

GUPTA

CLASSES

Current Affairs

September 2024

English

Part-3



GUPTA

CLASSES

36. Who was recently (in September '24) elected as the New Prime Minister of Japan?

- 1) Paetongtarn Shinawatra
- 2) Shigeru Ishiba
- 3) Min Aung Hlaing
- 4) Philemon Yang
- 5) Fumio Kishida

Answer- **2) Shigeru Ishiba**

Explanation:

On 27 September 2024, Former Defence Minister **Shigeru Ishiba** (67 years old) is set to become the next Prime Minister (PM) of Japan after being elected as the leader of Japan's Liberal Democratic Party (LDP) which holds a majority in the parliament.

- He will assume PM office from October 1, 2024 by replacing incumbent PM **Fumio Kishida**.
- Shigeru Ishiba won by 215 votes, defeating Sanae Takaichi (194 votes), in *the leadership election of the LDP* in Tokyo, Japan. Nine candidates including two women had competed in the elections.

AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS

1. Which of the following is 'not' among the winners of the 66th edition of Ramon Magsaysay Awards (2024)?

- 1) Miyazaki Hayao
- 2) Farwiza Farhan
- 3) Ravi Kannan
- 4) Karma Phuntsho
- 5) Nguyen Thi Ngoc Phuong

Answer- **3) Ravi Kannan**

Explanation:

The **Ramon Magsaysay Award Foundation (RMAF)** has announced recipients of the **66th edition** of Ramon Magsaysay Awards (2024), the premier prize of Asia and highest honor which recognises the greatness of spirit shown in selfless service to the peoples of Asia.

- The Ramon Magsaysay Award was established in 1958 in honor of **President Ramon Magsaysay**, the **seventh** president of the Philippines, Ramon Magsaysay Award is Asia's highest honor. The award is internationally-recognized as the **Nobel Prize of Asia**.
- Recipients receive a **Medallion**, a **Citation**, and a cash prize of **USD 50,000**. [Click here to read more](#)

2024 Recipients:

Winner	Country	Citation
Miyazaki Hayao	Japan	The award recognised his lifelong commitment to the use of art (animation), to illuminate the human condition and his devotion to children as the torchbearers of the imagination.

Farwiza Farhan	Indonesia	The award recognised her profound understanding of the vital connection between nature and humanity and her commitment to social justice and responsible citizenship through her work with forest communities.
Karma Phuntsho	Bhutan	The award recognised his contributions towards harmonizing the richness of Bhutan's past with the diverse predicaments and prospects of its present and inspiring young Bhutanese to be proud of their heritage and confident in their future.
Dr. Nguyen Thi Ngoc Phuong	Vietnam	The award recognised her spirit of public service which serves as a warning for the world to avoid war at all cost.
Rural Doctors Movement	Thailand	The award recognised the Thai doctors advocating for healthcare in rural areas and their continuing contribution to Thai people's health.

2. Who has been recently (in August '24) presented with the 'Olympic Order in Gold' for his support to the 2024 Paris Olympic Games?

- 1) Rigoberta Menchú Tum
- 2) Emmanuel Macron
- 3) Thomas Bach
- 4) Anne Hidalgo
- 5) Amélie Oudéa-Castéra

Answer- **2) Emmanuel Macron**

Explanation:

Emmanuel Macron, President of France, was presented with the **Olympic Order in Gold**, for his unwavering support of the Olympic Games Paris 2024. He received this honour from Thomas Bach, President of the International Olympic Committee (IOC), at an official ceremony held at the Elysée Palace in Paris, France.

- This distinction honours his dedication and visionary leadership, which made the Paris Games a symbol of unity and global cooperation.
- Thomas Bach also presented the **Olympic Order** to **Laurent Nuñez**, the **Paris Prefect of Police**, a special police authority in France, and **Nicolas Ferrand**, Executive Managing Director (**EMD**) of **SOLIDEO**, the company responsible for delivering the Olympic facilities, since 2017.
- The Olympic Order, established in 1975, is the highest honour granted by the IOC.
- It recognises individuals who have made outstanding services to the Olympic movement through their contribution to the development of sport.

3. Which state has emerged as the top-performing state under the Rs 1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme?

- 1) Madhya Pradesh
- 2) Maharashtra

3) Uttar Pradesh

4) Punjab

5) Rajasthan

Answer- **1) Madhya Pradesh**

Explanation:

Union Minister **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (MoA&FW) conferred Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) **Excellence Awards 2024** to the top-performing Banks and States under various categories in recognition of their outstanding efforts.

Madhya Pradesh (MP) has emerged as the top-performing state under the Rs 1 lakh crore Agriculture Infrastructure Fund (AIF) scheme, followed by **Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh (UP), Punjab, and Rajasthan**. These five states account for 50% of the total Rs 47,889 crore sanctioned under the AIF.

- MP topped with **9,331 sanctioned** projects, totaling an investment of **Rs 11,244 crore**, with Rs 7,404 crore approved as credit at a subsidized interest rate under AIF Scheme.
- Maharashtra follows with 8,352 projects, entailing an investment of Rs 9,225 crore, of which Rs 5,195 crore has received credit approval.
- UP, Punjab, and Rajasthan have secured approvals for 5,753, 16,680, and 2,587 projects, respectively.
- The AIF scheme was launched in 2020 with Rs 1 lakh crore outlay. AIF provides loans at a **6%** interest rate after a **3%** subsidy by the Central Government.

4. Which Indian Actor has been recently (in August '24) awarded 'The Youth Icon Award 2024' for Entertainment at the 1st edition of the 'FICCI Young Leaders Awards (2024)' ?

1) Shah Rukh Khan

2) Ayushmann Khurrana

3) Manoj Bajpayee

4) Ranveer Singh

5) Amithabh Bachchan

Answer- **2) Ayushmann Khurrana**

Explanation:

On 29th August 2024, Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) organised the **1st edition** of the '[FICCI Young Leaders Awards \(2024\)](#)' and recognised outstanding young achievers across 13 categories.

- Bollywood actor **Ayushmann Khurrana** with '**The Youth Icon Award 2024 (Entertainment)**' and Indian Javelin thrower and Olympic medallist **Neeraj Chopra** with '**The Youth Icon Award 2024 (Sports)**'
- FICCI also honoured Indian fashion designer **Rahul Mishra** with Youth Icon Award 2024 (**Art & Culture**); Amitabh Shah, Founder of Yuva Unstoppable, with Youth Icon Award 2024 (Public Service); and Journalist Palki Sharma with Youth Icon Award 2024 (Media).

5. Who among the following is 'not' featured on the TIME 100 Most Influential People in AI 2024 List?

1) Sundar Pichai

2) Akshit Bansal

3) Anil Kapoor

4) Ashwini Vaishnaw

5) Satya Nadella

Answer- **2) Akshit Bansal**

Explanation:

On 5th September 2024, **TIME**, the New York (the United States of America-USA)based Magazine, released "**TIME 100 Most Influential People in AI 2024**". The list has categorized the influential people into **4** different categories namely, **Leaders, Innovators, Shapers** and **Thinkers**.

- **Sundar Pichai**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Google and Alphabet, Union Minister **Ashwini Vaishnaw**, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**) and **Anil Kapoor**, Renowned Actor are among leaders **from India or of Indian descent** featured on the list.
- This is the **2nd** edition of TIME 100 Most Influential People in AI, recognizing the 100 most influential people shaping the rapidly evolving field of **Artificial Intelligence (AI)**.
- Along with **Sundar Pichai, Satya Nadella**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Microsoft Corporation and **Rohit Prasad**, Senior Vice President (SVP) and head scientist of Artificial General Intelligence, Amazon had been featured in the event. [click here to read more.](#)

6. Name the award that was recently (in September '24) presented by President Droupadi Murmu to 15 Nurses and Midwives at an event held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan in New Delhi, Delhi.

- 1) National Florence Nightingale Award
- 2) Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award
- 3) Golden Peacock Occupational Health & Safety Award
- 4) Whitley Gold Award
- 5) Geospatial World Leadership Award

Answer- **1) National Florence Nightingale Award**

Explanation:

- **Droupadi Murmu**, the President of India, presented the [National Florence Nightingale Awards \(NFNA\) 2024](#) to the nursing professionals at an event held at the Rashtrapati Bhavan, in New Delhi, Delhi, recognising **15 Nurses and Midwives** for their outstanding commitment to duty and community service.
- The National Florence Nightingale Awards recognises the meritorious services rendered by Nursing Professionals in India.
- The Indian Nursing Council (INC), a statutory body under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) organised the NFNA 2024 Award ceremony on behalf of the MoH&FW.
- The National Florence Nightingale Awards were instituted in 1973 by the MoH&FW.
- In 2024, the 15 awards were presented in 3 categories namely:
 - **i.**Registered Auxiliary Nurses and Midwife (ANM)- 5 Awards;
 - **ii.**Registered Lady Health Visitors (LHV)- 1 Award; and
 - **iii.**Registered Nurses and Midwife – 9 Awards
- Each award consists of a Certificate of Merit, a Cash Award of Rs.1 Lakh and a Medal. [Click here to see the winners of NFNA 2024.](#)

7. Which power station has recently (in September '24) been awarded the prestigious 2024 Energy Management Insight Award from the Clean Energy Ministerial (CEM)?

- 1) Mundra Thermal Power Station
- 2) Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station

- 3) Barauni Thermal Power Station
- 4) Talcher Super Thermal Power Station
- 5) Tiroda Thermal Power Station

Answer- **4) Talcher Super Thermal Power Station**

Explanation:

Odisha based **NTPC Talcher Kaniha** or Talcher Super Thermal Power Station has been awarded the prestigious **2024 Energy Management Insight Award** from the Clean Energy Ministerial (**CEM**).

- NTPC Talcher Kaniha was qualified by submitting a comprehensive case study describing its experiences and the positive impact of the International Organization for Standardization (**ISO**) **50001** on its operations.
- The award recognition is part of the [CEM Energy Management Leadership Awards program 2024](#), which recognizes the organisation's implementation of energy management systems to achieve energy, economic, and sustainability benefits.
- **CHANGSHIN INC Indonesia Factory** (Indonesia) and US Air Force Oklahoma City Air Logistics Complex (**OC-ALC**), the United States of America (USA) have attained the program's top honour, the Award of Excellence in Energy Management.
- 35 organisations have been awarded the Energy Management Insight Award. Of which **4 awards** have been awarded to the Indian companies.

8. Which railway station has been recently (in September '24) awarded the Non-Suburban Group-1 (NSG-1) status by the Ministry of Railways (MoR)?

- 1) Howrah Junction railway station
- 2) Coimbatore Junction railway station
- 3) Kozhikode Railway Station
- 4) Nasik Road Railway station
- 5) Vijayawada Junction Railway Station

Answer- **5) Vijayawada Junction Railway Station**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Railways (**MoR**) has awarded the Non-Suburban Group-1 (**NSG-1**) status to **Vijayawada Junction Railway Station** (BZA), Vijayawada, Andhra Pradesh (AP).

- It was announced by Narendra Anandrao Patil, Divisional Railway Manager (DRM), Vijayawada, South Central Railway (SCR).
- Vijayawada Railway Station is the **second station** in SCR to achieve NSG-1 status after Secunderabad Junction Railway Station.
- The NSG-1 status is given to stations where annual revenue is **more than Rs 500 crore** or the number of passengers per year is more than **20 lakhs**.
- The Vijayawada railway station had a revenue of **Rs 528 crore** and handled over 16.84 million passengers in 2023-24.
- It has also joined the list of the **top 28 elite stations** of the Indian Railways(IR).

9. Name the Indian-origin author who has recently (in September '24) won the Singapore Literature Prize (SLP) 2024 for the English fiction debut short story 'Nine Yard Sarees'.

- 1) Prasanthi Ram
- 2) Sanjana Thakur
- 3) Bhavi Mehta

4) Ruskin Bond

5) Meena Kandasamy

Answer- **1) Prasanthi Ram**

Explanation:

Prasanthi Ram, Indian-origin lecturer at Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore has won the **Singapore Literature Prize (SLP) 2024** for the English fiction debut short story '**Nine Yard Sarees**', which was published in 2023.

- The short story cycle is about the generations of a Tamil Brahmin family dispersed spread over Singapore, Sydney, New York, and Connecticut.
- A total of 17 writers, translators and comic artists were awarded the SLP for the year 2024.
- The SLP is a biennial award in Singapore that recognizes excellent published works by Singaporean authors in any of the 4 official languages: Chinese, English, Malay, or Tamil.
- **Shubigi Rao**, an Indian-origin artist, won the award for best English creative nonfiction for her work 'Pulp III: An Intimate Inventory Of The Banished Book' (2022).

10. Which organisation has recently (in September '24) received the '2024 United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force (UNIATF) Award' for its significant multisectoral actions to the prevention and control of NCDs and mental health?

1) Indian Council of Medical Research

2) National Medical Commission

3) National Institute of Mental Health and Neuro Sciences

4) Council of Scientific and Industrial Research

5) Medical Assessment and Rating Board

Answer- **1) Indian Council of Medical Research**

Explanation:

New Delhi (Delhi) headquartered Indian Council of Medical Research (**ICMR**) has been honored with the prestigious '**2024 United Nations Inter-Agency Task Force (UNIATF) Award**' for its significant multisectoral actions to the prevention and control of NCDs and mental health.

- ICMR has implemented various initiatives, including the establishment of national centers focused on **Assistive Health Technology**, which enhances the accessibility and affordability of healthcare solutions.
- It has developed **sustainable assistive products** catering to individuals with disabilities or chronic conditions.
- It also conducted the '**world's largest assistive technology survey**' providing critical data to inform policy and resource allocation for individuals needing assistive devices.

11. Which Indian film industry personality was recently (in September '24) honored with the Global Prestige Award in the UK Parliament?

1) Sanjay Leela Bhansali

2) Shah Rukh Khan

3) Ranveer Singh

4) Kareena Kapoor

5) Vinod Bachchan

Answer- **5) Vinod Bachchan**

Explanation:

Renowned Bollywood film producer **Vinod Bachchan** was honored with the prestigious **Global Prestige Award** at the House of Lords, United Kingdom (UK) Parliament for his outstanding contribution in Indian film industry, and in promoting Indian culture and strengthening cinematic ties between India and the global stage, particularly the UK.

