- 2) Vivek Kumar Gupta
- 3) Gurcharan Singh
- 4) Kishor Makwana
- 5) Krishna Swaminathan

Answer- **3) Gurcharan Singh**

**Explanation:**

**Vice Admiral Gurcharan Singh**, AVSM, NM an alumnus of the National Defence Academy **(NDA)** assumed the role of **Commandant**, NDA (Khadakwasla) on 25 May 2024, in Pune, Maharashtra.

- He **succeeded Vice Admiral Ajay Kocchar**, AVSM, NM, who assumed the appointment of Commandant, NDA on 01 April 2022.
- He was awarded the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C) Commendation (2002), Nao Sena Medal (NM) (2020), and Ati Vishisht Seva Medal (AVSM) (2024).
- Under his command, **INS Khukri** received the Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) '**Unit Citation**' in 2011.

**39. Who has been recently (in May '24) re-elected as the president of the Republic of Lithuania for the 2nd five-year term from 2024 to 2029?**

- 1) Tamas Sulyok
- 2) Gitanas Nauseda
- 3) Peter Pellegrini
- 4) Bjarni Benediktsson
- 5) Robert Fico

Answer- **2) Gitanas Nauseda**

**Explanation:**

**Gitanas Nauseda** has been re-elected as the **President of Republic of Lithuania** for the **2nd five year term** from 2024 to 2029. He has been serving as the President of Lithuania since 2019.

- Nauseda has won the presidential election by securing **74.43%** of the total votes. **Ingrida Simonyte** finished 2nd with 24.06% of the votes.
- He also served as a Chief economist to the chairman of SEB bankas (commercial bank in Lithuania) from 2008 to 2018.

**40. The Appointments Committee of Cabinet (ACC) has approved the one-month extension in service of Chief of the Army Staff(COAS) \_\_\_\_\_ with effect from 31st May 2024 up to 30th June 2024.**

- 1) Dinesh Kumar Tripathi
- 2) Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- 3) Anil Chauhan
- 4) Anish Dayal Singh
- 5) Manoj Pande

Answer- **5) Manoj Pande**

**Explanation:**

On 26th May 2024, the Appointments Committee of Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved the extension in service of Chief of the Army Staff (**COAS**) **General Manoj C Pande** for a period of one month beyond his normal age of superannuation (31st May 2024) up to 30th June 2024.

- It was approved under Rule 16 A (4) of the Army Rules 1954.
- He has held the position of COAS since his appointment on April 30, 2022.
- He is notable for being the **first officer** from the Corps of Engineers (The Bombay Sappers) to lead the Indian Army.

**41. In May 2024, the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) extended the tenure of \_\_\_\_\_, Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development (DDR&D), and Chairman of Defence Research Development Organisation (DRDO) by one year till 31st May 2025.**

- 1) Sadanand Vasant Date
- 2) Apurva Chandra
- 3) Piyush Anand
- 4) Nalin Prabhat
- 5) Dr. Samir Venkatapathy Kamat

Answer- **5) Dr. Samir Venkatapathy Kamat**

**Explanation:**

The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (**ACC**) has approved the proposal of the Ministry of Defence(**MoD**) to extend the tenure of **Dr. Samir Venkatapathy Kamat**, Secretary, Department of Defence Research and Development (**DDR&D**), MoD, and Chairman of Defence Research Development Organisation (**DRDO**) by one year beyond the age of superannuation(31st May 2024).

- He will continue in his present position till **31st May 2025**.
- He has been serving as the Secretary of DDR&D and Chairman of DRDO since 25th August **2022** and was set to retire on 31st May 2024.



**42. Who has been recently (in May '24) elected as the Director General (DG) of the World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) for a 5-year term (2024-2029)?**

- 1) Feleti Teo
- 2) Emmanuelle Soubeyran
- 3) Ingmar De Vos
- 4) Jagjit Pavadia
- 5) Monique Eloit

**Answer- 2) Emmanuelle Soubeyran**

**Explanation:**

The World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH) has elected **Dr.Emmanuelle Soubeyran**, head of France's veterinary services, as its 8th Director General (DG) for a **5-year term (2024-2029)** during its 91st annual general session was held from 26th to 30th May 2024 in Paris, France. **2024** marks the **100th anniversary** of WOA.

- Emmanuelle Soubeyran succeeded Dr **Monique Eloit**, who completed her eight – year tenure from 2016 to 2024 at WOA.

