GUPTA CLASSES

Current Affairs

October 2024

English



Part-4

Indian Table Tennis contingents won 3 bronze medals and finished 7th on the Medal tally of the 27th edition of International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) Asian Table Tennis Championships (2024).

- The 2024 championship was held from 7th to 13th October 2024 at the Beeline Arena in Astana, Kazakhstan.
- **Japan** topped the Medal tally with 8 medals (3 Gold, 2 Silver and 3 Bronze) followed by China with 5 medals (2 Gold; 2 Silver and 1 Bronze) and North Korea with 3 medals (1 Gold, 1 Silver and 1 Bronze).
- Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee (World Rank 15 in women's doubles) won the bronze medal in Women's doubles. This marks India's first ever medal in Women's doubles category at Asian Table Tennis Championship.
- The duo became the first all-India women's doubles pair from India to win a medal at the competition.
- The Indian women's team featuring Sreeja Akula; Manika Batra; Sutirtha Mukherjee; Ayhika Mukherjee; and Diya Chitale won the bronze in Women's team event. India lost 1-3 to Japan in the semifinals. Click here to read more.

8. Which country is set to host the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup in 2025?

- 1) France
- 2) United States of America
- 3) India
- 4) Saudi Arabia
- 5) Japan

Answer- 3) India

Explanation:

The Kho Kho Federation of India (KKFI), in association with the International Kho Kho Federation, announced that India is set to host the inaugural Kho Kho World Cup in 2025 and will feature 16 men's and women's teams from 24 countries and six continents.

- The tournament will feature a week-long series of matches, with top-tier athletes from across the globe demonstrating their skills, agility, and teamwork.
- The KKFI aspires to secure Kho Kho's place in the 2032 Olympic Games.

9. Name the Spanish Tennis player who has recently (in October 2024) announced his decision to retire from professional tennis after the Davis Cup 2024.

- 1) Rafael Nadal
- 2) Jannik Sinner
- 3) Carlos Alcaraz
- 4) Albano Olivetti
- 5) Andy Murray

Answer- 1) Rafael Nadal

Explanation:

On 10th October, 2024, Spanish tennis player **Rafael Nadal (38 years old)** announced that he will be retiring from professional tennis at the end of 2024.

- Nadal's final tournament will be the Davis Cup 2024 which is scheduled to be held in November 2024 in Malaga, Spain.
- Rafael Nadal started his professional career in 2001 at just 15 years of age. He has won a
 total of 92 Singles career titles including 22 Grand Slam, 11 doubles and 6 team titles.
- He won the gold medal in Tennis: Men's singles event at the 2008 Beijing Olympics.
- He won his 2nd gold medal in men's doubles, paired with Marc López (Spain) at the 2016
 2016 Rio Olympics.

10. Where was the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Final Rifle / Pistol / Shotgun 2024 held?

- 1) Birmingham, England
- 2) Bali, Indonesia
- 3) Lausanne, Switzerland
- 4) Delhi, India
- 5) Brussels, Belgium

Answer- 4) Delhi, India

Explanation:

India finished 9th on the medal tally of the International Shooting Sport Federation (ISSF) World Cup Final Rifle / Pistol / Shotgun 2024 with 4 medals (2 Silver and 2 Bronze). Delhi, India hosted the event for the 2nd time, having hosted it in 2017.

- China topped the medal tally with 8 medals (5 Gold and 3 Bronze) followed by Italy with 5 medals (1 Gold, 3 Silver and 1 Bronze) and Germany with 3 Medals (1 Gold and 2 Silver).
- ISSF World Cup Rifle/Pistol/Shotgun was held from 13th to 18th October 2024 in Dr Karni Singh Range, New Delhi, Delhi.
- India's Sonam Maskar secured the silver medal in the women's 10m air rifle event at the ISSF World Cup Final 2024. This was Sonam's third medal at the ISSF World Cup.
- Vivaan Kapoor won the silver medal in Men's Trap (Shotgun) event in the ISSF World Cup Final with 44 points.
- Akhil Sheoran won the bronze medal in the 50m Rifle 3 Position Men final at the ISSF World Cup Final 2024.
- Anantjeet Singh Naruka won the bronze medal in the men's skeet event with a total of 43 points.
- The ISSF World Cup is an Olympic shooting event governed by the International Shooting Sport Federation. The first ISSF World Cup was held in Mexico City, Mexico in 1986. <u>Click here to</u> read more.

11. Which team has won the Women's Twenty20 (T20) World Cup title 2024 held from 3rd to 20th October 2024 in Dubai and Sharjah, the United Arab Emirates?

- 1) India
- 2) Bangladesh
- 3) Sri Lanka
- 4) New Zealand
- 5) England

Answer- 4) New Zealand

New Zealand's Women's Cricket team won their first-ever International Cricket Council (ICC) Women's Twenty20 (T20) World Cup title, by defeating South Africa's Women's cricket team by 32 runs in the finals of the ICC Women's T20 Cricket World Cup 2024 held at the Dubai International Cricket Stadium, The United Arab Emirates (UAE).

- New Zealand restricted South Africa to 126-9 in 20 overs against its 158-5 in the finals. This
 marks New Zealand's first victory since its One Day International (ODI) World Cup 2000.
- The 9th edition of the ICC Women's T20 Cricket World Cup (2024) was held from 3rd to 20th October 2024 in Dubai and Sharjah in the UAE.
- The winning team (New Zealand) received a cash prize of **USD 2.34 million** (Rs 19.6 crore).
- Player of the tournament(POT): Amelia Kerr (New Zealand)
- Player of the match(POM) (Finals): Amelia Kerr
- Amelia Kerr became the 1st player in history to bag both the POT and POM in the Women's T20 World Cup.
- Suzie Bates became the most-capped player in international matches (334 appearances), breaking Indian legend Mithali Raj's record (333 appearances).

12. Who has recently won the title of the 2024 Wadim Rosenstein (WR) Chess Masters Cup, which was held from 14th to 18th October 2024 in London, the United Kingdom(UK)?

- 1) Arjun Erigaisi
- 2) Karthik Venkataraman
- 3) Viswanathan Anand
- 4) Praggnanadhaa
- 5) Nihal Sarin

Answer- 1) Arjun Erigaisi

Explanation:

Indian Chess Grandmaster (GM) Arjun Erigaisi won the Wadim Rosenstein (WR) Chess Masters Cup 2024 by defeating French GM Maxime Vachier-Lagrave in an Armageddon tiebreaker.

- WR Chess Masters Cup 2024, organised by entrepreneur Wadim Rosenstein, was held from **14th to 18th October 2024,** at the Langham Hotel, **London, United Kingdom (UK).**
- Arjun Erigaisi topped the tournament with 2797 points followed by Nodirbek Abdusattorov (Uzbekistan) on 2nd rank with 2783 points and Alireza Firouzja (France) on 3rd rank with 2767 points.

Note: The WR Chess Masters Cup is a 16-player single-elimination knockout, with matches consisting of two games.

13. Who has recently (October' 24) won the title at the Formula 1(F1) United States (US) Grand Prix (GP) 2024 held in Texas, United States of America(USA)?

- 1) Charles Leclerc
- 2) Oscar Piastri
- 3) Lando Norris
- 4) George Russell
- 5) Carlos Sainz

Answer- 1) Charles Leclerc

Ferrari's **Charles Leclerc** (Monaco) won the title at the Formula 1(**F1**) **United States (US) Grand Prix (GP) 2024** held on 20th October 2024 in the Circuit of the Americas in Austin, Texas, The United States of America(USA).

- This marks Charles Leclerc's **3rd** title of the 2024 season after the Italy GP and Monaco GP.
- Ferrari's Carlos Sainz finished 2nd and Red Bull Racing Honda RBPT's Max Verstappen finished 3rd.
- Charles Leclerc has achieved a total of eight race wins, 26 pole positions, nine fastest laps and 40 podiums in Formula One.
- He won his first GP title in Bahrain Grand Prix in 2022.
- The United States Grand Prix dates back to **1908**, when it was known as the American Grand Prize at Savannah, Georgia.
- The Grand Prix later became part of the Formula One World Championship.

14. Who won the Mexico City Grand Prix (GP) 2024 (officially Formula 1(F1) Gran Premio De La Ciudad De México 2024) held in October 2024 in Mexico City, Mexico?

- 1) Carlos Sainz
- 2) George Russell
- 3) Lewis Hamilton
- 4) Lando Norris
- 5) Charles Leclerc

Answer- 1) Carlos Sainz

Explanation:

Ferrari's **Carlos Sainz** (Spain) won the **Mexico City Grand Prix (GP) 2024** (officially Formula 1**(F1)** Gran Premio De La Ciudad De México 2024) on 27th October 2024 at the Autodromo Hermanos Rodriguez in **Mexico City, Mexico.** This marks Carlos Sainz's **4th career title** and **2nd title** of the **2024** season.

- Lando Norris of McLaren finished 2nd (18 points) and Ferrari's Charles Leclerc finished
 3rd.
- Mexico City GP 2024 is the 20th round of the 2024 F1 World Championship.
- He won his first championship at the **2011 Formula Renault 2.0** Northern European Cup.
- He won his first F1 title at the 2022 British GP. He also won the Singapore GP 2023 and Australian GP 2024.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

1. Who recently (in September '24) released two books, "Jalandhar Peeth Ka Rahsya" and "Mushtarka Khata", authored by Ajay Parashar?

- 1) Piyush Vedprakash Goya
- 2) Amit Shah
- 3) Narendra Modi
- 4) Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu
- 5) Shiv Pratap Shukla

Answer- 4) Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu

On 19th September 2024, **Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu**, Chief Minister (CM) of Himachal Pradesh (HP) released two books, **"Jalandhar Peeth Ka Rahsya"** and **"Mushtarka Khata"**.

- Both these books are authored by Ajay Parashar, Director, Information and Public Relations (IPR) of North-East Council.
- The book "Jalandhar Peeth Ka Rahsya" provides an in-depth insight of the historical and religious significance of various peeths of HP. It was published by Bodhi Prakashan.
- The book "Mushtarka Khata", is a compilation of 16 short stories that shows the various aspects of everyday life. It was published by the Information and Public Relations North East Council (NEC).

2. Name the renowned Indian Author whose first memoir titled 'Mother Mary Comes to Me', is set to release in September 2025.

- 1) Sudipta Sengupta
- 2) Arundhati Roy
- 3) Harish Bhat
- 4) Alpana Killawala
- 5) Sonu Sood

Answer- 2) Arundhati Roy

Explanation:

Renowned Indian Author and 1997 Booker Prize winner **Arundhati Roy,** is set to publish her **first memoir** titled **"Mother Mary Comes to Me"** in September 2025. The book will be published by **Penguin Random House.**

- The book offers an intimate account of how she became the person and the writer she is.
- The book was inspired by the death of her mother and women's rights activist Mary Roy in September 2022.
- She received the Booker Prize for The God of Small Things in 1997.

3. Who is the author of the recently (in September' 24) released memoir titled 'The England Chronicles'?

- 1) Brian Charles Lara
- 2) Harry Brook
- 3) Moeen Ali
- 4) Chris Gayle
- 5) Rahkeem Cornwall

Answer- 1) Brian Charles Lara

Explanation:

Former Trinidadian cricketer, **Brian Charles Lara**, nicknamed "The Prince of Port of Spain" or "The Prince", has penned his memoir titled "**LARA**: **The England Chronicles**". The book is published by the American publishing house Simon & Schuster LLC.

- The book offers insight into Brian Lara's childhood, his ambitions of playing for the West Indies, his batting highs, and his captaincy. It also offers readers a microscopic look at cricket in Trinidad and Tobago.
- Brian Lara played for the **West Indies** from **1990 to 2007**. He announced his retirement from all forms of international cricket in 2007.

4. Name the memoir of Former Indian Wrestler Sakshi Malik which was co-authored by journalist Jonathan Selvaraj.

- 1) Breaking Rocks and Barriers
- 2) Call of the Gir
- 3) Witness
- 4) Wings to Our Hopes
- 5) Incomparable

Answer- 3) Witness

Explanation:

Sakshi Malik, former Indian freestyle wrestler, and Olympic bronze medalist, has unveiled her memoir titled "**Witness**" co-authored by journalist **Jonathan Selvaraj**, offering readers an intimate glimpse into her life, struggles, triumphs, and an unwavering reflection on her journey, both in and out of the wrestling ring.

- The book, published by Juggernaut Books, chronicles Malik's ascent to prominence, beginning with her childhood in Rohtak, Haryana, and leading to her role as a trailblazer for women in sports.
- Sakshi Malik won the bronze medal in 58 kg category at the 2016 Rio Olympics (Brazil) and became the 1st Indian female wrestler to win a medal at the Olympics.
- Government of India (GoI) honoured her with the Arjuna Award (wrestling) in 2016; Padma Shri(Sports) in 2017.
- She has also won the Gold in 2022 Commonwealth Games held in Birmingham, England and 2017 Commonwealth Championships held in Johannesburg, South Africa.

5. Who has published his fourth book titled 'Mountain Mammals of the World' in October 2024?

- 1) Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh
- 2) Amar Yuvraj Dangat
- 3) Anil Raturi
- 4) Bhim Singh
- 5) Neha Sinha

Answer- 1) Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh

Explanation:

Dr. M.K. Ranjitsinh, a prominent wildlife conservationist, has launched his fourth book titled 'Mountain Mammals of the World', published by Penguin Random House.

