

GUPTA

CLASSES

Current Affairs

June 2024

English

Part-3



GUPTA

CLASSES

- CEP-26 focused on a wide range of challenges and contributed to implementing the Environmental Protocol in Antarctica.
- ATCM-46 and CEP-26 were hosted by the Ministry of Earth Sciences (MoES), Government of India, through the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa, with support from the Antarctic Treaty Secretariat.
- During the event, a customised “**MyStamp**” featuring the logo of ATCM-46 was released in collaboration with India Post.
- During the event, Union Minister Kiren Rijiju announced India’s plan to set up an Antarctic research station, **Maitri-II**. [Click here to read more](#)

2. In June 2024, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) set up an Ad-hoc Committee headed by Usha Thorat to review the ownership and economic structure of _____.

- 1) Alternative Investment Funds
- 2) Foreign Portfolio Investors
- 3) Mutual Funds
- 4) Portfolio Management Services
- 5) Clearing Corporations

Answer- **5) Clearing Corporations**

Explanation:

The **Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)** has set up an **Ad-hoc Committee** to review the **ownership and economic structure of Clearing Corporations (CCs)** and to suggest measures to ensure that CCs function as resilient, independent, and neutral risk managers.

- The ad-hoc committee will be chaired by **Usha Thorat, former Deputy Governor** (2005 to 2010) of the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**).
- The Ad-hoc committee will examine the feasibility and expand the list of eligible investors who are permitted to take shareholding in a clearing corporation and suggest categories of investors who can acquire shareholding in such corporations.
- A **2018 report** by the Committee on Review of Regulations and Relevant Circulars related to Market Infrastructure Institutions (MIIs), led by **R Gandhi** (referred to as **Gandhi Committee**), stated that MII ownership should be diversified and widely owned.

3. In June 2024, India participated in _____ Foreign Ministers Meeting chaired by Russian Foreign Minister Sergey Lavrov, held in Nizhny Novgorod, Russia.

- 1) BRICS
- 2) World Economic Forum
- 3) Shanghai Cooperation Organization
- 4) Group of 77
- 5) Association of Southeast Asian Nations

Answer- **1) BRICS**

Explanation:

On 10th June 2024, **India** participated in **BRICS (Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa) Foreign Ministers** meeting hosted by Russia, the current chair of BRICS, in **Nizhny Novgorod, Russia**. The meeting was chaired by Sergey Lavrov, Foreign Minister, Russia.

- The Indian delegation at the BRICS Foreign Ministers meeting was led by **Dammu Ravi**, Secretary (Economic Relations), Ministry of External Affairs (**MEA**).

- This also mark's India's first Foreign policy assignment under the historic 3rd consecutive term of Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi.
- This is the 1st foreign ministers meeting since the expansion of BRICS in 2023.

4. Who was appointed as the chairperson of the recently (in June '24) formed Reserve Bank of India (RBI) committee to examine the feasibility of the digital payments intelligence platform to reduce payment fraud risks?

- 1) M Damodaran
- 2) Rajeev Kher
- 3) Abhaya Prasad Hota
- 4) VSK Kaumudi
- 5) Vinod Kumar Paul

Answer- **3) Abhaya Prasad Hota**

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has formed a committee under the chairmanship of **Abhaya Prasad Hota**, former Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), National Payments Corporation of India (**NPCI**).

- The committee is formed to examine various aspects related to the setting up a digital public infrastructure for **Digital Payments Intelligence platform** which is proposed by RBI.
- The proposed Digital Payments Intelligence platform will be equipped with advanced technologies that can help to reduce payment fraud risks.

5. In June 2024, the Ministry of Education (MoE) constituted a seven-member high-level committee headed by _____ to enhance the National Testing Agency (NTA) examination process and its functioning.

- 1) Rajiv Gauba
- 2) K. Radhakrishnan
- 3) Vijay Kumar Saraswat
- 4) Vinod Kumar Paul
- 5) Sanjay Kumar

Answer- **2) K. Radhakrishnan**

Explanation:

The Department of Higher Education, **Ministry of Education** (MoE) has constituted a **seven-member high-level committee** to make recommendations on reform in the examination process, improvement in data security protocols and functioning of the **National Testing Agency(NTA)**.

- The committee is headed by **Dr K. Radhakrishnan**, the former Chairman of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Chairman Board of Governors (BoG), Indian Institutes of Technology (IIT) Kanpur.
- The objective of the committee is to ensure **transparent, smooth and fair** conduct of examinations through NTA.

6. In June 2024, the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) constituted a working group headed by G. Padmanabhan to review _____.

- 1) Small and Medium REITs
- 2) Mutual Fund Regulations
- 3) Clearing Corporations
- 4) Complaint Redressal System
- 5) Derivative Trading Norms

Answer- 5) Derivative Trading Norms

Explanation:

The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has constituted a working group to review derivative trading norms. The **15-member** working group will be headed by **G. Padmanabhan**, former executive director of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).

- This decision was taken in continuation of series of steps taken by the SEBI to tighten the retail Futures & Options (F&O) trading.
- SEBI has outlined the Terms of Reference (ToR) for working group like; suggesting short-term and medium-term measures with the aim of enhancing investor protection in exchange Traded Derivatives (ETDs) and **improving risk metrics** and risk architecture of ETDs which will further enhance market development and regulation.

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1. According to the Bloomberg Billionaires Index (as of 1st June 2024), _____ has reclaimed the title of Asia's richest person with a net worth of USD 111 billion.

- 1) Cyrus Poonawalla
- 2) Bernard Arnault
- 3) Mukesh Ambani
- 4) Gautam Adani
- 5) Shiv Nadar

Answer- 4) Gautam Adani

Explanation:

According to the **Bloomberg Billionaires Index**, **Gautam Adani**, the Founder and Chairman of the **Adani Group** is now ranked the **11th richest globally**, with a net worth of **USD 111 billion**. With this, he has reclaimed the title of **Asia's richest person** after a surge in the stock prices of his conglomerate's companies.

- This surge enabled him to overtake **Mukesh Ambani**, Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of Reliance Industries Limited (RIL), who ranked **12th** with a net worth of **USD 109 billion**.
- According to the index, **Bernard Arnault** of France ranked **1st**, followed by **Elon Musk** (2nd) and **Jeff Bezos** (3rd) of the United States (US).

2. According to the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Ranking 2025, two Indian institutes, IIT Mumbai and IIT Delhi, are ranked 118th and 50th, respectively.

Which university has topped the QS World University Rankings 2025?

- 1) Princeton University
- 2) Linköping University

3) Massachusetts Institute of Technology

4) Harvard University

5) University of Manitoba

Answer- **3) Massachusetts Institute of Technology**

Explanation:

According to the Quacquarelli Symonds (QS) World University Rankings 2025, the **Indian Institute of Technology(IIT) Bombay**, Mumbai (Maharashtra) and **IIT Delhi**, New Delhi (Delhi) are the only **two Indian Institutes** featured among the **top 150** Universities on the ranking.

- IIT-Bombay has retained its position as the best higher education Institute in India, with global ranking of **118th** in the list. IIT Delhi has improved its rank from 197th (in 2024) to 150th position (in 2025).
- **Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)**, Cambridge, the United States of America (USA) has topped the list globally for the **13th time** (2012 and from 2014 to 2025).
- MIT is followed by **Imperial College London**, the United Kingdom (UK) at the **2nd** position and The University of Oxford (UK) and Harvard University (USA) at **3rd and 4th** position respectively.
- Delhi based **Guru Gobind Singh Indraprastha University (GGSIPU)**, formerly known as Indraprastha University (IP university or IPU), has bagged the prestigious **“Rising Star”** award from the QS World Ranking.

3. Which organisation has recently (in June '24) prepared the 'Red List of Mangrove Ecosystems that states that over 50% of the world's mangrove ecosystems are at risk of collapse?

1) United Nations Environment Programme

2) World Wide Fund for Nature

3) Zoological Survey of India

4) International Union for Conservation of Nature

5) United Nations Environment Programme World Conservation Monitoring Centre

Answer- **4) International Union for Conservation of Nature**

Explanation:

According to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)'s **Red List of Mangrove Ecosystems**, over 50% of the world's mangrove ecosystems are at risk of collapse, with nearly 1 in 5 facing severe risk.

- As per the study, climate change poses serious threats to **33%** (1/3rd) of the mangrove ecosystems across the world.
- Approximately **20%** (19.6%) of the assessed mangroves are at severe risk and have been marked as **Endangered or Critically Endangered**.
- The study classified the mangrove ecosystems of **South India, Sri Lanka**, the Maldives and **the North West Atlantic** as **Critically Endangered**. [Click her to read more](#)

4. According to the International Labour Organisation's (ILO), 'World Employment and Social Outlook: May 2024 Update', global unemployment is projected at _____ in 2024.

1) 5.8%

2) 6.2%

3) 4.9%

4) 6.7%

5) 5.1%

Answer- **3) 4.9%**

Explanation:

According to the International Labour Organization's (ILO), [World Employment and Social Outlook: May 2024 Update](#), the **global unemployment** is projected at **4.9%** in **2024**, slightly lower than the 5.0% in 2023, contrary to the prior projection (World Employment and Social Outlook Trends 2024 report) of 5.2%.

- The downward trend in joblessness is anticipated to stabilise in **2025**, with unemployment persisting at **4.9%**.
- The '*jobs gap*' in **2024** is estimated at **402 million** individuals, encompassing **183 million** classified as **unemployed**.
- **Informal employment** has **risen** from **1.7 billion** in **2005** to **2.0 billion** in **2024**, slowing progress towards Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- Globally, only 45.6% of working-age women are employed in 2024, compared to 69.2% of men.

5. Which organisation published its 2024 Child Nutrition Report titled "Child Food Poverty: Nutrition Deprivation in Early Childhood," stating that globally 1 in 4 children, around 181 million children under 5 years of age, are living in severe child food poverty in early childhood?

1) World Bank

2) World Health Organisation

3) International Monetary Fund

4) United Nations

5) United Nations Children's Fund

Answer- **5) United Nations Children's Fund**

Explanation:

According to the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)'s 2024 Child Nutrition Report titled "[Child Food Poverty: Nutrition Deprivation in Early Childhood](#)", globally, 1 in 4 children (27%) are living in severe child food poverty in early childhood, this amounts to around 181 million children under 5 years of age.

- These children are 50% more likely to experience **wasting**, a form of malnutrition which is defined as low weight-for-height.
- Of the 181 million children, **65%** of **affected children** live in **20 countries (including India)**, with high numbers in South Asia (around 64 million) and Sub-Saharan Africa (59 million).
- 9 out of 10 children in the Gaza Strip are consistently experiencing severe food poverty, surviving on 2 or fewer food groups per day.
- In Somalia, 63% of children are living in severe child food poverty, and this is more in the most vulnerable communities. [Click here to read more](#)

6. According to the United Nations (UN) assessment report titled "A World of Debt 2024: A Growing Burden to Global Prosperity," global public debt (both domestic and external borrowing by governments) has reached _____ in 2023.

- 1) USD 17.5 trillion
- 2) USD 2443 billion
- 3) USD 97 trillion
- 4) USD 4.2 trillion
- 5) USD 1548 billion

Answer- 3) USD 97 trillion

Explanation:

According to the United Nations (UN) assessment report, "[A World of Debt 2024: A Growing Burden to Global Prosperity](#)," the **global public debt** (both domestic and external borrowing by governments) has reached **USD 97 trillion** in **2023**, an increase of USD 5.6 trillion compared to 2022.

- Developing countries account for 30% of the total global debt, with their debt growth rate doubling that of developed nations.
- The **report** was **prepared** by the **Global Crisis Response Group technical team** at the UN Trade and Development (**UNCTAD**), under the leadership of **Secretary-General Rebeca Grynspar**.
- Developing nations paid USD 847 billion in net interest in 2023, a 26% increase from 2021.
- **3.3 billion people** live in **countries** where **interest payments exceed** education or health spending. [Click here to read more](#)

7. Which organization released the "Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update (2024-2028)" report, stating an 80% chance of the average global temperature temporarily exceeding 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels for at least one of the next 5 years (2024-2028)?

- 1) United Nations Environment Programme
- 2) World Meteorological Organization
- 3) Indian Space Research Organisation
- 4) United Nations Development Programme
- 5) Asian Development Bank

Answer- 2) World Meteorological Organization

Explanation:

According to the World Meteorological Organization (**WMO**) annual report, "[WMO Global Annual to Decadal Climate Update \(2024-2028\)](#)", there is an **80%** chance that the average **global temperature** will **temporarily exceed 1.5°C** above pre-industrial levels for at least one of the **next 5 years (2024-2028)**.

- Predictions of the global mean near-surface temperature indicate a range of 1.1 degree Celsius (°C) to 1.9°C above the 1850-1900 baseline for each year from 2024 to 2028.
- There's an 86% chance of at least one of these years setting a new temperature record, potentially exceeding the current warmest year, 2023.
- The chance of **1.5°C exceedance** (above the pre-industrial era) over the **2024-2028** period rises to **47%**. [Click here to read more](#)

8. Which of the following has become the top Indian port in the World Bank's Container Port Performance Index (CPPI) 2023, with 19th position in the ranking?