**43. In May 2024, The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) approved the appointment of \_\_\_\_\_ as the Secretary to the Lokpal of India.**

- 1) Rakesh Ranjan
- 2) Raj Kumar Goyal
- 3) Rajendra Kumar
- 4) Amit Yadav
- 5) Pradip Kumar Tripathi

**Answer- 5) Pradip Kumar Tripathi**

**Explanation:**

On 27th May 2024, The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) of the Department of Personnel and Training (DoPT) under the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions (MoPP&P) approved **five secretary-level** appointments.

**i.** Pradip Kumar Tripathi, a 1987-batch Indian Administrative Service officer (IAS) of Arunachal Pradesh-Goa-Mizoram and Union Territory (AGMUT) cadre has been appointed as the **Secretary to the Lokpal of India** till the date of his superannuation (30th June 2024).

**ii.** **Raj Kumar Goyal**, a 1990-batch IAS officer of AGMUT cadre has been appointed as the **Secretary in the Department of Justice** under the Ministry of Law & Justice (MoL&J).

**iii.** **Rajendra Kumar**, a 1992-batch IAS officer of Tamil Nadu (TN) cadre has been appointed as the **Secretary in the Department of Border Management** under the MHA.

**iv.** **Amit Yadav**, a 1991-batch IAS officer of AGMUT cadre has been appointed as the Officer on Special Duty (OSD) in the **Department of Social Justice & Empowerment**, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment (MoSJE) in the rank and pay of Secretary to the Government of India (GoI).

**v.** **Rakesh Ranjan**, a 1992-batch IAS officer of Manipur cadre has been appointed as the **Chairman of Staff Selection Commission (SSC)**.

**44. Who has been recently (in May '24) elected as the chairman of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (NAFED)?**

- 1) Ashish Vijayakar
- 2) Dileep Sanghani

3) Ranjeet Kumar Agarwal

4) Jethabhai Bharvad

5) Vivek Kumar Gupta

Answer- **4) Jethabhai Bharvad**

**Explanation:**

**Jethabhai Bharvad (Ahir)** of Bharatiya Janata Party (**BJP**), a Member of the Legislative Assembly (**MLA**) from the **Shehra** constituency (**Gujarat**) has been elected unopposed as the **chairman** of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India Ltd (**NAFED**) in the election held in Delhi.

- He replaces **Bijender Singh** who held the position as NAFED Chairman since 2007.
- He has been serving as a deputy speaker of the Gujarat Assembly since 2022.

**45. Name the personality who has been recently (in May '24) appointed as the brand ambassador of the Muthoot Pappachan Group (MPG), popularly known as Muthoot Blue.**

1) Shah Rukh Khan

2) Neeraj Chopra

3) Valerie Adams

4) Ranveer Singh

5) Mahendra Singh Dhoni

Answer- **1) Shah Rukh Khan**

**Explanation:**

On 29th May 2024, **Muthoot Pappachan Group (MPG)**, popularly known as Muthoot Blue, has named Bollywood Actor **Shah Rukh Khan** as its **brand ambassador**.

- MPG is the promoter of leading Non-Banking Financial Companies (NBFCs) in India including Muthoot FinCorp Limited, Muthoot Microfin Limited, Muthoot Capital Services Limited, and Muthoot Housing Finance Company Limited.
- **Note:** MPG founded in 1887 has diversified into sectors like Financial services, Hospitality, Automotive, Realty, Healthcare, and Alternate Energy. etc., .

## **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

**1. Name the personality from Asia who has recently (in May' 24) won the 35th Goldman Environmental Prize (2024), also known as Green Nobel Prize.**

1) Teresa Vicente

2) Marcel Gomes

3) Jadav Payeng

4) Alok Shukla

5) Murrawah Maroochy Johnson

Answer- **4) Alok Shukla**

**Explanation:**

On 29th April 2024, Goldman Environmental Foundation announced the winners of the **35th Goldman Environmental Prize(2024)**, which is also known as "**Green Nobel Prize**".