- The award ceremony was held in the presence of **Lord Bellamy KC** and **Lord Rami Ranger CBE**, a distinguished Member of Parliament.
- Vinod Bachchan produced Bollywood hits such as Tanu Weds Manu, Zila Ghaziabad, Ginny Weds Sunny, and Shaadi Mein Zaroor Aana, received the award for his influential role in bringing Indian cinema to global audiences.

12. Name the movie that was recently (in September '24) entered into the 97th Academy Awards (Oscars 2025) for the "Best International Feature Film" category?

- 1) Laapataa Ladies
- 2) Aattam
- 3) Ayena
- 4) Kantara
- 5) Gulmohar

Answer- **1) Laapataa Ladies**

Explanation:

On 23rd September 2024, the Film Federation of India (**FFI**) has announced the name of Kiran Rao directed '**Laapata Ladies**' as India's official entry for the "**Best International Feature Film**" category at the prestigious **97th Academy Awards (Oscars 2025)**, which will held on 2nd March 2025 in Los Angeles, California, the United States of America (USA).

- The film was unanimously selected by a 13-member jury of FFI headed by Assamese director **Jahnu Barua**.
- The film was selected among 29 films, including 12 hindi films, 6 Tamil and 4 Malayalam films.
- Laapata Ladies was selected over award winning films like:
 - Malayalam film '**Aattam**' (The Play) which won the 70th National Film Award for Best Feature Film in August 2024.
 - Payal Kapadia's "**All We Imagine As Light**" which won the Grand Prix, the 2nd highest award of Cannes Film Festival in May 2024.
- Laapata Ladies is a critically acclaimed Hindi language film, which was released theatrically in March 2024 across India. Before its release in India, the film was screened at the prestigious Toronto International Film Festival (**TIFF**) in September, 2023.

13. Who has been crowned Miss Universe India 2024 in Jaipur, Rajasthan?

- 1) Sheyannis Palacios
- 2) Praveena Rai
- 3) Ruchira Kamboj
- 4) Rhea Singha
- 5) Arti

Answer- **4) Rhea Singha**

Explanation:

On September 22 2024, **Rhea Singha**, (19-year-old) from **Gujarat** has been crowned **Miss Universe India 2024** at the pageant held in Jaipur, Rajasthan. She was crowned by Urvashi Rautela, Bollywood actress and Miss Universe India 2015.

- **Rhea** will now represent India at the **73rd Miss Universe 2024** pageant, which is scheduled to be held in Mexico in November 2024.
- She also won the Miss Glamorous subtitle award during the 2024 Miss Universe India pageant and she is one of the youngest winners of this pageant title.
- The Miss Universe pageant has been organised by the Miss Universe Organization (**MUO**), the USA-and Thailand-based global, inclusive organization.

14. Name the Indian who has been recently (in September 2024) honoured with the prestigious award by the South Korea Government for strengthening the relationship between Korea and India.

- 1) Alia Bhatt
- 2) Arundhati Roy
- 3) Sudarsan Pattnaik
- 4) Anushka Sen
- 5) Kareena Kapoor

Answer- **4) Anushka Sen**

Explanation:

Indian Actress, **Anushka Sen** has been honoured with the prestigious award by the South Korea Government for her exceptional contribution in strengthening relations between India and Korea.

- She received the award from **Hyun Woo Kim**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Seoul Business Agency (SBA), during a ceremony held in South Korea.
- As **Honorary Ambassador of Korean Tourism**, she has played a pivotal role in bridging the cultural gap between India and South Korea.

15. Which organisation has recently (in September 2024) won the National Energy Leader Award from the Confederation of Indian Industry – Green Business Centre (CII-GBC) at Hyderabad, Telangana?

- 1) Steel Authority of India Limited
- 2) Indian Stainless Steel Development Association
- 3) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited
- 4) RailTel Corporation of India Limited
- 5) Rail Vikas Nigam Limited

Answer- **3) Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited**

Explanation:

Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (**RINL**), the corporate entity of Visakhapatnam Steel Plant, has won the **National Energy Leader Award** from the Confederation of Indian Industry- Green Business Centre (**CII-GBC**) for the **6th** consecutive year. The award was presented during the event held at Hyderabad, Telangana on 12th September 2024.

- RINL has also won the “Excellent Energy Efficient Unit Award” for the 8th consecutive year.

- These awards signify RINL's consistent efforts towards energy conservation, including initiatives like: Harnessing waste heat recovery systems, Pulverised Coal Injection (PCI) in blast furnaces, and Waste recycling and Energy benchmarking.

SUMMITS, CONFERENCES

1. Which of the following points is/are 'correct' with respect to the 'National Conference of District Judiciary' held in New Delhi, Delhi on 31st August 2024?

- A) Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi unveiled the stamp with a value of Rs.10 commemorating 75 years of the establishment of the Supreme Court of India (SCI).**
- B) PM also unveiled Rs.75 coin which is made up of Pure Gold with a diameter of 44 millimeter(mm) and weighs 75 grams.**
- C) The President of India, Draupadi Murmu, delivered the valedictory address and unveiled the new flag and insignia of the SCI.**

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

Answer- 3) Only A & C

Explanation:

On August 31, 2024, the Prime Minister (PM) of India **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the two-day long '**National Conference of District Judiciary**' at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, Delhi. Organized by the Supreme Court of India (SCI), the event marked **75 years** of the SCI.

- The PM Narendra Modi unveiled the **stamp** with a value of Rs.10 to commemorate 75 years of the establishment of the SCI.
- The PM also unveiled a **Rs.75 coin** which is made up of Pure Silver with a diameter of 44 millimeter(mm) and weighs 40 grams.
- The President of India, Draupadi Murmu, delivered the valedictory address and unveiled the **new flag** and **insignia** of the SCI.
- The flag is **blue in colour** featuring Ashoka Chakra, the SCI building, and the Constitution of India.[Click here to read more](#)

2. Which organisation has adopted a framework document on climate and sustainable development in its Climate Agenda in Modern Conditions Forum held in Russia on 29th & 30th August 2024?

- 1) Association of South-East Asian
- 2) South Asian Association for Regional Cooperation
- 3) Group 20
- 4) BRICS bloc
- 5) United Nations

Answer- 4) BRICS bloc

Explanation:

The **BRICS bloc**, an intergovernmental organisation, comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, South Africa, Egypt, Iran, United Arab Emirates (UAE), Saudi Arabia, and Ethiopia, has adopted a **framework document on climate and sustainable development** following a two-day BRICS Climate Agenda in Modern Conditions Forum held in Moscow, Russia.

- The framework covers various aspects of climate action, including a just transition, mitigation, adaptation, carbon markets, finance, science, and business involvement.
- As part of Russia's BRICS Chairship, the thematic BRICS Climate Agenda in Modern Conditions Forum was held by the Ministry of Economic Development, Russia on 29 & 30 August 2024.
- Additionally, a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) on the BRICS carbon markets partnership was introduced.
- The MoU was the **2nd document** developed within the BRICS Contact Group on Climate and Sustainable Development.

3. Maharashtra Chief Minister (CM) Eknath Shinde inaugurated the 27th edition of _____ at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- 1) Global IndiaAI Summit
- 2) ONDC Startup Mahotsav
- 3) National Conference on e-Governance
- 4) International Conference on Steel Slag Road
- 5) United Nations Conference

Answer- **3) National Conference on e-Governance**

Explanation:

On 3rd September 2024, **Eknath Shinde**, Chief Minister (**CM**) of **Maharashtra**, inaugurated the **27th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG)** at the Jio World Convention Centre in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- The 27th NCeG took place from 3rd to 4th September 2024 under the **theme** – “Viksit Bharat: Secure And Sustainable e-Service Delivery”.
- The event was jointly organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (**DARPG**), the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**), and the Government of Maharashtra.
- During the conference, **16 National Awards for e-Governance 2024 (NAeG 2024)**, which include **9 gold, 6 silver and 1 jury award**, were conferred to various departments, organisations, institutions for their exemplary initiatives to promote innovation in e-governance.
- The NAeG Awards 2024 carries a Trophy, Certificate and incentive of Rs **10 lakh** for Gold Awardees and Rs 5 Lakhs for Silver Awardees.[Click here to read more](#)

4. What is the theme of the World Safety and Operations Conference (WSOC) 2024 that was recently (in September '24) announced by the International Air Transport Association (IATA)?

- 1) Embracing Innovation and Technology for Safe and Efficient Operations
- 2) Digital Innovation for Sustainable Development
- 3) Youth Skills for Peace and Development
- 4) Plant Health, Safe Trade, and Digital Technology

5) Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow and Shaping the Future

Answer- **1) Embracing Innovation and Technology for Safe and Efficient Operations**

Explanation:

The Montreal (Canada)-based International Air Transport Association (**IATA**), the trade association for the world's airlines, has announced the **theme** for its **2nd** World Safety and Operations Conference (**WSOC**) **2024** as "**Embracing Innovation and Technology for Safe and Efficient Operations.**"

- WSOC will take place from **1-3 October 2024** in Marrakech, **Morocco**, hosted by Royal Air Maroc (**RAM**), the largest national airline of Morocco, with routes for over 80 countries across the world.
- The 1st **IATA WSOC** took place in Hanoi, **Vietnam** in September **2023** under the theme "**Leadership in Action: Driving Safer and More Efficient Operations.**"

5. Name the webpage that was recently (in September '24) launched during the India-US Defence Summit held at Stanford University in the United States of America (USA) to help investors.

- 1) NIRMAN
- 2) INDUS-X
- 3) Krishi Katha
- 4) PRAVAAH
- 5) Bhusanket

Answer- **2) INDUS-X**

Explanation:

A new [INDUS-X web page](#) has been launched during the **3rd edition** of the two-day India-United States Defence Acceleration Ecosystem (**INDUS-X**) **Summit**, which was concluded at Stanford University in Silicon Valley, California, the United States of America (USA) on September 10, 2024.

- The INDUS-X web page is a platform for investors and startups to learn about the program, its objectives, and partnership opportunities. It includes a database of participating companies and upcoming activities.
- The theme of the summit is '**Harnessing Investment Opportunities to Enhance Cross-Border Defence Innovation Ecosystems**'.
- The USA and Indian companies highlighted **INDUSWERX**, a testing consortium led by private-sector organisations, provides enterprises for new technology testing and experimentation.
- The INDUS-X initiative was launched on June 21 2023 by the USA DoD and the MoD, GoI during Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi's state visit to Washington, DC, USA.

6. Which city hosted the 2nd edition of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (ICGH-2024) in September 2024?

- 1) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 2) Kolkata, West Bengal
- 3) Hyderabad, Telangana
- 4) Bhubaneswar, Odisha
- 5) New Delhi, Delhi

Answer- **5) New Delhi, Delhi**

Explanation:

Prime Minister (PM) **Narendra Modi** virtually **inaugurated** the **2nd** edition of the International Conference on Green Hydrogen (**ICGH-2024**) in New Delhi, Delhi, unveiling India's comprehensive strategy to become a global hub for the production, utilisation, and export of Green Hydrogen (GH).

- GH has the potential to decarbonise hard-to-electrify sectors like refineries, fertilisers, steel, and heavy-duty transportation.
- The 2nd ICGH 2024 was organised by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (**MNRE**) and the **Office** of the Principal Scientific Adviser (**PSA**) to the Government of India (**GoI**), in association with the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas (**MoP&NG**), the Department of Science and Technology (**DST**), and the Department of Scientific and Industrial Research (**DSIR**), Ministry of Science and Technology (MoST)
- The Solar Energy Corporation of India (**SECI**) and EY are the implementation and knowledge partners, respectively.
- Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce & Industry (FICCI) is the industry partner.
- The GoI launched the National Green Hydrogen Mission (**NGHM**) in **2023** to make India a global hub for the production, use, and export of GH and its derivatives.
- NGHM will build capabilities to produce at least 5 Million Metric Tonnes (MMT) of GH per annum by 2030, with an associated renewable energy capacity addition of about 125 Gigawatt (GW) in India.
- India's solar energy capacity grew by 3000% in the same period.

7. In September 2024, the 2nd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (APMC) was held in _____.

- 1) Montreal, Canada
- 2) Chicago, USA
- 3) New Delhi, India
- 4) Beijing, China
- 5) Colombo, Sri Lanka

Answer- **3) New Delhi, India**

Explanation:

Union Minister **Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu**, Ministry of Civil Aviation (**MoCA**), Government of India(GoI) inaugurated the 2nd Asia-Pacific Ministerial Conference on Civil Aviation (**APMC**) at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Delhi from 11th to 12th September, 2024.

- The two-day conference was organised by the MoCA in partnership with the International Civil Aviation Organisation (**ICAO**). The conference was mainly focused on key challenges such as: infrastructure development, sustainability, and workforce development.
- On 12th September 2024, The Draft Asia Pacific Ministerial Declaration on Civil Aviation (**Delhi Declaration**) was unanimously adopted at 2nd APMC in the presence of Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi.
- The 1st APMC was held in Beijing, the capital city of China in 2018.
- The ICAO gave the presentation on the establishment of the **Pacific Small Island Developing States Liaison Office**, aimed to support smaller nations in addressing civil aviation challenges.
- A special ceremony was organised to commemorate the **80th** anniversary of **ICAO** and the **Chicago convention** which highlighted the ICAO's role in shaping international standards over the last 80 years.

- GoI aims to increase women's participation in the aviation workforce to **25% by 2025**. [Click here to read more.](#)

8. Who has recently (in September '24) inaugurated the SEMICON India 2024 at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh?

- 1) Narendra Modi
- 2) Droupadi Murmu
- 3) Ashwini Vaishnaw
- 4) Jagdeep Dhankhar
- 5) Amit Shah

Answer- **1) Narendra Modi**

Explanation:

On September 11 2024, Prime Minister **(PM) Narendra Modi** inaugurated **SEMICON India 2024** at India Expo Mart in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh (UP). The 3-day conference was organised by India Semiconductor Mission **(ISM)** in partnership with **SEMI** and industry associations.

