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Ques : Which Bank Market Cap Surpasses \$100 Billion, Becomes 6th Indian Company to Achieve Milestone

किस बैंक का मार्केट कैप 100 बिलियन डॉलर से अधिक हो गया, मील का पत्थर हासिल करने वाली छठी भारतीय कंपनी बन गई

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) ICICI Bank / आईसीआईसीआई बैंक

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **ICICI Bank's** market capitalization **crossed** the **\$100 billion** mark for the **first time**.
- It became the **6th Indian company** to achieve this milestone.
- ICICI is the **second-largest bank** in India **by market capitalization**, after **HDFC Bank**.
- It is also the **fifth-largest** entity **by market value**.
- **In December 2020**, ICICI Bank's market capitalisation crossed \$50 billion, and within 10 months, it exceeded \$75 billion in October 2021.
- Currently, Reliance Industries is leading the list with a market capitalisation of \$236 billion, followed by TCS with a market value of \$166 billion.

About ICICI Bank :

- Established : 5 January 1994
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO : Sandeep Bakhshi

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Ques : Ixigo and _____ Expand Partnership to Include Flight and Bus Booking Services

Ixigo और _____ ने उड़ान और बस बुकिंग सेवाओं को शामिल करने के लिए साझेदारी का विस्तार किया

- (a) Phonepe
- (b) Paytm
- (c) Airtel payments bank
- (d) BharatPe
- (e) None of these

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- Travel booking platform **ixigo** has expanded its exclusive partnership with **PhonePe** to **offer flight and bus bookings** on the fintech platform's app.
- Previously, the partnership focused on providing booking services for trains.
- The expanded partnership aims to provide a more comprehensive travel booking experience for **over 54 crore PhonePe users**.
- ixigo will exclusively power flight bookings through ixigo flights, bus bookings through AbhiBus, and continue its partnership with ConfirmTkt for train bookings on the PhonePe platform.
- Travellers, especially from **tier-II/III cities**, will benefit from enhanced access to travel booking services tailored for the next billion users.
- PhonePe's extensive reach in smaller towns and its fintech expertise will complement ixigo's travel products and offerings.
- **Payment and Offers:** The collaboration promises simpler payment processes and offers exciting discounts and deals on flight, train, and bus bookings.

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About ixigo :

- Founded : June 2007
- Headquarters : Gurugram, Haryana, India
- Chairman, MD & Group CEO : Alope Bajpai

About Phonepe :

- Founded : 2015
- Headquarters : Bengaluru, Karnataka, India
- CEO : Sameer Nigam

Recently signed banking agreements :

- One97 Communications (parent company of Paytm) has partnered with global travel aggregators including Skyscanner, Google Flights, and Wego to expand its presence in the travel segment.
- BharatPe, a leading fintech company in India announced that it has collaborated with Invest India to promote digital financial inclusion and digital financial literacy across One District One Product (ODOP) producers and sellers across ODOP districts in India.
- Action Construction Equipment Ltd. (ACE), a prominent player in India's construction equipment manufacturing sector, has entered into a MoU with Bank of Baroda to facilitate financing solutions for construction equipment businesses.
- India and South East Asian nation Cambodia are negotiating collaboration in Unified Payment Interface-based (UPI) digital payment to promote trade and tourism.
- India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) has partnered with Ria Money Transfer, a global leader in cross-border money transfers to provide convenient and affordable doorstep financial services to customers in remote areas across the country.
- Federal Bank, in collaboration with National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), has launched RuPay Wave Credit Card to offer customers UPI-powered transactions on RuPay network.
- Indian Computer Emergency Response Team (CERT-In) and Mastercard India have signed MoU for collaboration in cyber security to enhance India's cyber-resilience in the financial sector