- **Alok Shukla**, convenor of the Chhattisgarh Bachao Andolan and founding member of the Hasdeo Aranya Bachao Sangharsh Samiti, won the 2024 Goldman Prize from Asia for his efforts to save the forests of Hasdeo Aranya in Chhattisgarh.
- The 2024 award was presented to **seven individuals** committed to protecting their communities and environment.
- The winners included Nonhle Mbuthuma and Sinegugu Zukulu(South Africa); Teresa Vicente(Spain); Murrawah Maroochy Johnson(Australia); Andrea Vidaurre(USA) and Marcel Gomes(Brazil).
- Alok Shukla spearheaded a community campaign that prevented 21 planned coal mines from encroaching upon 445,000 acres of biodiverse forests in Chhattisgarh, India. [Click here to read more.](#)

## 2. Who has recently (in May' 24) won the 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Award for Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region?

- 1) Gina Justus
- 2) Meena Mishra
- 3) Gopi Thotakura
- 4) Akshata Krishnamurthy
- 5) Angad Pratap

Answer- **1) Gina Justus**

### Explanation:

Indian-origin teacher **Gina Justus** in the United Arab Emirates (UAE) has been named the regional winner 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards from Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region.

- India's **Meena Mishra**, was named the winner of the award from South Asia region. She works as a teacher at Dr.Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan International School in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Cambridge announced nine regional winners, and out of them, one will be selected as the overall winner of the Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards 2024, which will be announced on 29th May 2024.

## 3. Name the personality who has recently (in May' 24) won the 9th edition of the Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize 2024 for 'The Book Beautiful'.

- 1) Angela Rodel
- 2) Pankaj Kumar Chatterjee
- 3) Salman Rushdie
- 4) Bhavi Mehta
- 5) Navarre Scott Momaday

Answer- **4) Bhavi Mehta**

### Explanation:

Designer **Bhavi Mehta** won the 9th edition of the Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize (2024) for creating the book jacket of Pradeep Sebastian's "The Book Beautiful."

- The Book Beautiful was published by Hachette India.
- The award comprises a trophy, a certificate, and a one lakh rupee cash prize.

**4. Name the personality who has been recently (in May' 24) awarded with the Whitley Gold Award 2024 by the Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) in London, United Kingdom.**

- 1) Ajit Mishra
- 2) Purnima Devi Barman
- 3) Shashi Tharoor
- 4) Kiran Nadar
- 5) Saira Banu

**Answer- 2) Purnima Devi Barman**

**Explanation:**

On May 1, 2024, a wildlife biologist from Assam, **Dr Purnima Devi Barman** has been honoured with Whitley Gold Award 2024 aka 'Green Oscar' by the Whitley Fund for Nature (WFN) at a Royal Geographical Society awards ceremony in London, United Kingdom (UK).

- The award acknowledged her conservation efforts of the endangered Greater Adjutant Stork (known locally as 'Hargila' in Assamese) and its wetland habitat.
- She received the trophy from charity patron Princess Anne – the Princess Royal, the sister of King Charles III.
- The 2024 Whitley Award conferred upon **6 individuals**. [Click here for official site.](#)

**5. In May 2024, ProPublica won the 2024 \_\_\_\_\_ (award) in journalism under the Public Service category.**

- 1) Erasmus Prize
- 2) National Creators Award
- 3) Abel Prize
- 4) Pulitzer Prize
- 5) Ramon Magsaysay Award

**Answer- 4) Pulitzer Prize**

**Explanation:**

On 6th May 2024, The Pulitzer Board announced the winners of **108th Pulitzer Prize (2024)** under the categories such as: **Journalism, Books, Drama** and **Music**, and **Special Citations**.

- Pulitzer Prize is highest national honor in United States of America (USA) in the field of journalism, literature, and music composition.
- **ProPublica** won the 2024 Pulitzer Prize in Journalism under the **Public Service** category.
- Hannah Dreier of New York Times won 2024 Pulitzer Prize in Journalism under the **Investigative Reporting** category.
- David E. Hoffman of the Washington Post won 2024 Pulitzer Prize in Journalism under the **Editorial Writing** category.
- Photography Staff of **Reuter** won the 2024 Pulitzer Prize in Journalism under the **Breaking News Photography**.

[Click here to view more](#)

**6. Which award/fellowship was recently (in May '24) received by renowned English author Ruskin Bond?**

- 1) Young India Fellowship
- 2) Kuvempu Rashtriya Puraskar
- 3) Tenzing Norgay National Award



4) Mohammed Rafi Award

5) Sahitya Akademi Fellowship

Answer- **5) Sahitya Akademi Fellowship**

**Explanation:**

The renowned **English Author Ruskin Bond** received the **Sahitya Akademi Fellowship**.