- The book was launched by former politician-author Padma Vibhushan Dr Karan Singh at WWF India's (World Wide Fund for Nature-India) headquarters in New Delhi, Delhi.
- The book serves as a comprehensive guide to 62 species and 78 subspecies of larger mammals inhabiting mountainous regions globally.

6. Whose biography has been recently (in October' 24) released as a book 'Bharatvakya' by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, authored by Pravin Vitthal Tarde?

- 1) MK Singari
- 2) Ashok Choudary
- 3) Shambhavi Choudhary
- 4) Venkaiah Naidu
- 5) Bharat Balvalli

Answer- 4) Bharatvakya

Explanation:

Prime Minister (PM) Narendra Modi launched the book titled 'Bharatvakya', the biography of renowned classical musician Dr. Bharat Balvalli written by Pravin Vitthal Tarde, an eminent actor and screenwriter.

- This bilingual book, published by Sakal Media News Publication, is available in both Marathi and English.
- The book aims to intertwine music, spirituality, and a commitment to nation-building.

OBITUARY

1. Name the football player famously known as 'Toto' who passed away in September 2024?

- 1) Salvatore Schillaci
- 2) Issa Hayatou
- 3) Eric Poujade
- 4) Frank Carter Duckworth
- 5) Maddy Cusack

Answer- 1) Salvatore Schillaci

Explanation:

Italian Striker **Salvatore Schillaci**, famously known as 'Toto' Schillaci, who was top scorer at 1990 International Federation of Association Football (FIFA) World Cup, has died at the age of **59** in Palermo, Italy. He was born in Palermo in 1964.

- He scored six goals during the 1990 World Cup and received the FIFA Golden Boot award and the FIFA Golden Ball award.
- He played for various football clubs (FCs) during the course of his football career like: Messina, Juventus, Internazionale and Japanese club 'Jublio Iwata'. He retired from all formats of Football in 1999.

2. Name the Oscar-winning British actor known for her role in the "Harry Potter" film series, who recently passed away at the age of 89.

- 1) Robert Towne
- 2) Maggie Smith
- 3) Jon Landau
- 4) Tsung Dao Lee
- 5) Robbie Coltrane

Answer- 2) Maggie Smith

Explanation:

British actor **Dame Maggie Smith**, a double **Oscar winner** who is well known for her role as Professor Minerva McGonagall in the Harry Potter film series, passed away at the age of 89 in London, the United Kingdom (UK). She was born as **'Margaret Natalie Smith'** on 28th December 1934 in Ilford, Essex, UK.

 She made her professional debut in 1956 at the Oxford Playhouse, playing Viola in Shakespeare's "Twelfth Night".

- She won the Academy Awards (**Oscars**) for Best Actress for "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" (1969) and Best Supporting Actress for "California Suite" (1978).
- She has also won **3 Golden Glob**e awards which includes Best Actress Motion Picture Comedy or Musical for "California Suite"; Best Supporting Actress Motion Picture for "A Room with a View" (1986) and Best Supporting Actress Television for "**Downton Abbey**".
- She won the 5 The British Academy of Film and Television Arts (BAFTA) awards which
 includes Best Actress for "The Prime of Miss Jean Brodie" and "A Private Function" (1984); Best
 Actress in a Leading Role for "A Room with a View" and "The Lonely Passion of Judith Hearne"
 (1988) and Best Actress in a Supporting Role for "Tea with Mussolini" (1999).

3. Name the celebrated English Poet and Padma Shri Awardee who passed away in September 2024.

- 1) Mungara Yamini Krishnamurthy
- 2) Kamala Pujari
- 3) Keki N Daruwalla
- 4) Maguni Charan Kuanr
- 5) Jayanta Mahapatra

Answer- 3) Keki N Daruwalla

Explanation:

Padma Shri Awardee **Keki N. Daruwalla,** a former Indian Police Services (**IPS**) **officer** and a celebrated **English Poet**, passed away in September 2024, at the age of 87 in New Delhi, Delhi. He was born on 24th January 1937 in Lahore, British India (now in Pakistan).

- Daruwalla, a 1958 batch IPS officer of the Uttar Pradesh(UP) Cadre, joined the Research and Analysis Wing (R&AW) and was later promoted to the rank of secretary, R&AW.
- He received the Sahitya Akademi Award (English) in 1984 for "The Keeper of the Dead (Poetry)".
- The government of India(GoI) honoured him with the **Padma Shri Award** (Literature and Education) in **2014**.

4. Padma Shri Awardee Pappammal alias Rangammal, an Indian organic farmer from Tamil Nadu(TN), passed away in September 2024.

In which year, Pappammal was honoured with the Padma Shri (Others) Award?

- 1) 2021
- 2) 2000
- 3) 2016
- 4) 2019
- 5) 2020

Answer- 1) 2021

Explanation:

Padma Shri Awardee **Pappammal** alias Rangammal, an Indian organic farmer from Tamil Nadu(TN), has passed away at the age of 109. She was born in 1914 and resides in Thekampatti near Mettupalayam, Coimbatore, TN.

• The Government of India (GoI) honoured her with Padma Shri(Others) in 2021.

She has been associated with the Tamil Nadu Agricultural University(TNAU) and has
organised various discussion forums of TNAU's extension department. She has also
apprised thousands of farmers about the TNAU's farming technologies and practices.

5. Padma Awardee Ratan Naval Tata, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, passed away recently (in October' 24) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

In which year was Ratan Naval Tata honoured with Padma Vibhushan?

- 1) 2008
- 2) 2011
- 3) 2005
- 4) 2015
- 5) 2013

Answer- 1) 2008

Explanation:

Veteran Indian Industrialist & Philanthropist **Ratan Naval Tata**, Chairman Emeritus of Tata Sons, passed away at the age of **86** at Breach Candy Hospital in Mumbai, Maharashtra.

- He was born on 28th December, 1937 in Bombay Presidency, British India (now known as Mumbai).
- He started his career with Tata Group in 1961 by joining the Tata Steel as shop floor manager.
- He led major global acquisitions, including British tea giant **Tetley** (2000), the British steelmaker **Corus** (2007) and luxury carmaker Jaguar Land Rover (2008).
- Under the leadership of Ratan Tata, Tata Motors launched Tata Indica, India's 1st indigenously designed passenger car in 1998.
- He introduced **Tata Nano** cars in 2008, with the vision of making cars affordable for the masses, priced at just Rs 1 lakh.
- Ratan Tata was honoured with Padma Bhushan, India's 3rd highest civilian honour in 2000 and the Padma Vibhushan, India's 2nd highest civilian honour in 2008 by the Government of India (GoI) for his exceptional contribution to trade and industry.
- He was bestowed with the Oslo Business for Peace Award in 2010.

6. Name the Padma Bhushan Awardee and prominent cardiac surgeon who passed away in October 2024.

- 1) C. G. Rajagopal
- 2) Dr. Panangipalli Venugopal
- 3) Kunwar Natwar Singh
- 4) Abdul Ghafoor Majeed Noorani
- 5) Dr MS Valiathan

Answer- 2) Dr. Panangipalli Venugopal

Explanation:

On 8th October 2024, Padma Bhushan Awardee **Dr. Panangipalli Venugopal**, a prominent cardiac surgeon and the Former Director of All India Institute of Medical Sciences (**AIIMS**), passed away at the age of 82 in New Delhi, Delhi. He was born on 6th July 1942 in Rajahmundry, Andhra Pradesh(AP).

 The government of India honoured him with Padma Bhushan in 1998 for his contribution to the field of Medicine.

- He performed the 1st heart transplantation in India on 3rd August 1994 and Asia's first Left Ventricular Assist Device(LVAD) implantation, which lasted over 90 days.
- He introduced stem cell therapy in India for repairing heart tissue and developed a procedure for treating Type II Diabetes.

7. Name the former First Minister of Scotland who passed away in October 2024.

- 1) Alex Salmond
- 2) Alberto Kenya Fujimori Inomoto
- 3) Salim Ahmad al-Huss
- 4) Nguyen Phu Trong
- 5) Donald Dewar

Answer- 1) Alex Salmond

Explanation:

Former leader of Scottish National Party **(SNP) Alex Salmond**, who served as the First Minister of Scotland from 2007 to 2014, passed away at the age of 69 in Ohrid, North Macedonia. He was born on 1st December 1954 in Linlithgow, West Lothian, Scotland.

He was the first Scottish nationalist first minister of Scotland.

8. Former Rajya Sabha MP (Member of Parliament) from Odisha and veteran tribal leader who passed away in October 2024?

- 1) Sitaram Yechury
- 2) Salseng Chada Marak
- 3) Pahalman Subba
- 4) Murlidhar Chandrakant Bhandare
- 5) Dhaneswar Majhi

Answer- 5) Dhaneswar Majhi

Explanation:

Former Rajya Sabha MP (Member of Parliament) and veteran tribal leader **Dhaneswar Majhi** passed away at the age of 83 in Kalahandi, Odisha. He was born on 5th July 1941.

- He was a five-time Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA). representing the Kesinga and Narla constituencies in Kalahandi district, Odisha.
- He was a member of the Rajya Sabha from 1978 to 1984 as a member of the Janata Party (JP).

IMPORTANT DAYS

1. When is World Tourism Day observed annually across the world?

- 1) August 10
- 2) September 27
- 3) July 7
- 4) June 25
- 5) August 16

Answer- 2) September 27

The United Nations (UN)'s World Tourism Day (WTD) is annually observed across the world on 27th September to create awareness about the importance of tourism. The day also promotes tourism as a driver of economic growth, inclusive development and environmental sustainability and offers leadership.

- 27th September 2024 marks the observance of the 44th World Tourism Day.
- The annual observance of WTD is led by the United Nations World Tourism Organization (UN WTO or UN Tourism).
- The theme for World Tourism Day 2024 is 'Tourism and Peace'.
- The UN WTO has chosen **Georgia** as the host country of WTD 2024.
- UNWTO launched the latest edition of its growing portfolio of investment guidelines –
 "Tourism Doing Business Investing in Georgia".
- Jagdeep Dhankhar, Vice President (VP) of India launched two initiatives Paryatan Mitra and Paryatan Didi piloted in 6 tourist destinations across India: Orchha (Madhya Pradesh, MP), Gandikota (Andhra Pradesh, AP), Bodh Gaya (Bihar), Aizawl (Mizoram), Jodhpur (Rajasthan), and Sri Vijaya Puram (Andaman & Nicobar Islands).
- The Ministry of Tourism has introduced a Tourist Feedback mechanism at airports and railway stations across India, for tourists to provide feedback on their visits to tourist attractions and destinations in India. Click here to read more.

2. When was the United Nations (UN)'s International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons annually observed across the globe to educate the public regarding the benefits of the elimination of nuclear weapons?

- 1) July 11
- 2) June 23
- 3) August 21
- 4) September 26
- 5) May 23

Answer- 4) September 26

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s **International Day for the Total Elimination of Nuclear Weapons** is annually observed across the globe on **26th September** to educate the public regarding the benefits of the elimination of nuclear weapons and raise awareness about the risk posed to humanity by such weapons.

- The first-ever International Day for the Elimination of Nuclear Weapons was observed on 26
 September 2014.
- Nuclear-Weapon-Free-Zones(NWFZs) are regional agreements aimed at strengthening global nuclear non-proliferation norms and consolidating international efforts towards peace and security.
- **Treaty of Tlatelolco** The Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in Latin America & Caribbean became the **1st** NWFZ. It was opened for signature in 1967 in Mexico City.
- The United States and Russian Federation agreed to extend the Treaty on Measures for the Further Reduction and Limitation of Strategic Offensive Arms ("New START") until 4 February 2026. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

3. When is World Contraception Day observed across the world?

- 1) July 1
- 2) August 4
- 3) September 26
- 4) June 1
- 5) May 14

Answer- 3) September 26

Explanation:

World Contraception Day is annually observed across the world on **26th September** to improve awareness of all contraceptive methods available and enable young people to make informed choices on their sexual and reproductive health.

- The theme for World Contraception Day 2024 is "A Choice for all. Freedom to plan, power to choose."
- World Contraception Day was established by the 10 International Family Planning
 Organizations to highlight the significance of contraceptive measures as informed choices in
 family planning.
- The first-ever World Contraception Day was observed on 26th September 2007.
- Contraception is a way of preventing pregnancy with the use of medicines, devices or through surgery. It is also known as birth prevention. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

4. When is World Rabies Day annually observed across the globe to create awareness about rabies?

- 1) July 31
- 2) August 29
- 3) June 30
- 4) September 28
- 5) July 26

Answer- 4) September 28

Explanation:

World Rabies Day is annually observed across the globe on **28th September** to create awareness about **rabies**, a viral, zoonotic and neglected tropical disease. The day emphasises the importance of rabies prevention and highlights progress in defeating rabies.