- Theme of SEMICON India 2024 is **'Shaping the Semiconductor Future'**.
- The conference has demonstrated India's semiconductor strategy and policy which aims to make India a global hub for semiconductors.
- PM informed that GoI aimed to increase India's electronics sector now valued at over USD 150 billion to **USD 500 billion** and to create 6 million jobs by the end of this decade.
- He highlighted India has been chosen as **Vice Chair** of the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF)'s **Supply Chain Council** and is a key partner in the QUAD Semiconductor Supply Chain initiative.
- India has signed various agreements with countries like Japan and Singapore and also India is strengthening its cooperation with the United States of America (USA) in the semiconductor sector.
- **SEMI**, the global industry association that connects the semiconductor and electronic design and manufacturing value chain, has announced a **strategic agreement** with its peer **India Electronics and Semiconductor Association (IESA)**, India's premier industry body for ESDM & Intelligent Electronics on the sidelines of SEMICON India 2024. [Click here to read more.](#)

9. Which country hosted the BRICS Literature Forum 2024?

- 1) India
- 2) Russia
- 3) China
- 4) Brazil
- 5) South Africa

Answer- **2) Russia**

Explanation:

India participated in **BRICS Literature Forum 2024** which commenced on 11th September, 2024 in Kazan, **Russia**. The forum was inaugurated by **Ilsur Metshin**, Mayor of Kazan. The forum provided the common platform to writers, poets, philosophers, artists, scholars from the BRICS (**Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa**) countries.

- Theme of 2024 BRICS Literature Forum: **"World literature in the new reality. Dialogue of traditions, national values and cultures"**.

- Indian Delegation: India was represented by Madhav Kaushik, President of the Sahitya Akademi; and Dr. K. Sreenivasarao, Secretary, Sahitya Akademi at the forum.
- During the 2nd event of the forum titled “**Meet the Authors from India,**” with the topic, “Volga to Ganga: Celebration of Tradition and Multiculturalism, Moderator: Evgeniy Abdullaev”, **Dr. K. Sreenivasarao** highlighted how the river-based cultures across the world promoted multiculturalism which further promotes unity and drives social progress.

10. Which of the following points is/are ‘correct with respect to the 4th edition of Global Bio-India held in New Delhi(Delhi) in September 2024?’

A) The theme of the Global Bio-India 2024 was ‘Biotech Innovation and Bio-manufacturing’.

B) The Indian Bio-Economy Report 2024 was launched at the event along with the BIRAC Compendium of Products and Technologies 2024.

C) India’s bio-economy has grown from USD 10 billion in 2014 to USD 130 billion in 2024, with projections to reach USD 300 billion by 2030.

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

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

Explanation:

On 12th September 2024, Union Minister for State (Independent Charge,IC) **Dr. Jitendra Singh**, Ministry of Science and Technology(MoS&T) inaugurated the **4th edition of [Global Bio-India](#)** at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi(Delhi).

- The **theme** of the Global Bio-India 2024 was ‘Biotech Innovation and Bio-manufacturing’.
- The three day event was organised by the Department of Biotechnology (DBT), MoS&T in collaboration with its Public Sector Undertaking (PSU), Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council (BIRAC).
- During the event, **BIRAC signed 9 Letter of Intents(LoIs)** with leading international organizations, fostering collaboration in biotechnology.
- The **Indian Bio Economy Report 2024** was also launched at the event along with BIRAC Compendium of Products and Technologies 2024.
- India’s bio economy has grown from USD 10 billion in 2014 to **USD 130 billion 2024**, with projections to reach USD 300 billion by 2030.

11. In September 2024, who chaired the 2nd Formal Meeting of the COP9 (Conference of Parties) Bureau and the 3rd Formal Meeting of Fund’s Approval Committee under the UNESCO International Convention against Doping in Sport in New Delhi, Delhi?

- 1) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya
- 2) Pralhad Venkatesh Joshi
- 3) Amit Shah
- 4) Ajit K Doval
- 5) Arvind Kejriwal

Answer- **1) Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**

Explanation:

On 17th September 2024, the Union Minister **Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya**, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (**MoYA&S**) chaired the **2nd** Formal Meeting of the **COP9** (Conference of Parties) Bureau and the **3rd** Formal Meeting of Fund's Approval Committee under the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (**UNESCO**) International Convention against Doping in Sport held in New Delhi, Delhi.

- These meetings aim to promote international collaboration in the fight against doping, highlighting the importance of integrity, fairness, and inclusivity in sport.
- The main highlight of the inaugural session was the signing of a significant Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) between the National Anti-Doping Agency (**NADA**) and National Law University, Delhi (**NLU Delhi**).
- This strategic partnership aimed to enhance cooperation in anti-doping law, policy and education.
- This MoU marks a significant step in strengthening legal education and research in anti-doping, which will help India to consolidate its position in this domain.

COMMITTEE AND MEETING

1. Which committee has been recently (in September '24) dissolved by the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation?

- 1) Public Accounts Committee
- 2) Committee on Estimates
- 3) Committee on Public Undertakings
- 4) Committee on Welfare of Other Backward Classes
- 5) Standing Committee on Statistics

Answer- **5) Standing Committee on Statistics**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (**MoSPI**) has **dissolved** the **14-member** Standing Committee on Statistics (**SCoS**), led by former chief statistician **Pronab Sen** after the committee members questioned the delay in conducting the decennial Census.

- The MoSPI constituted a Steering Committee for the NSS based on a recommendation from the National Statistical Commission (NSC).
- It was constituted to address survey-related issues of the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO).
- The new committee is chaired by **Rajeeva Laxman Karandikar**, Chairman of the NSC, and includes at least 4 members from the dissolved SCoS.
- On July 13, 2023, the GoI constituted a 14-member SCoS, after renaming and expanding the scope of coverage of the Standing Committee on Economic Statistics (SCES) formed in December 2019.
- The SCoS was tasked to assist the GoI with survey methodology, including sampling frame, sampling design, etc. Its primary focus was to understand the data needs of the user community and ensure its availability.

2. Which of the following points is/are correct with respect to the 20th Meeting of the Maritime States Development Council (MSDC) held in Goa from 12 to 13 September 2024?

A) The meeting witnessed the keel-laying ceremony of India's largest dredger, a 10,000 Cubic Meter (Cu. M.) Trailer Suction Hopper Dredger (TSHD) at Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) Ltd, built in collaboration with IHC Holland.

B) The Council also launched the Indian Maritime Centre (IMC), a Policy Think Tank designed to bring together maritime stakeholders currently operating in silos.

C) The Council launched the Indian International Maritime Dispute Resolution Centre (IIMDRC).

1) Only A & B

2) Only B & C

3) Only A & C

4) Only A

5) All A, B & C

Answer- 2) Only B & C

Explanation:

The **20th** Meeting of the Maritime States Development Council (**MSDC**) was held under the chairmanship of **Union Minister Sarbananda Sonowal**, Ministry of Ports, Shipping and Waterways (**MoPSW**) from 12 to 13 September 2024 in Benaulim, **Goa**, addressing several key maritime initiatives critical to India's maritime future.

- The two day meeting concluded with resolutions of over 80 critical issues between the Central Government, States, and Union Territories (UTs), covering areas like port infrastructure modernisation, connectivity, maritime tourism, port security, etc.
- The meeting witnessed the **keel-laying ceremony** of **India's largest dredger**, a 12,000 Cubic Meter (Cu. M.) Trailer Suction Hopper Dredger (TSHD), at Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) in Kochi, Kerala, built in collaboration with IHC Holland.
- The Council also launched the Indian Maritime Centre (**IMC**), a Policy Think Tank designed to bring together maritime stakeholders currently operating in silos.
- The Council launched the Indian International Maritime Dispute Resolution Centre (**IIMDRC**), a specialised platform offering merit-based and industry-governed solutions to resolve maritime disputes efficiently.
- The MSDC launched the National Safety in Ports Committee (**NSPC**) application on the National Single Window System (NSWS) digital platform for streamlined regulatory processes.[Click here to read more](#)

3. Which country hosted the Group of Twenty (G20) Agriculture Ministerial Meeting (AMM) from 12th-14th September 2024?

1) Brazil

2) India

3) Australia

4) Germany

5) United Kingdom

Answer- 1) Brazil

Explanation:

The Indian delegation was led by Minister of State (**MoS**) **Ram Nath Thakur**, Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare (**MoA&FW**), Government of India(**GoI**) attended the Group of Twenty (**G20**) **Agriculture Ministerial Meeting** (AMM) held in Cuiabá, **Brazil** from 12-14 September 2024.

- On the sidelines of the G20 AMM, Ram Nath Thakur, held a series of bilateral meetings with the United States of America (**USA**), Brazil, Japan, Germany, the United Kingdom (**UK**), Spain, and the United Arab Emirates (**UAE**) to strengthen India's agricultural ties globally.
- Indian Delegation also comprised Ambassador Suresh Reddy, Ambassador of India to Brazil, and Franklin L. Khobung, Joint Secretary (Natural Resources Management (NRM)) Division, Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare (DoA&FW), MoA&FW.
- Brazil holds the presidency of the G20, until 30th November 2024. G20 brings together the world's largest economies – 19 countries, the African Union and the European Union.[Click here to read more](#)

4. In September 2024, the Indian delegation led by Arunish Chawla, Secretary of the Ministry of Culture (MoC) participated in the Special Session of G7 (Group of 7) Ministers meeting on Culture was held in _____

- 1) Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
- 2) Naples, Italy
- 3) Thimphu, Bhutan
- 4) Nizhny Novgorod, Russia
- 5) Paris, France

Answer- **2) Naples, Italy**

Explanation:

Special Session of G7 (**Group of 7**) Ministers meeting on Culture was held on 21st September 2024 in Naples, Italy.

- Indian delegation led by Arunish Chawla, Secretary of the Ministry of Culture (MoC), Government of India, along with Lily Pandeya, Joint Secretary, MoC. participated in the meeting.
- During the session, the **Naples Statement** was signed on '**Culture for the sustainable development of Africa and the world**' to promote culture as a driver of sustainable development in Africa.
- The importance of culture as a transformative driver for achieving the **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** outlined in the **United Nations' 2030 Agenda** was emphasized.

INDEX

1. Which organisation has recently (in August '24) released a report titled "Pathways and Strategies for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oil Towards the Goal of Atmanirbharta", outlining the strategic interventions to increase domestic oil production of India by 43.5 Million Tonnes (MT) for self-sufficiency?

- 1) United Nation
- 2) Food and Agriculture Organisation

3) Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development

4) NITI Aayog

5) Indian Council of Agricultural Research

Answer- **4) NITI Aayog**

Explanation:

On 29th August 2024, **Suman Bery**, Vice-Chairperson, National Institution for Transforming India (NITI Aayog) released report titled [“Pathways and Strategies for Accelerating Growth in Edible Oil Towards the Goal of Atmanirbharta”](#). The report was presented by Dr. Neelam Patel, Senior Advisor (Agriculture), NITI Aayog.

- The report underscored that over the last decades, per capita consumption of edible oil in India has increased exponentially, reaching **19.7 kilogram (kg)** per year.
- The report has outlined the strategic interventions to increase domestic oil production of India by **43.5 Million Tonnes (MT)**, to narrow the import gap and put country on a trajectory towards self-sufficiency.
- Overall, the strategic interventions proposed by the report can help to achieve the projected edible oil supplies of **36.2 million tonnes (MT) and 70.2 MT** by 2030 and 2047 respectively.
- The report projected that by strategically retaining and diversifying oilseed crops and focusing on areas potentially lost to cereal cultivation will increase the country’s edible oil production by **20%** in 9 states, with additional oil production of 7.36 MT and reduction in import dependence by 2.1MT.
- The report suggested that by utilizing 1/3rd (**33%**) rice fallow area in 10 states for oilseed cultivation can increase the oilseed production by 3.12 MT and reduce import by 1.03 MT. [Click here to read more](#)

2. Which of the following points is/are ‘correct’ with respect to the recently (in August ‘24) released World Health Organisation (WHO) South-East Asia Regional Status Report on Road Safety?

A) India reported an increase in estimated road traffic deaths by 2% during 2010-2021 period.

B) India reported around 1,53,973 road traffic fatalities in 2021 and has reported around 2,16,618 road deaths in the same period.

C) As many as 3,30,222 deaths were reported in the South-East Region (SEARO) in 2021 due to Road Traffic Injuries (RTI).

1) Only A & B

2) Only B & C

3) Only A & C

4) Only A

5) All A, B & C

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

Explanation:

According to the World Health Organisation (WHO)’s report titled [“WHO South-East Asia Regional Status Report on Road Safety: Towards Safer and Sustainable Mobility”](#), India reported an increase in estimated road traffic deaths by **2%** during **2010-2021** period.

- The report was released at the 15th World Conference on Injury Prevention and Safety Promotion (Safety 2024) held at Taj Palace in New Delhi, Delhi.

- India reported around 1,53,973 road traffic fatalities in 2021 and has reported around 2,16,618 road deaths in the same period.
- As many as 3,30,222 deaths were reported in the South-East Region (**SEARO**) in 2021 due to Road Traffic Injuries (**RTI**), which accounts for about 28% of global road traffic deaths.
- As per WHO estimates, the highest number of people who died in road accidents in India, were drivers or riders of motorized two/three wheelers (45.1%), followed by pedestrians (at nearly 19%) and drivers or passengers of motorized four-wheelers (at 12.9%).[Click here to read more](#)

3. Which of the following has recently (in September '24) launched the 'Health Dynamics of India (Infrastructure and Human Resources) 2022-23 report?

- 1) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- 2) World Health Organization
- 3) International Labour Organization
- 4) National Medical Commission
- 5) NITI Aayog

Answer- **1) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**

Explanation:

On September 9, 2024, Union Secretary **Apurva Chandra**, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (**MoHFW**), launched the '[Health Dynamics of India \(Infrastructure and Human Resources\) 2022-23](#)' report in New Delhi (Delhi).

- This annual publication, which was previously called Rural Health Statistics, has been published since **1992**.
- The report gives comprehensive insights into the country's healthcare infrastructure and workforce with updates as of **March 31** each year.
- The report examines and compares health infrastructure and manpower data from 2005 to 2023, with a special focus on the period from 2022 to 2023, highlighting both advancements and areas needing improvement.
- The report includes focused insights on healthcare infrastructure and personnel in rural, urban, and tribal regions, aiding in targeted planning and policymaking.