- Madhav Kaushik, President of Sahitya Akademi and Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary of Sahitya Akademi handed over the plaque to Bond at his home (Mussoorie, Uttarakhand).
- Bond received the **Sahitya Akademi Award** (1992) for his story collection "Our Trees Still Grow in Dehra".

**Note:** Ruskin Bond was named a **recipient** of **Akademi's** highest honour in September **2021**. Due to his illness, he was unable to receive the honour in person.

**7. Which country had the highest number of entries in the 9th edition of the Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia list (2024)?**

1) China

2) Singapore

3) Indonesia

4) India

5) Australia

Answer- **4) India**

**Explanation:**

The 9th edition of the [Forbes 30 Under 30 Asia list](#) (2024) featured **86 entries** from **India** which includes Akshit Bansal (29) and Raghav Arora (28), co-founders of Statiq-India and Bhagya Shree Jain (29), founder of The Disposal Company.

**i.**The "30 Under 30 Asia" list by Forbes showcases young entrepreneurs, leaders, and trailblazers under 30 who are driving innovation and transforming industries across the Asia-Pacific region.

**ii.**The 2024 list features 300 entries from 21 countries and territories. India had the most entries followed by China and Japan (32 each), Singapore (27), Australia (26) and Indonesia (18).

**8. According to Forbes' World's Highest-Paid Athletes 2024 list released in May 2024, who is the highest-paid athlete in the world?**

1) Novak Djokovic

2) Cristiano Ronaldo

3) Lionel Messi

4) Virat Kohli

5) Jon Rahm

Answer- **2) Cristiano Ronaldo**

**Explanation:**

On May 16, 2024, Forbes' released the list of [World's Highest-Paid Athletes 2024](#) featuring top 50 highest paid athletes. Soccer Player **Cristiano Ronaldo** (Portugal) topped the list with a total earnings of USD 260 million, which includes USD 200 million on the field earnings and USD 60 million off the field earnings.

- Spanish golfer **Jon Rahm** stands 2nd with a total earning of USD 218 million and Argentine Soccer player **Lionel Messi** stands 3rd with USD 135 million.

- According to Forbes, the world's 10 highest-paid athletes collectively earned **USD 1.38 billion** before taxes and agents' fees over the past 12 months, which is the **highest total ever**.

**9. Which space organisation has recently (in May '24) won the Geospatial Leadership Awards 2024 for "Enabling Industry Development in Public Policy" during the Geospatial World Forum 2024 held in Rotterdam, the Netherlands?**

- 1) Indian Space Research Organisation
- 2) National Aeronautics and Space Administration
- 3) Space Exploration Technologies Corporation
- 4) Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre
- 5) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency

**Answer- 4) Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre**

**Explanation:**

Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (**IN-SPACE**), under the Department of Space (DOS), Government of India, has won the **Geospatial World Leadership Award 2024** under "**Enabling Public Policy**" category.

- Geospatial Leadership Awards was presented during the Geospatial World Forum (**GWF 2024**) held in Rotterdam, The Netherlands on 14th May 2024.
- IN-SPACE was honoured for Public Policy: Enabling Industry Development.
- The award acknowledges the outstanding contributions made by IN-SPACE to the international Geospatial field which help in fostering the growth and development of the space sector in India and also its support to Non-Government Entities(NGEs) in the space economy. [Click here to read more](#)

**10. In May 2024, Sela Tunnel was recognised as India's highest tunnel by the International Book of Honour (IBH), England, United Kingdom (UK).**

**The Sela Tunnel was constructed in which state/UT?**

- 1) Jammu and Kashmir
- 2) Assam
- 3) Arunachal Pradesh
- 4) Gujarat
- 5) Chhattisgarh

**Answer- 3) Arunachal Pradesh**

**Explanation:**

**Arunachal Pradesh's Sela Tunnel**, an engineering marvel has been recognised as **India's Highest Tunnel** by the **International Book of Honour (IBH)**, England, United Kingdom (UK). This recognition underscores the achievement of the Border Road Organisation (BRO) in constructing the tunnel at an altitude of 13,000 feet through Project VARTAK with construction carried out by Patel Engineering Limited.

- Sela Tunnel is the world's longest bi-lane tunnel constructed on the road connecting Tezpur, Assam to Tawang in the West Kameng district of Arunachal Pradesh.
- The 2.598 km-long Sela Tunnel on Tezpur-Tawang Road ensures year-long connectivity to the strategic Tawang Region.