- The day also marks the death anniversary of **Louis Pasteur**, a French chemist and microbiologist, who developed the first rabies vaccine in 1885.
- The theme of World Rabies Day 2024 is "Breaking Rabies Boundaries".
- World Rabies Day was established by the Global Alliance for Rabies Control (GARC) and recognised by the World Health Organization (WHO).
- The first-ever World Rabies Day was celebrated on 28th September 2007.
- Rabies is a vaccine-preventable, zoonotic, viral disease affecting the central nervous system. It is caused by a Ribonucleic Acid (RNA) virus.
- Alka Upadhyaya, Secretary of the Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying, Ministry
 of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying (MoFAH&D), chaired the national webinar
 held on the eve of World Rabies Day (27th September 2024) in New Delhi, Delhi. <u>Click here
 to read more.</u>

5. When is International Day for Universal Access to Information observed annually across the globe?

- 1) August 1
- 2) September 28
- 3) June 30
- 4) August 21
- 5) September 25

Answer- 2) September 28

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s International Day for Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) is annually observed across the globe on 28th September to create awareness about the significance of universal access to information.

- The day acts as a platform to assess progress made in promoting access to information since the adoption of the UN Sustainable Development Agenda.
- IDUAI is hosted by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
 (UNESCO), the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Broadband Commission,
 Civil society Organisations, Non-Governmental Organisations, Academics and individuals.
- The first ever UN-Level IDUAI was observed on 29th September 2020.
- The government of **Ghana** and UNESCO jointly hosted the '2024 Global Conference on Universal Access to Information' from 1-2 October 2024 in Accra, Ghana. The conference aligns with the annual observance of IUDAI.
- The theme of the 2024 conference is "Mainstreaming Access to Information and Participation in the Public Sector".

6. When is World Environmental Health Day (WEHD) celebrated every year across the world?

- 1) September 26
- 2) June 5
- 3) August 12
- 4) June 15
- 5) September 25

Answer- 1) September 26

Explanation:

World Environmental Health Day(WEHD) is celebrated every year on **September 26th** to raise awareness for a safe and robust environment and to encourage sustainable practices.

- The day aims to showcase that the health of our planet is linked to our well-being and there is a need to focus on environmental protection to save both nature and human beings.
- The annual observance is organised by the International Federation of Environmental Health (IFEH).
- The theme of WEHD 2024 is "Environmental Health: Creating Resilient Communities through Disaster Risk Reduction and Climate Change Mitigation and Adaptation".
- During the IFEH meeting held in Bali, Indonesia in 2011, it was officially declared that WEHD will be celebrated every year on 26th September.
- The WEHD was launched to increase public awareness of the close connection between public health and the environment. Click here to read more.

7. When is International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste observed every year across the globe?

- 1) August 19
- 2) September 29
- 3) August 29
- 4) June 29
- 5) September 28

Answer- 2) September 29

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s International Day of Awareness of Food Loss and Waste (IDAFLW) is annually observed across the globe on 29th September to create awareness of the importance of the food loss and waste issue and promote global resolution.

- The annual observance is co-convened by the Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO) and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).
- The theme of IDAFLW 2024 is "Climate Finance for Food Loss and Waste Reduction".
- The day highlights the need for financing to bolster efforts to reduce food loss and waste contributing to achieving climate goals and advancing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
- The first IDAFLW was observed on 29th September 2020. Click here to read more.

8. When is Haifa Day annually observed by the Indian Army(IA) to honour the martyrs of the Battle of Haifa fought in 1918?

- 1) September 21
- 2) September 30
- 3) September 23
- 4) September 27
- 5) September 19

Answer- 3) September 23

Explanation:

Haifa Day is annually observed by the Indian Army(IA) on September 23 to honour the martyrs of the **Battle of Haifa fought** on **23rd September 1918.** A memorial service is annually held to commemorate the fallen soldiers of the Jodhpur and Mysore lancers.

- The day also commemorates the liberation of Haifa in Israel by the Indian Troops in 1918.
- Every year on September 23, diplomats from India's Embassy in Israel and Israeli
 government officials representing the municipality of the northern port city of Haifa gather
 at the Haifa War Cemetery to pay respects to the Indian soldiers who were killed and
 wounded in battle, on foreign soil.

9. When is International Week of Deaf People observed across the globe?

- 1) Third week of September
- 2) First week of October
- 3) First week of August
- 4) Last Week of September
- 5) Last week of June

Answer- 4) Last Week of September

International Week of Deaf People (IWDP) is annually observed across the globe on the last full week of September (Monday through Sunday) to create awareness about the rights of people who are deaf or hard of hearing/hearing impaired.

- IWDP 2024 was observed from 23rd to 29th September 2024.
- The theme of IWDP 2024 is "Sign up for Sign Language Rights".
- International Day of the Deaf is annually observed across the world on the last Sunday of September. IWDP 2024 was observed on 29th September 2024.
- The IWDP was first launched in 1958 in Rome, Italy. Click here to read more.

10. When is World Heart Day (WHD) annually observed across the world?

- 1) June 29
- 2) July 30
- 3) August 30
- 4) September 29
- 5) June 18

Answer- 4) September 29

Explanation:

World Heart Day(WHD) is annually observed across the world on **29th September** to create awareness about Cardiovascular diseases (CVDs) including heart disease & stroke and to promote actions to prevent, detect and manage CVD.

- The theme of World Heart Day 2024 is "Use Heart for Action".
- The first ever WHD was observed on 24th September 2000.
- The Idea of World Heart Day(WHD) was introduced by Antoni Baie de Luna, former President of the WHF (1997-1999).
- The day was originally observed on the last Sunday of September every year. Since 2011
 the day has been annually observed on 29th September. Click here to read more.

11. When is the United Nations (UN)'s International Translation Day annually observed across the globe?

- 1) September 30
- 2) July 6
- 3) August 22
- 4) June 9
- 5) July 15

Answer- 1) September 30

Explanation:

The United Nations **(UN)'s International Translation Day (ITD)** is annually observed across the globe on **30th September** to honour the efforts of language professionals, whose work is crucial in uniting nations, fostering communication, understanding, cooperation, aiding development, and enhancing global peace and security.

- The theme of ITD 2024 is "Translation, an art worth protecting: Moral and Material rights for Indigenous Languages".
- International Translation Day was first observed in **1991** by Fédération Internationale des Traducteurs (FIT International Federation of Translators).

- The first ever UN recognised ITD was observed on 30th September 2017.
- 30th September celebrates the **feast of St. Jerome**, the Bible translator, who is considered the **patron saint of translators**. <u>Click here to read more</u>.

12. When is World Animal Day (WAD) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) October 4
- 2) July 3
- 3) August 4
- 4) June 4
- 5) September 4

Answer- 1) October 4

Explanation:

World Animal Day (WAD) is annually observed across the globe on **4th October** to emphasize the significance of animals and raise awareness about their welfare to maintain ecological balance.

- The theme for World Animal Day 2024 is "The world is their home too".
- The World Animal Day was proposed by Cynologist and animal protection advocate
 Heinrich Zimmerman to promote animal welfare.
- The first World Animal Day was organised by Zimmerman on 24th March 1925, at the Sports Palace in Berlin, Germany.
- The day is also known as **Animal Lovers Day**, encouraging compassion, care, and
 protection for animals by supporting individuals and organisations that advocate for animal
 welfare and their rights. <u>Click here to read more</u>.

13. When is International Day of Older Persons observed across the globe?

- 1) August 12
- 2) October 1
- 3) June 1
- 4) August 1
- 5) September 1

Answer- 2) October 1

Explanation:

The United Nations'(UN) International Day of Older Persons (IDOP) is annually observed across the globe on **October 1**, to recognize the important role older people (defined as those aged 65 years or older) play in society.

- 1st October, 2024 marks the observance of the 34th Anniversary of IDOP.
- The Theme of IDOP 2024 is- "Ageing with Dignity: The Importance of Strengthening Care and Support Systems for Older Persons Worldwide."
- The first IDOP was observed on 1st October 1991.
- The UN emphasizes the need for strong policies that respect older persons' rights and ensure they have control over their care.
- There is a global shortage of about **13.6 million** formal caregivers, leading to unmet needs in long-term care services. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

14. When is World Teacher's Day (WTD) observed annually across the globe?

- 1) August 6
- 2) October 5
- 3) July 1
- 4) June 5
- 5) September 5

Answer- 2) October 5

Explanation:

The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)'s World Teacher's Day (WTD) is observed annually across the globe on 5th October to acknowledge the vital contributions of teachers and their impact on shaping future generations.

- World Teachers' Day 2024 emphasizes the importance of tackling the systemic challenges that teachers encounter and fostering a more inclusive discussion about their role in education.
- The theme of World Teachers' Day 2024 is "Valuing teacher voices: towards a new social contract for education".
- World Teachers' Day was first celebrated on 5th October 1994, to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the 1966 conference.
- In India, September 5th of every year is observed as Teachers' Day since 1962 to honour the 2nd President of the country Dr Sarvepalli Radhakrishnan, whose birth anniversary falls on the same day. <u>Click here to read more</u>.

15. When is the United Nations' (UN) International Day of Non-Violence is observed annually across the globe?

- 1) July 2
- 2) August 3
- 3) September 3
- 4) October 2
- 5) June 2

Answer- 4) October 2

Explanation:

The United Nations' **(UN) International Day of Non-Violence** is observed annually across the globe on **October 2**, the birthday of Mahatma Gandhi, leader of the Indian Independence Movement, who is celebrated for his philosophy of non-violence and peace.

- 2nd October 2024 is the 155th Birth Anniversary of Mahatma Gandhi and 18th International Day of Non-Violence.
- This day is observed alongside Swachh Bharat Diwas, a campaign that resonates with Gandhi's principle of cleanliness as vital to nation-building.
- In India, October 2 is observed as "Gandhi Jayanti".
- The day was first observed on 2nd October 2007.
- The day also reinforces a vital message- Say No to Violence. In a time marked by conflict and division, the principles of peace and non-violence are more relevant than ever.
- The Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 campaign took place from September 17 to October 1, 2024, with the theme "Swabhav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata" (Cleanliness from Within, Cleanliness in Values). <u>Click here to read more.</u>

16. Which month is observed as Breast Cancer Awareness Month globally every year to raise awareness about breast cancer and its impact worldwide?

- 1) June
- 2) July
- 3) August
- 4) September
- 5) October

Answer- 5) October

Explanation:

Breast Cancer Awareness Month **(BCAM)** is observed globally from October 1 to 31 every year to raise awareness about breast cancer and its impact worldwide.

- The theme for Breast Cancer Awareness Month 2024 is "No one should face breast cancer alone."
- The **Pink Ribbon** is the international symbol of Breast Cancer Awareness Month. It represents hope and solidarity for individuals affected by breast cancer.
- In a global effort to raise awareness about Breast Cancer, October has been designated as "Pink Month".
- BCAM was first observed in October 1985, initiated by the American Cancer Society (ACS) and pharmaceutical division of Imperial Chemical Industries.
- The World Health Organization (WHO) initiated the Global Breast Cancer Initiative (GBCI) in 2021, aiming to reduce breast cancer mortality rates by 2.5% annually by 2040. <u>Click here to</u> <u>read more.</u>

17. When is the International Coffee Day celebrated annually across the globe?

- 1) September 2
- 2) October 1
- 3) July 1
- 4) August 1
- 5) September 1

Answer- 2) October 1

Explanation:

International Coffee Day (ICD), is annually observed across the globe on **October 1**, to honor coffee and the people behind it. It is an initiative by the International Coffee Organization (ICO), aimed at recognizing the hard work of people in the coffee industry, including farmers, roasters, baristas, and coffee shop owners.

- The 2024 Theme of International Coffee Day is, "Coffee: your daily ritual, our shared journey."
- The first ever ICD was observed on 1 October 2015 by 74 member states of the ICO and 26 coffee associations from around the world.
- Coffee plant originated in Ethiopia and spread to the Middle East before making its way to Europe in the 15th century.
- The two main types of coffee beans are Arabica and Robusta.
- The top 5 coffee producing countries are Brazil, Vietnam, Colombia, Indonesia and Ethiopia.
- The Top 3 coffee producing states in India are Karnataka, Kerala and Tamil Nadu(TN). <u>Click</u> here to read more.

18. When is World Vegetarian Day observed every year across the world?

- 1) July 10
- 2) September 7
- 3) August 10
- 4) October 1
- 5) June 16

Answer- 4) October 1

Explanation:

World Vegetarian Day (WVD) is annually celebrated across the globe on **October 1** to encourage people to enjoy vegetarian food and highlights the benefits of living a vegetarian lifestyle.

- World Vegetarian Day also marks the beginning of Vegetarian Awareness Month, which runs from October 1 to November 1 (World Vegan Day).
- This month is dedicated to educating the public about the benefits of vegetarianism and encouraging more people to try a plant-based diet.
- The World Vegetarian Day (WVD) was started in 1977 by the North American Vegetarian
 Society (NAVS) and later it was endorsed by the International Vegetarian Union (IVU) in 1978.
- In 1847, the modern vegetarian movement gained traction with the formation of the Vegetarian Society in England, followed by the creation of the International Vegetarian Society in 1908 emphasizing health and ethical considerations. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

19. When is Wildlife Week annually observed across India to raise awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation and protecting India's rich biodiversity?

- 1) May 25 to 31
- 2) August 1 to 7
- 3) October 2 to 8
- 4) August 25 to 29
- 5) September 22 to 28

Answer-3) October 2 to 8

Explanation:

Wildlife Week is annually observed across India from **2nd to 8th of October** to raise awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation and protecting India's rich biodiversity.