- 1) Pipavav Port, Gujarat
- 2) Visakhapatnam Container Terminal Private Limited, Andhra Pradesh
- 3) Vadhavan Port, Maharashtra
- 4) Mundra Port, Gujarat
- 5) Kamarajar Port, Tamil Nadu

Answer- 2) Visakhapatnam Container Terminal Private Limited

Explanation:

According to the **World Bank's Container Port Performance Index (CPPI) 2023**, Visakhapatnam Container Terminal Private Limited (**VCTPL**), a wholly-owned subsidiary of JM Baxi Ports & Logistics, in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (**AP**), is the only Indian Port to be featured into the **Top 20** rankings.

- VCTPL has overall secured **19th** position in the CPPI rankings.
- While, **Mundra Port**, India's largest Private Port (in Gujarat) was ranked at **27th** position, owned by Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone Limited (**APSEZ**).
- As per the CPPI 2023, **Yangshan Port** (China) and **Port of Salaah** (Oman) ranked at **1st** and **2nd** position respectively. Both ports retained their previous rankings of 2022.
- Only **4** Indian Ports made into Top 50: **VCPTL**, **Mundra Port**, **Pipavav Port** in Gujarat (ranked at 41st position), and **Kamarajar Port** in Chennai (ranked at 47th position).[Click here to read more](#)

9. According to the International Energy Agency's (IEA) "World Energy Investment Report 2024," global investment in clean energy technology and infrastructure is expected to achieve _____ in 2024.

- 1) USD 4 trillion
- 2) USD 2 trillion
- 3) USD 5 trillion
- 4) USD 6 trillion
- 5) USD 3 trillion

Answer- 2) USD 2 trillion

Explanation:

According to the annual report "**World Energy Investment Report 2024**" released by the International Energy Agency (**IEA**), global investment in clean energy technology and infrastructure is expected to achieve **USD 2 trillion** in 2024 which is **twice** the amount going to fossil fuels.

- The report projected that total energy investment will breach the mark of **USD 3 trillion** for the 1st time in 2024.
- The investment in solar PV is expected to increase to **USD 500 billion** in 2024 due to decrease in module prices which will further give boost to new investments.
- **China** with an estimated investment of **USD 675 billion** will account for the largest share of clean energy investment in 2024.[Click here to read more](#)

10. Which of the following companies is 'not' featured in the World Economic Forum's (WEF's) Technology Pioneers 2024 list?

- 1) HealthPlix
- 2) Pixxel
- 3) Sarvam AI
- 4) Entri
- 5) Zerodha

Answer- **5) Zerodha**

Explanation:

According to the World Economic Forum (WEF's) **Technology Pioneers 2024 list**, **Pixxel, Sarvam AI, Niramai Health Analytix** are among the **10** Indian startups which are featured in the list. Majority of these Indian startups are Artificial Intelligence (AI) focused.

- The list comprises **9** space companies which include **Pixxel** from India, **4** neurotechnology technology startups and **4** startups in clean technology sector including AmpereHour Energy and International Battery Company from India.
- The list featured total **100** leading tech startups from **23 countries**. About **33%** (1/3rd) of these companies were led by a Women Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- The ten Indian startups featured in the list include Nirmai Health Analytix, Pixxel, Sarvam AI, AmpereHour Energy, Cropin, Entri, HealthPlix, international Battery Company, NxtWave Disruptive Technologies Private Limited, and String Bio Pvt. Limited. [Click here to read more](#)

11. The World Economic Forum(WEF) released the "18th Global Gender Gap Index" in June 2024, India ranks 129th among 146 countries.

Which of the following country has topped the Index?

- 1) China
- 2) Iceland
- 3) France
- 4) United States of America
- 5) Norway

Answer- **2) Iceland**

Explanation:

The World Economic Forum(WEF) released "Global Gender Gap Report 2024", **India** ranks **129th** among 146 countries in the 18th Global Gender Gap Index. **Iceland** has **topped** the 2024 Index followed by Finland and Norway in 2nd and 3rd positions respectively. New Zealand 4th and Sweden ranks 5th.

According to the World Economic Forum(WEF)'s Global Gender Gap Report 2024, India closed 64.1% of its gender gap in 2024 with a population of over 1.4 billion

South Asia

Economy	Regional Rank	Global Rank	Score
Bangladesh	1	99	0.689
Nepal	2	117	0.664
Sri Lanka	3	122	0.653

Bhutan	4	124	0.651
India	5	129	0.641
Maldives	6	132	0.633
Pakistan	7	145	0.570

12. As per the 2024 Environment Performance Index (EPI), India is ranked ____ out of 180 countries with an EPI score of 27.6.

- 1) 39th
- 2) 113th
- 3) 150th
- 4) 176th
- 5) 165th

Answer- **4) 176th**

Explanation:

According to the [2024 Environment Performance Index \(EPI\)](#), **India** is ranked **176th** out of 180 countries with an EPI score of **27.6**, surpassing only Pakistan, Viet Nam, Laos, and Myanmar.

- Estonia tops the 2024 EPI with an EPI score of 75.3 followed by Luxembourg and Germany at 2nd and 3rd spot.
- Previously, India was ranked 180th in the EPI 2022 and 168th in the EPI 2020.
- EPI is a biennial index released by the **Yale Center for Environmental Law & Policy** and the **Center for International Earth Science Information Network Earth Institute**, Columbia University with support from The **McCall MacBain Foundation**.
- EPI assesses countries based on UN Sustainable Development Goals(SDGs), the Paris Agreement 2015, and the Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework 2022.[Click here to read more](#)

13. As per the Global Peace Index (GPI) 2024 released by the Institute for Economics & Peace (IEP), India is ranked _____ out of 163 countries.

- 1) 4th
- 2) 113th
- 3) 116th
- 4) 12th
- 5) 26th

Answer- **3) 116th**

Explanation:

According to the 18th edition of the [Global Peace Index \(GPI\) 2024](#) released by the Institute for Economics & Peace (**IEP**), **India** is ranked **116th** out of 163 countries, climbing 10 positions from 2023.

- The list is topped by Iceland since 2008 followed by Ireland(2nd), Austria(3rd), New Zealand(4th), and Singapore(5th).
- Europe has been the most peaceful region in the world and is home to eight of the ten most peaceful countries since the start of the GPI.

- The Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region remained the world's least peaceful region with major crises in Yemen and Sudan becoming the reasons of its poor rating. [Click here to read more](#)

14. Which organisation has recently (in June '24) released the report titled "2023 Antibacterial agents in clinical and preclinical development: an overview and analysis"?

- 1) United Nations Development Programme
- 2) World Health Organisation
- 3) International Medical Corps
- 4) Pan American Health Organization
- 5) Centers for Disease Control and Prevention

Answer- 2) World Health Organisation

Explanation:

On 14th June 2024, The World Health Organisation (**WHO**) released its annual report titled "**2023 Antibacterial agents in clinical and preclinical development: an overview and analysis**". The report evaluates the pipeline of antibacterial agents, including antibiotics, in clinical and preclinical development across the world.

- i. According to the report, 84% of antibacterial Research and Development (R&D) is mainly concentrated in high-income countries, with another 12% in upper -middle income countries including, China, Russia and South Africa which contributed 7%, 3% and 2% of agents respectively.
- ii. While, Lower-Middle Income Countries (LMICs) including India, contributed 4% of the total share of anti-bacterial agents in clinical development by location of research facilities. **India** contributed only **1%** to the global antibacterial R&D.
- iii. As per the report, the number of antibacterial agents in the clinical pipeline, including antibiotics, increased from 80 (in 2021) to 97 (in 2023) worldwide.

[Click here to read more](#)

15. Which organisation has recently (in June '24) published its 2024 Yearbook, stating that India's nuclear weaponry has grown from 164 warheads in January 2023 to 172 warheads in January 2024?

- 1) World Bank
- 2) Worldline
- 3) Mercom India
- 4) Amnesty International
- 5) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

Answer- 5) Stockholm International Peace Research Institute

Explanation:

According to the Sweden-based Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (**SIPRI**)'s annual assessment of the state of armaments, disarmament and international security, **India's nuclear weaponry** has grown from 164 warheads in January 2023 to **172 warheads** in January 2024.

- India now holds more nuclear weapons than Pakistan, which has recorded no increase in the number of warheads (170 in 2023 and 2024) said in 55th SIPRI Yearbook (2024).
- Nine nuclear-armed nations, including the United States of America (USA), Russia, France, China, India, Pakistan, the United Kingdom (UK), Israel and North Korea continued

modernising their nuclear arsenals and installed new nuclear-armed or nuclear-capable systems in 2023.

According to the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (**ICAN**) report, Global spending on nuclear weapons is estimated to have increased by 13%, to a record USD 91.4 billion during 2023. this is USD 10.7 billion higher than the global spending during 2022.

- **India** is ranked **6th** with total nuclear spending of **USD 2.7 billion**, followed by Israel(USD 1.1 billion); Pakistan (USD 1.0 billion) and North Korea (USD 0.9 billion). [Click here to read more](#)

16. The UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) has recently released the 9th edition of the “Sustainable Development Report (SDR)”.

According to the report, _____ (country) achieved the highest ranking in the 2024 Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) Index.

- 1) Finland
- 2) Sweden
- 3) Denmark
- 4) Germany
- 5) France

Answer- 1) Finland

Explanation:

According to the **9th** edition of the Sustainable Development Report (**SDR**) released by the UN Sustainable Development Solutions Network (**SDSN**), the world is significantly behind schedule in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (**SDGs**) set by the United Nations (UN) in 2015, such as **poverty reduction, hunger eradication, and environment protection.**

- As per the report, none of the 17 SDGs are on track to be achieved by 2030.
- The report highlighted that globally, on an average only **16%** of the SDG targets are on track to achieved by **2030**. While the remaining **84%** of the SDG targets showed a reversal of progress.
- The 2024 SDG Index was topped by **Finland**, followed by Sweden (2nd), **Denmark** (3rd), **Germany** (4th) and **France** (5th).
- According to the 2024 SDG Index, **India secured 109th rank** with an overall score of 64.0.
- The report introduced a new Index of countries’ support for UN-based Multilateralism (**UN-Mi**).
- **Barbados** topped the UN-Mi index followed by Antigua and Barbuda (2nd), Uruguay (3rd), Mauritius (4th), and the Maldives (5th).[Click here to read more](#)

17. What rank did India secure on the Worldwide Energy Transition Index 2024 released by the World Economic Forum (WEF)?

- 1) 159th
- 2) 24th
- 3) 51st
- 4) 63rd
- 5) 82nd

Answer- 4) 63rd

Explanation:

On 19th June 2024, The World Economic Forum (WEF) in partnership with Accenture released its annual report titled "[Fostering Effective Energy Transition 2024](#)". According to the report, India has been ranked **63rd** on the global Energy Transition Index (ETI) 2024.

- **Sweden** reclaimed the top spot in the ETI 2024 with an ETI score of **78.4**, followed by **Denmark** (75.2) and **Finland** (74.5) in **2nd and 3rd** rank respectively.
- According to the report, **Estonia, Ethiopia, and Lebanon** have seen the fastest improvements in the last 5 years.
- The report noted that, India's per capita emissions is at 1.7 tonnes of Carbon Dioxide (CO2) which is **60%** lower than the global average of 4.4 tonnes of CO2 per capita. [Click here to read more](#)

18. According to the Hurun Research Institute's ASK Private Wealth Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2024, _____ unicorns are there in India as of June 2024.

- 1) 25
- 2) 46
- 3) 106
- 4) 67
- 5) 152

Answer- **4) 67**

Explanation:

According to the **Hurun Research Institute's** [ASK Private Wealth Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2024](#), **25 future Unicorns** (5 Gazelles and 20 Cheetahs) including Rapido, Koo, Dunzo, and Paper Boat, were **dropped** from the **list**. The drop reflects the impact of funding constraints and valuation corrections in the Indian startup ecosystem.

- As per the 2024 Index, India is currently home to **67 Unicorns, 46 Gazelles, and 106 Cheetahs** as against 68 Unicorns 51 Gazelles, and 96 Cheetahs in the 2023 Index.
- Only **3 start-ups** (2 Gazelles and 1 Cheetah) from the 2023 Index were promoted to Unicorns with a valuation of over USD 1 billion each, including Indian grocery delivery startup **Zepto**, fintech startup **InCred Finance**, and logistics startup **Porter**.
- The 2024 Index includes **152 Indian future unicorns** from **31 cities**.

India's future unicorns are valued at **USD 58 billion** collectively, with an increase of **1.8%**, compared to the 2023 index. [Click here to read more](#)

19. According to the '2024 World Investment Report: Investment Facilitation and Digital Government', published by _____, India's Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflow was USD 28 billion in 2023.

- 1) Morgan Stanley
- 2) National Institute of Public Finance and Policy
- 3) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development
- 4) CRISIL
- 5) World Bank

Answer- **3) United Nations Conference on Trade and Development**

Explanation:

According to the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)'s [2024 World Investment Report: Investment facilitation and digital government](#), **India's** Foreign Direct Investment (FDI) inflows fell by **43%** in **2023**, from USD 49 billion in 2022 to **USD 28 billion** in **2023**.

- With this, **India's rank** among FDI recipients dropped to **15th** in **2023** from 8th in 2022.
- India's rank for FDI outflows improved to **20th** in 2023 from 23rd in 2022.
- **Global FDI decreased** marginally by **2%** to **USD 1.3 trillion** in **2023**, with a sharper decline of over **10%** (when excluding certain exceptions) in global foreign investments for the **2nd consecutive year**. [Click here to read more](#)

20. According to the Official Airline Guide (OAG) report, India has become the _____ largest domestic airline market in the world.