- Constructed at a cost of Rs 825 crore, the tunnel ensures all-weather connectivity along the National Highway (NH)-13 road to Tawang via **Sela Pass** on the Balipara – Chariduar – Tawang Road.

**11. Name the book written by Jenny Erpenbeck and translated by Michael Hofmann, that has recently (in May '24) won the International Booker Prize 2024.**

- 1) Night Watch
- 2) Kairos
- 3) The Book Beautiful
- 4) Staliner Divan
- 5) King: A Life

Answer- **2) Kairos**

**Explanation:**

German author **Jenny Erpenbeck** and translator **Michael Hofmann** have been named the winner of the **International Booker Prize 2024** for the book '**Kairos**'. The announcement was made by Eleanor Wachtel, Chair of the 2024 judges, at a ceremony sponsored by Maison Valentino at Tate Modern in London, the United Kingdom (UK).

- Jenny Erpenbeck became the **1st German** writer to win the Prize, and Michael Hofmann became the **1st male translator** to win since the Prize launched in its current form in 2016.
- **Kairos** became the **1st book translated** from **German** to **English** to win the International Booker Prize. [click here to read more](#)

**12. Who has been recently (in may'24) conferred the prestigious 2024 Shaw Prize in the category of Astronomy?**

- 1) Swee Lay Thein
- 2) Shrinivas Ramchandra Kulkarni
- 3) Peter Sarnak
- 4) Stuart Orkin
- 5) Michel Talagrand

Answer- **2) Shrinivas Ramchandra Kulkarni**

**Explanation:**

Indian-Origin American Scientist **Shrinivas Ramchandra Kulkarni** has been conferred the prestigious 2024 Shaw Prize in the category of **Astronomy**.

- The award is given in recognition of his contributions to time-domain astronomy culminated in the conception, construction and leadership of the Palomar Transient Facility (**PTF**) and its successor, and the Zwicky Transient Facility (**ZTF**). These discoveries help to better understand time-variable optical sky.
- The awards were announced in 3 categories: **Astronomy**, **Life Science** and **Medicine**, and **Mathematical Sciences**.

**Other winners of the 2024 Shaw Prize:**

SNO	Winner	Category	Work
1.	Swee Lay Thein (Malaysia) And Stuart Orkin (U.S.A.)	Life Science and Medicine	For their discovery of the genetic and molecular mechanisms underlying the fetal-to-adult hemoglobin switch, making it possible to treat sickle anemia and Beta thalassemia.
2.	Peter Sarnak (U.S.A.)	Mathematical Sciences	For his development of the arithmetic theory of thin groups and the affine sieve, by bringing together number theory, analysis, combinatorics, geometry and spectral theory.

**13. Which of the following airport has recently (in may'24) become the first airport in India to achieve Zero Waste to Landfill (ZWL) accolade from the CII-ITC CESD (Centre for Excellence for Sustainable Development)?**

- 1) Kempegowda International Airport
- 2) Delhi Airport
- 3) Begumpet Airport
- 4) Thiruvananthapuram International Airport
- 5) Cochin International Airport

**Answer- 4) Thiruvananthapuram International Airport**

**Explanation:**

**Thiruvananthapuram International Airport**, in Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala has become the **first airport in India** to achieve **Zero Waste to Landfill (ZWL) accolade** awarded by the **CII-ITC CESD (Centre for Excellence for Sustainable Development)**.

- The ZWL assessment stated that the Airport has successfully implemented the best waste management practices and achieved **99.50%** waste diversion from landfills.
- Airport achieved 99.5% waste diversion from landfills by integrating a robust value chain system and adopting the **5R principles** - Reduce, Reuse, Reprocess, Recycle and Recover - of Sustainable Waste Management.
- The Airport has set up a sophisticated waste management system that follows the **ISO 14001:2015** standards.

**Note:**CII-ITC CESD was established in 2006 by **ITC Limited** in collaboration with the Confederation of Indian Industry (**CII**) to create awareness, provide thought leadership, build capacity and award exemplary performance in the area of sustainability.