- The year 2024 marks the observance of the 70th Wildlife Week in India.
- The theme of Wildlife Week 2024 is "Wildlife Conservation through Coexistence".
- The first Wildlife Week was observed in 1957.
- The 2002 amendment to the Wildlife (Protection) Act introduced a provision for establishing the National Board for Wildlife, which replaced the earlier Indian Board for Wildlife.
- The United Nations (UN)'s World Wildlife Day (WWD) is annually observed across the globe on 3rd March. Click here to read more.

20. When is the United Nations (UN)'s World Space Week (WSW) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) August 12 to 26
- 2) June 3 to 9
- 3) October 4 to 10

- 4) June 23 to 29
- 5) September 22 to 28

Answer- 3) October 4 to 10

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s World Space Week (WSW) is annually observed across the globe from 4th to 10th of October to motivate and unite people worldwide, emphasizing the strong collaboration between space technology and climatic science.

- World Space Week 2024 highlights the vital role of satellites and space technology in tracking environmental changes and developing strategies to reduce the effects of climate change.
- The theme of World Space Week 2024 is "Space and Climatic Change".
- The first-ever WSW was observed from 4th to 10th October 2000.
- **October 4** commemorates the launch of the first human-made Earth satellite, Sputnik 1, thus opening the way for space exploration in 1957.
- October 10 commemorates the signing of "Magna Carta of Space", also known as the Treaty
 on Principles Governing the Activities of States in the Exploration and Peaceful Uses of
 Outer Space, including the Moon and Other Celestial Bodies in 1967. Click here to read
 more.

21. When is World Cerebral Palsy Day annually observed across the globe to raise awareness of Cerebral Palsy (CP)?

- 1) August 7
- 2) October 6
- 3) July 6
- 4) June 6
- 5) September 6

Answer- 2) October 6

Explanation:

World Cerebral Palsy Day (WCPD) is annually observed across the globe on **6th October** to raise awareness of Cerebral Palsy (**CP**) to ensure a future where children and adults with cerebral palsy have the same rights, access, and opportunities as everyone else in society.

- CP is a neurological disorder that affects motor abilities and muscle mobility.
- The **theme** of World Cerebral Palsy Day 2024 is "**#UniquelyCP**".
- Cerebral palsy is a physical disability that mainly impacts movement and posture, often
 involving additional difficulties with vision, hearing, communication, muscle control, balance,
 and mobility.
- Cerebral palsy is typically caused by damage to the developing brain either during pregnancy or shortly after birth.
- According to the Cerebral Palsy Alliance Research Foundation (CPARF) around 17 million people worldwide have some form of cerebral palsy. Another 350 million people are closely connected to a child or adult with cerebral palsy. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

22. The United Nations(UN)'s World Habitat Day is annually observed across the globe on the ______to reflect the condition of our habitats and to emphasize the fundamental right of every individual to adequate shelter.

- 1) 1st Monday of October
- 2) 1st Sunday of August
- 3) 1st Saturday of July
- 4) 1st Wednesday of June
- 5) 1st Monday of September

Answer- 1) 1st Monday of October

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s World Habitat Day (WHD) is annually observed across the globe on the first Monday of October to reflect the condition of our habitats and to emphasize the fundamental right of every individual to adequate shelter.

- The WHD 2024 was observed on 7th October 2024.
- The theme of WHD 2024 is "Engaging youth to create a better urban future".
- The WHD 2024 global ceremony was held in Mexico at the "Educational Cultural Center of the state of Querétaro".
- The WHD was first celebrated in 1986 with the theme "Shelter is My Right". The city of Nairobi in Kenya hosted it.
- The global observance of World Cities Day on 31st October 2024 will take place in Alexandria, Egypt with the theme "Youth leading climate and local action for cities".
- The UN World Cities Day was first celebrated on 31st October 2014. Click here to read more.

23. Which country hosted the 2024 World Cotton Day celebration on October 7, 2024?

- 1) Benin
- 2) Burkina Faso
- 3) Chad
- 4) Cote d'Ivoire
- 5) Mali

Answer- 1) Benin

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s World Cotton Day (WCD) is annually observed across the globe on 7 October to raise the visibility of the cotton sector and create awareness about its critical role in economic development, international trade and poverty alleviation.

- The day also highlights the need for sustainable economic growth and decent work for all.
- 7th October 2024 marks the observance of the 4th World Cotton Day.
- The idea of World Cotton Day was initiated in 2019, when 4 cotton producers in sub-Saharan Africa-Benin, Burkina Faso, Chad and Mali, known as the Cotton Four proposed the World Trade Organization(WTO) for the observance of World Cotton Day celebration on October 7.
- In 2024, World Cotton Day was celebrated on 7th October 2024 in Cotonou, Benin, marking the 1st time the event will be held in the country.
- Union Minister Giriraj Singh, Ministry of Textiles, attended the celebration of World Cotton Day 2024 held in New Delhi, Delhi, Click here to read more.

24. When is the National Post Week 2024 celebrated by Indian postal services annually?

- 1) 12 to 26 August 2024
- 2) 23 to 29 September 2024
- 3) 7 to 11 October 2024
- 4) 1 to 7 September 2024
- 5) 14 to 20 July 2024

Answer- 3) 7 to 11 October 2024

Explanation:

National Post Week (NPW) is the annual celebration of Indian postal services which reflects the emerging role of India Post in driving the socio-economic development of the nation. The annual observance is led by the **Department of Posts** under the **Ministry of Communications**.

- National Post Week 2024 was held from 7th to 11th October 2024.
- The theme of NPW 2024 is "Dak Seva: Jan Seva" ("Postal Service-Public Service").
- The National Post Week is annually observed in the week that includes the celebration of the United Nations (UN)'s World Post Day, which is annually observed on 9th October to mark the establishment of the Universal Postal Union(UPU) in 1874. Click here to read more.

25. The United Nations (UN)'s World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) is biannually observed across the globe on the ______.

- 1) 2nd Saturday of February and August
- 2) Last Thursday of March and June
- 3) 3rd Saturday of January and September
- 4) 2nd Saturday of May and October
- 5) 2nd Saturday of April and October

Answer- 4) 2nd Saturday of May and October

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s **World Migratory Bird Day** (WMBD) is biannually observed across the globe on the **2nd Saturday of May and October**, to raise awareness of migratory birds and the need for international cooperation to conserve them.

- The WMBD 2024 falls on 11th May 2024 and 12th October 2024.
- The theme/campaign slogan of WMBD 2024 is "Protect Insects, Protect Birds".
- International Migratory Bird Day (IMBD), now WMBD, was created in the USA in 1993 by visionaries at the Smithsonian Migratory Bird Center.
- WMBD annually celebrated on the 2nd Saturday in May and October aligns with the cyclic nature of bird migration in different hemispheres.
- The 2nd Saturday of May is celebrated in Canada and the United States of America (USA) and the 2nd Saturday of October is celebrated in Mexico, Central and South America, and the Caribbean. Click here to read more.

26. When is the United Nations (UN)'s World Post Day (WPD) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) September 5
- 2) August 8
- 3) June 9

- 4) July 10
- 5) October 9

Answer- 5) October 9

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s World Post Day(WPD) is annually observed across the globe on 9th October to commemorate the anniversary of the establishment of the Universal Postal Union(UPU) in 1874 in Bern, Switzerland.

- The **theme** of 2024 WPD which marks the **150th** Anniversary of the establishment of UPU, is "**150** years of enabling communication and empowering peoples across nations".
- The UPU is the 2nd oldest international organization in the world after the International Telecommunication Union(ITU).
- It became a specialized agency of the UN on 1st July 1948.
- Around 28% of the global adult population (over 1.5 billion people) access basic financial services (payments, money transfers, and savings) through postal networks.
- The UN Postal Administration(UNPA) issued three stamps designed and illustrated by Sergio
 Baradat to commemorate the 150th Anniversary of UPU. Click here to read more.

27. When is the India Air Force (IAF) Day or IAF Raising Day annually observed across India?

- 1) July 27
- 2) October 8
- 3) September 24
- 4) September 7
- 5) August 15

Answer- 2) October 8

Explanation:

India Air Force (IAF) Day (IAF Raising Day) is annually observed across India on **8th October** to commemorate the establishment of the Indian Air Force(IAF) on 8 October **1932**, an auxiliary air force of the British Empire. The day reflects on IAF's contribution towards protecting India and its people.

- 8th October 2024 marks the observance of the 92nd IAF Day or 92nd IAF Raising Day.
- The theme of the 92nd IAF day is "Bhartiya Vayu Sena Saksham, Sashakt, Atmanirbhar" (Potent, Powerful, and Self-Reliant).
- The India Air Force (IAF) was founded as a part of the British Royal Air Force under the name **Royal Indian Air Force (RIAF)** on **8th October 1932**.
- RIAF was renamed as IAF in 1947. It is now one of the four branches of the Indian Armed Forces.
- The 92nd IAF Day was commemorated from 6th to 8th October 2024 at Air Force Station, Tambaram, Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The celebration included the airshows, parade, and static display showing the idea of 'Aatmanirbharta'. Click here to read more.

28. When is World Mental Health Day (WMHD) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) September 10
- 2) August 20
- 3) October 10

- 4) July 28
- 5) June 19

Answer- 3) October 10

Explanation:

World Mental Health Day (WMHD) is annually observed across the globe on **10th October** to spread awareness of mental health issues and encourage efforts to support those experiencing mental health issues.

- The annual observance of WMHD is led by the World Federation for Mental Health(WFMH), the founder of the WMHD.
- The theme of the UN's WMHD 2024 is "Mental Health at Work'.
- The **green ribbon** is the international **symbol** demonstrating the support for mental health. It represents hope, strength, support, and encouragement.
- The first ever WMHD was observed on 10th October 1992.
- The <u>United Nations System Mental Health and Well-being Strategy for 2024 and beyond</u>, launched in November 2023, is designed to assist the United Nations in creating a working environment that is conducive to good mental health and that ensures that support is available when it is needed. <u>Click here to read more</u>.

29. When is World Egg Day (WED) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) 1st Saturday of September
- 2) 4th Sunday of September
- 3) 1st Saturday of July
- 4) Last Friday of August
- 5) 2nd Friday of October

Answer- 5) 2nd Friday of October

Explanation:

World Egg Day (WED) is annually observed across the globe on the **2nd Friday of October** to raise awareness of the high-quality protein and vital nutrients found in eggs and the vital role of egg farmers around the world.

- The WED 2024 (28th WED) was observed on 11th October 2024.
- WED 2023 was observed on 13th October 2023 and WED 2025 will be observed on 10th October 2025.
- The theme of WED 2024 is "United by Eggs".
- The first ever World Egg Day was observed on 11th October 1996.
- World Egg Day highlights the role of the egg industry in enhancing food security and contributing to economic development. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

30. When is World Standards Day (WSD) also known as International Standards Day annually observed across the globe?

- 1) July 7
- 2) August 31
- 3) October 14
- 4) September 7
- 5) June 19

Answer- 3) October 14

World Standards Day (WSD) also known as International Standards Day is annually observed across the globe on October 14th to highlight the importance of standards-related efforts and honour the collaborative contributions of individuals and organizations committed to developing voluntary standards.

- The day is observed by the members of the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC), International Organization for Standardization (ISO) and International Telecommunication Union (ITU).
- The theme of WSD 2024 is "Shared Vision for a Better World: Standards for the Changing Climate".
- Standardisation involves the development and agreement on common technical specifications or criteria for products, services, and processes.
- The Standards are considered as a tool to achieve the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

31. When is the United Nations (UN's) International Day of the Girl Child (IDGC) annually observed globally?

- 1) October 11
- 2) August 11
- 3) September 11
- 4) July 11
- 5) June 11

Answer- 1) October 11

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN's) International Day of the Girl Child (IDGC) is annually observed globally on October 11 to address the challenges faced by girls and to promote their empowerment and the fulfillment of their human rights.

- The 2024 International Day of the Girl theme is 'Girls' vision for the future'.
- The first International Day of the Girl Child was observed on 11 October 2012.
- The United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) released its 'First global and regional
 estimates on sexual violence against children', published before the International Day of the
 Girl Child. It highlights the scale of the violation worldwide, especially for adolescent girls,
 often with lifelong consequences.
- Sexual violence against children has increased globally, Sub-Saharan Africa has the highest number of victims, with 79 million girls. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

32. When is World Arthritis Day (WAD) annually observed across the globe to raise awareness about Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (RMDs)?

- 1) July 20
- 2) October 12
- 3) September 8
- 4) August 7
- 5) June 14

Answer- 2) October 12

World Arthritis Day (WAD) is annually observed across the globe on **12th October** to raise awareness about Rheumatic and Musculoskeletal Diseases (**RMDs**), their prevention and the importance of accessing effective treatments for arthritis.

- The theme of WAD 2024 is "Informed Choices, Better Outcomes".
- World Arthritis Day was first established in 1996 by Arthritis and Rheumatism International (ARI).
- The first WAD was celebrated on 12th October 1996 and the event has been observed every year since.
- Arthritis is a most common musculoskeletal condition characterised by inflammation, tenderness, or swelling in the joints, which are the areas where two bones come together.
- RMDs are chronic systemic diseases that can affect any part of the body, including the joints, muscles, bones, and organs. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

33. When is World Day Against the Death Penalty annually observed across the globe?

- 1) September 12
- 2) October 10
- 3) August 9
- 4) July 11
- 5) June 19

Answer- 2) October 10

Explanation:

World Day Against the Death Penalty is annually observed across the globe on **October 10th** to raise awareness about the **death penalty** and to demand its abolition.