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

Answer- **1) 3rd**

Explanation:

According to the Official Airline Guide (OAG) report, **India** becomes the **3rd** largest domestic airline market in the world. India jumped from 5th position in 2014 as it saw the significant increase in its domestic airline capacity from 7.9 million (in April 2014) to **15.6 million (in April 2024)**.

- As per the report, the United States of America (**USA**) and **China** retained their ranks at **1st** and **2nd** position with 86.1 million and 67.8 million capacities, respectively. Brazil and Indonesia at 4th and 5th position.
- According to the report, India has the highest Low-Cost Carriers (**LCCs**) among the top 5 countries. As of April 2024, LCCs accounted **78.4%** of India's domestic capacity.

21. The report titled "India's DeepTech Dawn: Forging Ahead," released by _____, stated that India is ranked 6th among the top 9 DeepTech ecosystems globally, with over 3,600 deep-tech startups.

- 1) NITI Aayog
- 2) Nasscom-Zinnov
- 3) International Energy Agency
- 4) World Bank
- 5) Asian Development Bank

Answer- **2) Nasscom-Zinnov**

Explanation:

According to the **2nd edition** of Nasscom-Zinnov's DeepTech start-up landscape report series, "[India's DeepTech Dawn: Forging Ahead](#)", **India** ranks **6th** among the **top 9** DeepTech ecosystems **globally**, with over **3,600 deep-tech startups**, which secured USD 850 million funding in 2023, a 77% drop from 2022.

- The report explores trends in ecosystem expansion, technology focus, funding, Mergers and Acquisitions (M&A), Intellectual Property (IP), and sectoral focus.

- Of the 3,600+ **DeepTech startups**, **480** were **established** in **2023**—double the number (higher) from 2022. Notably, **74%** focus on Artificial Intelligence (**AI**), up from 62% between 2014 to 2022.
- Of these 480 startups, over 100 are Inventive DeepTech firms that have developed IP or innovative solutions in new domains.

22. Which city has been ranked as the most liveable city for the third consecutive year, according to the Economist Intelligence Unit's (EIU) Global Liveability Index 2024?

- 1) New York
- 2) Bengaluru
- 3) Copenhagen
- 4) Vienna
- 5) Zurich

Answer- **4) Vienna**

Explanation:

According to the Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)'s **Global Liveability Index 2024**, **Vienna**, the capital of Austria, has topped the index as the **most liveable city** for the **third** consecutive year.

- Denmark's **Copenhagen** maintained its second position, while Switzerland's **Zurich** moved up from 6th place(2023) to **3rd on the 2024 list**.
- The EIU Index ranks **173** cities across the world with the aim of showing how comfortable these cities are to live in.
- No India City is ranked on the 2024 list of top 10 liveable cities in the world.[Click here to read more](#)

23. According to Brand Finance's India 100 2024 report, which company retained the Number 1 position in the Brand Value Ranking with a 9% growth in brand value to USD 28.6 billion?

- 1) Adani Group
- 2) Reliance Group
- 3) TATA Group
- 4) Aditya Birla Group
- 5) HDFC Group

Answer- **3) TATA Group**

Explanation:

According to **Brand Finance's [India 100 2024: The annual report on the most valuable and strongest Indian brands June 2024](#)**, **TATA Group** retained the **Number 1** position in the Brand Value Ranking 2024 with a 9% growth in brand value to USD 28.6 billion. TATA Group, **the most valuable brand in India**, became the 1st Indian brand to near a USD 30 million brand value mark.

- **Infosys** continues to retain its 2nd spot, with a steady 9% growth in brand value (USD 14.2 billion), followed by **HDFC Group** in the 3rd spot with a brand value of USD 10.4 billion.
- **Taj** retains its reputation as the **strongest Indian brand** for the 3rd consecutive year with a AAA+ brand strength rating.[Click here to read more](#)

ACQUISITION AND MERGERS

1. Which bank recently (in May '24) got approval from the Competition Commission of India (CCI) to acquire an 11% stake in HDFC Credila Financial Services Limited?

- 1) KfW IPEX-bank
- 2) Societe Generale
- 3) Bank of America
- 4) Shinhan Bank
- 5) Citi Bank

Answer- 4) Shinhan Bank

Explanation:

Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of **up to approximately 11%** shareholding by South Korea Based **Shinhan Bank Co., Ltd.** in HDFC Credila Financial Services Limited (**HDFC Credila**) by way of subscription to shares of HDFC Credila.

- Shinhan Bank is part of the Shinhan Financial Group, a multinational bank that has been operating in India since 1996.

The CCI has also granted approval for **Matrix Pharma Private Limited** to acquire **100% stake** in **Tianish Laboratories Private Limited**.

- Mudhra Labs Private Limited, the parent company of Matrix Pharma, will make a partial investment in optionally **convertible debentures** to support the transaction.

2. Which company has recently (in May '24) increased its stake in PI Industries Limited from 4.95% to 5.00%?

- 1) Adani Group
- 2) Reliance Industries Limited
- 3) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- 4) Larsen & Toubro
- 5) Vedanta Limited

Answer- 3) Life Insurance Corporation of India

Explanation:

Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) of India has increased its stake in an agrochemical firm PI Industries Limited from 4.95% (75,19,910) to 5.00% (75,91,910) equity shares of the paid capital.

- The investment holding was increased with a share price at Rs 3,551.15 per share.
- The LIC was trading at Rs. 1012.70 (as of May 31 2024) which is 2.01% higher as compared to the previous closing price of Rs. 992.75.

3. In June 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed acquisition of a 24 % stake in IRB Infrastructure Trust and MMK Toll Road Private Limited by _____.

- 1) Piramal Alternatives Trust Fund
- 2) AMG India
- 3) Cintra
- 4) International Finance Corporation
- 5) Religare Enterprises Limited

Answer- 3) Cintra

Explanation:

On 4th June 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed combination involving the acquisition of IRB Infrastructure Trust (Private InvIT- Infrastructure Investment Trust) and MMK Toll Road Private Limited by Cintra.

- The proposed combination involves the acquisition of approximately 24% of the issued and outstanding unitholding (on a fully diluted basis) along with certain commercially negotiated rights in the IRB Infrastructure Trust by Cintra SPV 1.
- Simultaneous acquisition of approximately 24% equity shareholding along with the right to nominate a director on the board of directors of the investment manager (IM) of the Private InvIT by Cintra SPV 2.

The CCI has approved the proposed combination involving the **acquisition** by IRB Infrastructure Trust in Meerut Budaun Expressway Limited (MBEL).[Click here to read more](#)

4. Which insurance company has recently (in June '24) got approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to acquire a 70% stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited for Rs 5,560 crore?

- 1) Future Generali India Life Insurance Company Limited
- 2) Zurich Insurance Company Limited
- 3) SBI Life Insurance Company Limited
- 4) HDFC Life Insurance Company Limited
- 5) TATA AIA Life Insurance Company Limited

Answer- 2) Zurich Insurance Company Limited

Explanation:

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has approved Zurich Insurance Company Limited's proposed acquisition of a 70% stake in Kotak Mahindra General Insurance Company Limited (KGI) (Target) for a total consideration of approximately Rs 5,560 crore.

- Zurich Insurance Company Limited (acquirer) is a wholly owned subsidiary of Zurich Insurance Group Limited. (Zurich Insurance Group) which is headquartered in Zürich, Switzerland.

5. Which bank's Board of Directors has recently (in June '24) approved selling 10% of its stake in the Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited through an Initial Public Offering (IPO)?

- 1) HDFC Bank
- 2) HSBC Bank
- 3) Canara Bank
- 4) Punjab National Bank
- 5) ICICI Bank

Answer- 4) Punjab National Bank

Explanation:

On 4th June 2024, The Board of Directors of Punjab National Bank (PNB) approved the initiation of the process of diluting 10% shareholding of its associate company Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company Limited by listing the company in stock exchanges through an Initial Public Offering (IPO).

- At present, Canara Bank has 51% stakes, and HSBC Insurance (Asia Pacific) Holdings Limited has 26% stakes in Canara HSBC Life Insurance Company.

- After the merger of the erstwhile Oriental Bank of Commerce (OBC) with PNB in 2020.PNB acquired **23%** stakes in the life insurer.

6. Which organisation has recently (in June '24) approved the merger of Vistara with Air India allowing a period of nine months for the dissolution of Vistara?

- 1) Supreme court
- 2) Competition Commission of India
- 3) National Company Law Tribunal
- 4) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- 5) Reserve Bank of India

Answer- 3) National Company Law Tribunal

Explanation:

The **National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT)** approved the merger of **Vistara** with **Air India** allowing a period of **nine months** for the dissolution of Vistara.

- The merger resulted in the creation of one of the world's largest airline conglomerates.
- The approval was granted to the '**Composite Scheme of Arrangement**' between the petitioner companies and their shareholders under Sections 230 to 232 and Companies Act, 2013 provisions.

7. Which bank has recently (in June '24) acquired a 6.125% stake for Rs 6.125 crore in the CCIL IFSC Limited (CCIL IFSC)?

- 1) YES Bank
- 2) ICICI Bank
- 3) Bank of India
- 4) HDFC Bank
- 5) Axis Bank

Answer- 3) Bank of India

Explanation:

Maharashtra based-Bank of India (**BOI**) has announced the acquisition of **6.125% stake** in Clearing Corporation of India Limited (**CCIL**). International Financial Services Centre(**IFSC**), a newly incorporated entity listed in Gujarat International Finance Tech-city (**GIFT**) Special Economic Zone (**SEZ**), reflecting its commitment to the growth of IFSC.

- This strategic investment, amounting to **Rs 6.125 crore** demonstrates the growth of GIFT City IFSC and its emergence as a global financial service provider.

8. In June 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC(GIM) by _____.

- 1) Piramal Alternatives Trust Fund
- 2) BlackRock Funding
- 3) Dickey Alternative Investment Trust
- 4) Minda Corporation Limited
- 5) Mitsubishi Corporation

Answer- 2) BlackRock Funding

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the acquisition of Global Infrastructure Management, LLC(GIM) by BlackRock Funding, Inc. (BFI).

Proposed Combination: BFI will acquire 100% of the limited liability company interests in GIM.

The CCI also approves the acquisition of certain equity stakes of TVS Certified Private Limited (Target 1) and TVS Vehicle Mobility Solution Private Limited (Target 2) by Mitsubishi Corporation (Acquirer).

9. In June 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) approved the proposed combination involving the realignment of interests, legal ownership, and management of various entities within _____.

- 1) Prestige Group
- 2) Hinduja Group
- 3) Godrej Group
- 4) JSW Group
- 5) TVS Group

Answer- **3) Godrej Group**

Explanation:

The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the proposed combination involving the realignment of interests, legal ownership, and management of various entities within the **Godrej group** under an inter-se arrangement between the members of the Family Branches.

- The members of the **Family Branches** includes Adi Godrej and family (ABG Family); Nadir Godrej and family (NBG Family); Jamshyd Godrej and family (JNG Family); and Smita Crishna and family (SVC Family).
- The target enterprises of the proposed combination include (i) the GILAC Group Entities and (ii) the G&B Group Entities.

The CCI has approved the **acquisition** of certain share capital of WeWork India Management Private Limited (WeWork India) by Real Trustee Advisory Company Private Limited (Real Trustee) and acquisition of 100% share capital of 1 Ariel Way Tenant Limited (OAW) by Embassy Buildcon LLP (Embassy Buildcon)

10. Which bank has recently (in June '24) approved to acquire additional equity shares of Max Life Insurance Company Limited for Rs. 336 crore?

- 1) RBL Bank
- 2) Axis Bank
- 3) State Bank of India
- 4) HDFC Bank
- 5) Yes Bank

Answer- **2) Axis Bank**

Explanation:

On June 19 2024, The Acquisitions, Divestments and Merger Committee of the Board of Directors of **Axis Bank Limited** approved a proposal for acquisition of additional equity shares of **Max Life Insurance Company Limited**, a subsidiary of Max Financial Services for an amount of up to **Rs.336 crore**.

- Axis entities, which includes Axis Bank, Axis Capital and Axis Securities, have increased the total holding in Max Life Insurance Company from **19.02% to 19.99%**.

11. Which company has recently (in June 2024) sold its 1.75% stake in AU Small Finance Bank for Rs 845.10 crore through an open market transaction?

- 1) Tata Sons
- 2) Bain Capital
- 3) Bandhan Financial Holdings Limited
- 4) WestBridge Capital
- 5) Carlyle Group

Answer- **4) WestBridge Capital**

Explanation:

Westbridge Capital, a private equity firm, has sold its **1.75% stake** (1.30 crore shares) in Jaipur (Rajasthan) – based **AU Small Finance Bank(SFB)** limited for **Rs 845.10** crore through an open market transaction.

- The shares were sold at an average price of **Rs 650.08 each**
- Westbridge Capital, through its subsidiary **Westbridge Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) I**, sold shares of AU SFB through a wholesale deal on the National Stock Exchange (NSE).
- Westbridge Capital's stake in AU Small Finance Bank has decreased from 3.82% to 2.07% after the stake sale.

12. In June 2024, the Competition Commission of India (CCI) recently (in June 2024) approved the acquisition of certain equity shares of Sneha Farms Private Limited (Sneha Farms) by _____ by way of a combination of primary subscription and secondary purchase.