**14. Who has recently (in May '24) won the prestigious Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award at the Prince's Trust Awards event in the United Kingdom (UK) to recognise her role in the Pink E-rickshaw initiative?**

- 1) Pavuluri Subba Rao
- 2) Arti
- 3) Purnima Devi Barman
- 4) Alok Shukla
- 5) Avantika Vandanapu

**Answer- 2) Arti**

**Explanation:**

**Arti(18)**, a rickshaw driver from Uttar Pradesh (UP) has won the prestigious **Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award** at the **Prince's Trust Awards**, an event that celebrates the achievements of young people from around the world in **London**, United Kingdom (UK).

- She has also met **King Charles III** at Buckingham Palace, London, UK, after winning the award.
- The award is given in recognition for her role in inspiring other young girls through her involvement in the Indian government's **Pink E-rickshaw initiative**

**Note:** Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award was named after the famous English Barrister Amal Clooney.

**15. Which Indian airport has recently (in May '24) won the silver award under the 'over 35 million passengers per annum category' in the 'Airports Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific & Middle East' Green Airports Recognition (GAR) 2024?**

- 1) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru
- 2) Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi
- 3) Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport, Lucknow
- 4) Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport, Kolkata
- 5) Chhatrapati Shivaji International Airport, Mumbai

**Answer- 2) Indira Gandhi International Airport, New Delhi**

**Explanation:**

Airport Council International (ACI) Asia-Pacific and Middle East announced **8th** Green Airports Recognition (GAR) awards for 2024. **Three Indian Airports** have been awarded under **Silver** category. They are,

- **Indira Gandhi International Airport** (New Delhi, Delhi) under 'Over 35 million passengers per annum' category
- **Kempegowda International Airport (KIA)** (Bengaluru, Karnataka) under 'Between 15-35 million passengers per annum' category.
- **Chaudhary Charan Singh International Airport** (Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh-UP) under 'less than 8 million passengers per annum' category. [Click here to read more](#)

**16. Which of the following organisations has recently won the ATD BEST Awards 2024 by the USA-based Association for Talent Development (ATD) for leveraging talent development as a strategic business tool?**

- A) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
- B) NTPC Limited

### **C) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation Limited**

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

Answer- **1) Only A & B**

#### **Explanation:**

Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (**POWERGRID**), a Maharatna Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Ministry of Power has been awarded the [ATD BEST Awards 2024](#), by the Association for Talent Development (**ATD**), the United States of America (**USA**) for leveraging talent development as a strategic business tool.

- This is the **3rd time POWERGRID** has been honoured with the **ATD BEST Award**, having previously received it in **2021** and **2023**
- **NTPC Limited** (formerly National Thermal Power Corporation), a Maharatna company and India's largest power utility secured the **3rd rank** globally at the **ATD BEST Awards 2024**, making it the **highest-ranking among all Indian companies**.
- **NTPC** is the **only** Public Sector Undertaking (**PSU**) to receive this award **7 times** in the **past 8 years**.

### **17. Who has become the first Indian to win the Grand Prix award at the 77th annual Cannes International Film Festival for the Indian film 'All We Imagine as Light'?**

- 1) Kartiki Gonsalves
- 2) Payal Kapadia
- 3) Anasuya Sengupta
- 4) Mansi Maheshwari
- 5) Zoya Akhtar

Answer- **2) Payal Kapadia**

#### **Explanation:**

The **77th annual Cannes International Film Festival** was held from May 14 to May 25, 2024, in Cannes, France. American comedy-drama film '**Anora**' directed by **Sean Baker** won the **Palme d'Or**, the highest honour of the Cannes festival.

**i.** Indian film 'All We Imagine as Light' directed by **Payal Kapadia** won the **Grand Prix**, the 2nd highest award of the festival. She became the **first Indian** to win this award.

**ii.** **Santosh Sivan**, an Indian cinematographer and film director, was honoured with the **Pierre Angénieux Tribute Award** in recognition of his career and exceptional quality of work. He became the **first Asian** to win this award.

**iii.** Indian actress **Anasuya Sengupta** won the Best Actress award for her performance in 'The Shameless' in the 'Un Certain Regard' category.

**iv.** Mysuru (Karnataka) filmmaker **Chidananda S. Naik** won **1st prize** in the **La Cinéf** section for his 15-minute short film "**Sunflowers Were the First to Know**," based on Kannada folklore. [Click here to read more](#)



## SUMMITS, CONFERENCES

**1. Who was the chair of the 19th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF19) that was held recently (in May '24) at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York, United States?**

- 1) Judith Suminwa Tuluka
- 2) Vinícius Junior
- 3) Mio Oka
- 4) Zéphyrin Maniratanga
- 5) Dennis Francis

Answer- **4) Zéphyrin Maniratanga**

**Explanation:**

The 19th session of the United Nations Forum on Forests (UNFF19) was held at the United Nations (UN) headquarters in New York, United States (US) from May 6 to May 10, 2024. The forum was organized by UNFF Secretariat. It was chaired by **Zéphyrin Maniratanga** of Burundi.