- The theme of World Day Against the Death Penalty 2024 is "Death Penalty and Safety".
- The first-ever World Day Against the Death Penalty was observed in 2003.
- According to the Amnesty International global report titled 'Death sentences and executions in 2023', 112 countries have abolished the death penalty for all crimes, while 9 countries have abolished the death penalty for ordinary crimes only and 23 countries haven't carried out an execution in the last 10 years.
- 55 countries (including India) have retained the practice of executing the death penalty.
- At the end of 2023, 120 death sentences were imposed by trial courts and 561 prisoners were living under a sentence of death in India. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

34. When is the United Nations (UN's) International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) August 13
- 2) September 9
- 3) July 13
- 4) October 13
- 5) June 13

Answer- 4) October 13

The United Nations (UN's) International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) is annually observed across the globe on 13 October to promote a global culture of risk awareness and disaster reduction.

- IDDRR also encourages the implementation of frameworks such as the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction(SFDRR) 2015-2030 which focuses on reducing disaster risk and enhancing preparedness globally.
- The theme of IDDRR 2024 is "Empowering the next generation for a resilient future".
- The first IDNDR was observed on 10 October 1990.
- The UN Global Assessment Report on Disaster Risk Reduction (GAR 2024) is indeed the flagship report of the United Nations on global efforts to reduce disaster risk. <u>Click here to read</u> more.

35. When is the United Nations (UN's) International Day of Rural Women (IDRW) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) August 14
- 2) October 15
- 3) September 15
- 4) July 15
- 5) June 14

Answer- 2) October 15

Explanation:

The United Nations (**UN's**) International Day of Rural Women (**IDRW**) is annually observed across the globe on **15th October** to recognise the contribution of rural women, including indigenous women, in enhancing agricultural and rural development, improving food security, and eliminating rural poverty.

- The theme of IDRW 2024 is "Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All".
- The first-ever IDRW was observed on 15 October 2008.
- Women constitute a substantial portion of the agricultural labour force, actively participating
 in both formal and informal agricultural activities in rural areas.
- Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)'s "Rural Women, Women
 with Rights" campaign, a collaborative work initiative that joins efforts, articulates networks,
 and disseminates knowledge and positive experiences to promote the full autonomy of women
 in the rural world. Click here to read more.

36. When is World Sight Day (WSD) also known as World Eye Day observed annually across the globe?

- 1) Third Saturday of September
- 2) First Sunday of August
- 3) Second Thursday of October
- 4) Second Wednesday of August
- 5) First Tuesday of September

Answer- 3) Second Thursday of October

Explanation:

World Sight Day (WSD), also known as World Eye Day or World Vision Day, is observed annually on the **second Thursday of October** across the globe to focus global attention on blindness and vision

impairment. It is coordinated by the London (the United Kingdom, UK) based International Agency for the Prevention of Blindness (IAPB) and the Geneva(Switzerland) based World Health Organization(WHO). WSD 2024 falls on **October 10th 2024**.

- The aim of WSD is to promote the ideas of eye health, preventive measures to avoid blindness and to ensure quality and equal eye treatment for all people in the world.
- The theme of the WSD 2024 is "Children, Love Your Eyes".
- The Sight First campaign of the Lions Club International Foundation (LCIF) initiated the World Sight Day(WSD).
- In 1999, the World Health Organization (WHO) officially launched the WSD and WSD was first observed on **October 12**, **2000**. Click here to read more.

37. When is the Global Handwashing Day annually observed across the globe?

- 1) September 7
- 2) October 17
- 3) September 15
- 4) October 15
- 5) August 19

Answer- 4) October 15

Explanation:

The **Global Handwashing Day(GHD)** is annually observed across the globe on 15th October to raise awareness about the importance of handwashing with soap and water in preventing the spread of infections and diseases.

- The theme of Global Handwashing Day 2024 is "Why are clean hands still important?".
- The first-ever GHD was observed on 15th October 2008.
- Annually the World Health Organization (WHO) celebrates World Hand Hygiene Day on 5th
 May to raise awareness of the importance of handwashing to prevent the spread of infections.
- Handwashing is one of the most efficient and low-cost methods of preventing infections such as diarrhoea and pneumonia. Click here to read more.

38. When is World Students Day annually observed across the globe to commemorate the birth anniversary of Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam, 11th president of India?

- 1) July 18
- 2) October 15
- 3) August 20
- 4) September 5
- 5) October 24

Answer- 2) October 15

Explanation:

World Students' Day (WSD) is annually observed on **15 October** to commemorate the **birth anniversary** of **Dr. A P J Abdul Kalam,** the 11th President of India (from 2002 to 2007), who is fondly known as the Missile Man of India.

- The day honours the contributions of students and promotes awareness about the importance of education.
- The theme of WSD 2024 is "Empowering Students to be Agents of Change".
- Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam was born on 15 October 1931 in Rameswaram, Tamil Nadu.

- He was elected as the President of India in 2002 and held the post till 2007.
- He passed away in Shillong, Meghalaya on 27th July 2015.
- He was awarded the Padma Bhushan in 1981 for Civil Service and the Padma Vibhushan in 1990 for Science and Engineering.
- In 1997, he was awarded the **Bharat Ratna** for Science and Engineering.
- Wings of Fire: An Autobiography (1999); India 2020 A Vision for the New Millennium (1998); Evolution of Enlightened Societies (2006); My Journey: Transforming Dreams into Actions (2013); Turning Points: A Journey Through Challenges (2014); Reignited: Scientific Pathways to a Brighter Future (2015). Click here to read more.

39. When is the United Nations (UN)'s International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (IDEP) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) September 17
- 2) August 23
- 3) October 17
- 4) July 17
- 5) June 17

Answer- 3) October 17

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN)'s International Day for the Eradication of Poverty (IDEP) is annually observed across the globe on **October 17** to promote understanding and dialogue between people living in poverty and wider society.

- The day aims to promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies and core elements of the Sustainable Development Goal(SDG) 16.
- The theme of IDEP 2024 is "Ending Social and Institutional Maltreatment Acting together for just, peaceful and inclusive societies".
- The first ever UN-recognised IDEP was observed on 17th October 1993.
- "Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2024: Poverty Amid Conflict" published by
 the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Oxford Poverty and Human
 Development Initiative (OPHI) states that around 455 million multidimensionally poor people
 are living in countries experiencing conflict, fragility, or 'low peacefulness'.
- According to the report titled "World survey on the role of women in development 2024:
 Harnessing Social Protection for Gender Equality, Resilience and Transformation"
 published by UN Women (United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women), around 2 billion women and girls are without access to any form of social protection.
 Click here to read more.

40. When was the United Nations (UN)'s World Food Day (WFD) annually observed across the globe to commemorate the establishment of the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) in 1945?

- 1) September 16
- 2) October 15
- 3) September 25
- 4) October 16
- 5) August 9

Answer- 4) October 16

Explanation:

The United Nations (UN) World Food Day (WFD) is annually observed across the globe on 16 October to raise awareness about healthy diets, promote action against malnutrition and food security, and the need for regular access to nutritious food.

- The day also commemorates the **establishment** of the Food and Agriculture Organization (**FAO**) of the UN in 1945.
- The theme of WFD 2024 is, "Right to Food for a Better Life and a Better Future".
- WFD was established in 1979 during the 20th session of the Conference of FAO, held in Rome, Italy.
- On 5 December 1980, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) adopted the resolution A/RES/35/70 and proclaimed the 16th of October of every year as WFD.

41. When is International Abhidhamma Divas annually observed across the globe to commemorate the descent of Lord Buddha from Tavatimsa-devaloka?

- 1) September 16
- 2) October 17
- 3) September 18
- 4) August 14
- 5) July 15

Answer- 2) October 17

Explanation:

International Abhidhamma Divas 2024 was celebrated by the Ministry of Culture, Government of India(GoI), in collaboration with the International Buddhist Confederation (IBC) on 17th October 2024 in Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi, Delhi.

- International Abhidhamma Divas is annually observed across the globe to commemorate the
 descent of Lord Buddha from, Tavatimsa-devaloka, the celestial realm of the thirty-three divine
 beings, to Sankassiya (now Sankisa Basantapur in Uttar Pradesh(UP).
- The celebration of Abhidhamma Divas coincides with the end of the first Rainy Retreat
 (Vassa) and the Pavāraņā festival, a time when monks and nuns conclude their retreat period
 with a ceremony.
- Pavarana Day is celebrated on the full moon day of the 11th lunar month, which usually falls in October.
- In Pali, abhi means "higher" or "further," while dhamma refers to the teachings, principles, and truths.
- Narendra Modi, Prime Minister (PM) of India led proceedings of the observance of International Abhidhamma Divas 2024 in New Delhi.
- PM Modi highlighted the relevance of Abhidhamma teachings and efforts to preserve **Pali as a** classical language. Click here to read more.

42. When is World Trauma Day annually observed across the globe?

- 1) October 17
- 2) June 17
- 3) July 26
- 4) September 21

5) August 18

Answer- 1) October 17

Explanation:

World Trauma Day is annually observed across the globe on **17th October** to create awareness about trauma which refers to an injury to the body or an event that causes long-term mental or emotional damage.

- The day acts as a platform to support trauma victims and educate people to adhere to preventive measures to avoid traumatic incidents.
- The theme for World Trauma Day 2024 is "Workplace Injuries: Prevention & Management".
- The first observance of the World Trauma Day was established in 2011 in New Delhi, Delhi.
- According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), nearly 3 million workers die every year due to work-related accidents and diseases
- World Trauma Day is observed as a part of the Bone & Joint Action Week which is annually observed across the globe from 12th to 20th October. Click here to read more.

43. When is National Solidarity Day annually observed across India?

- 1) September 9
- 2) October 19
- 3) September 14
- 4) October 20
- 5) August 21

Answer- 4) October 20

Explanation:

National Solidarity Day is annually observed across India on **20th October** to pay tribute to the soldiers who lost their lives in the line of duty to the nation during the **1962 Indo-China War**, which began on 20th October 1962 and ended on 21st November 1962.

- The day also honours the bravery and strength of the personnel of the Indian armed forces.
- 20th October 2024 marks the 62nd Anniversary of the 1962 Indo-China War.
- The first National Solidarity Day was observed on 20th October 1966.
- Indo-China War or Sino-Indian War was the conflict between India and China centred on the disputed Aksai Chin region.
- The Param Vir Chakra (PVC) winners of the Sino-India war of 1962 are Major Shaitan Singh (Posthumously); Major Dhan Singh Thapa; and Subedar Joginder Singh (Posthumously).
 Click here to read more.

44. When is World Osteoporosis Day (WOD) annually observed across the globe to raise global awareness of bone health?

- 1) September 16
- 2) August 13
- 3) July 22
- 4) June 18
- 5) October 20

Answer- 5) October 20

World Osteoporosis Day (WOD), annually observed across the globe on **20th October**, is a global awareness campaign to highlight the importance of Osteoporosis and to raise global awareness of the prevention, diagnosis, and treatment of Osteoporosis and metabolic bone disease.

- The WOD campaign is a global initiative supported by the International Osteoporosis
 Foundation (IOF) member societies worldwide to drive action on osteoporosis and the
 prevention of fragility fractures.
- The 2024 campaign theme and message is 'Say no to fragile bones'.
- World Osteoporosis Day was initially launched in 1996 by the United Kingdom's (UK's)
 National Osteoporosis Society and was supported by the European Commission.
- The first-ever WOD was observed on 20th October 1996.
- Osteoporosis is a condition causing weakened and fragile bones. Due to decreased bone strength, the risk of fractures after minor incidents increases. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

45. When is World Iodine Deficiency Day annually observed across the globe?

- 1) October 21
- 2) October 22
- 3) October 20
- 4) October 18
- 5) October 19

Answer- 1) October 21

Explanation:

World Iodine Deficiency Day, also known as Global Iodine Deficiency Disorders Prevention Day, is annually observed across the globe on 21st October 21 to raise awareness about the crucial role of iodine in human health and the serious consequences of iodine deficiency.

- The theme of World Iodine Deficiency Day 2024 was 'A daily dose of iodine keeps you fit and fine'.
- Iodine is an essential micronutrient necessary for the production of thyroid hormones,
 thyroxine (T4) and triiodothyronine (T3), which regulate metabolism and are vital for fetal and infant development.
- Approximately 30% of the world's population lives in areas at risk for iodine deficiency. The World Health Organization (WHO) estimates that nearly 1.88 billion people are affected by inadequate iodine intake.
- India has implemented programs such as the National Iodine Deficiency Disorders Control Programme (NIDDCP), which aims to eliminate iodine deficiency through strategies like universal salt iodization.

46. In October 2024, PM Narendra Modi had recently (in October' 24) launched the 'Karmayogi Saptah' -National Learning Week (NLW)which was observed from ______.

- 1) October 19 25
- 2) October 1 7
- 3) October 25 31
- 4) October 12 19
- 5) October 19 27

Answer- 5) October 19 - 27

On 19th October 2024, Narendra Modi, Prime Minister (PM) of India, launched the 'Karmayogi Saptah' – National Learning Week (NLW), running from 19th to 25th October 2024, at Dr Ambedkar International Centre in New Delhi, Delhi.