4. Who will be most likely to become the world's 1st trillionaire by 2027, according to the report of Informa Connect Academy?

- 1) Mukesh Ambani
- 2) Elon Musk
- 3) Gautam Adani
- 4) Ratan Naval Tata
- 5) Bernard Arnault

Answer- **2) Elon Musk**

Explanation:

According to an Informa Connect Academy report titled '["2024 Trillion Dollar Club"](#) , **Elon Musk**, Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Tesla Motors and SpaceX , is most likely to become the world's 1st trillionaire by **2027**.

- As per the report, **Elon Musk** who is currently, the richest man in the world with total net worth of **USD 248 billion** (as per the Bloomberg Billionaires Index on September 12, 2024)

to become the world's 1st trillionaire requires his wealth to grow at an average annual growth rate of nearly 110%.

- The report estimated that **Gautam Adani (USD 111 billion)**, Chairman of Adani Group (India) will become the 2nd trillionaire by **2028**, if his ports-to-power conglomerate continues to grow at an average annual rate of approximately 123%.
- **Jensen Huang (USD 95 billion)**, CEO of NVIDIA, the United States of America(USA) has been ranked at **3rd** position among the top 10 individuals to become trillionaires, is estimated to surpass the trillion-dollar mark by 2028, if his company grows at an average annual rate of 111.88%.
- As per the report, the USA-based software company, **Microsoft Corporation** has topped among the trillion-dollar businesses in 2024, with a market capitalization of **USD 3.394 trillion** (as of 3rd July 2024), followed by **Apple** and **NVIDIA** ranked at 2nd and 3rd position with market capitalization of USD 3.323 trillion and USD 3.057 trillion respectively.
[Click here to read more.](#)

5. India secured ____ rank in U.S. News & World Report's Annual Best Countries Ranking 2024.

- 1) 30th
- 2) 32nd
- 3) 33rd
- 4) 37th
- 5) 39th

Answer- **3) 33rd**

Explanation:

According to the **9th** edition of [U.S. News & World Report's Annual Best Countries Ranking 2024](#), India has slipped by 3 positions, from 30th spot (in 2023) to **33rd** spot (in 2024) with an overall score of **46.4**.

- **Switzerland** has topped the Best Countries rankings for 2024 with an overall score of 100, for the 3rd consecutive year and for the 7th year since its inception.
- Japan has secured **2nd** position in the latest rankings, followed by the United States of America (**USA**) and **Canada** ranked at 3rd and 4th position respectively.
- According to the report, India has an area of **3,287, 263 Square Kilometer** (Sq. km), and a population of around 1.4 billion with Gross Domestic Product (GDP) of **USD 3.55 trillion**.
- Among the 10 sub-rankings of the report, India was featured among top 10 countries in only two sub-rankings i.e. in "Movers" category (7th) and Heritage category (10th rank).
- India has again secured 12th position in "Power" category for the 2nd consecutive year with a score of **45.1**.
- India saw a drop in its ranking in the "Cultural Influence" category from 29th position (in 2023) to 34th position (in 2024).[Click here to read more.](#)

6. According to the World Bank (WB) report titled "Unlocking the Power of Healthy Longevity," how many lives could be saved in Low-and-Middle Income Countries (LMICs) by investing in healthy longevity?

- 1) 200 million
- 2) 300 million
- 3) 150 million

4) 500 million

5) 225 million

Answer- **3) 150 million**

Explanation:

According to the World Bank (WB)'s report titled "[Unlocking the Power of Healthy Longevity: Demographic Change, Non-Communicable Diseases and Human Capital](#)", investing in healthy longevity could save **150 million lives** in Low-and-Middle Income Countries (LMICs) and extend millions more by **2050**, which would result in significant economic benefits.

- However, the report cautioned about the rapid increase of aging population which will impact labor, immigration, health care, social protection systems and economies.
- As per the report, at least **1/3rd** (33%) of the world population will be over 60 years of age by **2050**.
- As per the report, Non-Communicable Diseases (NCDs) such as diabetes. Respiratory diseases, heart diseases, cancers, among others account for over 70% of all deaths and a significant portion disease and disability in LMICs.
- The World Bank Group (WBG) has set the target of reaching **1.5 billion** people with better health services by **2030**.

7. Which Indian company has been recognized as the No. 1 India-headquartered company in the World's Best Companies 2024 list published by TIME Magazine and German-based Statista?

1) AMUL

2) Reliance Industries Limited

3) HCL Technologies Limited

4) Tata Consultancy Service Limited

5) Infosys Limited

Answer- **3) HCL Technologies Limited**

Explanation:

Indian Information technology (IT) firm **HCLTech** has been recognized as the **No. 1 India-headquartered company** in [World's Best Companies 2024 list](#) published by the United States of America (USA) based **TIME Magazine** and German-based **Statista**.

- HCLTech has secured **112th** position leading to topping amongst Indian companies.
- The Noida-headquartered firm has also secured a place in the global top **10** list within the **Professional Services** category.
- US-based tech giant **Apple** has topped the list globally, followed by Ireland-based tech major Accenture, Microsoft, BMW Group, and Amazon.
- The World's Best Companies 2024 ranking is based on **employee-satisfaction** surveys, **revenue** growth, and environmental, social, and corporate governance (**ESG**) data.[Click here to read more](#)

Top Indian Companies in the List

Global Rank	Company name	Headquarters	Overall score
112	HCL Technologies Limited	Noida, Uttar Pradesh(UP)	91.75
119	Infosys Limited	Bengaluru, Karnataka	91.55

134	Wipro Limited	Bengaluru	91.29
187	Mahindra Group	Mumbai, Maharashtra	90.57
504	Axis Bank Limited	Mumbai	86.72

8. Which Indian airport has ranked at 24th spot in the recently (in September '24) released OAG's 2024 Megahubs airports?

- 1) Maharishi Valmiki International Airport
- 2) Manohar International Airport
- 3) Indira Gandhi International Airport
- 4) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport
- 5) Thiruvananthapuram International Airport

Answer- **3) Indira Gandhi International Airport**

Explanation:

According to the '[2024 Megahubs report](#)', released by the United Kingdom (UK)-based air consultancy firm Official Airline Guide (OAG), **Indira Gandhi International Airport (IGIA)** in New Delhi(Delhi), has been ranked at **24th** spot among the top 25 Megahub airports globally, up by one place from 25th spot in OAG's 2023 report.

- Other than IGIA, Mumbai's (Maharashtra) **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport (CSMIA)** is also featured among the top 50 Megahubs airports globally. However, it saw a significant drop in its ranking from 34th position (in 2023) to **44th** position (in 2024).
- UK-based **London Heathrow Airport (LHR)** has once again secured the **1st** spot in the latest rankings, followed by Kuala Lumpur International Airport (KUL) in Malaysia and Tokyo-Haneda International Airport (HND) in Japan, secured **2nd** and **3rd** position respectively.
- This is the **10th edition of OAG Megahubs report**, which ranks the connectivity of the world's leading international airport hubs both global and regional wise.
- The Kuala Lumpur International Airport (**KUL**) topped in the Low-Cost Carrier (**LCC**) megahub category with 14,583 Low-Cost Connections across 137 destinations.
- London Heathrow Airport(**LHR**) has once again been recognized as the **world's most internationally connected airport**.
- As per OAG data, **IndiGo** emerged as the dominant carrier for both Delhi Airport and Mumbai Airport. Indigo operates **39%** and **41%** of flights at Delhi Airport and Mumbai Airport, respectively.
- Delhi Airport and Mumbai Airport are the only two Indian airports to be featured among OAG's top 10 LCC Airports Megahub category. [Click here to read more.](#)

9. India has achieved Tier 1 status in the 5th edition of Global Cybersecurity Index (GCI 2024). Which organisation has released the GCI 2024 in September 2024?

- 1) Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research
- 2) Department of Telecommunications
- 3) International Telecommunication Union

4) Telecom Regulatory Authority of India

5) Asia-Pacific Telecommunity

Answer- **3) International Telecommunication Union**

Explanation:

India has achieved **Tier 1** status in the [5th edition of Global Cybersecurity Index \(GCI 2024\)](#), released by the International Telecommunication Union (**ITU**), a trusted reference that measures the commitment of countries to cybersecurity at a global level.

- With an overall score of **98.49**, India is featured in the **Tier I** category along with 46 countries.
- The level of development or engagement of each country is assessed along 5 pillars: Legal Measures, Technical Measures, Organizational Measures, Capacity Development, and Cooperation.
- It uses a **new five-tier analysis**, ranking countries from Tier 1 to Tier 5 based on their advancements and impacts in cybersecurity.
- India excelled (scored 20 out of 20) in legal, technical, capacity development, and cooperation, marking them as areas of strength. Organisational measures was listed as an area of potential growth (score: 18.49).

10. Which country has recently (in September '24) become the 6th largest market in the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) All Country World Investable Market Index (ACWI IMI)?

1) China

2) India

3) France

4) Japan

5) Canada

Answer- **2) India**

Explanation:

India has become the **6th** largest market in the Morgan Stanley Capital International (MSCI) All Country World Investable Market Index (**ACWI IMI**), **surpassing China** and just marginally behind France. The United States of America (USA) has topped in the index.

- As of 31st August 2024, India's weight in the MSCI ACWI IMI stood at **2.35%**, 11 basis points (bps) higher than China's 2.24%. While, France MSCI AWI IMI is just 3 bps higher than India i.e. 2.38%.
- For the 1st time, India has surpassed China to become the top Emerging Market (EM) in the MSCI EM Investable Market Index (**EM IMI**).
- As per Morgan Stanley Analysts, India's top weight in the MSCI ACWI IMI is unlikely to boost passive inflows, as the index is tracked by Exchange-Traded Funds (**ETFs**) with moderate assets of less than **USD 2 billion**.
- According to Morgan Stanley research on 17th September 2024, China's weight in the index has fallen by **half a percentage point** since peaking in early 2021, while India's has more than doubled during this period.
- The United States of America (USA) has topped the MSCI ACWI IMI index with a weight of 68.23%, followed by Japan (5.73%) and the United Kingdom (UK) (3.51%) secured 2nd and 3rd position in the index respectively. [Click here to read more.](#)

11. Which Rhinoceros are potentially affected severely by climate change, according to the recently (in September '24) released report titled '2024 State of the Rhino' by the International Rhino Foundation (IRF)?

- 1) White rhino
- 2) Sumatran rhino
- 3) Greater one-horned rhino
- 4) Javan rhino
- 5) Black rhino

Answer- 3) Greater one-horned rhino

Explanation:

According to the report titled '[2024 State of the Rhino](#)' by the International Rhino Foundation (IRF), the **Greater one-horned rhino** (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) could be potentially affected severely by **climate change**, as stronger monsoon seasons and limited space and resources cause habitat disruption and increase the threat of human-wildlife conflict.

- This annual report provides current population estimates and trends, as well as key challenges and conservation developments for the 5 surviving rhino species in Africa and Asia.
- Currently, fewer than **28,000 rhinos** remain worldwide across all **5 species**, namely the White rhino, Black rhino, Javan rhino, Sumatran rhino, and the Greater one-horned rhino.
- The Greater One-Horned Rhino (also known as the **Indian Rhino**) resides primarily in India and Nepal, and occasionally in Bhutan.
- According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN), the estimated **population** of the greater one-horned rhinos is **4,014**.

12. According to the S&P Global Report titled 'India Forward: Emerging Perspectives', India is on track to become the _____ largest economy in the world by Financial Year 2030-31 (FY31).

- 1) 3rd
- 2) 1st
- 3) 2nd
- 4) 5th
- 5) 7th

Answer- 1) 3rd

Explanation:

According to the S&P Global's inaugural edition of the report titled '[India Forward: Emerging Perspectives](#)' released on 19th September, 2024, **India is on track to become the 3rd largest economy** in the world and transition to the Upper-Middle-Income(UMI) category by Financial Year 2030-31 (**FY31**), driven by a projected annual growth rate of **6.7%**.

- The report noted that India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) grew by an impressive **8.2%** in **FY24** and also expects to grow at **6.8%** in **FY25**.
- The report showed that Goods and Services Tax (**GST**) collections in India reached an all-time monthly high of **Rs 2.1 trillion** in April 2024 and remained healthy in May and June.
- India registered strong Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corporation (**HSBC**) India Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) readings so far in FY25 and **manufacturing** and **services sectors** activity continued to perform well above the neutral mark of 50. The HSBC India PMI is compiled by S&P Global Market Intelligence. [Click here to read more.](#)

13. Which state has experienced a continuous decline in its relative economic performance over several decades, according to a working paper 'Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-24' by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM)?

- 1) Karnataka
- 2) Tami Nadu
- 3) Gujarat
- 4) Andhra Pradesh
- 5) West Bengal

Answer- 5) West Bengal

Explanation:

According to the working paper by the Economic Advisory Council to the Prime Minister (EAC-PM) titled '[Relative Economic Performance of Indian States: 1960-61 to 2023-24](#)', there are significant economic transformations in various Indian states since the liberalization reforms of the 1990s.

- The paper focuses exclusively on the relative performance of states, measured using two indicators: Share in India's GDP and Relative per capita income.
- Karnataka, Gujarat, Delhi, Andhra Pradesh (AP), Telangana, and Haryana have made the largest gains in increasing their shares in the national GDP.
- In contrast, West Bengal (WB), Uttar Pradesh (UP), Uttarakhand, Bihar, Punjab, and Assam's shares in India's overall GDP have gone down. [Click here to read more.](#)

14. As per 3rd Advance Estimates of the Area and Production of various Horticultural Crops for Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24), total horticulture production in India for FY24 is estimated to be about _____.

- 1) 232.19 Million Tonnes
- 2) 283.19 Million Tonnes
- 3) 336.19 Million Tonnes
- 4) 353.19 Million Tonnes
- 5) 384.19 Million Tonnes

Answer- 4) 353.19 Million Tonnes

Explanation:

On 21st September 2024, the Department of Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare (DoA&FW) under the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare (MoA&FW) has released the 3rd Advance Estimates of the Area and Production of various Horticultural Crops for Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24).