- The key outcomes of the session were **High-Level Segment declaration** and an omnibus resolution, which included the outcome of the midterm review as well as the new Quadrennial Programme of Work of the Forum for 2025-2028.
- The forthcoming declaration will outline specific actions for UNFF and its stakeholders to halt deforestation and forest degradation, prevent land degradation, implement the UN Strategic Plan for Forests, and achieve the Global Forest Goals.
- The Indian delegation was led by **Jitendra Kumar**, Director General of Forests and Special Secretary, Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change (MoEF&CC).
- "International Forest Governance: A Critical Review Of Trends, Drawbacks, And New Approaches" published by the International Union of Forest Research Organizations (IUFRO) showed deforestation rates dropped from **13 million** to 10 million hectares per year between 2010 and 2023

[Click here to read more](#)

**1. The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has recently (in May '24) set up India's maiden pavilion at the World Hydrogen 2024 Summit & Exhibition held at \_\_\_\_\_.**

- 1) Berlin, Germany
- 2) London, United Kingdom
- 3) Paris, France
- 4) Rotterdam, Netherlands
- 5) Davos, Switzerland

Answer- **4) Rotterdam, Netherlands**

**Explanation:**

**World Hydrogen 2024 Summit & Exhibition**, World's Largest Dedicated Hydrogen Event, was held in Rotterdam Ahoy, **the Netherlands** from 13th to 15th May 2024.

- The summit featured the **maiden India pavilion**, set up by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (**MNRE**), government of India (GoI), showcasing National Green Hydrogen Mission (**NGHM**).

- The summit was organised by the Sustainable Energy Council (**SEC**) in partnership with the **Government of the Netherlands**, the Province of Zuid-Holland, the City of Rotterdam, and the Port of Rotterdam.

**Note:** India launched its National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) in January 2023 with a budget of Rs 19,744 crores, targeting a production capacity of 5 MMT (Million Metric Tonnes) by 2030.

## COMMITTEE AND MEETING

**1. Which Ministry has recently (in may'24) constituted an inter-ministerial committee headed by V.S.K.Kaumudi to tackle the increasingly organised cybercrimes from South-East (SE) Asian countries like Cambodia, Myanmar and Laos PDR?**

- 1) Ministry of External Affairs
- 2) Ministry of Defence
- 3) Ministry of Home Affairs
- 4) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- 5) Ministry of Finance

Answer- **3) Ministry of Home Affairs**

**Explanation:**

On 16th May 2024, the Ministry of Home Affairs (**MHA**) constituted an inter-ministerial committee of various law enforcement and intelligence agencies to tackle the increasingly organised cybercrimes originating from South-East (SE) Asian countries like **Cambodia, Myanmar** and **Laos PDR**.

- SE Asian region accounted for 45% of cyber financial frauds taking place in India.
- The high-powered committee is chaired by **V.S.K.Kaumudi**, Special Secretary (internal security) in the Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).
- Indian Cybercrime Coordination Centre (**I4C**) which works under the Cyber and Information Security Division, MHA has been mandated to tackle increasing cybercrimes and its related attacks in India in a coordinated and comprehensive manner.

## INDEX

**1. According to the report "Global Electricity Review 2024" by the international energy analytics agency Ember, in 2023, India surpassed Japan to become the world's third-largest producer of \_\_\_\_\_ power, generating 113 Terawatt-hour.**

- 1) Hydro
- 2) Coal
- 3) Wind
- 4) Solar
- 5) Thermal

Answer- **4) Solar**

**Explanation:**

As per the report "[Global Electricity Review 2024](#)" by the international energy analytics agency Ember, in 2023, **India surpassed Japan** to become the world's third-largest producer of **solar** power, generating 113 Terawatt-hour (TWh) compared to Japan's 110 Terawatt-hour (TWh).