- 1) Mitsui
- 2) Coforge Limited
- 3) Sikkim Urja
- 4) IndusInd International Holdings Limited
- 5) Cigniti

Answer- **1) Mitsui**

Explanation:

i. The Competition Commission of India (CCI) approves the **acquisition** of certain equity shares of Sneha Farms Private Limited (**Sneha Farms**), a private limited company, by Mitsui & Co., Ltd. (**Mitsui**), a Japanese trading and investments company, by way of a combination of primary subscription and secondary purchase.

ii. CCI approved the acquisition of acquisition of at **least 50.21%** and **up to 54%** shareholding on a fully diluted basis of Cigniti Technologies Limited (**Cigniti**) by Coforge Limited (**Coforge**).

DEFENCE

1. Name the multinational exercise in which the Indian Air Force (IAF) is participating from 30th May to 14th June 2024 in the United States of America (USA).

- 1) EX TIGER TRIUMPH – 24
- 2) Red Flag 24-2
- 3) DUSTLIK
- 4) TARKASH

5) LAMITIYE-2024

Answer- **2) Red Flag 24-2**

Explanation:

The Indian Air Force (**IAF**) has landed its most advanced fighter aircraft, Rafale, at the **Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska**, United States of America (**USA**), to participate in the multinational **Red Flag 24-2 exercise**.

- The Red Flag-Alaska 24-2 will be a two-week military exercise, which commenced on 30th May 2024 and ends on 14th June 2024.
- IAF has deployed 8 Rafale fighters, **three C-17 transport aircraft** and **two IL-78 mid-air refuelling aircraft** to Eielson Air Force Base.
- The first Red Flag exercise in 2024 is called 24-1, which was exclusively for the US Air Force

2. Name the shipbuilding company that was recently (in June '24) chosen to build the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) research vessel with a deal of approximately Rs 500 crore.

- 1) Hindustan Shipyard Limited
- 2) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers
- 3) Cochin Shipyard Limited
- 4) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited
- 5) Reliance Naval and Engineering Limited

Answer- **2) Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers**

Explanation:

Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE), a leading Indian shipyard has set to build a new research vessel for the Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**) with a deal of approximately **Rs 500 Crore**.

- After submitting the Lowest Proposal (**L1**), GRSE was chosen to build the DRDO research vessel. It highlights GRSE's competitiveness in the shipbuilding industry and its ability to deliver cost-effective solutions.

3.Name the Internet of Things (IOT)-enabled integrated generator monitoring and control system that was recently (in June '24) launched by the Indian Army.

- 1) Jugaad
- 2) Akashteer
- 3) SAMBHAV
- 4) Vidyut Rakshak
- 5) Ugram

Answer- **4) Vidyut Rakshak**

Explanation:

The Vice Chief of the Army Staff (VCOAS) of the Indian Army, **Lieutenant General Upendra Dwivedi** has launched '**Vidyut Rakshak**' and was developed by **Major Rajprasad R S** of the **Army Design Bureau (ADB)**. The launch event encompassed the roll-out of the first production units of Vidyut Rakshak.

- Vidyut Rakshak is an Internet of Things (**IOT**) enabled integrated generator monitoring, protection and control system.

- The Indian Army is observing **2024** as the '**Year of Tech Absorption**', where the Vidyut Rakshak from 'innovation to induction' signifies the Indian Army's commitment and efforts to leverage technology as a catalyst for transformative change.

4. In June 2024, the 8th edition of which maritime exercise was held between the Indian Navy (IN) and the Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force (JMSDF) at Yokosuka, Japan?

- 1) Shinyuu Maitri
- 2) Dharma Guardian
- 3) Sahyog Kaijin
- 4) Ex-Ayutthaya
- 5) JIMEX

Answer- **5) JIMEX**

Explanation:

Japan-India Maritime Exercise 2024 (**JIMEX-24**), the **8th** edition of bilateral exercise between the Indian Navy (IN) and Japan Maritime Self-Defense Force(JMSDF), commenced at Yokosuka, Japan. The JIMEX-24 will be conducted in two phases: i.Harbour Phase ii.Sea Phase.

IN is being represented by its indigenous Stealth Frigate Indian Naval Ship (INS) Shivalik. JMSDF is being represented by guided missile destroyer "JS Yugiri".

Other bilateral training exercises between India and Japan are

- (i) DHARMA Guardian- between Indian Army and Japan Ground Self Defence Force (JGSDF).
- (ii) Veer Guardian- between the Indian Air Force (IAF) and the Japan Air Self-Defence Force (JASDF).

5. The Indian Navy recently (in June '24) launched _____MCA Barge, at M/s Vinayaga Marine Petro Limited, Maharashtra, which was built by M/s SECON Engineering Ltd.

- 1) LSAM 13 (YARD 81)
- 2) LSAM 18 (YARD 128)
- 3) LSAM 8 (Yard 76)
- 4) LSAM 10 (Yard 78)
- 5) LSAM 5 (Yard 121)

Answer- **1) LSAM 13 (YARD 81)**

Explanation:

On June 10 2024, The Indian Navy (IN) launched the Missile Cum Ammunition (MCA) Barge, Landing Ship Ammunition(LSAM 13)(Yard 81), the fifth Barge of 08 x MCA Barge project, built by Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Shipyard, M/s SECON Engineering Projects Private Limited (SEPPL), Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh (AP).

The barge was launched at M/s Vinayaga Marine Petro Limited, Mira Bhayandar, Maharashtra(the launch site of SEPPL).

The contract for building 08 x MCA Barge was signed between the Ministry of Defence (MoD) and M/s SEPPL on 19 February 2021 at Visakhapatnam, AP.

6. The Indian Army (in June 2024) has received India' 1st Indigenous man-portable suicide drones _____, which is designed and developed by Economics Explosives Ltd.

- 1) Nagastra-1
- 2) Haeil-5-23
- 3)Drishti 10 Starliner

4) FWD-200B

5) Ghatak

Answer- **1) Nagastra-1**

Explanation:

The Indian Army has received the first batch of Indigenous **man-portable suicide drones** also known as the 1st Indigenous Loitering Munition (LM), **Nagastra-1**, with the capability of precise strikes on enemy training camps and launch pads, minimising risks to soldiers.

- Nagastra-1 is designed and developed by **Economics Explosives Ltd (EEL)**, a subsidiary of Solar Industries Nagpur (Maharashtra), in association with Z-Motion, Bengaluru, Karnataka, with over 75% indigenous content.
- Nagastra-1 is a fixed-wing Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV), weighing 9 kilograms (kg), with an endurance of 60 minutes, a man-in-loop range of 15 kilometers (km), and an autonomous mode range of 30 km.

7. Name the Intercontinental Ballistic Missile (ICBM) that was recently (in June 2024) tested by the United States Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) and US Space Force guardians from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, the United States of America(USA).

1) LGM-118 Peacekeeper

2) VSHORADS

3) DragonFire

4) Igla-S

5) Minuteman III

Answer-**5) Minuteman III**

Explanation:

A joint team of the United States (US) Air Force Global Strike Command (AFGSC) Airmen supported by the US Space Force Guardians launched an unarmed Minuteman III Intercontinental Ballistic Missiles (ICBMs) equipped with one re-entry vehicle from Vandenberg Space Force Base, California, the United States of America(USA).

- The 2 Minuteman III ICBMS in these tests were launched into suborbital space with a rocket engine before releasing their re-entry vehicles back through Earth's atmosphere.
- The ICBM's re-entry vehicle travelled approximately 4,200 miles at speeds exceeding 15,000 miles per hour.

8. Which company has (recently in June 2024) secured the DRDO's contract to develop Underwater Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (ULUAVs)?

1) Mahindra Aerostructures Private Limited

2) Adani Defence and Aerospace

3) Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt. Ltd.

4) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

5) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited

Answer-**3) Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt. Ltd.**

Explanation:

Pune (Maharashtra) based **Sagar Defence Engineering Private Limited** has secured a contract from the Defence Research and Development Organisation's (DRDO) Technology Development Fund (TDF) to develop **Underwater Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (ULUAVs)**.

- It aims to improve the strategic prowess of Indian defence forces and expand India's underwater capabilities, representing a significant advancement in Indian defence technology.
- It allows submarines to expand their command and control capabilities, the ULUAVs provides high tactical advantage, achieved through Radio Frequency (RF) data-link transmissions that can reach the submarine positioned under the ocean's surface.

9. Which company has recently (in June'24) received a Request For Proposal (RFP) from the Ministry of Defence(MoD) for 156 Prachand 'light combat helicopters (LCHs)' worth Rs 45,000 crore?

- 1) Bharat Electronics Limited
- 2) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 3) Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited
- 4) BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited
- 5) Bharat Dynamics Limited

Answer- 2) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited

Explanation:

On 17th June 2024, Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**) received a Request For Proposal (RFP) from the Ministry of Defence (**MoD**) for procurement of **156** Light Combat Helicopters (**LCHs**) **Prachand**, estimated to cost **Rs 45, 000 crore**.

- MoD has issued this RFP in terms of Regulation 30 of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) (Listing Obligations and Disclosure Requirements) Regulations, 2015.
- Out of these 156 LCHs, **90** are for the **Indian Army** (IA) and the remaining **66** are for the **Indian Air Force**(IAF).

10. Which country has recently (in June '24) launched "Unmanned Systems Forces," the world's first military force dedicated to harnessing the power of unmanned warfare?

- 1) Saudi Arabia
- 2) China
- 3) Israel
- 4) United States of America
- 5) Ukraine

Answer- 5) Ukraine

Explanation:

The Armed Forces of **Ukraine** officially launched "Unmanned Systems Forces (**USF**)", a **new stand-alone military branch** aimed at supporting and developing units of unmanned systems. With this, **Ukraine** has become the **1st country** in the world to establish a military branch dedicated to drone systems.

- USF was unveiled by representatives from the Ukrainian Armed Forces and the Ministry of Defence (MoD), Ukraine in Kyiv, Ukraine.
- The Former Deputy Commander-in-Chief of the Armed Forces of Ukraine, **Colonel Vadym Sukharevsky**, has been **appointed** as the **1st Commander** of the **USF**.

11. Which of the following forces has recently (in June '24) launched its first skin bank facility in New Delhi for advanced care of personnel and families?

- 1) Indian Navy
- 2) Indian Airforce
- 3) Indian Army
- 4) Indian Coast Guard
- 5) Central Reserve Police Force

Answer- 3) Indian Army

Explanation:

The **Army Hospital, Research & Referral (R&R)**, New Delhi (**Delhi**) opened a **state-of-the-art skin bank facility**, a **first-of-its-kind** to be established within the Armed Forces Medical Services (**AFMS**).

- This initiative is dedicated to managing and treating soldiers suffering from combat-related burn cases and other skin-related conditions among military personnel and their families.
- A centralised hub for the collection, processing, storage, and distribution of skin grafts.

12. Which of the following has recently (in June '24) signed a MoU with the Military College of Telecommunication Engineering (MCTE) to advance collaboration in 'Next Generation Wireless Technologies for the Indian Army'?

- 1) Centre for Development of Advanced Computing (C-DAC)
- 2) Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS)
- 3) Defence Research & Development Organization (DRDO)
- 4) Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE)
- 5) Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering & Research (SAMEER)

Answer- 5) Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering & Research (SAMEER)

Explanation:

On 22nd June 2024, the Society for Applied Microwave Electronics Engineering and Research (**SAMEER**), an autonomous Research & Development (**R&D**) institute under the Ministry of

Electronics and Information Technology (**MeitY**) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) with Military College of Telecommunication Engineering (**MCTE**), Indian Army, to promote collaboration in “**Next Generation Wireless Technologies for Indian Army**”.

- This strategic partnership aims to bolster the Indian Army’s technological capabilities which are aligned towards vision for 2024 as “**Year of Technological Absorption for Indian Army**” declared by Chief of Army Staff.
- As per the MoU, the **incubation centre** will provide support to the development of military-specific innovative solutions from conceptualization to large-scale production including, Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (**MSMEs**) and start-ups.

13. With which company, the Ministry of Defence (MoD) recently (in June ‘24) signed a contract to design and develop a miniaturised satellite capable of carrying payloads up to 150 kgs for the Indian Air Force (IAF)?

- 1) Bharat Electronics Limited
- 2) Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- 3) SpacePixxel Technologies Private Limited
- 4) Kadet Defence Systems Limited
- 5) Adani Defence and Aerospace

Answer- 3) SpacePixxel Technologies Private Limited

Explanation:

On June 25 2024, The **Ministry of Defence** (MoD) signed a contract with Bengaluru (Karnataka)-based **SpacePixxel Technologies Private Limited** to design and develop a **Miniaturised Satellite** capable of carrying multiple advanced payloads up to **150 kgs** for the **Indian Air Force** (IAF).

- It marks the **350th contract** under the Innovations for Defence Excellence (**iDEX**) initiative, the flagship program of the MoD.
- It is being awarded as the **first-ever** iDEX Prime (Space) Satellite Grant under the **Mission DefSpace: Open Challenge**.

14. In June 2024, Dr Samir Vankatpati Kamat, Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over _____ to the Rear Admiral Brijesh Vashistha, Director General of Naval Armament Inspection (NAI), Indian Navy at a ceremony held in New Delhi, Delhi.