- As per 3rd advance estimates for FY24, total horticulture production in India for FY24 is estimated to be about **353.19 Million Tonnes (MT)**, a marginal decrease of **0.65%** (about 22.94 Lakh Tonnes) compared to FY23 final estimates of about 355.48 MT.
- The area under horticultural crops has expanded to **28.98 million hectares** in FY24, up from 28.63 million hectares in the Second Advance Estimates and 28.44 million hectares in 2022-23.
- India's fruit production is expected to increase by **2.29%** in FY24 i.e. to **112.73 MT**.
- Overall production of vegetables is estimated to be around **205.80 MT**; overall production of onion is projected to be at **242.44 Lakh Tonne** in FY24; potato production in India is likely to be around **570.49 Lakh Tonne** and production of Tomato is estimated to increase

by **4.38%**, from around 204.25 Lakh Tonne registered in FY23 to **213.20 Lakh Tonne** in FY24.

15. Which state has recently (in September '24) topped the 6th edition of State Food Safety Index (SFSI – 2023-24) developed by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)?

- 1) Maharashtra
- 2) Kerala
- 3) Uttarakhand
- 4) Karnataka
- 5) Tamil Nadu

Answer- **2) Kerala**

Explanation:

Kerala, Tamil Nadu (TN) and Jammu & Kashmir (J&K) have emerged as the top performers of the **6th edition of State Food Safety Index (SFSI – 2023-24)** developed by the Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI). **Kerala** has topped the SFSI for **2nd consecutive year** with 73.75 score out of 100.

- The SFSI 2023-24 was unveiled by the Union Minister **Jagat Parkash Nadda**, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoH&FW) during the inaugural session of 2nd Global Food Regulators Summit (**GFRS 2024**) held at Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi, Delhi.
- Kerala achieved over 100% of its inspections target in Financial Year 2023-24 (FY24) and also it has improved its food-testing infrastructure and organised special drives to increase the number of license-holders and registrations, among other achievements.
- As per the index, TN has improved its ranking by 1 place, from 3rd position (in 2023) to 2nd position (in 2024), with an overall score of 67.
- **J&K** was ranked **3rd** with an overall score of 64.25, followed by Gujarat (score 61.75) and Punjab (score 56.75) were ranked at 4th and 5th position respectively.
- J&K emerged as the top performing among UTs, followed by Chandigarh (score of 43.75) and Delhi (score of 37.5).
- During the event, FSSAI launched Food Import Rejection Alerts (**FIRA**), an online platform designed specifically to inform the public and relevant food safety authorities through notification about food import rejections at Indian borders. [Click here to read more.](#)

16. Which ministry released the “7th Annual Report of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) (July 2023 to June 2024)” in September 2024?

- 1) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- 2) Ministry of Information and Broadcasting
- 3) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation
- 4) Ministry of Labour and Employment
- 5) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

Answer- **3) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation**

Explanation:

On 23rd September 2024, the National Sample Survey Office (**NSSO**) under the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (**MoSPI**) released the **“7th Annual Report of the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) (July 2023 to June 2024)”**. As per the report, Unemployment Rate (UR) in

usual status (ps+ss) for persons aged 15 years and above has remained unchanged at **3.2%** during July 2023 to June 2024.

- The UR for male aged 15 years and above saw a marginal decrease from 3.3% in 2022-23 to 3.2% in 2023-24. UR for female aged 15 years and above has increased from 2.9% in 2022-23 to 3.2% in 2023-24.
- The UR in urban areas has decreased from 5.4% in 2022-23 to 5.1% in 2023-24 and in rural areas, UR has increased from 2.4% in 2022-23 to 2.5% in 2023-24.
- At all India level, Labour Force Participation Rates (LFPR) in usual status (ps+ss) for persons of age 15 years and above has increased from 57.9% (in 2022-23) to **60.1%** (in 2023-24).
- LFPR for female has increased from 37.0% (in FY23) to **41.7%** (in 2023-2024). LFPR for male of the same age group in usual status (ps+ss) has increased from 78.5% to **78.8%** in July 2023-June 2024.
- Overall Work Population Ratio (WPR) in usual status for persons of age 15 years and above has increased from 56.0% (in 2022-23) to **58.2%** (in 2023-24).
- NSSO has been conducting PLFS since April 2017 to estimate the main employment and unemployment indicators such as: Work Population Ratio (**WPR**), Labour Force Participation Rate (**LFPR**), and **UR**, in the short time interval of **3 months** for the urban areas only in the “Current Weekly Status” (CWS). [Click here to read more.](#)

17. The S&P Global Ratings has recently (in September '24) retained India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast at _____ for FY25.

- 1) 7.2%
- 2) 6.5%
- 3) 7%
- 4) 6.8 %
- 5) 7.3%

Answer- **4) 6.8 %**

Explanation:

S&P Global Ratings has maintained India's Gross Domestic Product (**GDP**) growth forecast at **6.8%** for the fiscal year 2024-2025 (FY25) and **6.9%** for **FY26** in its '[Economic Outlook Asia-Pacific Q4 2024: Central Banks To Remain Cautious Despite U.S. Rate Relief](#)'.

- The Indian economy grew **8.2% in FY24** and for FY27 and FY28, India's GDP growth is expected at **7%**.
- For the Asia-Pacific region, the GDP growth is projected at **4.4%** for 2024, 2025, 2026, 2027.
- Inflation is projected at **4.5%** for FY25, **4.6%** for FY26 and FY27, and **4.1%** for FY28.

18. Which State/Union Territory has the highest Unemployment Rate (UR) among youths (individuals aged 15-29) as per the recent (in September '24) report of “Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS) (July 2023- June 2024)” of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO)?

- 1) Lakshadweep
- 2) Gujarat
- 3) Maharashtra
- 4) Karnataka
- 5) Puducherry

Answer-1) Lakshadweep

Explanation:

According to the 7th Annual report “[Periodic Labour Force Survey \(PLFS\) July 2023- June 2024](#)” of National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI), **Lakshadweep** has the highest Unemployment Rate (UR) among youths (individuals aged 15-29). Youth UR in Lakshadweep stands at 36.2% which includes 79.7% UR among young women and 26.2% UR among young men.

- Lakshadweep is followed by **Andaman and Nicobar Island** with 33.6% (49.5% women and 24% men) and **Kerala** with 29.9% (47.1% women and 19.3% men).
- The **national average** for youth unemployment is **10.2%**, with females facing a higher rate of 11% compared to 9.8% for males.
- Madhya Pradesh (MP) has the lowest unemployment rate of 2.6%, among states in India followed by Gujarat with 3.1% and Jharkhand with 3.6%.
- In **urban areas**, the overall youth UR is **14.7%**, compared to a lower rate of **8.5%** in rural areas.
- The joblessness rate among females in urban areas is notably higher at **20.1%**, while it stands at **8.2%** in rural regions. [Click here to read more.](#)

19. According to the recent (in September '24) SBI's Economic Research Department (ERD) report “Precursor to Census 2024: The Fine Prints of a Rapidly Changing Nation”, the average annual exponential growth has dropped to _____ in 2024.

- 1) 1%
- 2) 2.2%
- 3) 2.1%
- 4) 1.5%
- 5) 3.1%

Answer- **1) 1%**

Explanation:

According to the State Bank of India (SBI)'s Economic Research Department (**ERD**) report titled “[Precursor to Census 2024: The Fine Prints of a Rapidly Changing Nation](#)”, the average annual exponential growth of India's population is on a downward trajectory and is expected to decline from 2.20% (in 1971) to **1%** (in 2024), placing India's population in the range of 138 to 142 crore in 2024.

- The report has also projected that the median age of India will increase from 24 years (in 2021) to **28-29 years** (in 2023/24). Thus, India continues to be one of the youngest nations in the world and is still below the global median age.
- As per the report, the working-age population in India has seen an increasing trend since 1971 and is estimated to reach **64.4%** in the soon-to-be exercised Census i.e. 2024 Census. This trend is further expected to increase to 65.2% in 2031.
- According to SBI's ERD report, the proportion of children in the age group of **0 to 14 years** is projected to be **24.3%** in 2024, whereas it was 30.9% in 2011, indicating a continuing reversal trend that started in 1971.
- The report estimated that the contribution of the Southern region in incremental population growth will decline in the 2021 Census as compared to the 2011 Census, due to low growth in states like: **Tamil Nadu (TN), Andhra Pradesh (AP), and Telangana.**

- The NCT of Delhi and **Chandigarh**, are the most urbanized States and Union Territories (UTs), with **99.7%** and **100%** urban population respectively, followed by Daman and Diu (96.1%) and Puducherry (70.4%). [Click here to read more.](#)

ACQUISITION AND MERGERS

1. Which airline has recently (in August '24) received Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) approval from the Government of India(GoI) for the proposed merger of Vistara with Air India Limited (AI)?

- 1) All Nippon Airways
- 2) Qatar Airways
- 3) Emirates
- 4) Singapore Airlines
- 5) Air France

Answer- **4) Singapore Airlines**

Explanation:

Singapore Airlines Limited (**SIA**) has received **approval** from Government of India(GoI) for Foreign Direct Investment (**FDI**) as part of the proposed merger of **Vistara** with Air India Limited (**AI**). Once completed, this merger will create one of the world's largest airline groups.

- On **12 November 2024**, Vistara will officially merge with AI, transitioning its flight code from "**UK**" to "**AI**."
- SIA also secured its approval to become part of the expanded AI entity as a result of the proposed merger.
- After the merger, SIA, which held a **49%** stake in Vistara, will acquire a **25.1%** stake in the merged entity (after a Rs 2,058.5 crore investment), comprising AI, AIE, and Vistara. Tata Group will have the remaining 74.9% stake in AI.

2. Which company recently (in September 2024) got approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to acquire 100% stakes in Actis Holdings S.à r.l.?

- 1) IRB Infrastructure Trust
- 2) HDFC Credila Financial Services Limited
- 3) Ismartu India Private Limited
- 4) GAP Arthur Holdco, L.P.
- 5) Bajaj Holdings

Answer- **4) GAP Arthur Holdco, L.P.**

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (**CCI**) approved the following proposals on **3 September 2024**:

- Acquisition of the remaining 51% shareholding (on a fully diluted basis) in Rane NSK Steering Systems Private Limited (**RNSSPL**) by Rane Holdings Limited (**RHL**) by way of a share purchase from **NSK Limited** (Japan).
- Acquisition of 100% shareholding of **Actis Holdings S.à r.l.** by **GAP Arthur Holdco, L.P.**
- Acquisition of Shareholding in Utkarsh CoreInvest Limited (**Utkarsh CoreInvest**) by Citrine Inclusion Limited (**Citrine**).

- Acquisition of additional unitholding in Highway Infrastructure Trust by 2452991 Ontario Limited (OTPP 1/Acquirer).[Click here to read more](#)

3. Which ministry has recently (in September '24) set to sell a 6.78% stake in the General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re) through an Offer-For-Sale (OFS) to raise Rs 4,700 crore?

- 1) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
- 2) Ministry of Finance
- 3) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- 4) Ministry of Heavy Industries
- 5) Ministry of Power

Answer- **2) Ministry of Finance**

Explanation:

The Ministry of Finance (**MoF**), Government of India (**GoI**) is set to sell a **6.78%** stake in the General Insurance Corporation of India (**GIC Re**), a state-owned public sector reinsurance company, through an Offer-For-Sale (**OFS**), aiming to raise approximately **Rs 4,700 crore**. This is the first stake sale since GIC Re's 2017 OFS listing.

- Initially, the government will divest 3.39% of the equity. An additional 3.39% is available as a green shoe option.
- The floor price for the OFS is set at Rs 395 per share, around 6% below the Current Market Price (CMP) of Rs 420.8. The government's current stake in GIC Re is 85.78%.

4. Which company has recently (in September '24) got approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to merge with Tata Capital Limited (TCL)?

- 1) Tata AIA Life Insurance
- 2) Tata Motors Finance Limited
- 3) Tata Investment Corporation Limited
- 4) Tata AIG General Insurance Company Limited
- 5) Tata Consultancy Services

Answer- **2) Tata Motors Finance Limited**

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (**CCI**) approved the merger of Tata Motors Finance Limited (**TMFL**) with and into Tata Capital Limited (**TCL**) and the **subscription** of certain **shares** of Aditya Infotech Limited (**AIL**) by Dixon Technologies (India) Limited (**DTIL**), and the **acquisition** of **shares** of AIL Dixon Technologies Private Limited (**ATDPL**) currently held by DTIL by **AIL** on **10 September 2024**.

- TCL will be the surviving entity, formalised through a scheme of arrangement filed with the National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT).
- TCL, a subsidiary of Tata Sons Private Limited (TSPL), is operating as a Non-Banking Financial Company – Investment and Credit Company (NBFC-ICC).
- TMFL is an NBFC-ICC focused on financing new vehicles (manufactured by Tata Motors Limited and its group companies) and pre-owned vehicles.
- It offers loans and advances to transporters, dealers, and vendors of Tata Motors Limited.

5. Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has recently (in September 2024) increased its stake in _____ (company) to about 9.3%.

- 1) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation
- 2) Rural Electrification Corporation Limited
- 3) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited
- 4) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- 5) Indian Railway Finance Corporation

Answer- 1) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation

Explanation:

On 12th September 2024, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC), India's largest state-owned insurance company, has increased its stake Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation (IRCTC), a "Mini Ratna (Category-I)" Central Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under Ministry of Railways, to about 9.3%

- LIC's shareholdings in equity shares of IRCTC has been increased from around 5.82 crore to around 7.43 crore i.e., 7.278% to ~9.298% of the paid up capital.
- LIC shareholding in IRCTC has increased 2.02% in the period 16th December 2022, to 11th September 2024, via open market purchases.

Max Healthcare Institute Limited (Max Health Care) has announced the acquisition of 64% stake (controlling stake) in Jaypee Healthcare Limited (JHL) at an enterprise value of Rs 1,660 crore.

6. Which company has recently (in September 2024) received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the amalgamation of Aditya Birla Finance Limited with itself to create a large unified Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC)?