- The week-long program aims to foster a 'One Government' vision by instilling a commitment to lifelong learning and self-improvement for over 30 lakh central civil servants.
- The observance of the week-long Karmayogi Saptah was extended to 27th October 2024.
- The learning objectives of the Karmayogi Saptah is in line with the broader goals of Mission Karmayogi, reinforcing the Chaar Sankalp of a Karmayogi: Vikasa, Garva, Kartavya and Ekata.
- The National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) Mission Karmayogi was approved by the Government of India (GoI) on 2nd September 2020.
- On 21st October 2024 (3rd day of National Learning Week), Union Minister, G Kishan Reddy, Ministry of Mines, awarded the Adarsh Karmayogi Awards to 13 employees who completed over 100 courses on the iGOT Karmayogi portal. <u>Click here to read more.</u>

47. When is Police Commemoration Day annually observed across India to honour police personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty?

- 1) September 21
- 2) October 21
- 3) August 23
- 4) July 27
- 5) June 19

Answer- 2) October 21

Explanation:

Police Commemoration Day is annually observed across India on **21st October** to honour police personnel who have lost their lives in the line of duty.

- The day remembers the martyrdom of 10 policemen who were killed by Chinese troops during a reconnaissance mission in Hot Springs, Ladakh, in 1959.
- 21st October of every year since 1960 is observed as "Police Commemoration Day.
- On 20th October 1959, the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) patrolled the India-Tibet border with three units of the 3rd Battalion, primarily monitoring the India-China border in Ladakh.
- In response, a search team of 20 personnel from the Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) and the CRPF, led by Deputy Superintendent of Police Karam Singh, was deployed.
- Police Commemoration Week 2024 was observed from 21st to 30th October 2024. As a
 part of the observance, the Railway Protection Force (RPF) organised a series of
 commemorative events on 28th October 2024 in NPM in New Delhi. Click here to read more.

48. When is World Snow Leopard Day (WSLD) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) August 10
- 2) September 18
- 3) October 23
- 4) July 16
- 5) June 14

Answer- 3) October 23

Explanation:

World Snow Leopard Day (WSLD), also known as International Snow Leopard Day, is annually observed across the globe on 23rd October to raise awareness about the conservation and protection of Snow Leopard (Panthera uncia), one of the world's most elusive and endangered big cats, and their natural habitat.

- The theme of WSLD 2024 is "Safeguarding Snow Leopard Habitats for Future Generations".
- The Day commemorates the adoption of the 'Bishkek Declaration,' as well as the Global Snow Leopard and Ecosystem Protection (GSLEP) Program, by all snow leopard range countries on 23 October 2013, in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan.
- The Bishkek Declaration also declared the year 2015 as the International Year of the Snow Leopard.
- The first-ever International Snow Leopard Day was observed on 23 October 2014.
- Snow leopards live in high alpine areas, mostly above the tree line and up to 18,000 feet in elevation. It is estimated that around 4,080-6,590 snow leopards are in the wild.
- The Snow Leopard is listed as Vulnerable by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List of Threatened Species. Click here to read more.

49. When is the International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW 2024) annually observed across the globe?

- 1) August 1 to 7
- 2) October 20 to 26
- 3) August 12 to 26
- 4) September 19 to 25
- 5) September 1 to 7

Answer: 2) October 20 to 26

Explanation:

International Lead Poisoning Prevention Week (ILPPW) is annually observed across the globe in the **last full week of October** to raise awareness about the harmful effects of lead poisoning (lead exposure).

- The 12th ILPPW (2024) took place from 20th to 26th October 2024.
- The 2024 campaign focused on "Bright Futures begin Lead-Free".
- The annual observance of ILPPW is led by the Global Alliance to Eliminate Lead Paint (Lead Paint Alliance), jointly with the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the World Health Organisation (WHO).

ENVIRONMENT

- 1. Name the new species of glyptosternine catfish recently (in September '24) discovered in the Dzuleke River, a tributary of the Barak River in Nagaland.
- 1) Ceropegia Shivarayina
- 2) Cleistanthus Deekshabhoomiana
- 3) Exostoma sentiyonoae

- 4) Xenophrys apatani
- 5) Hypostomus plecostomus

Answer- 3) Exostoma sentiyonoae

Explanation:

Scientists have discovered a new species of glyptosternine catfish, **Exostoma sentiyonoae**, has been discovered in the Dzuleke River, a tributary of the Barak River in **Nagaland**. The details of the discovery are published in journal **Zootaxa**, a peer-reviewed scientific mega journal for animal taxonomists.

- The new species was discovered by Dr. Limatemjen, Professor and Dean of Sciences at Kohima Science College, Nagaland, and Bungdon Shangningam, a scientist from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) in Kolkata, West Bengal (WB).
- Dr Limatemjen said he named the species in honor of his daughter, combining "Senti" from the Ao Naga language and "Yono" from the Angami Naga language.
- Unique characteristics include an adipose fin attached to the upper caudal-fin rays, tubercles on the dorsal-fin spine, a slender head, a large gap between dorsal and adipose fins, small eyes, and 41 vertebrae.
- This is the fourth species of Exostoma described from the Barak drainage and the first from the Dzuleke River.
- A four-year faunal survey by the ZSI along Andhra Pradesh's (AP) coast led to the first-ever Indian sighting of *Entomacrodus thalassinus*, a rare reef fish.

2. Name the recently (in October '24) discovered new genus of jumping spiders found across southern India and northern Sri Lanka.

- 1) Anguiculus dicaprioi
- 2) Tenkana
- 3) Crepidium assamicum
- 4) Carrhotus piperus
- 5) Ahaetulla longirostri

Answer- 2) Tenkana

Explanation:

According to recent research, scientists have discovered new species of snake, spider and orchid in the **Western Himalayas**, **Southern India**, and **Northeast India**. These findings highlight the region's rich biodiversity.

- Scientists have identified a new snake species named Anguiculus dicaprioi (DiCaprio's Himalayan Snake), a new genus of jumping spiders called Tenkana, and two new orchid species: Crepidium assamicum and Coelogyne tripurensis.
- In another significant finding, a team of arachnologists from India and Canada identified a
 new genus of jumping spiders called 'Tenkana', which inhabits southern India and
 northern Sri Lanka.
- The genus name Tenkana is derived from the Kannada word for "south".
- This genus includes two previously known species and the newly described 'Tenkana
 jayamangali', named after the Jayamangali River in Karnataka, where it was first
 observed. Click here to read more.

APP and WEB PORTAL

1. Who has recently (in October 2024) launched the e-Migrate V2.0 portal and mobile application to ensure safe overseas travel?

- 1) Annpurna Devi Yadav
- 2) Giriraj Singh
- 3) Kiren Rijiju
- 4) S. Jaishankar
- 5) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia

Answer- 4) S. Jaishankar

Explanation:

On 14 October 2024, Union Minister Dr S. Jaishankar, Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and Union Minister Mansukh Mandaviya, Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE), launched the **e-Migrate V2.0 web portal** and **mobile app** at Sushma Swaraj Bhawan, New Delhi, Delhi.

- This aims to ensure safe and more regulated overseas travel for Indian workers.
- e-Migrate V2.0 is an **updated version** of the e-Migrate portal, developed by MEA in **2014**.
- The upgraded portal includes a 24/7 multilingual helpline to assist migrants with urgent issues.
- With a partnership with the State Bank of India (SBI), the portal allows digital payment services with no transaction fees.

CURRENT STATIC BANKING

- 1. Which company has been recently (in September '24) restrained from taking up debt merchant banking activities by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)?
- 1) Tata Capital Limited
- 2) Axis Capital Limited
- 3) Aditya Birla Capital Limited
- 4) Northern Arc Capital Limited
- 5) Tata Cleantech Capital Limited

Answer- 2) Axis Capital Limited

Explanation:

On 19th September 2024, The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) restrained Axis Capital (ACL) a wholly owned subsidiary of Axis Bank from taking any new assignment as a merchant banker, arranger or underwriter in the debt segment for alleged violation of the norms.

- The market regulator alleged that ACL provided guarantee or indemnity towards redemption
 of non-convertible debentures (NCDs) in the guise of underwriting, which it is not permitted
 under the regulations.
- Sebi has also forwarded its order to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) for examining Axis Capital's activities as a subsidiary of a banking company.

2. Which company has recently (in September '24) received board approval to raise Rs 2,500 crore in fresh equity and offer for sale through Initial Public Offering (IPO)?

- 1) Margdarshak Financial Services Limited
- 2) Jio Financial Services Limited
- 3) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited
- 4) Tata Capital Financial Services Limited
- 5) HDB Financial Services Limited

Answer- 5) HDB Financial Services Limited

Explanation:

On 20th September 2024, **HDB Financial Services Limited**, a unit of HDFC Bank, received board approval to raise **Rs 2,500 crore** (USD 299 million) in fresh equity and offer for sale through Initial Public Offering (**IPO**), according to regulatory filings with the Bombay Stock Exchange.

- HDB Financial's listing follows the country's central bank norms introduced in 2022, which
 required large non-banking financial companies (NBFC) to be listed on stock exchanges by
 September 2025.
- Incorporated in 2007, HDB Financial provides secured and unsecured loans and has more than 1,680 branches across India.

3. Which bank has recently (in September '24) launched Project Parivartan, a major transformation initiative in the existing digital banking facilities offered by the Bank?

- 1) HDFC Bank
- 2) ICICI Bank
- 3) UCO Bank
- 4) Federal Bank
- 5) Indian Bank

Answer- 3) UCO Bank

Explanation:

Ashwani Kumar, Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of UCO Bank launched "Project Parivartan", a major transformation initiative in the existing digital banking facilities offered by the Bank.

- Project Parivartan is the strategic response to the changing times. It is not just about technology it's about re-imagining the way the bank serves their customers.
- This Project includes close collaboration with Fintechs and technology providers, customer
 engagement through personalization, analytics-driven campaigns, and the enhancement of
 digital journeys for both asset as well as liability products.
- With the launch of Project Parivartan, Bank has also launched UPI Circle & UPI Lite Auto Top-Up in issuer mode along with several new enhancements to existing mobile banking & internet banking services.

4. Which finance company has recently (in September '24) been allowed to resume gold loan operations by the RBI?

- 1) Nido Home Finance Limited
- 2) L&T Finance Limited
- 3) Aditya Birla Finance Limited
- 4) IIFL Finance

5) Shriram Finance Limited

Answer- 4) IIFL Finance

Explanation:

On 19th September 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**) has lifted the curbs imposed on the gold loan business of **IIFL Finance** with immediate effect and allows the company to resume the sanctioning, disbursal, assignment, securitization, and sale of gold loans in compliance with all relevant laws and regulations.

 On 4th March 2024, the RBI imposed restrictions on IIFL Finance after observing deviations in assaying and certifying purity and net weight of gold at the time of sanctioning loans and at the time of auction.

5. Which Non-Banking Finance Company has recently (in September '24) raised USD 500 million from global investors through issuance of social bonds?

- 1) Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Limited
- 2) Shriram Finance Limited
- 3) Bajaj Finance Limited
- 4) Muthoot Fincorp Limited
- 5) L&T Finance Holdings Limited

Answer- 2) Shriram Finance Limited

Explanation:

Tamilnadu-based Non-Banking Finance Company (NBFC), **Shriram Finance Limited**, has raised USD 500 million from global investors through issuance of social bonds at a fixed interest rate of 6.15%. The bonds will mature in 2028.

 The deal marks the first USD bond issuance by Shriram Finance in financial year 2025 (FY25);
 and the ninth successful USD public bond issuance since the relaxation in the External Commercial Borrowings (ECB) guidelines.

6. Who is the current (as of October '24) Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Punjab National Bank (PNB)?

- 1) Shanti Lal Jain
- 2) K G Ananthakrishnan
- 3) Kalyan Kumar
- 4) Amitabh Chaudhry
- 5) Atul Kumar Goel

Answer- 5) Atul Kumar Goel

Explanation:

About Punjab National Bank (PNB):

PNB commenced its operations on 12th April 1895 from Lahore and was nationalised on 19th July 1969.

Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Atul Kumar Goel

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Tagline- The Name You Can Bank Upon

7. Who is the current (as of October '24) Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL)?

- 1) A.P. Hota
- 2) Dilip Asbe
- 3) Rina Penkar
- 4) Ritesh Shukla
- 5) Praveena Rai

Answer- 4) Ritesh Shukla

Explanation:

About NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL):

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Ritesh Shukla

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Incorporated-2020

8. Which bank's board of directors has recently (in September '24) approved raising an additional Rs 5,000 crore through long-term infrastructure bonds?

- 1) Bank of Baroda
- 2) ICICI Bank
- 3) Indian Bank
- 4) HDFC Bank
- 5) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer- 3) Indian Bank

Explanation:

On 26th September 2024, the board of directors of **Indian Bank** approved raising an additional **Rs 5,000 crore** through long-term infrastructure bonds. The above fund raising would be over and above Rs 5000 crore already raised by the bank in the current Financial Year (FY) 2024-25.

• The funds are intended for financing/refinancing of infrastructure and affordable housing in compliance with applicable RBI guidelines and other applicable laws.

9. According to the RBI Bulletin, Certificate of deposit (CD) issuances grew by more than 65%(y-o-y) to _____ during 2024-25(up to September 6).