- 1) Laser-Directed Energy Weapon
- 2) Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket
- 3) Man-Portable Anti-tank Guided Missile
- 4) Akashteer Control & Reporting Systems
- 5) Man Portable Air Defence System

Answer- 2) Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket

Explanation:

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (**DRDO**), the Research and Development (R&D) wing under the Ministry of Defence (MoD), handed over the Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (**MR-MOCR**) to the **Indian Navy** at a ceremony held in New Delhi, Delhi.

- The MR-MOCR was handed over by **Dr Samir Vankatpati Kamat**, Chairman DRDO, to Rear Admiral **Brijesh Vashistha**, Director General of Naval Armament Inspection (NAI), Indian Navy.

- The Microwave Obscurant Chaff (**MOC**) is a niche technology **developed indigenously** by **DRDO's Defence Laboratory** in **Jodhpur**, Rajasthan.
- The MOC obscures radar signals, creating a microwave shield around assets, and platforms, reducing radar detection.

15. Name the High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) that recently (in June '24) completed six consecutive developmental trials successfully by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

- 1) RudraM-II
- 2) DragonFire
- 3) Nagastra-1
- 4) Igla-S
- 5) ABHYAS

Answer- **5) ABHYAS**

Explanation:

The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has successfully completed the **six** consecutive **developmental trials** of '**ABHYAS**', the High-Speed Expendable Aerial Target (**HEAT**), with enhanced Booster Configuration from the Integrated Test Range (**ITR**) in **Chandipur**, Odisha.

- With this, ABHYAS has completed **ten** developmental trials, demonstrating the system's reliability.
- The trials were conducted with enhanced **Radar Cross Section (RCS)**, **Visual**, and **Infrared (IR)** augmentation systems, which required for weapon practice.
- ABHYAS is a indigenous system designed by the DRDO's **Aeronautical Development Establishment (ADE)**, Bengaluru (Karnataka).
- The was developed through the production agencies – Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (**HAL**) and Larsen & Toubro Limited (**L&T**).

SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. Name the multi-mission communication satellite that has recently (in May '24) launched at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in China using a Long March-3B carrier rocket.

- 1) XPOSAT
- 2) PakSat-MM1
- 3) Pars-1
- 4) Mahda
- 5) LignoSat

Answer- **2) PakSat-MM1**

Explanation:

On 30th May 2024, **China** successfully launched **Pakistan's** multi-mission communication satellite, named **PakSAT-MM1**, from the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in China's southwestern province of Sichuan using a Long March-3B carrier rocket.

- PakSAT-MM1, a part of Pakistan's National Space Programme 2047, aims to enhance internet services across Pakistan.
- The satellite is set to start providing services in August 2024.

- PakSAT-MM1 was developed by China Academy of Space Technology (**CAST**), a subsidiary of China Aerospace Science and Technology Corporation (**CASC**).
- This is a collaborative effort between Space and Upper Atmosphere Research Commission (**SUPARCO**), Pakistan's Space agency, and the Chinese aerospace industry.

2. Name the China National Space Administration's (CNSA) lunar probe that has recently (in June '24) made a soft landing on the moon's far side to collect and return samples.

- 1) INSAT-3DS
- 2) Peregrine Mission One
- 3) Chang'e-6
- 4) Odysseus(Nova-C)
- 5) Luna 1

Answer- **3) Chang'e-6**

Explanation:

On 2nd June 2024, the China National Space Administration's (**CNSA**) **Chang'e-6 lunar probe** made a **soft landing** on the **moon's far side** to collect and return samples from the rarely explored far side of the moon, a **first of its kind** in human lunar exploration history.

- Chang'e-6 with the support of the Queqiao-2 relay satellite landed in the South Pole-Aitken (**SPA**) **Basin**, specifically the **Apollo Basin crater**.
- China is the only country to achieve a soft landing on the far side of the moon and Chang'e 6 is a robotic, not crewed, mission.
- On 4 June 2024, the ascender of the **Chang'e-6 probe** successfully **lifted off** from the lunar surface, carrying rock and soil samples collected from the moon's far side.
- A Chinese national flag was unfolded on the far side of the moon for the 1st time after sampling.[Click here to read more](#)

3. Which organisation has recently (in June'24) developed the Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) software named Parallel RANS Solver for Aerospace Vehicle Aero-thermo-dynamic Analysis (PraVaHa)?

- 1) Bharat Dynamics Limited
- 2) Indian Space Research Organisation
- 3) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- 4) AgniKul Cosmos Private Limited
- 5) Defence Research and Development Organisation

Answer- **2) Indian Space Research Organisation**

Explanation:

The Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) has developed the Computational Fluid Dynamics (**CFD**) software named **Parallel RANS Solver for Aerospace Vehicle Aero-thermo-dynamic Analysis** (PraVaHa).

- This software was developed at **ISRO's Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC)**, Trivandrum, Kerala.
- It facilitates initial aerodynamic design studies by evaluating numerous configurations, crucial for optimising vehicle performance and safety.
- PraVaHa code is operational to simulate airflow for **Perfect Gas & Real Gas** conditions and the validations of the code are underway for simulating the effect of chemical reactions that

occur during air dissociation upon '**earth re-entry**' and '**combustion**' as in scramjet vehicles.

4. Name the satellite that was recently (in May '24) launched by the European Space Agency to study the role of clouds and aerosols in Earth's climate.

- 1) PACE
- 2) Axiom 3
- 3) TSAT-1A
- 4) EarthCARE
- 5) PREFIRE

Answer- **4) EarthCARE**

Explanation:

On 29th May 2024, The European Space Agency (**ESA**) launched **EarthCARE (Earth Cloud Aerosol and Radiation Explorer)** satellite onboard SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket from the Vandenberg Space Force Base in California, the United States of America (USA).

- EarthCARE, a joint venture between ESA and the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (**JAXA**), will study how clouds and aerosols affect Earth's climate.
- It was designed and built by a consortium of more than 75 companies under Airbus as the prime contractor.
- EarthCARE is designed to examine the role clouds and aerosols in reflecting incident solar radiation back out to space and trapping infrared radiation emitted from Earth's surface. This data is crucial for understanding and mitigating climate change.

5. Which space company's Starliner spacecraft lifted off to space on its maiden voyage to the International Space Station (ISS) with two National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) astronauts, Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams?

- 1) Virgin Galactic
- 2) Blue Origin
- 3) Boeing
- 4) SpaceX
- 5) Lockheed Martin Corporation

Answer- **3) Boeing**

Explanation:

On 5 June 2024, **Boeing's Starliner spacecraft** lifted off to space on its maiden voyage to the International Space Station (**ISS**) with 2 National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) **astronauts Butch Wilmore and Sunita Williams**. The astronauts are in orbit on the **1st crewed flight test** for the ISS.

- The astronauts **lifted off** on a United Launch Alliance (**ULA**) **Atlas V rocket** from Space Launch Complex-41 at **Cape Canaveral Space Force Station** in Florida, the United States of America (USA).
- **Indian Origin American Sunita Williams** is the **1st female astronaut** to fly on the **1st flight of a** crewed mission of Boeing Starliner.
- The **launch** is part of **NASA's Boeing Crew Flight Test**, to validate and certify the crew system for operational crewed rotation missions to the ISS.

6. Name the new satellite mission that is set to be launched in 2025 by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) with the collaboration of France's CNES (Centre national d'études spatiales).

- 1) MethaneSAT
- 2) GSLV-F14/INSAT-3DS mission
- 3) PACE
- 4) Astrosat
- 5) TRISHNA

Answer- **5) TRISHNA**

Explanation:

On the occasion of World Environment Day 2024 (5th June), Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) announced the details of **Mission TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for High-Resolution Natural Resource Assessment)**, a collaborative endeavour with **CNES (Centre national d'études spatiales)**, French space agency.

- TRISHNA is a dedicated satellite to monitor Earth's surface temperatures and mitigate climate change.
- The mission, set to be launched in 2025, is designed for a 5-year operational life.
- TRISHNA satellite will be equipped with the two primary payloads: Thermal Infra-Red (**TIR**) and Visible-Near Infra-Red-Short Wave Infra-Red (**VNIR-SWIR**).

7. Name the launch vehicle developed by SpaceX that has recently (in June '24) completed its 1st full test flight returning to Earth followed by a soft splashdown of the booster in the Gulf of Mexico and the spacecraft in the Indian Ocean.

- 1) H-IIA
- 2) Sorayya
- 3) Falcon 9
- 4) Yunhai-3 02
- 5) Starship

Answer- **5) Starship**

Explanation:

Space Exploration Technologies Corporation (**SpaceX**)'s **Starship**, the world's most powerful launch vehicle ever developed, completed its **1st full test flight** returning to Earth followed by a soft splashdown of the booster in the Gulf of Mexico and the spacecraft in the Indian Ocean.

- Starship was launched on 6th June 2024 from Starbase in Texas, the United States of America (**USA**). This marks the fourth integrated test flight (**IFT-4**) of Starship.
- SpaceX's **Starship spacecraft** and **Super Heavy rocket** are collectively referred to as "**Starship**".
- Starship represents a fully reusable transportation system designed to carry both crew and cargo.

8. In June 2024, the Indian Army received the indigenously developed Man Portable Counter Drone System (MPCDS) manufactured by _____.

- 1) Marut Dronetech Private Limited
- 2) Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited
- 3) Bharat Dynamics Limited

4) AXISCADES Technologies Limited

5) Garuda Aerospace

Answer- **4) AXISCADES Technologies Limited**

Explanation:

On 10th June 2024, The Indian Army received indigenously developed first-of-its-kind Man Portable Counter Drone System (**MPCDS**). It is designed and manufactured by Bengaluru based **AXISCADES Technologies Limited** under the agreement worth **Rs 100 crore** from the Indian Army.

- It is capable to detect and jam different types of drones within a range of up to **5 Kilometres (Kms)**.
- It covers wide range of frequency spectrums such as: **Command & Control** and **Navigation**.

9. Recently in June 2024, The International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named three newly discovered craters on Mars by Physical Research Laboratory, a unit of the Department of Space. The biggest crater of the three is named after which cosmic ray physicist?

1) Professor Jayant Murthy

2) Professor Devendra Lal

3) Prof. Garikapati Narahari Sastry

4) Peter Higgs

5) V. S. Trimurtulu

Answer-**2) Professor Devendra Lal**

Explanation:

The Working Group Planetary System Nomenclature (WGPSN) of the International Astronomical Union (IAU) has named three newly discovered craters on Mars by Ahmedabad-based Physical Research Laboratory (PRL), a unit of the Department of Space (DoS) in 2021.

The Three craters are named as

(i) **Lal crater:** It has been named in honour of Professor Devendra Lal, It is the largest of these craters.

(ii) **Mursan crater:** It has been named after Mursan town in Hathras district, Uttar Pradesh

(iii) **Hilsa crater:** It has been named after Hilsa town in Nalanda district of Bihar.

10. Which company has recently (in June '24) received approval from the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACe) for secured landing rights and market access to operate satellites above India?

1) Dhruva Space Private Limited

2) Bellatrix Aerospace

3) Orbit Connect India

4) Agnikul Cosmos

5) Manastu Space

Answer- **3) Orbit Connect India**

Explanation:

Orbit Connect India, a 51:49 Joint Venture (**JV**) between **Reliance Industries'** Jio Platforms Limited (**JPL**) and Luxembourg-based satellite telecommunications company, **SES** has received 3 approvals from the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (**IN-SPACe**) for secured landing rights and market access to operate satellites above India.

- The approvals granted to Orbit Connect India aim to provide satellite-based high-speed internet.

11. Which university has recently (in June '24) installed a 'Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver' and Space Weather Laboratory at its campus in collaboration with the National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL) of the ISRO?

- 1) Chandigarh University, Punjab
- 2) Manav Rachna University, Delhi
- 3) Mahatma Gandhi University, Kerala
- 4) Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi
- 5) Jadavpur University, Kolkata

Answer- 2) Manav Rachna University, Delhi

Explanation:

Manav Rachna University (MRU) has become the **first University in Delhi**, National Capital Region (NCR) to install a **'Global Navigation Satellite System (GNSS) receiver'** and **Space Weather Laboratory** at its campus in collaboration with the National Atmospheric Research Laboratory (NARL)-Indian Space Research Organization (**ISRO**).

- The installation of the GNSS receiver at MRU enables multi-parametric data collection across various atmospheric and space parameters, significantly enhancing research capabilities in atmospheric sciences and related fields.
- This GNSS receiver is integrated into the **NARL North-South chain** of receivers, contributing to critical studies on weather, climate, space weather, and planetary ionospheres.

12. Which foundation has recently (in June '24) launched the first-of-its-kind Innovation Lab for eye care in India?

- 1) Reliance Foundation
- 2) Tata Trusts
- 3) Sankara Eye Foundation
- 4) Piramal Foundation
- 5) Apollo Foundation

Answer- 3) Sankara Eye Foundation

Explanation:

Sankara Eye Foundation India has launched the **first-of-its-kind Innovation Lab for eye care in India**, which was supported by Gopalaswamy Doraiswamy Naidu Charities, focussing on leading cutting-edge research, development and advancement of eye care.

i.The Research and Development(**R & D**) **centre** aims to provide high-quality eye care solutions to underserved populations in India, reaching the most remote rural villages with innovative approaches to diagnosis, treatment and prevention.

ii.The centre will also conduct clinical trials approved by Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (**CDSCO**)/Drug Controller General of India (**DCGI**) for regulatory compliance, with a dedicated team of clinical research coordinators to ensure standards are met.