- 1) Aditya Birla Capital Limited
- 2) Star Finserv India Limited
- 3) Sonata Finance Private Limited
- 4) Jio Financial Services Limited
- 5) Mindgrove Technologies Private Limited

Answer- 1) Aditya Birla Capital Limited

Explanation:

On 18th September 2024, **Aditya Birla Capital Limited** received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for the amalgamation of **Aditya Birla Finance Limited**, its wholly owned subsidiary, with itself to create a large unified Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).

- Aditya Birla Capital will now approach National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) to complete the amalgamation process.
- Aditya Birla Capital's board approved the merger with Aditya Birla Finance on 11th March 2024.

7. In September 2024, Which organisation was sold for Rs 320 crore to the Japanese's Konoike Transport Company Limited under the Alternative Mechanism, empowered by the Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA)?

- 1) Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited
- 2) Ramky Sustainability Solutions Private Limited
- 3) Sneha Farms Private Limited
- 4) BAG Holdings Private Limited

5) Neelachal Ispat Nigam Limited

Answer- **1) Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited**

Explanation:

The Government of India (GoI) has approved the sale of Ferro Scrap Nigam Limited (FSNL) along with the transfer of management control to **Japan's Konoike Transport Cim Ltd.** for **Rs 320 crore**. This marks the first privatisation in over 2 years.

- Cabinet Committee on Economic Affairs (CCEA) had granted in-principle approval for FSNL's disinvestment in 2016 and the reserve price was set at Rs 262 crore, with Konoike's bid being the highest. The other bidder was Indic Geo Resources Private Limited, a subsidiary of Chandan Steel Ltd.
- **FSNL** is a Mini Ratna-II Government of India (GoI) Undertaking based in Bhilai (Chhattisgarh) and a **subsidiary** of **MSTC Limited** (formerly known as Metal Scrap Trade Corporation Limited), under the Ministry of Steel (MoS).

8. Which company has recently (in September 2024) received approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to acquire less than 10% equity shareholding in Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited (VHFCL)?

- 1) Sonata Finance Private Limited
- 2) EQT Private Capital Asia
- 3) IRB Infrastructure Trust
- 4) Naspers Ventures B.V.
- 5) Axel Springer SE

Answer- **4) Naspers Ventures B.V.**

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed acquisition of less than 10% equity shareholding in **Vastu Housing Finance Corporation Limited (VHFCL)** by Naspers Ventures B.V. (**Naspers Ventures**) on a fully diluted basis.

- Naspers Ventures is an indirect, wholly-owned subsidiary of Prosus N.V. It is an investment holding company, primarily involved in investment through direct and indirect equity and debt funding.
- CCI has approved the acquisition of shares of Home Credit India Finance Private Limited (Home Credit) by VS Holdings Limited (TVSH), STPL Trading and Services Private Limited (STPL), and PI Opportunities Fund-II (PIOF), and acquisition of shares of STPL Trading and Services Private Limited by K. Gopala Desikan, Anuraag Agarwal, V. Ganesh, and GWC Family Fund Investments Pte. Ltd.
- The CCI has approved the acquisition of **100%** share capital of **Sunbeam Lightweighting Solutions Private Limited** by **Craftsman Automation Limited** on a fully diluted basis. [Click here to read more.](#)

9. Which bank has recently (in September '24) received the approval of the Scheme of Amalgamation with the Rajapur Sahakari Bank Limited from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?

- 1) Banaras Merchantile Co-operative Bank Limited
- 2) Mahabhairab Cooperative Urban Bank Limited
- 3) Valsad Mahila Nagrik Sahakari Bank Limited
- 4) Malad Sahakari Bank Limited

5) Uravakonda Cooperative Town Bank Limited

Answer- **4) Malad Sahakari Bank Limited**

Explanation:

On September 20 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) approved the Scheme of Amalgamation of Mumbai (Maharashtra) based **The Rajapur Sahakari Bank Limited** with Mumbai based **The Malad Sahakari Bank Limited**. The scheme will come into force from September 23, 2024.

- The scheme has been approved in exercise of its powers conferred under Sub-Section (4) of Section 44A read with Section 56 of the Banking Regulation (BR) Act, 1949.
- As a part of amalgamation, the branches of The Rajapur Sahakari Bank Ltd., will function as branches of The Malad Sahakari Bank Ltd.

DEFENCE

1. Name India's first indigenously developed Pollution Control Vessel (PCV) of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) that was recently (in August'24) launched at the event held at Goa Shipyard Limited (GSL).

- 1) Arowana
- 2) Rajdhvaj
- 3) Samudra Pratap
- 4) Rajshree
- 5) Vishwast

Answer- **3) Samudra Pratap**

Explanation:

Neeta Seth, wife of Sanjay Seth, Minister of State (MoS), Ministry of Defence (MoD), launched and named the Pollution Control Vessel (**PCV**), '**Samudra Pratap**' for the Indian Coast Guard (**ICG**) in an event held at Goa Shipyard Limited (**GSL**), in Vasco da Gama, Goa.

- The event also witnessed the launch of '**GSL Yard 1267**', another PCV for the ICG.
- These are the **1st indigenously built PCVs**, designed and constructed entirely in-house by the **GSL** to meet the specific needs of the ICG.
- Samudra Pratap will aid in controlling oil spills along India's coastline, whereas GSL Yard 1267 will help protect the maritime environment.
- GSL signed a Rs 583 crore contract on 22nd June 2021, to build 2 state-of-the-art PCVs for ICG.
- The vessel Samudra Pratap is 114.5 meters (m) long, 16.5 m wide, and displaces 4170 Tonnes (T). The Ship will be manned by 14 Officers and 115 Sailors.
- This advanced PCV has an Indigenous content of over 60%. It is designed for oil spill response operations in the Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) and beyond.

2. Name the project that was recently (in August '24) launched by the Indian Army to provide support and services to Defence pensioners, veterans, and their families.

- 1) Nexus
- 2) PARI
- 3) Yojak
- 4) NAMAN

5) Digital Shakti

Answer- **4) NAMAN**

Explanation:

The **Indian Army (IA)** has launched the **first phase** of **Project NAMAN** to provide support and services to **Defence pensioners**, veterans, and their families.

- The project was launched in the presence of General Upendra Dwivedi, Chief of the Army Staff (**COAS**) of the IA along with Sunita Dwivedi, President of the Army Wives Welfare Association (**AWWA**).
- Project NAMAN focuses on the implementation of the System for Pension Administration Raksha (**SPARSH**), a digital pension system that streamlines pension-related processes for Defence Pensioners, addressing the critical need for accessible facilitation points for Veterans and Next of Kin (NOK) throughout India.
- HDFC Bank has given the necessary Information Technology (IT) infrastructure to make the CSCs operational, while local military stations have contributed essential physical infrastructure and facilities.

3. Which organisation has recently (in August '24) signed an airframer contract with SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Private Limited to develop and supply a helicopter engine named "Aravalli"?

- 1) Adani Defence & Aerospace
- 2) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 3) Signaltron Systems Private Limited
- 4) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- 5) Bharat Electronics Limited

Answer- **2) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited**

Explanation:

Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**), a Navaratna Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the Ministry of Defence (MoD), and SAFHAL Helicopter Engines Private Limited (**SAFHAL**) signed an **airframer contract**, to commence joint design, development, manufacture, supply, and support of a new generation high-power engine named "**Aravalli**".

- The Aravalli engine will power the 13-ton Medium Lift class Indian Multi-Role Helicopter (**IMRH**), and the Deck-Based Multi-Role Helicopter (**DBMRH**), both designed and developed by HAL.
- The engine is named after the Aravalli Mountain Range (AMR), symbolising India's aspirations for self-reliance in critical engine technologies.
- SAFHAL is a Joint Venture (JV) between Safran Helicopter Engines SAS and HAL, focused on new-generation helicopter engines in India.

4. Name the Bilateral Naval Exercise between India and France that was held in the Mediterranean Sea from 2nd to 4th September 2024.

- 1) Exercise SHAKTI
- 2) JIMEX-24
- 3) Exercise Pitch Black
- 4) Exercise VARUNA
- 5) Exercise Garuda

Answer- 4) Exercise VARUNA

Explanation:

The Indian Navy's (IN) **P-8I aircraft** has arrived at Air Base 125 Istres-Le Tube in France, marking its first deployment in Europe, to participate in the **22nd** edition of **Exercise 'VARUNA' (2024)**, an **Indo-French Bilateral Naval Exercise**.

The Exercise was conducted in the Mediterranean Sea from **2nd to 4th September 2024**.

- This deployment follows 63 years after the IN's Alize aircraft operated from the erstwhile Indian Naval Ship (INS) Vikrant and last flew at Hyeres Airbase.
- The VARUNA 2024 will feature advanced tactical drills, highlighting the strengthened synergy and interoperability between the 2 navies.
- **INS Tabar**, which had earlier arrived in Toulon, France is also participating in the exercise.
- The **21st** edition of this bilateral exercise was conducted on the Western Seaboard from 16 to 20 January 2023.

5. Name the aerospace company that has recently (in September '24) achieved the successful maiden flight of India's first Indigenous unmanned bomber aircraft, the FWD 200B.

- 1) Azista BST Aerospace Private Limited
- 2) Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace
- 3) Adani Defence and Aerospace
- 4) Ikran Aerospace and Technologies Private Limited
- 5) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

Answer- 2) Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace

Explanation:

Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace (**FWDA**), a defence and aerospace company, announced the successful **maiden flight** of India's first Indigenous unmanned bomber aircraft, the **FWD 200B**.

- The aircraft is classified as a Medium Altitude Long Endurance (MALE) Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV).
- FWD 200B features a wingspan of 5 meters (m) and a length of 3.5 m.
- It has a maximum take-off weight of 102 kilograms (kg) and a payload capacity of 30 kg.
- It can fly at a cruising speed of 152 km per hour, with a maximum speed of 250 km per hour.

6. In September 2024, India successfully launched an Agni-4 missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha

Agni-4 belongs to which type of missile?

- 1) Submarine-launched ballistic Missile
- 2) Intercontinental ballistic missile
- 3) Medium Range Surface to Air Missile
- 4) Hypersonic Cruise missile
- 5) Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile

Answer- 5) Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile

Explanation:

India successfully launched an Intermediate Range Ballistic Missile (**IRBM**) called **Agni-4** from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in **Chandipur, Odisha**. The launch was conducted under the supervision of the Strategic Forces Command (SFC) and has validated all operational and technical parameters.

- Agni-4 is the **4th missile** in the Agni series. It was designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**).
- The Agni-4 is a long-range, surface-to-surface ballistic missile with a range of 4,000 kilometers (km), capable of carrying nuclear warheads.
- It is equipped with an indigenous-built ring laser gyroscope with a Micro Inertial Navigation System (MINGS), achieving 100 meters (m) accuracy. [Click here to read more](#)

7. Which shipbuilding company has recently (in September '24) launched two indigenously designed and constructed Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water-Crafts (ASW-SWCs) named the Indian Naval Ship (INS) Malpe and INS Mulki?

- 1) Mazagon Dock Limited
- 2) Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Limited
- 3) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- 4) SECON Engineering Projects Private Limited
- 5) L&T Shipbuilding Limited

Answer- **3) Cochin Shipyard Limited**

Explanation:

On 10th September 2024, Kerala-based Cochin Shipyard Limited (**CSL**) launched **2** indigenously designed and constructed **Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water-Crafts (ASW-SWCs)** named the Indian Naval Ship (**INS**) **Malpe** and **INS Mulki** built for the Indian Navy (**IN**).

- These are the **4th** and **5th ships** of the **8 ASW-SWC projects** being built by the CSL for IN.
- The vessels are 78.0 meters (m) long, and 11.36 m wide with a draught of about 2.7 m.
- The displacement is about 900 tonnes and would be able to achieve a maximum speed of 25 knots and endurance of 1,800 nautical miles (nmi).
- These ships are designed to undertake anti-submarine operations in coastal waters, Low-Intensity Maritime Operations (LIMO), and mine-laying operations, including subsurface surveillance.

8. Name the military exercise between India and the United States of America (USA) that has recently commenced (in September '24) at the Foreign Training Node in Rajasthan.

- 1) Khaan Quest
- 2) JIMEX-24
- 3) Red Flag 24-2
- 4) RIMPAC
- 5) YUDH ABHYAS

Answer- **5) YUDH ABHYAS**

Explanation:

On September 9, 2024, the 20th edition of the India-United States of America (USA) Joint Military Exercise '**YUDH ABHYAS**' began at the Foreign Training Node in Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, **Rajasthan**. It will run until **September 22, 2024**.

- YUDH ABHYAS 2024 exercise marks a significant increase in both the scope and complexity of the exercise in terms of military power and equipment.
- The **19th** edition of YUDH ABHYAS was held in **Alaska, USA**.
- It aims to strengthen interoperability, camaraderie, and defence cooperation between the two nations.
- The exercise focuses on enhancing joint counter-terrorism capabilities in a **semi-desert environment** under Chapter VII of the United Nations (UN) Charter.

9. Which defence company has recently (in September '24) signed a contract worth Rs 26,000 crore with the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for procurement of 240 AL-31FP Aero Engines for Su-30MKI aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF)?

- 1) Sagar Defence Engineering Private Limited
- 2) Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies Private Limited
- 3) Airbus Defence and Space
- 4) Kadet Defence Systems
- 5) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

Answer- **5) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited**

Explanation:

On 9th September 2024, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) signed a contract worth **Rs 26,000 crore** with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**) for procurement of **240 AL-31FP** Aero Engines for **Su-30MKI** aircraft of the Indian Air Force (IAF). This contract marks a major step in India's drive towards self-reliance under the **Aatmanirbhar Bharat** initiative.

- As per the contract, these aero-engines will be manufactured at **Koraput division** of HAL in Koraput district, Odisha. It aimed to fulfill the requirements of IAF to sustain the operational capability of the Su-30 fleet for the defence preparedness of the country.
- HAL will supply **30 Aero-engines** annually as per the contract delivery schedule. The delivery of all 240 aero-engines, expected to be completed over the period of **next 8 years**.
- It is a multi-role air fighter jet designed especially for the IAF by Russian manufacturer **Sukhoi** and assembled by HAL.
- It is equipped with **two AL-31FP turbofan engines** and has a maximum speed of Mach 2.