- India's solar generation increased 17 times from 0.5% in 2015 to reaching 5.8% in 2023.
- **China** led global solar production in 2023, producing 584 Terawatt-hour (TWh), surpassing the combined output of the United States, Japan, Germany, and India.
- India witnessed the **world's fourth-largest increase** in solar generation in 2024, with a growth of 18 terawatt hours (TWh), following China (+156 TWh), the United States (+33 TWh), and Brazil (+22 TWh).

**2. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) released the 3rd edition of its World Wildlife Crime Report that provides an updated focus on trends in the illegal trade in wildlife species listed in the CITES?**

- 1) United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA)
- 2) United Nations Water (UN-WATER)
- 3) World Organisation for Animal Health (WOAH)
- 4) International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)
- 5) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)

**Answer- 5) United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)**

**Explanation:**

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has released the 3rd edition of its World Wildlife Crime Report titled '[World Wildlife Crime Report 2024: Trafficking in Protected Species](#)', which highlights the persistent issue of illegal trafficking in plant and animal wildlife

- From 2015 to 2021, **13 million** wildlife items were seized, indicating illegal trade involving around **4,000 species** across 162 countries and territories.
- Out of 4,000 species, approximately 3,250 are listed in the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (**CITES**) Appendices.
- The most trafficked species were **corals** (16%), **crocodilians** (9%), and **elephants** (6%).
- For the first time, an indicator on progress towards Sustainable Development Goal (**SDG**) target **15.7** was included to end trafficking of protected species of flora and fauna.

**3. According to the Times Higher Education (THE) Young University Rankings 2024, Singapore's Nanyang Technological University (NTU) has topped the global ranking for the 2nd consecutive year.**

**Which of the following has ranked highest among Indian universities?**

- 1) Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala
- 2) Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- 3) IIM Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- 4) Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- 5) Bharathiar University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu

**Answer-1) Mahatma Gandhi University, Kottayam, Kerala**

**Explanation:**

According to the [Times Higher Education \(THE\) Young University Rankings 2024](#), Mahatma Gandhi University (MGU) in Kottayam, Kerala, ranked 81 (globally) has emerged as the highest-ranking Indian university.

- Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore has topped the global ranking for the 2nd consecutive year.



- Apart from MGU, Anna University, Chennai, Tamil Nadu(TN) ranked 96th is the only Indian University featured among the top 100 on the 2024 ranking.
- India is represented by 55 institutions in the 2024 ranking, up from 45 in 2023 and 26 in 2020.

**4. Which organisation has recently (in May '24) released a report titled “Water for Shared Prosperity” along with the Government of Indonesia at the 10th World Water Forum held in Bali, Indonesia?**

- 1) UN-Water
- 2) United Nations Department of Economic & Social Affairs
- 3) World Bank
- 4) EA Earth Action
- 5) World Meteorological Organization

Answer- **3) World Bank**

**Explanation:**

The global flagship report titled “[Water for Shared Prosperity](#)”, co-published by the **World Bank** and the **Government of Indonesia**, was released during the **10th World Water Forum** held in Bali, Indonesia.

- The 10th World Water Forum is being held from 18th to 25th May 2024 with the theme “Water for Shared Prosperity”.
- As per the report, **2.2 billion** people lacked access to safe drinking water services and **3.5 billion** are deprived of safely managed sanitation in 2022.
- The lack of access to safe drinking water and sanitation resulted in at least **1.4 million** annual deaths and 50% of global malnutrition.
- The report revealed that number of people who lacked safe drinking water and basic sanitation has increased by **197 million** and **211 million** respectively in last 2 decades.

**5. According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index (as of 20th May 2024), Mukesh Ambani is ranked 12th with a net worth of USD 110 billion.**

**\_\_\_\_\_ has topped the list with a net worth of USD 220 billion.**

- 1) Gautam Adani
- 2) Larry Page
- 3) Jeff Bezos
- 4) Elon Musk
- 5) Bernard Arnault

Answer- **5) Bernard Arnault**

**Explanation:**

According to the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index** (daily ranking index as of **20th May 2024**), Mukesh Ambani, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL); and Gautam Adani, Founder and Chairman of the Adani Group, are featured among the top 15 of world’s richest people.

- **Mukesh Ambani** is ranked **12th** with a total net worth of USD 110 billion and **Gautam Adani** is ranked **14th** with a net worth of USD 100 billion.
- **Bernard Arnault**, the founder and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of LVMH Moët Hennessy Louis Vuitton, **tops the world’s richest list** with a net worth of USD 220 billion.