13. In June 2024, China successfully launched the Space Variable Objects Monitor (SVOM) through the Long March 2-C carrier rocket at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Sichuan Province, Southwest China, China.

The project was led by China National Space Administration (CNSA) and _____.

- 1) Centre National D'Etudes Spatiales (CNES)
- 2) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- 3) National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- 4) Roscosmos State Corporation for Space Activities(ROSCOSMOS)
- 5) European Space Agency (ESA)

Answer- 1) Centre National D'Etudes Spatiales (CNES)

Explanation:

On 22nd June 2024, **China** successfully launched the Space Variable Objects Monitor (**SVOM**), a space science satellite, through the **Long March 2-C** carrier rocket at the Xichang Satellite Launch Center in Sichuan Province, Southwest China, China.

- It was co-developed by China National Space Administration (**CNSA**) in partnership French space agency, Centre National d'Etudes Spatiales (**CNES**).
- The launch of SVOM marks the **60th** anniversary of diplomatic relations between **China** and **France**.
- At present, this satellite is considered as the most powerful satellite in the world for multi-band comprehensive observation of Gamma-Ray Bursts (**GRBs**), the light from which has travelled billions of light years to reach the earth.

14. What is the name of ISRO's Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV), that successfully completed its third autonomous landing experiment on 23rd June 2024?

- 1) VSHORADS
- 2) Pushpak
- 3) SMART
- 4) Semi Cryogenic PITA
- 5) Tapas

Answer- 2) Pushpak

Explanation:

On 23rd June 2024, the Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) conducted the "**Pushpak**"- Reusable Launch Vehicle Autonomous Landing EXperiment (**RLV-LEX-03**) at the Aeronautical Test Range (ATR) in Chitradurga, Karnataka.

- This landing is the **3rd** and last of the series of experiments conducted by ISRO, following the success of RLV LEX-01 and LEX-02 mission conducted in 2023 and in March 2024.
- Pushpak RLV has been designed as an all-rocket and fully reusable single-stage-to-orbit (**SSTO**) vehicle.
- The mission **reused the winged body** and flight systems such as without modification, from the LEX-02 mission, which showcased the robustness of ISRO's capability of design reuse flight systems for various missions.

15. What is the name of the satellite that NASA successfully launched in June 2024, which represents the fourth and final satellite in a series of advanced weather satellites for NOAA (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration)?

- 1) Queqiao-2
- 2) NEONSAT-1
- 3) GOES-U
- 4) Bandwagon-1
- 5) Explorer 1

Answer- **3) GOES-U**

Explanation:

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (**NASA**) successfully launched the **GOES-U** (Geostationary Operational Environmental Satellite), the **4th** and final satellite in the **GOES-R series** of advanced weather satellites for **NOAA** (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration).

- NOAA GOES-U was launched on a **SpaceX Falcon Heavy rocket** from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida, the United States of America (**USA**).
- Once GOES-U is in a geostationary orbit (about 22,200 miles above Earth) it will be renamed **GOES-19**.
- **GOES-U** is making history by **carrying the 1st operational satellite solar coronagraph** called the Compact Coronagraph-1 (**CCOR-1**).

16. Which organisation has recently (in June '24) signed a Launch Service Agreement with the Space Machines Company to launch the second Optimus spacecraft, the largest Australian-designed and built spacecraft weighing 450kg?

- 1) NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)
- 2) Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)
- 3) Brazilian Association of Satellite Telecommunications Companies (ABRASAT)
- 4) National Aeronautics and Space Administration(NASA)
- 5) European Space Agency (ESA)

Answer- **1) NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)**

Explanation:

On 26th June 2024, NewSpace India Limited (**NSIL**), the commercial arm of the Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**), signed a Launch Service Agreement with the **Space Machines Company**, an Australian-Indian in-space servicing firm, to launch the **second Optimus spacecraft**, weighing 450kg, the **largest Australian-designed and built spacecraft** so far.

i.The 2nd Optimus spacecraft will be launched aboard NSIL's Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) in **2026**.

ii.This Mission, named **Space MAITRI** (Mission for Australia-India's Technology, Research and Innovation) marks the significant milestone in the strategic partnership between Australia and India in the space domain.

iii.The **Government of Australia** has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) worth **USD 18 million** with **NSIL** to enable the launch of Australian satellites into orbit from Indian soil.[Click here to read more](#)

SPORTS

1. In May 2024, the Boxing Federation of India (BFI) became a member of _____.

- 1) Indian Olympic Association
- 2) International Boxing Association
- 3) World Boxing
- 4) National Sports Federation of India
- 5) World Athletics

Answer- 3) World Boxing

Explanation:

The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) has parted ways with the suspended International Boxing Association (IBA) and became a member of World Boxing with the aim to reduce the threat to boxing's Olympic future.

- The decision was taken after the International Olympic Committee (IOC) warned the national federation to leave boxing out of the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics if they continued to be a part of the International Boxing Association (IBA).
- The IOC had de-recognised the IBA in **2019** due to continuous financial, sports integrity, and governance issues.

2. Name the Indian cricketer who announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on 1st June 2024 after playing for India for 20 years.

- 1) Ravichandran Ashwin
- 2) Mahendra Singh Dhoni
- 3) Dinesh Karthik
- 4) Yuzvendra Chahal
- 5) Wriddhiman Saha

Answer- 3) Dinesh Karthik

Explanation:

India wicketkeeper-batter **Dinesh Karthik** officially announced his retirement from all forms of cricket on **June 1, 2024** after playing for India for **20** years.

- The Tamil Nadu cricketer has represented India in **180** games across three formats in which he scored **3463** runs with a lone Test hundred and 17 half-centuries. He also has 172 dismissals in his name along with a total of **151** catches and **21** stumpings.
- Karthik scored **1,752** runs and **nine half-centuries** in **94 ODI matches**. In Tests, he achieved a score of 1,025 runs in **26 Tests**. In T20Is, he scored **686** runs in **60 games**.

3. Who won the Women's Singles title at the Yonex Bonn International 2024, a Badminton World Federation (BWF) Future Series Event held from 29th May to 1st June 2024 in Germany?

- 1) Wang Zhi Yi
- 2) Tanvi Sharma
- 3) Anupama Upadhyaya
- 4) PV Sindhu
- 5) Saina Nehwal

Answer- 2) Tanvi Sharma

Explanation:

Indian shuttler **Tanvi Sharma** (15 years old) won the **Women's Singles title** at the **Yonex Bonn International 2024** by defeating Wang Pei Yu of Chinese Taipei.

- Yonex Bonn International 2024, a Badminton World Federation (**BWF**) Future Series Event, was held from 29th May to 1st June 2024 in Bonn, Germany.
- Cheng Kai of Chinese Taipei won the Men's Singles title by defeating Gustav Bjorkler (Sweden).
- In the women's doubles category, the Indian women duo of Srinidhi Narayanan and Radhika Sharma finished 3rd.
- In Men's doubles, Prakash Raj and Gouse Sheik finished 3rd.

4. In June 2024, Indian contingents won 7 medals including 3 Gold, 3 Silver, and 1 bronze at the Taiwan Athletics Open 2024 held in Taipei City, Taiwan.

_____ won the gold medal in the women's long jump event with a 6.43m jump.

- 1) Sheetal Devi
- 2) Nithya Ramraj
- 3) Jyothi Yarraji
- 4) Velluva Koroth Vismaya
- 5) Nayana James

Answer- **5) Nayana James**

Explanation:

Indian contingents won 7 medals including **3 Gold, 3 Silver and 1 bronze** at the **Taiwan Athletics Open 2024** held in Taipei Municipal Stadium, Taipei City, Taiwan from 1st to 2nd June 2024.

- Taiwan Athletics Open 2024, sanctioned by the World Athletics, was organised by the Chinese Taipei Athletics Association.
- Indian athlete **Nayana James** won the **gold** medal in the women's long jump event with a 6.43m jump.
- Indian track and field athlete **Devarakeshavi Prakasha (DP) Manu** won the **gold medal** in the men's javelin throw event by recording a distance of 81.58 meters.
- India's **Ankesh Chaudhary** won the **gold** medal in men's 800m after clocking 1:50.63 and compatriot **Somnath Chauhan** settled for **silver** (1:50.88).
- **Nithya Ramraj** won the **silver** in the women's 100m hurdles while **Velluva Koroth Vismaya** won the **bronze** in the women's 400m race.

5. Name the Indian cricket player who has recently (in June 2024) announced his retirement from all forms of cricket at the age of 39.

- 1) Rahul Dalal
- 2) Ravindra Jadeja
- 3) Jaydev Unadkat
- 4) Yuvraj Singh
- 5) Kedar Jadhav

Answer- **5) Kedar Jadhav**

Explanation:

On June 3, 2024, **Kedar Jadhav**, an Indian cricketer has announced his **retirement** from all forms of cricket at the age of 39.

- He made his **international debut** for India in November 2014 during an One Day International (ODI) against Sri Lanka at Ranchi (Jharkhand).
- In total, the Maharashtra player has played 73 one-day matches, scoring 1,389 runs at an average of 42.09 with two centuries and six fifties, and nine T20 internationals with 122 runs in six innings.
- Jadhav was part of the 2019 World Cup, lastly played an ODI for India against New Zealand in Auckland on February 8, 2020.

6. Name the Indian footballer who announced his retirement from international football after the FIFA World Cup qualifier match against Kuwait on June 6, 2024.

- 1) Prabir Majumdar
- 2) Bhaichung Bhutia
- 3) Raghuram Iyer
- 4) Sunil Chhetri
- 5) Joseph Patrick Kinnear

Answer- **4) Sunil Chhetri**

Explanation:

On 6th June 2024, **Sunil Chhetri**(39 years old), legendary Indian Footballer and the captain of the Indian National football Team(nicknamed “the Blue Tigers”) since 2012, **retired** from **international football**, after India’s FIFA World Cup 2026 qualifier against Kuwait.

- He ended his 19 year long career representing India with 151 appearances and 94 goals.
- With 94 international goals, Sunil Chhetri is the 4-highest goal-scorer behind Cristiano Ronaldo(128), Iran’s etired Ali Daei(108) and Lionel Messi(106).
- He holds the record as the first Indian player to play in three continents(Asia; America and Europe).

7. Who won the Norway Chess 2024 title by defeating GM Fabiano Caruana (USA), held from 27th May to 7th June 2024 in Stavanger, Norway?

- 1) Dommaraju Gukesh
- 2) Magnus Carlsen
- 3) Wei Yi
- 4) Ju Wenjun
- 5) R.Praggnanandhaa

Answer- **2) Magnus Carlsen**

Explanation:

Norwegian Grandmaster (GM) **Magnus Carlsen** (World No.1) won the **2024 Norway Chess Title** beating **Fabiano Caruana** of the United States of America (USA) in the final round Armageddon tie-breaker. This marks Carlsen’s **6th Norway Chess Title**.

- **Hikaru Nakamura (USA)** secured the 2nd spot with 15.5 points despite losing to **Indian GM R.Praggnanandhaa**, who concluded third with 14.5 points.
- Women’s World Champion **Ju Wenjun (China)** won the Women’s Norway Chess title defeating Lei Tingjie (China).
- The **12th** edition of the Norway Chess super-tournament was held from May 27 to June 7 2024 in Stavanger, Norway.

8. Who has been recently (in June '24) won the Formula 1 (F1) Canadian Grand Prix 2024 title?

- 1) Charles Leclerc
- 2) Max Verstappen
- 3) Lando Norris
- 4) George Russell
- 5) Carlos Sainz Vázquez de Castro

Answer- **2) Max Verstappen**

Explanation:

Dutch-Belgian racing driver **Max Verstappen** of Red Bull won the Formula 1 (F1) Canadian Grand Prix 2024 (AWS GRAND PRIX DU CANADA 2024) title, the 9th round of the 2024 F1 championships at Circuit Gilles-Villeneuve in **Montreal, Quebec, Canada**.

- McLaren's Lando Norris finished second, and Mercedes's George Russell finished third in the Canadian Grand Prix 2023.
- It marks Verstappen's third consecutive Canadian GP title, previously he won it in 2022 & 2023.
- The victory marks Verstappen's **60th Formula 1 win** and his **sixth** in nine races this season
- George Russell achieved Mercedes's first Grand Prix podium finish for the Formula 1 season 2024.

9. Who has won the Men's Singles Title at the French Open 2024 (also known as Roland-Garros) for the first time?

- 1) Novak Djokovic
- 2) Jannik Sinner
- 3) Carlos Alcaraz
- 4) Stefanos Tsitsipas
- 5) Saketh Mynen

Answer- **3) Carlos Alcaraz**

Explanation:

Spanish tennis player **Carlos Alcaraz**(21 years old) won the **Men's singles** title at the **French Open 2024** (also known as Roland-Garros) by defeating Alexander Zverev of Germany in the finals held at the Stade Roland Garros in Paris, France.