- Namdev Finvest, a Jaipur based NBFC, has entered into strategic alliance with Bajaj Allianz General Insurance, a leading insurance platform, to offer comprehensive financial solutions, including insurance and NBFC services, to its customers.
- The Ministry of External Affairs (MEA) and the State Bank of India (SBI) signed MoU to enhance digital payment services for users of the eMigrate portal.
- Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance Company Ltd. (Kotak Life) has formed a partnership with Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services Ltd. (Mahindra Finance) to provide life insurance solutions to customers.
- Fintech firm PhonePe has partnered with ride – hailing platform PickMe to facilitate Unified Payments Interface (UPI)-based payments for Indian travellers in Sri Lanka.
- Ashv Finance, a part of the Aavishkaar Group, has entered into a co-lending agreement with HDFC Bank to offer unsecured business loans to micro and small enterprises (MSEs).
- Muthoot Microfin has entered into a strategic co-lending partnership with the State Bank of India (SBI). With this collaboration, Muthoot Microfin Limited aims to extend its financial services to women entrepreneurs in rural and semi-urban regions across India
- NPCI International Payments Ltd (NIPL) and the Reserve Bank of Peru have announced a partnership to enable UPI-like real-time payments system in the Latin American country.
- Punjab National Bank (PNB), a leading public sector bank, has signed an MoU with India Infrastructure Finance Company Ltd (IIFCL) to collaborate in financing of infrastructure projects.
- Capital Small Finance Bank (CSFB) has forged a bancassurance tieup with ICICI Lombard General Insurance Company Ltd.(ICICI Lombard), a private general insurer. to distribute ICICI Lombard's suite of general insurance products, including health, motor, home, travel and rural insurance.
- Tata Consultancy Services (TCS) has signed a deal to modernize the core banking technology of Burgan Bank, a leading commercial bank in Kuwait.
- SBI General Insurance Company Limited has partnered with Bima Central, built by CAMS Insurance Repository, to launch the industry-first policyholder servicing platform, Bima Central.
- PhonePe has partnered with Sri Lanka-based LankaPay to enable Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions for PhonePe users in Sri Lanka.

- Aurm, an asset protection firm has partnered with Tata AIG General Insurance to provide comprehensive insurance coverage to its customers for their valuables.
- State Bank of India (SBI), has become the first trading-cum-clearing member (TCM) at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) – the country's first bullion exchange in GIFT City Gandhinagar.
- YES BANK, a leading private sector bank in India, is collaborating with EBANX, a global fintech firm specializing in payment solutions for emerging markets.
- Asian Development Bank and Citi Signed Master Risk Participation Agreement (MRPA) to Support Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) & Boost Trade Through Supply Chain Financing
- NPCI International Payments Limited (NIPL) has signed an agreement with the Bank of Namibia (BoN) to support them in developing an instant payment system like Unified Payment Interface (UPI) for Namibia.
- The State Bank of India (SBI) has entered into a five-year agreement with HCL Software to digitally transform its customer interaction framework by utilising the HCL Unica platform.
- Tata Motors has tied up with South Indian Bank to offer financing solutions to its commercial vehicle customers and dealerships.
- NABARD has partnered with Reserve Bank's arm RBIH to make a system which will enable faster processing of agricultural loans
- Razorpay and Airtel Payments Bank Introduce UPI Switch
- Indian Bank has signed an agreement with Tata Power Solar Systems Ltd. (TPSSL).
- South Indian Bank has signed an MoU with Ashok Leyland Limited
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Jeevika, Bihar State Rural Livelihoods Mission (SRLM) and UMED, Maharashtra-SRLM.
- J&K Bank partnered with Paymart India to launch virtual ATM Facility
- SIDBI partners fintech platform KarmaLife for micro loans to gig workers
- Central Bank of India partners with Veefin Solutions
- Suryoday Small Finance Bank with Magma HDI General Insurance
- Standard Chartered Bank with Star Health & Allied Insurance
- Saraswat Cooperative Bank with Life Insurance Corporation of India
- AU Small Finance Bank with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- State Bank of Sikkim with SBI Life Insurance

Ques : _____ Reports Current Account Balance Records Surplus of 0.6% of GDP in Q4 FY24

_____ ने FY24 की चौथी तिमाही में सकल घरेलू उत्पाद के 0.6% के चालू खाता शेष रिकॉर्ड अधिशेष की रिपोर्ट दी

- (a) NABARD / नाबार्ड
- (b) RBI / आरबीआई
- (c) EPFO / ईपीएफओ
- (d) SEBI / सेबी
- (e) SIDBI / सिडबी

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- India's current account recorded a surplus of \$5.7 billion, equivalent to 0.6% of gross domestic product (GDP), in the January-March 2024 quarter.
- This marks a significant improvement from a deficit of \$1.3 billion (0.2% of GDP) in Q4 FY2023 and a deficit of \$8.7 billion (1% of GDP) in Q3 FY24.
- For the full fiscal year FY24, India's current account deficit moderated to \$23.2 billion, or 0.7% of GDP, down from \$67 billion (2% of GDP) in FY23.
- The improvement was driven by a lower merchandise trade deficit throughout the year.
- In Q4 FY24, India's merchandise trade deficit stood at \$50.9 billion, lower than \$52.6 billion in the same period a year ago.
- This reduction contributed significantly to the overall current account surplus.