- 1) Rs 3.15 lakh crore
- 2) Rs 3.51 lakh crore
- 3) Rs 4.15 lakh crore
- 4) Rs 4.51 lakh crore
- 5) Rs 5.51 lakh crore

Answer- 4) Rs 4.51 lakh crore

Explanation:

Certificate of deposit (**CD**) issuances grew by more than **65%** (year-on-year/y-o-y) to **Rs 4.51 lakh crore** during 2024-25 (up to September 6), significantly higher than Rs 2.72 lakh crore in the corresponding period of the 2023 to meet funding requirements of banks to bridge the gap between credit and deposit growth.

• More than two-thirds of term deposits are offering interest rates of 7% or higher. The share of deposits with rates over 7% surged to 66.9% in June 2024, from 33.5% in March 2023 and just 4.5% in March 2022.

 With the RBI increasing risk weights on bank loans to NBFCs, NBFCs are expanding their funding by issuing more commercial papers. CP issuances reached Rs 6.28 lakh crore by August 2024, higher than the Rs 5.88 lakh crore in 2023.

10. Where is the headquarters of IDBI bank situated?

- 1) New Delhi, Delhi
- 2) Bengaluru, Karnataka
- 3) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 4) Hyderabad, Telangana
- 5) Noida, Uttar Pradesh

Answer- 3) Mumbai, Maharashtra

Explanation:

About IDBI bank:

Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Rakesh Sharma

Headquarters- Mumbai Maharashtra

Tagline- Banking For All

Establishment-1964

11. Which bank has recently (in September '24) announced the launch of its Corporate Credit Card Suite for startups under its New Economy Group (NEG)?

- 1) Bank of Baroda
- 2) Axis Bank
- 3) Indian Bank
- 4) ICICI Bank
- 5) HDFC Bank

Answer- 2) Axis Bank

Explanation:

On 27th September 2024, **Axis Bank** announced the launch of its **Corporate Credit Card Suite** for startups under its New Economy Group (**NEG**).

- This offering aims to streamline travel, expenses, and vendor payments for start-ups. The suite
 includes two cards: The Executive Corporate Credit Card for founders and the Purchase
 Reward Credit Card for expense management.
- The Executive Corporate Credit Card provides personalised benefits, including enhanced credit limits, 4 complimentary golf rounds, reduced foreign exchange markup, and exclusive insurance perks.
- The Purchase Reward Credit Card focuses on rewards and flexibility, featuring zero joining fees, automated accounting, and expense tracking.

12. Who has been recently (in September '24) reappointed as non-executive Chairman of Utkarsh Small Finance Bank?

- 1) Rishi Gupta
- 2) Ajay Kanwal
- 3) Govind Singh
- 4) Satish Kumar Kalra
- 5) Parveen Kumar Gupta

Answer- 5) Parveen Kumar Gupta

Explanation:

On 26th September 2024, The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) approved the reappointment of **Parveen Kumar Gupta** as non-executive Chairman of **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank**.

- Gupta retired as a Managing Director of State Bank of India after 38 years of service in India and abroad.
- He was also associated with Bank of Baroda as a senior advisor post-retirement.

13. When was the Asian Development Bank(ADB) established?

- 1) 1947
- 2) 1955
- 3) 1966
- 4) 1974
- 5) 1986

Answer- 3) 1966

Explanation:

About Asian Development Bank(ADB):

President- Masatsugu Asakawa(Japan)

Headquarters-Manila, the Philippines

Members Nations - 68(49 members nations are from Asia-Pacific region)

Established-1966

14. Which health insurance company has recently (in September '24) introduced the "Health Booster Maternity Cover Rider" policy in collaboration with Policybazaar?

- 1) Care Health Insurance
- 2) HDFC ERGO General Insurance
- 3) Aditya Birla Health Insurance
- 4) Star Health & Allied Insurance
- 5) Acko General Insurance

Answer- 3) Aditya Birla Health Insurance

Explanation:

Policybazaar and **Aditya Birla Health Insurance** have partnered to launch a groundbreaking "**Health Booster Maternity Cover Rider**" with the industry's shortest waiting period of just three months.

- Individuals can avail a fixed benefit of Rs 50,000 by adding this rider to a base health policy, guaranteeing complete coverage for both regular and caesarean deliveries.
- The maternity cover, available for **Rs 25,000** (inclusive of GST), is designed to be accessible to a wide range of customers, with an entry age starting at **18 years**.

15. Who has been recently (in September '24) re-appointed as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of IndusInd bank?

- 1) Sumant Kathpalia
- 2) Nidhu Saxena
- 3) Shanti Lal Jain
- 4) Sandeep Bakhshi

5) Nikhil Mohan

Answer- 1) Sumant Kathpalia

Explanation:

The board of directors of private sector lender **IndusInd Bank** has approved the re-appointment of **Sumant Kathpalia** as the Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer **(MD & CEO)** of the bank for a period of three years. The re-appointment will be effective from 24th March 2025 to 23rd March 2028.

- The re-appointment of Kathpalia is subject to Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) and shareholders approval.
- Kathpalia has been the MD & CEO of the company since March 24, 2020. Previously, the RBI
 approved a two-year extension to Kathpalia in March 2023 while the bank's board had
 approved his re-appointment for three years.

16. Which bank has recently (in September '24) extended Rs 1 billion loan to Muthoot Capital Service Limited to accelerate e-mobility in India?

- 1) Bank of Baroda
- 2) Axis Bank
- 3) Bandhan Bank
- 4) Indian Bank
- 5) HDFC Bank

Answer- 2) Axis Bank

Explanation:

Axis Bank Limited, one of the largest private sector banks in India, in partnership with GuarantCo has extended Rs 1 billion (Canadian Dollar 12 million equivalent) guarantee to Muthoot Capital Service Limited, a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFCs). This will empower the NBFC to lend to on-lend customers in rural and non-metro regions in India, for purchasing electric two wheelers.

- This transaction is part of a larger USD 200 million electric vehicle (EV) framework agreement signed by GuarantCo and Axis Bank. GuarantCo has given Axis Bank a 65% on-demand credit guarantee for this transaction.
- This collaboration with Muthoot Capital will focus specifically on providing transport solutions to rural and non-metro regions that predominantly consist of lower income populations.
- The transaction will benefit Indian enterprises participating in the EV ecosystem by more than Rs 0.8 billion (Canadian Dollar 10 million), and it is likely to have an impact on local supply chain businesses such as equipment manufacturers, vehicle dealers and insurance.

17. When was the Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) established?

- 1) 2008
- 2) 2012
- 3) 2014
- 4) 2016
- 5) 2019

Answer- 4) 2016

About Monetary Policy Committee (MPC):

The MPC was established in **2016**, through amendments to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Act1934 primarily based on the **Urjit Patel Committee** recommendations, which aimed to enhance transparency and accountability in monetary policy.

18. Which bank has recently (in October '24) partnered with Bhashini to enhance its AI chatbot Feddy?

- 1) Federal Bank
- 2) Indian Bank
- 3) Bank of Baroda
- 4) ICICI Bank
- 5) Kotak Mahindra Bank

Answer- 1) Federal Bank

Explanation:

On 1st October 2024, **Federal Bank** and AI-powered language translation platform **Bhashini** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (**MoU**) to allow **Feddy**, the AI virtual assistant, to enable vernacular language support.

- This partnership emerged as a result of Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (**RBIH**)'s local language initiative to promote banking in vernacular languages.
- It has significantly improved Feddy's capabilities, making it more accessible to a wider range of customers across India.
- Feddy can now respond to user queries in 14 different Indian languages, including Hindi,
 Bengali, Tamil, Telugu, Marathi, Gujarati, Kannada, Malayalam, Odia, Assamese, Punjabi, Urdu,
 Manipuri, and Bodo, because of Bhashini's language translation capabilities.

19. Which bank will buy the Oman operations of Bank of Baroda (BoB) as part of its strategy to rationalize foreign operations?

- 1) Bank Dhofar
- 2) Bank of Beirut
- 3) Bank Muscat
- 4) Oman Arab Bank
- 5) National Bank of Oman

Answer- 1) Bank Dhofar

Explanation:

Bank of Baroda (BoB) is set to sell its Oman operations to **Bank Dhofar** as part of its strategy to rationalize foreign operations. This acquisition is on a going concern basis. It has been approved by BoB, but has pending approval from relevant regulatory authorities.

- This is subject to approval from concerned regulatory authorities
- The total business of BoB operation in Oman was 113.35 million Omani Rial while the net worth stood at 25.54 million Omani Rial.

20. Who is the current (as of October '24) Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Bank of Baroda (BoB)?

- 1) Debadatta Chand
- 2) Shanti Lal Jain
- 3) Rajneesh Karnatak
- 4) Ashwani Kumar
- 5) Amitabh Chaudhry

Answer- 1) Debadatta Chand

Explanation:

About Bank of Baroda (BoB):

Managing Director (MD) & Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Debadatta Chand

Headquarters- Vadodara, Gujarat

Establishment-1908

Tagline- India's International Bank

21. Where is the headquarters of ICICI Bank Limited located?

- 1) New Delhi, Delhi
- 2) Gurugram, Haryana
- 3) Bengaluru, Karnataka
- 4) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 5) Kolkata, West Bengal

Answer- 4) Mumbai, Maharashtra

Explanation:

About the ICICI Bank Limited:

Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Sandeep Bakshi

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Tag line- "Hum Hai Na, Khyal Apka"

Established-1994

22. Who is the current (as of October '24) Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Jio Financial Services Limited(JFSL)?

- 1) Nita M. Ambani
- 2) Dr. Hasmukh Adhia
- 3) Parminder Chopra
- 4) Dr. Urjit Patel
- 5) Hitesh Kumar Sethia

Answer- 5) Hitesh Kumar Sethia

Explanation:

About Jio Financial Services Limited(JFSL):

It is an Indian financial service company and offers various financial services such as payment services, insurance broking, among others.

Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Hitesh Kumar Sethia

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Established-2023

23. Which company has recently (in October '24) launched India's first AI-powered Credit Advisor that offers access to insights around one's credit health?

- 1) Paisabazaar
- 2) BankBazaar
- 3) Bajaj Finserv
- 4) IndiaLends
- 5) CreditMantri

Answer- 1) Paisabazaar

Explanation:

On 3rd October 2024, **Paisabazaar**, India's largest marketplace for consumer credit and free credit score platform announced the launch of '**PB Assist**', India's first AI-powered Credit Advisor provides easy access to information on one's credit health and designed to raise awareness and promote responsible behaviour.

 PB Assist has been powered by artificial intelligence (AI), proprietary algorithms and Chat GPT 3.5. As PB Assist involves consumers on their credit history, including loan details, credit card information, and repayment patterns.

24. Which small finance bank has recently (in October '24) launched two new products SuperCard (Credit Card) and WhatsApp Banking?

- 1) Capital Small Finance Bank
- 2) Utkarsh Small Finance Bank
- 3) ESAF Small Finance Bank
- 4) AU Small Finance Bank
- 5) Unity Small Finance Bank

Answer- 2) Utkarsh Small Finance Bank

Explanation:

Utkarsh Small Finance Bank (Utkarsh SFB) has launched two new products **SuperCard** (credit card) and **WhatsApp Banking** aimed at enhancing customer convenience. Utkarsh SFB continues its mission of financial inclusion through innovative digital solutions.

- SuperCard offers exclusive rewards, instant payments, and cashback on transactions, tailored for modern lifestyles.
- WhatsApp Banking provides easy access to services like balance inquiries, mini-statements, fund transfers, and debit card management all via a WhatsApp message.
- Boxing legend Mary Kom and football icon Sunil Chhetri were introduced as the bank's new brand ambassadors.

25. Who has been recently (in October '24) appointed as the Vice Chairman of the Governing Board of the Swiss National Bank(SNB)?

- 1) Martin Schlegel
- 2) Thomas Jordan
- 3) Antoine Martin
- 4) Petra Tschudin
- 5) Daniel Eriksson

Answer- 3) Antoine Martin

On 1st October 2024, Martin Schlegel took over as the new Chairman of the Governing Board of the Swiss National Bank(SNB) succeeding Thomas Jordan. He also took over as the Head of SNB's Department I in Zurich, Switzerland

- Antoine Martin, Member of the Governing Board and Head of Department III, as Vice Chairman of the Governing Board and Head of Department II in Berne, Switzerland.
- **Petra Tschudin,** Alternate Member of the Governing Board, as the new Member of the Governing Board and Head of Department III in Zurich.

26. Who is the current (as of October '24) Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd (SBI Cards)?

- 1) Pralay Mondal
- 2) Murali M. Natrajan
- 3) Sanjay Agarwal
- 4) Abhijit Chakravorty
- 5) Anubrata Biswas

Answer- 4) Abhijit Chakravorty

Explanation:

About SBI Cards & Payment Services Ltd (SBI Cards):

Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Abhijit Chakravorty

Headquarters- Gurugram, Haryana

Established-1998

27. When was the Swiss National Bank (SNB) established?

- 1) 1906
- 2) 1914
- 3) 1919
- 4) 1925
- 5) 1936

Answer- 1) 1906

Explanation:

About Swiss National Bank(SNB):

Chairman - Martin Schlegel

Headquarters- Berne and Zurich, Switzerland

Established-1906

28. Name the cooperative bank that has celebrated its 100th anniversary on 4th October 2024.

- 1) Bharat Cooperative Bank
- 2) Ahmedabad District Cooperative Bank
- 3) Abhyudaya Cooperative Bank
- 4) NKGSB Co-Operative Bank Limited
- 5) Punjab and Maharashtra Co-operative Bank

Answer- 2) Ahmedabad District Cooperative Bank

On 4th October 2024, **Ahmedabad District Cooperative (ADC) Bank** celebrated its 100th anniversary at Mahatma Mandir in Gandhinagar, Gujarat, chaired by Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation **Amit Shah**.