- World No. 1 **Iga Swiatek** of Poland won the **Women's singles** title at the 2024 French Open defeating Jasmine Paolini of Italy. This marks her 4th French Open title and 5th Grand Slam title.
- El Salvador's Marcelo Arevalo and Croatia's Mate Pavic secured the Men's Doubles title after defeating Italian pair Simone Bolelli and Andrea Vavassori. This is the first Grand Slam title of the pair.
- Coco Gauff (The United States of America-USA) and Katerina Siniakova (Czech Republic) won the French Open's women's doubles title by defeating the Italian pair Jasmine Paolini and Sara Errani.
- Germany's Laura Siegemund and France's Edouard Roger-Vasselin won the mixed doubles title after defeating the two-time Wimbledon Champions Desirae Krawczyk (USA) and Neal Skupski (Britain).[Click here to read more](#)

10. Name the Indian shooter who has recently (in June '24) won the gold medal in the men's 10 m air pistol category at the ISSF World Cup 2024 (rifle/pistol) held in Munich, Germany.

- 1) Sarabjot Singh
- 2) Dhiraj Bommadevara
- 3) Suhas Lalinakere Yathiraj
- 4) Tajinderpal Singh Toor
- 5) Sandeep Singh

Answer- 1) Sarabjot Singh

Explanation:

India won **2 medals** (1 gold and 1 bronze) and finished **3rd** on the **medal tally** of the International Shooting Sport Federation (**ISSF World Cup 2024 (Rifle/Pistol)**) held from 31st May to 8th June 2024 in Munich, Germany.

- Indian shooter **Sarabjot Singh** won the **gold** medal in the men's 10m air pistol category and Indian shooter **Sift Kaur Samra** won a **bronze** medal in the women's 50m rifle 3 positions category.
- China topped the medal tally with 11 medals (4 gold, 4 Silver and 3 Bronze) followed by Norway at 2nd place with 3 medals (1 gold, 1 silver and 1 Bronze) and India and France at 3rd place with 2 medals each.

11. Which country is set to host the 14th edition of the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup in 2025?

- 1) Brazil
- 2) India
- 3) South Korea
- 4) Australia
- 5) Japan

Answer- 2) India

Explanation:

India will host the 14th edition of the FIH Hockey Men's Junior World Cup 2025. The decision was taken by the Executive Board of the International Hockey Federation (FIH) in Lausanne, Switzerland. The tournament will be played in December 2025.

This will be the 1st time ever that a FIH Hockey Junior World Cup has 24 participating teams. India will host the tournament for the 4th time since 2013.

12. Who has recently (in June 2024) won the Under-20 girls title at the FIDE World Junior Chess Championships 2024 held in Gandhinagar, Gujarat?

- 1) Anastasia Bodnaruk
- 2) Valentina Gunina
- 3) Vaishali Rameshbabu
- 4) Divya Deshmukh
- 5) Koneru Humpy

Answer- 4) Divya Deshmukh

Explanation:

The International Chess Federation (**FIDE World Junior Chess Championships 2024**) (for Open & Girls Under-20) was held at the GIFT City, Gandhinagar, Gujarat from 1st to 14th June 2024.

- International Master (IM) **Divya Deshmukh** (18 years old) from India won the 2024 FIDE World Junior Chess Championships (**Girls**) title by defeating Bulgaria's **Beloslava Krasteva** in the final round.
- With this victory, Divya Deshmukh is **ranked 20th** on FIDE's Standard Top 100 Women players. She is the **youngest** and 2nd U-20 player in the **Top 20**.
- This marks India's first World Junior title after a gap of 15 years. Divya, from Nagpur (Maharashtra), becomes the **4th Indian girl** to win the Junior title after Koneru Humpy (2001), Dronavalli Harik (2008) and Soumya Swaminathan (2009).
- IM **Kazybek Nogerbek** (20 years) from **Kazakhstan** won the 2024 FIDE World Junior Chess Championships (**Open**) title by defeating Mamikon Gharibyan of Armenia in the final round.

13. Name the player who finished as runner-up in the Men's Singles at the Internazionali di Tennis Città di Perugia 2024 (ATP Challenger 125 Perugia), held in Perugia (Italy).

- 1) Sriram Balaji Narayanaswamy
- 2) Saketh Myneni
- 3) Sumit Nagal
- 4) Jannik Sinner
- 5) Somdev Devvarman

Answer- **3) Sumit Nagal**

Explanation:

Indian tennis player **Sumit Nagal** finished as **runner-up** in the **Men's Singles** at the **Internazionali di Tennis Città di Perugia 2024 (ATP Challenger 125 Perugia)**, a part of Association of Tennis Professionals (**ATP**) **Challenger Tour 2024**, held in Perugia, Italy.

- **Italy's Luciano Darderi** won the Men's Singles title by defeating Sumit Nagal in the finals.
- With this victory, 26-year-old Sumit Nagal has reached a career-high ATP singles ranking of **71**.
- India's **Sriram Balaji** Narayanaswamy and his partner Andre Begemann of Germany finished as runners-up in the Men's Doubles.

14. Name the Indian athlete who won the gold medal in the men's javelin throw at Paavo Nurmi Games 2024, a World Athletics Continental Tour (Gold level) event, held in Turku, Finland.

- 1) Narsingh Pancham Yadav
- 2) Devendra Jhajharia
- 3) Neeraj Chopra
- 4) Tajinderpal Singh Toor
- 5) Shivpal Singh

Answer- **3) Neeraj Chopra**

Explanation:

Olympic and World Champion **Neeraj Chopra** secured a **gold medal** with 85.97m in the third attempt in **men's javelin throw** at **Paavo Nurmi Games 2024**, a World Athletics Continental Tour (**Gold level**) event held on 18th June 2024 in Turku, Finland (Europe).

- Finland's **Toni Keranen** claimed the silver medal with a personal best throw of 84.19m, and **Oliver Helander** (Finland) won the bronze medal with 83.96m.

- The Paavo Nurmi Games is an annual track and field meet that takes place at Paavo Nurmi Stadium in Turku, Finland. It is organised to honor the memory of Paavo Nurmi, a Finnish athlete who were nicknamed the 'Flying Finns'.

15. Who has recently (in June '24) won the title at the 2024 Stepan Avagyan Memorial 17th-category Round Robin (RR) Chess Tournament held at Jermuk, Armenia?

- 1) Magnus Carlsen
- 2) Arjun Erigaisi
- 3) P.Shyam Nikhil
- 4) Vaishali Rameshbabu
- 5) Koneru Humpy

Answer- **2) Arjun Erigaisi**

Explanation:

Indian Grandmaster (**GM**) **Arjun Erigaisi**(20 years old) won the title of the **2024 Stepan Avagyan Memorial 17th-category Round Robin(RR) Chess Tournament** held at Jermuk, **Armenia** from 9th to 18th June 2024.

- Arjun finished with 6.5 points after winning four games and splitting the points in 5 rounds.
- With this victory, **India's No. 1** Arjun became the **World No.4** with a career-high rating of **2778.1 Elo**.
- This marks **Arjun's 2nd classical title of 2024**. He previously won the **Menorca Open** (Menorca, Spain) title in April 2024.

16. Which state government has recently (in June '24) announced an extension of its sponsorship to Hockey India by 3 years until 2036?

- 1) Odisha
- 2) Gujarat
- 3) West Bengal
- 4) Assam
- 5) Punjab

Answer- **1) Odisha**

Explanation:

Mohan Charan Majhi, Chief Minister(CM) of Odisha announced that the **Government of Odisha** will extend its sponsorship of the **Hockey India(HI)** for another three years till **2036**, which will mark the completion of **100 years of the formation of Odisha** as a separate state in **1936**.

- The partnership was cemented during a high level meeting between CM Odisha Mohan Charan Majhi and Minister of State (MoS) Suryabanshi Suraj, Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports (**MoYAS**), and delegation of Hockey India led by its president and Indian hockey legend Dilip Tirkey.
- In April 2023, the Odisha Government led by then CM Naveen Patnaik extended the sponsorship deal by 10 years till 2033 for Rs 434.12 crores.

17. Who has recently (in June '24) won the Women's Singles title at the World Table Tennis (WTT) Contender Lagos 2024 tournament held in Nigeria?

- 1) Diya Parag Chitale
- 2) Sreeja Akula

3) Poymantee Baishya

4) Manika Batra

5) Archana Kamath

Answer- **2) Sreeja Akula**

Explanation:

The **Indian contingents** won **9 medals (3 gold, 1 silver and 5 bronze)** at the World Table Tennis (**WTT) Contender Lagos 2024** held from 19th to 23rd June 2024 in Sir Molade Okoya Thomas Indoor Sports Hall, Lagos, Nigeria.

- India's **Sreeja Akula** won the **2024 WTT Women's Singles title** by defeating China's Yijie Ding in the finals. She became the **first-ever Indian player** to win a Women's Singles title in the WTT Contender.
- **Sreeja Akula** now holds the honour of being India's highest-ranked player in the Women's Singles standings, rising 19 spots to **World No.24**. [Click here to read more](#)

Winners & Runners of WTT Contenders Lagos 2024:

Category	Winner (Gold)	Runner- UP (Silver)
Women's Singles	Sreeja Akula (India)	Yijie Ding (China)
Men's Singles	Dimitrij Ovtcharov (Germany)	Ricardo Walther (Germany)
Women Doubles	Sreejas Akula and Archana Kamath (India)	Yashaswini Ghorpade and Diya Chitale (India)
Men's Doubles	Harmeet Desai and Manav Thakkar (India)	Olajide Omotayo and Azeez Solanke (Nigeria)

18. Who has recently (in June 2024) won the Formula 1 (F1) 2024 Spanish Grand Prix held in Montmeló, Spain?

1) Carlos Sainz Vázquez de Castro

2) Charles Leclerc

3) Lando Norris

4) Max Verstappen

5) Lewis Hamilton

Answer- **4) Max Verstappen**

Explanation:

On 23 June 2024, **Red Bull's Max Verstappen**, a Belgian-Dutch racing driver, won the **2024 Spanish Grand Prix (GP)** (officially known as the Formula 1 (**F1) Aramco Gran Premio de España 2024**) held at the Circuit de Barcelona-Catalunya in Montmeló, Barcelona, Catalonia, Spain.

- This marks **Verstappen's 3rd Spanish GP title in a row** and his 4th Spanish GP (overall) at this track. He has previously won the title in 2016, 2022, & 2023).
- This victory marks **Verstappen's 7th win** in 11 races in 2024, and his 61st career win.

- **McLaren's Lando Norris**, a British and Belgian racing driver and **Mercedes' Lewis Hamilton**, a British racing driver, finished 2nd and 3rd respectively.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1. What is the title of the memoir of Bill Gates, the co-founder of Microsoft, which is set to be released in February 2025?

- 1) Artificial Intelligence and National Security
- 2) Mind Master: Winning Lessons from a Champion's Life
- 3) The Winner's Mindset
- 4) Four Stars of Destiny: An Autobiography
- 5) Source Code: My Beginnings

Answer- **5) Source Code: My Beginnings**

Explanation:

"**Source Code: My Beginnings**", a memoir of **Bill Gates**, the co-founder of Microsoft, is set to be published by **Allen Lane**, an imprint of Penguin Random House, on 4th February 2025.

- This memoir will focus on his early life, from childhood through the creation of Microsoft with Paul Allen in 1975.
- All proceeds from the book sales will be donated to the nonprofit United Way Worldwide.

2. Who recently in June 2024 unveiled his autobiography titled, "I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story," written jointly with author Sidharth Monga?

- 1) Virat Kohli
- 2) Ravichandran Ashwin
- 3) Shane Watson
- 4) Suryakumar Yadav
- 5) Yuvraj Singh

Answer- **2) Ravichandran Ashwin**

Explanation:

Renowned Indian international cricketer, Ravichandran Ashwin unveiled his autobiography titled, "I Have the Streets: A Kutti Cricket Story," written by Ravichandran Ashwin with author Sidharth Monga, a sitcom screenplay writer, a wrestling booker, and a chef.

The book with 200 Pages was published by Penguin Random House India (PRHI). The book highlights Ashwin's journey from a cricket-loving child in Chennai to becoming one of India's finest cricketers.

3. Who recently in June 2024 released the autobiography of Islamic scholar A.P. Aboobacker Musliyar titled "Viswasapoorvam"?

- 1) D Subbarao
- 2) Anurag Thakur
- 3) Pinarayi Vijayan
- 4) Sam Pitroda
- 5) PS Sreedharan Pillai

Answer- **3) Pinarayi Vijayan**

Explanation:

Kerala Chief Minister (CM) Pinarayi Vijayan released the autobiography titled “Viswasapoorvam” of Islamic scholar and the president of Kerala Muslim Jama-ath, A.P. Aboobacker Musliyar. The book was published by the Malaibar Foundation for Research and Development.

Shashi Tharoor, a Member of Parliament (MP), received the first copy from the CM during the book release event.

4. Name the author of the book titled ‘A Fly on the RBI Wall: An Insider’s View of the Central Bank’?

- 1) Duvvuri Subbarao
- 2) Lakshmi Murdeshwar Puri
- 3) Alpana Killawala
- 4) Raghuram Rajan
- 5) Nirmala Sitharaman

Answer- **3) Alpana Killawala**

Explanation:

Alpana Killawala, a former spokesperson for the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has authored a memoir titled ‘**A Fly on the RBI Wall: An Insider’s View of the Central Bank**’, offering an insightful glimpse into her journey and the RBI’s transformation over 25 years. The book is published by Rupa Publications India.

5. Who has recently (in June ‘24) released her debut children’s picture book series titled ‘Adventures of Ed-a-Mamma: Ed Finds a Home’?