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- Services exports grew by 4.1% year-on-year in Q4 FY24, driven by software, travel, and business services.
- Net foreign direct investment (FDI) flows declined to **\$2 billion** in Q4 FY24 from \$6.4 billion a year ago.
- Foreign portfolio investment (FPI) recorded a net inflow of \$11.4 billion compared to a net outflow of \$1.7 billion in Q4 FY23.

What is current account deficit?

- The current account deficit is the difference between exports and imports of goods and services.
- It is a key indicator of the country's external sector

About RBI :

- Established : 1 April 1935
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Governor : Shaktikanta Das
- Deputy governors : Swaminathan Janakiraman , M. Rajeshwar Rao, Michael Patra and T. Rabi Shankar

Ques : Who has been elected as Chairperson of the board of Sa-Dhan, which is an association of microfinance and impact finance institutions?

**माइक्रोफाइनेंस और इम्पैक्ट फाइनेंस संस्थानों के संगठन सा -
धन के बोर्ड के अध्यक्ष के रूप में किसे चुना गया है?**

- (a) Rajnish Kumar / रजनीश कुमार
- (b) Paul Thomas / पॉल थॉमस
- (c) Deepak Mohanty / दीपक मोहंती
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Siddhartha Mohanty / सिद्धार्थ मोहंती

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **MD & CEO of ESAF Small Finance Bank, Paul Thomas** has been elected as **Chairperson** of the **board of Sa-Dhan**, which is an association of **microfinance and impact finance institutions**.
- **Sayeed** has been **re-elected** for the **second term** on the board of **Sa-Dhan** at the Association's Annual General Body meeting.
- Jaiswal, Salimath, A Ramesh Kumar, Chairman & MD of Laraksha Impact Finance, Nagendra Mali, MD of Navachetna Microfinance, and Ganesh Chandra Modak, MD of Grameen Shakti were elected as new members to the Board.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Anuj Tyagi : Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of HDFC ERGO General Insurance
- Girija Subramanian : chairman and managing director (CMD) of New India Assurance
- Rajeev Krishnamuralilal Agarwal : Independent Director of Paytm
- Ajith Kumar KK : MD & CEO of Dhanalakshmi Bank

- Prem Prabhakar : MD and CEO of SBICAP Ventures Limited
- Satish Nair : President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Asirvad Micro Finance Limited
- Sameer Bansal : MD & CEO of PNB MetLife India Insurance
- Abhaya Hota : Independent Director of Cashfree Payments
- Sandeep Batra : Chairman of the Board of Directors of ICICI Prudential
- Pradeep Kumar Sinha : Part-time Chairman of ICICI Bank
- Rushabh Gandhi : MD & CEO of IndiaFirst Life Insurance
- Pradeep Natarajan : Whole Time Director on the Board of IDFC FIRST Bank for three years
- R Lakshmi Kanth Rao : Executive director (ED) in RBI
- Sujai Raina : Visa appointed him as country manager for India
- Jaya Tripathi : Head of Key Relations Group in SBI General Insurance
- Atanu Chakraborty : re-appointment as part-time Chairman of HDFC Bank
- Carol Furtado : executive director of Ujjivan Small Finance Bank
- Re-appointment of Amitabh Chaudhry : MD & CEO of Axis Bank
- Keki Mistry : Chairman of HDFC Life Insurance.
- Ajith Kumar K.K : Managing Director & CEO of Dhanlaxmi Bank for three years.
- Nalin negi : CEO of BharatPe
- Murali Ramakrishnan : Independent director of RBL Bank
- Subhasish Roy : Chief Risk Officer of Bank of Maharashtra
- Deepak Kumar Sharma : Additional Director of Suryoday Small Finance Bank
- Manoj Mittal : Chairman and Managing Director at Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)
- Tarun Bajaj : Head of the US-India Tax Forum
- Sanjay Shukla : Managing Director (MD) of the National Housing Bank (NHB)
- Ramit Goyal (replace Raghavendra Rao) : Chief Distribution Officer of Future Generali India Insurance Company
- Vinod Francis : Chief Financial Officer of South Indian Bank
- Arnab Goswamy : Chief Financial Officer of Punjab & Sind Bank
- Atul Mehra : Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Axis Capital
- Arvind Kapil : Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of Poonawalla Fincorp
- M V Rao : Chairman of Indian Banks' Association (IBA)
- Girija Subramanian: Chairperson and Managing Director (CMD) of New India Assurance Company (NIAC)
- Pankaj Dwivedi : Executive Director at Union Bank of India