- Amit Shah stated that when an institution, despite many ups and downs, completes 100 years with integrity, it is not just a matter of pride for the institution but for the entire society.
- ADC Bank was established in 1925, which began as a small institution in Daskroi and has now become one of the strongest district cooperative banks in the country.

29. Who has been recently (in October '24) re-appointed as the Managing Director (MD) of Muthoot Finance?

- 1) Alexander George Muthoot
- 2) George Thomas Muthoot
- 3) George Alexander Muthoot
- 4) George Jacob Muthoot
- 5) George Muthoot George

Answer- 3) George Alexander Muthoot

Explanation:

Muthoot Finance, shareholders of gold loan non-banking finance company (NBFC) have approved the re-appointment of **George Alexander Muthoot** as Managing Director **(MD)** for a period of five years effective April 1, 2025.

 The company has also approved the re-appointment of George Jacob Muthoot as whole-time director (WTD) for 5 years.

30. Which stock exchange company has recently (in October '24) launched three new indices aimed at broadening investment strategies?

- 1) Metropolitan Stock Exchange of India Limited
- 2) Calcutta Stock Exchange Limited
- 3) Multi Commodity Exchange of India Limited
- 4) Index India Private Limited
- 5) Asia Index Private Limited

Answer- 5) Asia Index Private Limited

Explanation:

On 4th October 2024, **Asia Index**, a wholly-owned subsidiary of leading stock exchange **BSE Limited** announced the launch of **three new indices**: BSE Sensex Sixty 65: 35, BSE Sensex Sixty, BSE Power and Energy Index.

- **BSE Sensex Sixty** 65:35 comprises the constituents of BSE Sensex and BSE Sensex Next 30 in the ratio of 65: 35 respectively.
- **BSE Power and Energy Index** is a thematic index that measures the performance of companies that are present in the BSE 500 from 'Energy' and 'Utility' sectors.

31. Which company has recently (in October '24) partnered with Visa to enhance the Forex Cards issuance experience for both cardholders and issuers?

- 1) CARD91
- 2) Synapse

- 3) VioletBag
- 4) IndusDiva
- 5) Quiklo

Answer- 1) CARD91

Explanation:

CARD91, a pioneering Issuance Platform-as-a-Service company, has collaborated with **Visa**, the global leader in digital payments to enhance the Forex Cards issuance experience for both cardholders and issuers.

- This program management agreement will allow regulated entities to easily issue Forex Cards on the Visa network and improve transaction visibility for stakeholders by utilizing CARD91's innovative technological capabilities.
- This collaboration marks a significant step forward in the technological solutions with Visa's vast network and experience, representing a major advancement for the financial services sector.

32. On which company, the SEBI has recently (in September '24) imposed a penalty of Rs 12 lakh for its failure to segregate IT infrastructures and manpower?

- 1) Indian Energy Exchange
- 2) CDSL Ventures Limited
- 3) Bombay Stock Exchange
- 4) NSE Data and Analytics Limited
- 5) Multi Commodity Exchange

Answer- 4) NSE Data and Analytics Limited

Explanation:

On 30th September 2024, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) imposed a penalty of Rs 12 lakh on NSE Data and Analytics Limited for its failure to segregate IT infrastructures and manpower between itself and its parent firm National Stock Exchange (NSE). It has been directed to pay the fine within 45 days.

 Sebi noted in its order irregularities related to the failure to validate KYC records, the delay in sending investor acknowledgement letters, irregularities related to system audit reports and the cyber security audit framework, and details regarding the backup of records and the Business Continuity Plan/Disaster Recovery policy.

33. Where is the headquarters of the Axis Bank Limited?

- 1) New Delhi, Delhi
- 2) Kolkata, West Bengal
- 3) Bengaluru, Karnataka
- 4) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- 5) Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh

Answer- 4) Mumbai, Maharashtra

Explanation:

About Axis Bank Limited:

Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Amitabh Chaudhary

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Tag line- Badhti ka Naam Zindagi

34. Which bank has recently (in October '24) announced its integration with the Goods and Services Tax (GST) portal facilitating easy GST payments?

- 1) Bandhan Bank
- 2) Federal Bank
- 3) HDFC Bank
- 4) ICICI Bank
- 5) IDFC FIRST Bank

Answer- 5) IDFC FIRST Bank

Explanation:

On 5th October 2024, **IDFC First Bank** announced the integration of its Internet banking and branch network channels with the Goods and Services Tax **(GST) portal** allowing for seamless GST payments. This aims to ensure a quick, simple, and efficient tax payment experience.

- With quick payment confirmations and simple access to challans that can be downloaded, customers will now have a simple and easy payment process.
- This new integration allows IDFC FIRST Bank customers to pay GST through a variety of digital channels including the Bank's user-friendly Retail and Corporate Internet Banking platforms and its nationwide branch network.

35. Which ministry has recently (in October '24) announced the interest rate for the General Provident Fund (GPF) for October - December 2024 quarter?

- 1) Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions
- 2) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- 3) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- 4) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- 5) Ministry of Finance

Answer- 5) Ministry of Finance

Explanation:

The **Ministry of Finance** has announced the interest rate for the General Provident Fund (**GPF**) and other similar provident fund initiatives for October - December 2024 quarter. The interest rate for GPF remained unchanged at **7.1%**.

- The GPF is a retirement savings avenue for government personnel, and requires mandatory contributions from employees, except during periods of suspension.
- The interest rate of 7.1% applies to various provident funds including the General Provident Fund (Central Services), Contributory Provident Fund (India), and others specified by the government's recent notification.

36. Which country/city's Investment Authority has recently (in October '24) commenced its India operations and opened its office in the GIFT City in Gujarat?

- 1) Kuwait Investment Authority
- 2) Libyan Investment Authority
- 3) Qatar Investment Authority
- 4) Abu Dhabi Investment Authority
- 5) Oman Investment Authority

Answer- 4) Abu Dhabi Investment Authority

On 7th October 2024, Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA), the United Arab Emirates (UAE's) largest sovereign wealth fund commenced its India operations after obtaining the necessary regulatory approvals and opening its office in the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) in Ahmedabad, Gujarat.

- ADIA's investment profile in India was discussed during the 12th Meeting of the India-UAE
 High-Level Joint Task Force on Investments in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to Abu Dhabi in July 2023, it was announced that ADIA would establish a presence in GIFT City.

37. Which bank has recently (in October '24) extended its special fixed deposit schemes Amrit Kalash and Amrit Vrishti until March 31, 2025?

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

Answer- 2) State Bank of India

Explanation:

State Bank of India (SBI) has extended its special fixed deposit schemes Amrit Kalash and Amrit Vrishti until 31st March 2025. It was initially set to conclude on 30th September 2024, but now these schemes have been extended for another six months providing higher interest rates for depositors.

- The Amrit Kalash scheme offers a fixed deposit with a tenure of 400 days with interest rate of 7.10% per annum for general customers. Senior citizens receive a rate of 7.60% per annum.
- The Amrit Vrishti scheme was launched on 15th July 2024 and offers a 444-day fixed deposit.
 The scheme was introduced right after the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) urged banks to reduce the gap between deposit rates and credit growth.

38. Which organisation has recently (in October '24) collaborated with Airtel Payments Bank to launch Co-Branded National Common Mobility Cards (NCMC) to enhance commuter convenience?

- 1) Indian Railways
- 2) Delhi Metro Rail Corporation
- 3) Railtel Corporation of India
- 4) National Capital Region Transport Corporation
- 5) Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation

Answer- 4) National Capital Region Transport Corporation

Explanation:

On 3rd October 2024, the National Capital Region Transport Corporation (NCRTC) and Airtel Payments Bank joined forces and launched co-branded Namo Bharat national common mobility cards (NCMC) for passengers which will provide seamless connectivity and integration between Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) and other modes of public transport.

 The NCMC cards are designed to simplify travel across various modes of transport, including metros, railways, and buses by offering a unified payment solution. The NCMC-enabled cards also extend their utility to everyday purchases, allowing users to shop, dine, and make payments at various retail outlets.

39. Who is the current (as of October '24) Director General (DG) of Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC)?

- 1) Ashok Kumar Singh
- 2) Neelam Shami Rao
- 3) Debasish Panda
- 4) Tapan Singhel
- 5) Vivek Bengani

Answer- 1) Ashok Kumar Singh

Explanation:

About Employees' State Insurance Corporation (ESIC):

Director General (DG) - Ashok Kumar Singh

Parent Ministry - Ministry of Labour & Employment (MoL&E)

Headquarters- New Delhi, Delhi

Establishment- 1952

40. Where is the headquarters of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) located?

- 1) Paris, France
- 2) Kathmandu, Nepal
- 3) Mandaluyong, Philippines
- 4) Tokyo, Japan
- 5) Dhaka, Bangladesh

Answer- 3) Mandaluyong, Philippines

Explanation:

About Asian Development Bank (ADB):

President- Masatsugu Asakawa

Headquarters- Mandaluyong, Philippines

Establishment-1966

Members- 69 (49 from region)

41. When was Bandhan Bank established?

- 1) 1956
- 2) 1972
- 3) 1996
- 4) 2002
- 5) 2015

Answer- 5) 2015

Explanation:

About Bandhan Bank Limited:

Headquarters- Kolkata, West Bengal (WB)

Tagline- Aapka Bhala Sabki Bhalai

Established - 2015

42. Which bank has recently (in October '24) approved full stake sale of one of its subsidiary firms to Vama Sundari Investments for Rs 192 crore?

- 1) ICICI Bank
- 2) Federal Bank
- 3) Bandhan Bank
- 4) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 5) HDFC Bank

Answer- 5) HDFC Bank

Explanation:

On 7th October 2024, HDFC Bank, India's largest private sector lender, approved 100% stake sale of subsidiary **HDFC Education** to **Vama Sundari Investments** for a total of Rs 192 crore.

- The sale of HDFC Education's 100% ownership to Vama Sundari is in accordance with an RBI letter dated April 20, 2023, which requires the Bank to fully divest from the previously mentioned firm within 2 years of e-HDFC Limited's merger with and with the Bank going into effect.
- Vama Sundari Investments is a related party of HDFC Asset Management Company hence the sale of shares to Vama Sundari would be a related party transaction for the Bank.

43. When was Electronic Payment and Services Limited (EPS) established?

- 1) 2009
- 2) 2011
- 3) 2015
- 4) 2019
- 5) 2020

Answer- 2) 2011

Explanation:

Electronic Payment and Services Limited (EPS):

It is backed by investors like the United Kingdom (UK)-based Apis Partners and Dutch Entrepreneurial Development Bank FMO.

Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)- Mani Mamallan

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Established-2011

44. Which company has recently (in October '24) expanded its four-year collaboration with the USA based Old National Bank?

- 1) Wipro
- 2) Cognizant
- 3) Accenture
- 4) Infosys
- 5) Tata Consultancy Services

Answer- 4) Infosys

Explanation:

Infosys has expanded its four-year partnership with USA-based **Old National Bank** to leverage services, solutions, and platforms for operations transformation and process digitisation through automation and Generative AI (GenAI) technologies.

- Infosys has supported Old National Bank in modernising its digital landscape using a highly efficient, self-funding model since 2020.
- This has led to increased stability, resilience, and an improved client experience, contributing to the acceleration and sustainability of Old National Bank's growth.

45. Who is the current (as of October '24) Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Jio Payments Bank Limited?

- 1) Kiran Thomas
- 2) Vinod Easwaran
- 3) H Srikrishnan
- 4) Mahendra Nerurkar
- 5) Suneel Sharma

Answer- 2) Vinod Easwaran

Explanation:

About Jio Payments Bank Limited:

Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) - Vinod Easwaran

Headquarters- Mumbai, Maharashtra

Establishment-2016

46. India has recently (in October '24) became the _____ nation in the world to cross the USD 700 billion in forex reserves.

- 1) First
- 2) Second
- 3) Third
- 4) Fourth
- 5) Fifth

Answer- 4) Fourth

Explanation:

According to the data released by the Reserve Bank of India (**RBI**), India's forex reserves have crossed the USD 700 billion. This marks the first time increasing by USD 12.6 billion. **India** has become the **fourth** economy in the world to surpass **700 billion US dollars** in foreign reserves, joining China, Japan, and Switzerland.

- The sharp increase in forex reserves strengthened India's ability to cushion against global
 economic uncertainties and provided greater stability to its currency in the face of volatile
 international markets.
- India's gold reserves rose 2.184 billion to 65.796 billion dollars. The special drawing rights with the International Monetary Fund increased by 8 million to 18.547 billion dollars.

47. Which bank has recently (in September '24) became a signatory to the Partnership for Carbon Accounting Financials (PCAF)?

- 1) Federal Bank
- 2) Union Bank of India
- 3) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- 4) City Union Bank
- 5) Indian Bank