- 1) Payal Kapadia
- 2) Priyanka Chopra Jonas
- 3) Alia Bhatt
- 4) Anasuya Sengupta
- 5) Deepika Padukone

Answer- **3) Alia Bhatt**

Explanation:

Alia Bhatt, Bollywood actress, has launched her debut children’s picture book series titled ‘**Adventures of Ed-a-Mamma: Ed Finds a Home**’, sharing her passion for storytelling. The book features illustrations by Tanvi Bhat.

- Ed Finds A Home is the first in the series inspired by her kids wear brand Ed-a-Mamma.
- It is described as a picture book about caring for the planet and friendship with pets, published by Puffin Books India, the children’s imprint of Penguin Books India.

6. Who has recently (in June ‘24) released the book titled “Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region”, which comprises 18 articles by renowned authors, compiled by the Maritime Mumbai Museum Society (MMMS).

- 1) S.Ramann
- 2) Ramesh Bais
- 3) Sreedharan Pillai
- 4) Duvvuri Subbarao

5) R. N. Ravi

Answer- 2) Ramesh Bais

Explanation:

On 22nd June 2024, Ramesh Bais, **Governor of Maharashtra**, released a book titled '**Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region**' at the Raj Bhavan in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- The book is published by the Publications Division, Ministry of Information and Broadcasting (**MIB**).
- The book comprises **18 articles** by renowned authors, compiled by the **Maritime Mumbai Museum Society (MMMS)**.

OBITUARY

1. In May 2024, Renowned Puppeteer Maguni Charan Kuanr passed away at the age of 88 in Keonjhar, Odisha.

Maguni Charan Kuanr has received the 'Padma Shri' award in _____ in the field of Art.

- 1) 2016
- 2) 2005
- 3) 2000
- 4) 2023
- 5) 2020

Answer- 4) 2023

Explanation:

Padma Shri Awardee **Maguni Charan Kuanr**, a renowned **Puppeteer** has passed away at the age of 88 in Keonjhar, **Odisha**. He was born in 1937 at Keonjhar, Odisha.

- Maguni Kuanr received the prestigious '**Padma Shri**' award in **2023** by **Droupadi Murmu**, President of India.
- He was awarded for his lifelong contribution to the field of art for keeping alive the dying art of rod puppetry and promoting the traditional rod puppet dance.
- He also received the **Sangeet Natak Akademi Award** for his contribution to the traditional puppetry of Orissa.

2. In June 2024, Cherukuri Ramoji Rao, Chairman of Ramoji Group passed away at the age of 87. He was awarded Padma Vibhushan in _____ for his contributions to journalism, literature, and education.

- 1) 2016
- 2) 2018
- 3) 2005
- 4) 2010
- 5) 2008

Answer- 1) 2016

Explanation:

Cherukuri Ramoji Rao, Padma Vibhushan awardee and Chairman of Ramoji Group, passed away at 87 due to prolonged illness.

- Rao was honoured with **Padma Vibhushan**, the 2nd highest civilian honour of India, in **2016** for his contributions to journalism, literature, and education.
- He had received **National Film Award for Best Feature Film** in Telugu(Producer) for '**Nuvve Kavali**'.
- He was born on **November 16, 1936**, in Pedaparupudi, Madras presidency (Present day Andhra Pradesh).

3. In June 2024, Indian Biologist and Wildlife Conservation activist, _____ passed away.

- 1) Kapildev Prasad
- 2) Asir Jawahar Thomas Johnsingh
- 3) Salam Bin Razzaq
- 4) Moosa Raza
- 5) Birubala Rabha

Answer- **2) Asir Jawahar Thomas Johnsingh**

Explanation:

On June 7 2024, **Asir Jawahar Thomas Johnsingh** also known as A J T Johnsingh, a renowned **Indian Biologist** and **Wildlife Conservation activist** passed away at the age of 78 in Bengaluru, Karnataka. He was born in Nanguneri, Tirunelveli district of Tamil Nadu (TN).

i.He was awarded India's fourth highest civilian award **Padma Shri**.

ii.He received the 2004 Distinguished Service Award for Government from the Society for Conservation Biology(SCB), the ABN AMRO Sanctuary Lifetime Wildlife Service Award in 2005

4. In June 2024, Padma Shri Awardee renowned Sarod Maestro and Kannada poet _____ passed away at the age of 92 in Mysuru, Karnataka.

- 1) Shaikh Abdussalam Abdurrazzaq
- 2) Rajeev Taranath
- 3) Malti Joshi
- 4) Surjit Singh Hunjan
- 5) Vajira Chitrasena

Answer- **2) Rajeev Taranath**

Explanation:

Internationally renowned Sarod Maestro and Kannada poet Pandit Rajeev Taranath passed away at the age of 92 in Mysuru, Karnataka. He was born on 17th October 1932 in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

He was awarded India's fourth highest civilian award 'Padma Shri' under 'Art' category in 2019. He also received the Sangeet Natak Akademi award in 2000.

5. Saulos Klaus Chilima, the Vice-President of which country, passed away in an Airplane crash on 10 June 2024?

- 1) Germany
- 2) Malawi
- 3) Iran
- 4) Canada
- 5) Slovenia

Answer- **2) Malawi**

Explanation:

Vice-President of Malawi, Dr Saulos Klaus Chilima, and 9 others died in an Airplane crash on 10 June 2024 in the Chikangawa forest in Malawi. Dr. Saulos Chilima was born on 12th February 1973 in Ntcheu District in Central Malawi.

Chilima was the incumbent Vice President of Malawi, serving his 2nd term since 2020, previously holding the role from 2014 to 2019.

6. In June 2024, Former Governor of _____ Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare passed away at the age of 95.

- 1) Gujarat
- 2) Odisha
- 3) Uttar Pradesh
- 4) Tamil Nadu
- 5) Karnataka

Answer- **2) Odisha**

Explanation:

Former Governor of Odisha **Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare** passed away at the age of 95 in New Delhi, Delhi.

- He was elected to the Rajya Sabha Member of Parliament (MP) for 3 terms in 1980 and re-elected in 1982 and 1988.
- He served as the Governor of **Odisha** from 2007 to 2013.
- He also served as Chairman of the United Nations (UN) Sub-Commission on Prevention of Discrimination and Protection of Minorities.
- In 2024, he published his memoir "**The Arc of Memory: My Life and Times.**"

7. Name the former Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) scientist and Mission Director of Chandrayaan-1, who passed away in June 2024.

- 1) Aditi Sen De
- 2) Laxminarayan Ramdas
- 3) Dr Nitya Anand
- 4) Arun Kumar Sharma
- 5) Srinivas Hegde

Answer- **5) Srinivas Hegde**

Explanation:

Srinivas Hedge, former Indian Space Research Organisation (**ISRO**) scientist and Mission Director of Chandrayaan-1 (the 1st lunar mission of India launched in 2008), passed away at the age of 71 in Bengaluru, Karnataka.

- He joined ISRO in 1978 and served for over 3 decades and was involved in many ISRO missions under the UR Rao Satellite Centre (URSC) formerly known as ISRO Satellite Centre (ISAC).

8. In June 2024, veteran Bharatanatyam dancer and Padma Bhushan Awardee _____ passed away.

- 1) KG Jayan
- 2) Ustad Ali Akbar Khan
- 3) Arun Kumar Sharma

4) Moosa Raza

5) C.V. Chandrasekhar

Answer- **5) C.V. Chandrasekhar**

Explanation:

Professor **C V Chandrasekhar** (fondly referred to as CVC or Chandru anna), a renowned **Bharatanatyam Dancer** and **Padma Bhushan** Awardee, has **passed away** at the age of 89. He was born on 22nd May 1935 at Shimla, Himachal Pradesh.

- In **2011**, He was awarded the prestigious '**Padma Bhushan**' (**Arts**) for his contributions in Bharatanatyam.
- C V Chandrasekhar, an academician, dancer, musician, choreographer and mentor began his formal training in dance at **Kalakshetra Foundation** (formerly Kalakshetra), Chennai, Tamil Nadu (TN) in 1946.
- He also received the UP Sangeet Natak Akademi Award (1978), Gujarat Nrutya Natak Akademi Award (1988) and Kalidas Samman (2008).

9. _____, the co-inventor of the DLS method for calculating target scores in limited-overs cricket hit by bad weather, passed away in June 2024.

1) Frank Duckworth

2) Tim McGovern

3) Akira Toriyama

4) Frans de Waal

5) Bernard Bosanquet

Answer- **1) Frank Duckworth**

Explanation:

Frank Carter Duckworth, an English statistician and co-inventor of the Duckworth-Lewis-Stern (**DLS**) method, **passed away** at the age of 84. He was born on 26th December 1939 in Lancashire, United Kingdom (UK).

- He was elected a fellow of the Royal Statistical Society (RSS) in 1974 and was awarded the Chambers Medal for outstanding services to the Society by the RSS in 2004.
- DLS Method, invented by Frank Duckworth and Tony Lewis, is a mathematical calculation to calculate target scores when the rain interrupts the match.
- Duckworth and Lewis were awarded MBEs (Member of the Order of the British Empire) in June 2010.

10. In June 2024, Pahalman Subba, a former Member of Parliament (MP-Lok Sabha), passed away.

He was the first elected MP of _____ (state).

1) Sikkim

2) Goa

3) Uttarakhand

4) Jharkhand

5) Nagaland

Answer- **1) Sikkim**

Explanation:

Pahalman Subba, **Sikkim's first elected** Member of Parliament(**MP** – Lok Sabha) passed away at Gangtok, Sikkim. He was born on 12th March 1966 in Tikjek village, West Sikkim.

- He won the **1980 election** on a Sikkim Janata Party (SJP) ticket and served as an MP until **1984**. He was the second MP of Sikkim and the first to win a contested election.
- Sikkim became a State of the Indian Union in 1975. **Chatra Bahadur Chhetri** of the Indian National Congress was the **first MP from Sikkim**.

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. When was the World No-Tobacco Day (WNTD) observed across the globe to create awareness about the harmful effects of tobacco?

- 1) May 31
- 2) April 2
- 3) March 15
- 4) June 1
- 5) March 14

Answer- **1) May 31**

Explanation:

World No-Tobacco Day (WNTD) is annually observed across the globe on **31st May** to draw attention to the global tobacco epidemic, and the preventable death and disease caused by tobacco.

- WNTD aims to inform the general public on the dangers of using tobacco, and the business practices of tobacco companies.
- The observance of WNTD is led by the World Health Organisation (**WHO**).
- The **theme** of WNTD 2024 is **“Protecting children from tobacco industry interference”**.
- WHO Director-General Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus presented the 2024 World No Tobacco Day (WNTD) Awards to honours exceptional individuals and organizations across its six regions for their outstanding contributions to tobacco control.
- **Odisha State Tobacco Control Cell**, Republic of India is among the winners under the WHO South-East Asia Region (SEAR) for its exceptional contributions to tobacco control.[Click here to read more](#)

2. In 2024, The United Nations (UN) International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories was observed across the globe from _____ to _____.

- 1) February 1; February 7
- 2) January 11; January 17
- 3) May 25; May 31
- 4) April 24; April 30
- 5) June 1; June 7

Answer- **3) May 25; May 31**

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN) **International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories** is annually observed across the globe from **25th to 31st May** to protect and

guarantee the inalienable rights and resources of the peoples of the Non-Self-Governing Territories, including land.

- This Week also aims to urge administering Powers and States to establish and maintain control over the future development of these resources.
- The **2024** International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories was observed from **25th to 31st May 2024**.
- The **first-ever** International Week of Solidarity with the Peoples of Non-Self-Governing Territories was observed from **25th to 31st May 2000**. [Click here to view more](#)

3. The World Multiple Sclerosis Day(World MS Day) was observed across the globe on _____.

- 1) April 14
- 2) February 29
- 3) April 19
- 4) May 30
- 5) June 1

Answer- **4) May 30**

Explanation:

World Multiple Sclerosis Day(World MS)2024 was observed across the globe on **30 May** to raise awareness about **Multiple Sclerosis**, a long-lasting (chronic) autoimmune disease of the central nervous system (brain and spinal cord), and campaign with everyone affected by MS.

- The **annual observance** of World MS Day is coordinated by the MS International Federation (**MSIF**) and its members.
- The **theme** for **World MS Day 2024-2025** is “**Diagnosis**” under the campaign name “**My MS Diagnosis**” and the **tagline** is “**Navigating MS Together**”.
- The **1st World MS Day** was observed in **2009**.

4. World Milk Day is annually observed across the globe on 1st June to create awareness about the importance of milk. The observance was initiated in 2001 by _____.

- 1) UN Trade and Development
- 2) World Health Organization
- 3) Food and Agriculture Organization
- 4) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
- 5) International Dairy Federation

Answer- **3) Food and Agriculture Organization**

Explanation:

World Milk Day (WMD) 2024 was observed across the globe on **1 June** to highlight milk’s significance as a global food, bring attention to activities connected with the dairy sector, and actively encourage milk and dairy consumption as part of a daily diet.

- The **annual observance** of **WMD** is led by the Food and Agriculture Organisation (**FAO**) of the United Nations (UN).
- The **first-ever WMD** was observed on **1 June 2001**.
- In **2001**, **World Milk Day** was established by the **FAO** to recognise the significance of milk, focus attention on milk, and celebrate the dairy sector’s contributions.