10. Name the country where the Indian Navy(IN)'s P8I aircraft recently (in September '24) reached to participate in the 16th edition of Exercise Kakadu 2024.

- 1) United States of America
- 2) Thailand
- 3) Mongolia
- 4) Australia
- 5) Japan

Answer- **4) Australia**

Explanation:

Exercise Kakadu 2024, the **16th** edition of the biennial exercise led by Royal Australian Navy(**RAN**) and supported by the Royal Australian Air Force (**RAAF**) is being held in Darwin, Australia from September 7 to 20, 2024.

- The **Indian Navy(IN)'s P8I aircraft**, led by Captain Ajay Kanwar, has arrived in Darwin, Australia, to participate in Ex Kakadu 2024.

- Ex Kakadu 2024 is being held under the theme “**Regional Cooperation through Trusted and Proven Partnerships**”.
- The exercise involves over 3,000 personnel from **32 nations** and features 13 warships, a submarine, over 10 aircraft including maritime patrol units and unmanned systems.
- Exercise Kakadu, inceptioned in **1993**, is the flagship regional international engagement activity of RAN.

11. Name the missile that the Indian Navy (IN) and the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO) successfully tested in flight from the launchpad of the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, off the coast of Odisha in September 2024.

- 1) Long Range Cruise Missiles
- 2) Phase-II Ballistic Missile Defence System
- 3) Minuteman III
- 4) Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile
- 5) BrahMos

Answer- **4) Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile**

Explanation:

Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**), and the Indian Navy (**IN**) conducted a successful flight test of an indigenously built Vertical Launch Short Range Surface-to-Air Missile (**VL-SR SAM**) from the launchpad of the Integrated Test Range (**ITR**) at Chandipur in Balasore district off the coast of **Odisha**.

- The flight test was conducted using a land-based vertical launcher, engaging a high-speed aerial target flying at a low altitude. The missile system successfully detected and hit the target.
- The flight test aimed to validate several updated components of the weapon system, including the Proximity Fuse and Seeker.
- The system’s performance was meticulously monitored and verified using various range instruments, such as the Radar, Electro-Optical Tracking System (EOTS), and Telemetry, deployed at ITR Chandipur.
- VL-SR SAM is a ship-based weapon system developed by Bharat Dynamics Limited (BDL), a Hyderabad (Telangana)-based Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) under the MoD, for the IN.
- It provides IN warships with quick-reaction air defence against supersonic, low-flying targets like aircraft and drones, even in all weather conditions.
- The VL-SR SAM is built with 4 small wings to maintain stability during flight and is expected to carry a high-explosive warhead filled with pre-formed fragments.

12. Name the joint exercise that was recently (in September ‘24) conducted between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Royal Oman Air Force (RAFO) in Oman.

- 1) Tarkash
- 2) Pitch Black
- 3) Eastern Bridge
- 4) Red Flag 24-2
- 5) Cyber Suraksha

Answer- **3) Eastern Bridge**

Explanation:

The Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent comprising Mikoyan-Gurevich (MiG)-29s, Jaguars fighter planes, and C-17 Globemaster III transport planes were participating in the ongoing 7th edition of **Exercise Eastern Bridge** at Air Force base Masirah, **Oman**.

- The bilateral exercise began on September 11 2024 and will end on September 22 2024.
- The Exercise Eastern Bridge is a joint exercise between the IAF and the Royal Oman Air Force (RAFO). It has been held annually since 2009.
- Exercise Eastern Bridge aims to enhance tactical and operational skills, promote mutual understanding, and strengthen the ability of both air forces to collaborate effectively in various circumstances.
- The **5th edition** of the bilateral military exercise **Al NAJAH** between the Indian Army(IA) and the Royal Army of Oman began on September 13, 2024, at the Rabkoot Training Area in Salalah, Oman. It will end on 26th September, 2024. It has been held biennially since 2015. [Click here to read more.](#)

13. In September 2024, the Ministry of Defence(MoD) approved the Indian Navy's (IN) Rs 2,500 crore plan to develop _____.

- 1) Ocean Research Vessels
- 2) Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow Water Crafts
- 3) Extra-Large Unmanned Underwater Vessels
- 4) Next Generation Missile Vessels
- 5) Offshore Patrol Vessels

Answer- 3) Extra-Large Unmanned Underwater Vessels

Explanation:

The Ministry of Defence(MoD) has approved the Indian Navy's (IN) **Rs 2,500 crore plan** to develop Extra-Large Unmanned Underwater Vessels (**XLUUVs**) as part of its strategy to enhance underwater combat and surveillance capabilities.

- These vessels are expected to strengthen India's defence against enemy submarines and surface vessels.
- The XLUUVs, **weighing over 100 tonnes**, will have strike capabilities against enemy submarines and surface vessels.
- These vessels will be deployed for various tasks including mine-laying, mine-clearing, surveillance, and launching weapons.

14. Which city has recently (in September '24) hosted the India Defence Aviation Exposition (Expo) (IDAX-24)?

- 1) Jodhpur, Rajasthan
- 2) Umroi, Meghalaya
- 3) Chandipur, Odisha
- 4) Amethi, Uttar Pradesh
- 5) Bangalore, Karnataka

Answer- 1) Jodhpur, Rajasthan

Explanation:

Union Minister Rajnath Singh, Ministry of Defence (MoD) inaugurated the India Defence Aviation Exposition (Expo) (**IDAX-24**) in **Jodhpur**, Rajasthan, showcasing India's commitment to Indigenous defence manufacturing and aerospace innovation.

- The IDAX-24, run from 12 to 14 September 2024, highlighted the significant advancements and contributions of the Indian aviation industry.
- The event coincides with **Exercise Tarang Shakti-24 (Phase II)**, one of the largest and India's first multinational air exercises hosted by the Indian Air Force (**IAF**) in **Jodhpur** from 29th August to 14th September 2024.
- IDAX-24 aims to present India's Indigenous aviation capabilities to global air forces.
- The IAF's Directorate of Aerospace Design (DAD) participated in the expo alongside various startups. [Click here to read more.](#)

15. Which organisation partnered with the Indian Navy (IN) has recently (in September '24) conducted the 2nd consecutive flight test of the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VLSRSAM)?

- 1) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- 2) Defence Research & Development Organisation
- 3) Adani Defence and Aerospace
- 4) Flying Wedge Defence and Aerospace Technologies
- 5) Mahindra Defence Systems Limited

Answer- 2) Defence Research & Development Organisation

Explanation:

On 13th September 2024, the Defence Research & Development Organisation (**DRDO**) and the Indian Navy (**IN**) successfully conducted the **2nd consecutive flight test** of the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (**VLSRSAM**), a ship-borne weapon system from the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in **Chandipur**, off the coast of Odisha.

- Developed by DRDO, VLSRSAM intercepted a **high-speed aerial target** at a very low altitude, simulating a sea-skimming threat, showcasing its precision and capability.
- This test followed a similar successful flight on September 12, 2024, where the missile effectively neutralized a low-altitude target.
- DRDO successfully completed the first phase of developmental field firing trials for India's indigenous light tank, 'Zorawar.' It was tested in desert terrain, demonstrating exceptional performance during preliminary automotive trials.
- The initial phase focused on testing the tank's firing capabilities, achieving the required accuracy on designated targets.

16. Name the state-of-the-art Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility that was recently (in September '24) commissioned by the Indian Navy (IN) at (Indian Naval Ship) INS Satavahana, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (AP).

- 1) Arighaat
- 2) Dega
- 3) Triput
- 4) Vinetra
- 5) MAITRI

Answer- 4) Vinetra

Explanation:

The Indian Navy (IN) has commissioned a state-of-the-art **Kalvari Submarine Escape Training Facility**, named '**Vinetra**,' at **INS (Indian Naval Ship) Satavahana**, Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (AP). It is designed to enhance the crew's escape capabilities from distressed Kalvari-class submarines.

- It was inaugurated by **Vice Admiral Rajesh Pendharkar**, Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief (FOC-in-C), Eastern Naval Command in Visakhapatnam, AP.
- The facility "**Vinetra**" (**विनेत्र**), meaning "**Trainer**" represents a significant step forward in building confidence among submariner.
- Vinetra, indigenously designed and developed on the lines of Atma Nirbhar Bharat initiative, is built by Larsen & Toubro Ltd (**L&T**) Defence featuring a **five-meter escape tower** integrated with a diving basin.
- **INS Kalvari**, commissioned in 2017, was the first of the class, followed by other submarines like **INS Khanderi**, **INS Karanj**, **INS Vela**, **INS Vagir**, and **INS Vagsheer**.

17. Which organisation has recently (in September '24) collaborated with the Indian Army and hosted two major events, 'HIM DRONE-A-THON 2024', and 'HIMTECH 2024' in Ladakh?

- 1) Defence Research and Development Organisation
- 2) NITI Aayog
- 3) Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry
- 4) Indian Space Research Organisation
- 5) Associated Chambers of Commerce and Industry of India

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

Explanation:

The **Indian Army** hosted two major events, '**HIM DRONE-A-THON 2024**', and '**HIMTECH 2024**', in collaboration with the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (**FICCI**), at **Leh**, in the Union Territory (UT) of **Ladakh**. The events focused on harnessing military technology for High Altitude Areas (HAA) through cutting-edge drone and technology innovations.

- The **HIM DRONE-A-THON 2024** was held from 17th to 18th September 2024 at **Wari La, Leh**.
- The **HIMTECH 2024** was held from 20th to 21st September 2024 at **Rinchen Auditorium Grounds, Leh**.
- **HIM DRONE-A-THON 2024** focused on the demonstration of the capabilities of Aerial/ Ground/ Water/Underwater drones in HAA.
- **HIMTECH 2024** focussed on showcasing cutting-edge equipment /products /solutions designed to perform in HAA.

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. Which company has recently (in September '24) launched Sentinel-2C Satellite Aboard Last Vega Rocket for Environmental Monitoring?

- 1) SpaceX
- 2) ASELSAN
- 3) Blue Origin
- 4) Arianespace
- 5) HyImpulse

Answer- 4) Arianespace

Explanation:

Arianespace, France based space transportation company, has successfully launched the last Vega launcher (**VV24 mission**) carrying the **third Copernicus Sentinel-2** (Sentinel-2C) satellite, into Sun-synchronous orbit (SSO) at an altitude of 775 kilometres(km).

- The mission was launched from the Guiana Space Center, French Guiana on 4th September 2024.
- This will serve as the Earth observation component of the European Union (**EU**)'s **Space Program**, which will provide crucial environmental data for the planet.
- This flight (VV24) was the last and 20th successful launch of Vega. This will be replaced by the upgraded Vega-C launcher, which is expected to return to flight by the end of 2024.
- The Sentinel-2 mission is the result of close collaboration between ESA, the European Commission, industry, service providers, and data users.

2. Name India's 1st space station which will be launched by 2028 by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO).

- 1) Bharatiya Antariksh Station
- 2) International Space Station
- 3) Tiangong space station
- 4) Skylab
- 5) Salyut

Answer- 1) Bharatiya Antariksh Station

Explanation:

The Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) plans to launch the **1st base module** of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (**BAS**), **India's 1st space station**, by **2028**. The BAS will have **5 modules**.

- The entire station with a mass of about 52 tonnes is expected to be fully assembled in space by **2035**.
- ISRO is also in the process of building a new generation rocket – Soorya – to lift off the heavier modules.

3. Which space tech firm has recently (in September '24) launched 10 Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre (TSLC) located in the northern province of Shanxi, China?

- 1) Blue Origin
- 2) Rocket Lab

- 3) Boeing
- 4) Geespace
- 5) Venturi Astrolab

Answer- **4) Geespace**

Explanation:

On 6th September 2024, **Geespace**, a satellite technology company backed by Chinese automaker Geely Technology Group, launched the **3rd** batch of satellites as part of its plan to form a mega-constellation.

- This included **10** Low Earth Orbit (**LEO**) **satellites**, launched from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Centre (TSLC) located in the northern province of Shanxi, China.
- This deployment holds great significance as it marks the 1st time a Chinese commercial aerospace company has offered LEO satellite communication on an international level.
- With the launch of the 3rd batch, the constellation now comprises 30 satellites covering **90%** of the globe with 24-hour (hr) communication services.
- LEO satellites usually operate at the height of **300-2000 kilometer** (km) above the Earth's surface, offer more efficient transmission and are cheaper to launch compared to higher-orbit satellites.

4. Which company has recently (in September 2024) announced plans to set-up India's 1st multi-sensor, all-weather, high-revisit Earth Observation Satellite Constellation (EOSC)?

- 1) Dhruva Space Private Limited
- 2) Astrogate Labs Private Limited
- 3) NewSpace India Limited
- 4) GalaxEye Space Solutions Private Limited
- 5) Nibe Space Private Limited

Answer- **5) Nibe Space Private Limited**

Explanation:

On 8th September 2024, Nibe Space Private Limited (**NSPL**), a subsidiary of **Nibe Limited**, has announced plans to set-up India's **1st** multi-sensor, all-weather, high-revisit Earth Observation Satellite Constellation (**EOSC**) at an event held in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- It aims to promote India's defence and space capabilities while promoting self-reliance in the strategically important defence-space sector.
- During the event, NSPL has signed Memorandum of Understandings (MoUs) with leading Indian and global infrastructure and defence companies to collaborate as a **Consortium**.
- Through this consortium, NSPL aims to deploy a constellation of **40** Low-Earth Orbit (**LEO**) **satellites** over the next **5 to 6 years**. The constellation will offer high-resolution imagery and enhanced revisit times for defence and strategic purposes.

5. Name the SpaceX's Crew Mission that has recently (in September '24) led by an American billionaire entrepreneur Jared Isaacman, returned to Earth following the successful completion of the world's 1st private spacewalk.

- 1) PREFIRE
- 2) NROL-146
- 3) Polaris Dawn
- 4) EarthCARE

5) Axiom-4

Answer- **3) Polaris Dawn**

Explanation:

On 15th September 2024, SpaceX's **Polaris Dawn Mission** Crew, led by an American billionaire entrepreneur **Jared Isaacman**, a pilot and the founder of electronic payments company **Shift4**, returned to the Earth following the successful completion of the world's 1st private spacewalk.

- The Dragon capsule of SpaceX which carried 4 crew members for the mission splashed down in the Gulf of Mexico near Dry Tortugas, Florida, the United States of America (USA).
- The mission achieved the 1st ever private spacewalk while orbiting nearly 460 miles (i.e. 740 kilometers (kms)) above the Earth, lasted 1 hour and 46 minutes, and surpassed the International Space Station (ISS) and Hubble Space Telescope.
- The mission included 4 crew members: **Jared Isaacman** was the commander of the mission. While Scott **Poteet**, a retired U.S. Air Force Lieutenant Colonel served as the pilot of the mission, **Sarah Gillis** and **Anna Menon**, both senior engineers at SpaceX, were the mission specialists.
- The crew members of the mission walked into space wearing SpaceX designed new Extravehicular Activity (EVA) suits.
- Polaris Dawn Mission is the first of the three testing and development missions under the Polaris Program, collaboration between Jared Issacman and Elon Musk's SpaceX.
- The 5-day mission was launched aboard SpaceX's **Falcon9 rocket** on 10th September, 2024 from Launch Complex 39A at Kennedy Space Centre of National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) in Florida, the USA.
- The crew of the Polaris Dawn mission became the 1st crew who has successfully conducted the test of SpaceX's **Starlink** laser-based communications in space which will help in future space communications systems required for missions to the Moon, Mars and beyond.

6. Which country has recently (in September '24) launched its 'Chamran-1' research satellite into orbit by the Qaem-100 satellite carrier?

- 1) Iran
- 2) United Arab Emirates
- 3) Russia
- 4) China
- 5) United States of America

Answer- **1) Iran**

Explanation:

Iran has successfully launched the '**Chamran-1**' research satellite and put it into a 550 kilometer(km) orbit by the **Qaem-100** satellite carrier. The launch was made at the Guard's launch pad near the city of Shahroud, some 350km (215 miles) east of the capital, Tehran, Iran.

- This is Iran's second satellite launch in 2024, first under Iran's President Masoud Pezeshkian.
- The Chamran-1 satellite, weighing 60 kilograms(kg), designed to test hardware and software systems for orbital maneuver technology.
- It is designed and manufactured by **Iranian engineers at Iran Electronics Industries (SAIran)**, a defense ministry subsidiary, in collaboration with the Aerospace Research Institute and several private firms.

- The Qaem-100 rocket, built by Aerospace Force of the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC). It is a solid-fuel, three-stage vehicle and previously used in January 2024 for another successful satellite launch.

7. According to a recent (in September '24) study from the United States of America (USA) based Cornell University, the first human-made meteor shower may occur from the rocky debris left over from NASA's _____ mission.

- 1) Tanager-1
- 2) Gaofen-11 05
- 3) Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite
- 4) Double Asteroid Redirection Test
- 5) Artemis II

Answer- 4) Double Asteroid Redirection Test

Explanation:

A study from **Cornell University** of New York, the United States of America (USA) suggests that the rocky debris generated from the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**)'s Double Asteroid Redirection Test (**DART**) mission may result in the **first human-made meteor shower**.

- In **2022**, NASA DART spacecraft intentionally slammed into asteroid Dimorphos and generated a massive debris field, estimated to be around 2 million pounds (nearly 1 million kilograms) of rocks and dust. The fragments from the collision could potentially reach Earth and Mars within the **next 10 to 30 years**.
- These particles could produce visible meteors as they penetrate the Martian atmosphere. These meteor showers could last for up to a century.
- The study has been accepted for publication in [The Planetary Science Journal](#).

8. Which aerospace company has recently (in September '24) launched 'Project 200', an innovative satellite designed to operate at an Ultra-Low Earth Orbit (ULEO)?

- 1) Airbus
- 2) Bellatrix Aerospace Private Limited
- 3) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency
- 4) Ikran Aerospace and Technologies Private Limited
- 5) Adani Defence and Aerospace

Answer- 2) Bellatrix Aerospace Private Limited

Explanation:

Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based Bellatrix Aerospace Private Limited, a space mobility company, launched **Project 200**, an innovative **satellite** designed to **operate** at an Ultra-Low Earth Orbit (**ULEO**) (**180 kilometers (km)-250 km**) during the **8th Bengaluru Space Expo (BSX) 2024** at the Bangalore International Exhibition Centre (BIEC) in Bengaluru.

- This orbit has the potential to transform current satellite capabilities exponentially and it reimagines the way a satellite connects with the planet.
- **Project 200** is a technology demonstrator mission to qualify a new unconventional satellite powered by a highly advanced propulsion system at around **200 km** orbit.
- This technology will transform high-resolution Earth observation, telecommunications, and scientific research

9. Name the rocket that was recently (in September 2024) launched by China from a sea platform on the waters near the city of Haiyang to place eight satellites into planned orbit.

- 1) Gaogui-02
- 2) Rohini-560
- 3) Transporter 11
- 4) Jielong-3
- 5) Falcon Heavy

Answer- **4) Jielong-3**

Explanation:

On 24th September 2024, China launched the Jielong-3 (Smart Dragon-3) carrier rocket from a sea platform on the waters near the city of Haiyang in east China's Shandong Province to place eight satellites into planned orbit.

- The offshore launch was carried out by Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center. This launch was China's **44th** launch of 2024.
- China has now conducted 13 sea-based launches using four different rocket models viz. Long March 11, Smart Dragon 3, Ceres 1 and Gravity 1.
- Smart Dragon-3 is a commercial carrier rocket developed by the China Academy of Launch Vehicle Technology under the China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation.

10. Name the space capsule which landed in Kazakhstan with Roscosmos cosmonauts Nikolai Chub, Oleg Kononenko and NASA astronaut Tracy Dyson from the International Space Station (ISS) in September 2024.

- 1) RHUMI-1
- 2) Tanager-1
- 3) Soyuz MS-25
- 4) DAICHI-4
- 5) Tianyi-41

Answer- **3) Soyuz MS-25**

Explanation:

On 23rd September 2024, Russian Spacecraft **Soyuz MS-25** has successfully brought back **3 crew members**, including Two Russian cosmonauts **Oleg Dmitriyevich Kononenk and Nikolay Aleksandrovich Chub** and National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronaut **Tracy Caldwell Dyson**, from the International Space Station (**ISS**).

- The spacecraft safely landed in a remote area near Zhezkazgan in **Kazakhstan**.
- Russia's **Oleg Kononenko** and **Nikolai Chub** returned to Earth after their record-breaking stay of 374 days in Low Earth Orbit (LEO) at the ISS. They returned after a trip of 158.6 million miles, spanning 5,984 orbits.
- NASA's **Tracy Caldwell Dyson** has spent 6 months at ISS. Spanning 184 days in space, Dyson's third spaceflight covered 2,944 orbits of the Earth and a journey of 78 million miles as an Expedition 70/71 flight engineer.

11. To which company, the Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (DIPAS) has recently (in September 2024) handed over the critical high-altitude sustenance technologies.

- 1) Indian Oil Corporation Limited
- 2) Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited

- 3) Oil & Natural Gas Corporation Limited
- 4) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited
- 5) Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited

Answer- **4) Power Grid Corporation of India Limited**

Explanation:

On 21st September 2024, the Defence Institute of Physiology and Allied Sciences (**DIPAS**), a key laboratory under Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**), handed over critical high-altitude sustenance technologies to the Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (**PGCIL**).

- This transfer aimed at preparing employees for the challenging conditions of the 5000 MW (Mega Watt) **Pang-Kaithal** High Voltage Direct Current (**HVDC**) Project in **Ladakh**, situated at an altitude of 15,760 feet.
- DIPAS previously signed a MoU with PGCIL to provide technical knowledge on high-altitude operations.

SPORTS

1. Which organisation has recently (in August 2024) signed an MoU with the United World Wrestling (UWW) to develop wrestling in India?

- 1) Indian Olympic Association
- 2) Wrestling Federation Of India
- 3) Sports Authority of India
- 4) International Olympic Committee
- 5) Inspire Institute of Sport

Answer- **5) Inspire Institute of Sport**

Explanation:

The Inspire Institute of Sport (**IIS**) has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with the United World Wrestling (**UWW**) to boost the sport of **wrestling** in India.

- The MoU was signed during the **2024 Paris Olympic Games**, at the Wrestling House in Paris, France.
- The MoU aims to set up a collaborative framework for developing wrestling in India through a variety of mutually beneficial programs, initiatives, projects, and activities.

2. Who won the Formula One (F1) Italian Grand Prix (GP) 2024 held at the Autodromo Nazionale Monza in Monza, Italy?

- 1) Charles Leclerc
- 2) Lando Norris
- 3) Lewis Hamilton
- 4) Max Verstappen
- 5) Oscar Piastri

Answer- **1) Charles Leclerc**

Explanation:

Ferrari's Charles Leclerc, a Monacan racing driver, won the **Formula One (F1) Italian Grand Prix (GP) 2024** (officially known as the **F1 Pirelli Gran Premio D'Italia 2024**) held at the Autodromo

Nazionale Monza in Monza, Italy. This victory marks Leclerc's **2nd Italian GP title**. He previously won the Italian GP title in 2019.

- With this, Leclerc has achieved 7 GP titles, 25 pole positions, 9 fastest laps and 38 podiums in F1.
- **McLaren's Oscar Piastri** (Australia) finished **2nd** followed by **McLaren's Lando Norris** (the United Kingdom -UK) in the **3rd** position.
- The 94th edition of the Italian GP (2024) was the **16th round** of the 2024 F1 World Championship.

3. Who has recently (in August '24) won the National Chess Championship 2024 held in Gurugram, Haryana?

- 1) Karthik Venkataraman
- 2) Shyam Nikhil
- 3) Arjun Erigaisi
- 4) Divya Deshmukh
- 5) Praggnanandhaa

Answer- **1) Karthik Venkataraman**

Explanation:

Grandmaster (GM) **Karthik Venkataraman** from Andhra Pradesh(AP) won the **National Chess Championship 2024**, the **61st edition** of the annual national chess championship of India, held at Rao Pahlad Singh (RPS) International School, in Sector 89, Gurugram, **Haryana**.

- GM **Ganguly Surya Shekhar** finished 2nd while International Master (IM) **Neelash Saha** finished 3rd.
- The championship, organised by the **Haryana Chess Association** under the aegis of the **All India Chess Federation (AICF)**, was held from the 17th to 27th August 2024.
- The tournament boasting a prize fund of Rs 30 lakhs brought together 341 players from all across India.
- With this victory, Karthik qualified for the Fédération Internationale des Échecs's (**FIDE**) Chess World Cup, which will take place in 2025.

4. Name the football club team that recently (in August 2024) won their maiden Durand Cup at the 133rd Indian Oil Durand Cup (2024) held in Kolkata, West Bengal(WB).

- 1) NorthEast United Football Club
- 2) Mohun Bagan Super Giant
- 3) Mumbai City Football Club
- 4) Kerala Blasters Football Club
- 5) East Bengal Football Club

Answer- **1) NorthEast United Football Club**

Explanation:

NorthEast United Football Club (**NEUFC**) won their first ever **Durand Cup title** by defeating defending champions Mohun Bagan Super Giant (**MBSG**) **4-3** in a penalty shootout at the **133rd Indian Oil Durand Cup (2024)**, which was held at the Vivekananda Yuba Bharati Krirangan (VYBK) in Kolkata, West Bengal (WB).

- The winning team NEUFC was awarded the cash prize of **Rs 60 lakhs** while the runners-up MBSG was awarded the cash prize of **Rs 30 lakhs**.

- Kerala Blasters FC forward **Noah Sadaoui** won the **Golden Boot** Award as the tournament's top scorer with 6 goals. He received a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh.
- NEUFC Goalkeeper, **Gurmeet Singh** won the **Golden Glove** Award, with 3 clean sheets in 4 matches and 2 crucial penalty saves in the final. He received a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh.
- NEUFC's **Jithin MS** won the **Golden Ball** Award for scoring 4 goals and providing 3 assists. He received a cash prize of Rs 5 lakh.

5. Who has recently (in September 2024) won the Men's Singles title at the US Open 2024?

- 1) Carlos Alcaraz
- 2) Alexander Zverev
- 3) Novak Djokovic
- 4) Taylor Fritz
- 5) Jannik Sinner

Answer- **5) Jannik Sinner**

Explanation:

The United States (US) Open Tennis Championships 2024, commonly called the **US Open 2024**, was held from 19th August 2024 to 8th September 2024 on outdoor **hard courts** at USTA Billie Jean King National Tennis Center, New York, the United States of America(USA).

- **Jannik Sinner** of Italy (World No. 1) won the **Men's Singles title** of the **US Open 2024** by defeating **Taylor Fritz** of the United States of America (USA) (World no. 12) in the finals held at Arthur Ashe Stadium in New York, USA.
- Belarusian tennis player **Aryna Sabalenka** won the **Women's Singles** title by defeating USA's **Jessica Pegula** in the finals.
- **Australia's** Max **Purcell** and **Jordan Thompson** won the **Men's Doubles title** at the US Open 2024 after defeating Germany's **Kevin Krawietz and Tim Puetz** in the finals.
- Latvian Jelena Ostapenko and Ukraine's Lyudmyla Kichenok won the women's doubles title at the US Open 2024 with a victory over Chinese-French pairing Zhang Shuai and Kristina Mladenovic.
- The Italian pair of Sara Errani and Andrea Vavassori secured the mixed doubles title at the US Open after defeating the American duo of Taylor Townsend and Donald Young in the finals.
- The total prize money of US Open 2024 was pegged at USD 75 million. The men's and women's singles champions will earn **USD 3.6 million each**.
- The 2024 US Open was the 144th edition of the US Open.[Click here to read more](#)

6. Name the England Cricketer who has recently (in September 2024) announced his retirement from International cricket.

- 1) Moeen Ali
- 2) Shahid Afridi
- 3) Pat Cummins
- 4) David Warner
- 5) Dawid Malan

Answer- **1) Moeen Ali**