**Ques : _____ launches digital investment platform SmartWealth
_____ ने डिजिटल निवेश प्लेटफॉर्म स्मार्टवेल्थ लॉन्च किया**

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) ICICI Bank / आईसीआईसीआई बैंक

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- **HDFC Bank** has **launched** a new **digital investment platform** to take **wealth services** to every Indian and make investments simple and transparent.
- Incorporating cutting-edge technology, the **HDFC Bank SmartWealth** comes loaded with **first-ever features** that **allow investors** to make the **right investment decisions** and plan their financial journey.
- Users can create SmartJars, which gives users personalised portfolio plans that can be modified or paused anytime.
- Model portfolios on Smart Wealth suggest curated investment baskets for DIY investing based on over 25 years of HDFC Bank's financial expertise

About HDFC Bank :

- Established : August 1994
- HQ : Mumbai
- MD & CEO : Sashidhar Jagdishan
- Tagline : We Understand Your World

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- NSE Indices Limited has launched 'Nifty India Tourism Index', a new thematic index to track the performance of stocks from the Nifty 500 Index that represent the travel and tourism sector.
- SBI Mutual Fund announced the launch of the SBI Silver Exchange Traded Fund (ETF) and the fund of fund route to it- SBI Silver ETF Fund of Fund.
- Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) chairman Deepak Mohanty announced that the regulator would introduce new life cycle fund options with up to 50% equity by September for NPS (non-government) subscribers.
- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance offered a 15% lifetime discount for women on all premiums for its term insurance product, iProtect Smart.
- Motilal Oswal Asset Management Company Limited (MOAMC) introduced Motilal Oswal Nifty India Defence Index Fund, India's 1st index fund offering exposure to defence stocks listed in India.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched 'SME Digital Business Loans', offering end-to-end sanction turnaround time of up to 45 minutes for SMEs (small and medium enterprises).
- Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Limited has launched a new theme, 'Insure today for a safe tomorrow,' to raise awareness about the importance of insurance in safeguarding against unforeseen risks.
- Private general insurer, SBI General Insurance Company has announced the withdrawal of its Arogya Plus policy with effect from October 5, 2024.
- Indian Overseas Bank (IOB) has inaugurated a new, exclusive branch on Anna Salai (Mount Road) in Chennai, dedicated entirely to support start-ups.
- All India Bank Employees' Association (AIBEA), the oldest and largest trade union of bank employees, launched a 'Bank Clinic', an exclusive website, in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Bank of Maharashtra introduces the Maha Krishi Samridhi Yojana (MKSY), offering financial assistance to food and agro-based industries, agri-infrastructure projects involved in processing activities, and the development of agricultural infrastructure facilities.
- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has implemented the much awaited market rumour verification regulation on top 100 companies.
- Adani One, the digital platform of the Adani Group, and ICICI Bank has launched two variants of co-branded credit cards in collaboration with card network Visa. Available in two variants – Adani One ICICI Bank Signature Credit Card and Adani One ICICI Bank Platinum Credit Card.

- Capital markets regulator Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has launched a mobile app, 'Saarthi 2.0', focused on personal finance for investors.
- Bank of India (BoI) has launched a special fixed deposit plan called '666 Days - Fixed Deposit', offering attractive returns on deposits for a tenure of 666 days.
- Bengaluru-based fintech firm PhonePe has launched secured loans in partnership with various non-banking finance companies (NBFCs)
- HDFC Bank will stop sending SMS alerts for UPI transitions up to Rs 100 from June 25.
- Poonawalla Fincorp Limited, in collaboration with IndusInd Bank, has launched the co-branded 'IndusInd Bank Poonawalla Fincorp eLITE RuPay Platinum Credit Card', a card designed to redefine and elevate the banking experience of customers.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched three major initiatives : PRAVAAH portal, Retail Direct mobile app and a Fintech Repository.
- PRAVAAH is stands for Platform for Regulatory Application, VALidation and AutHorisation. It is a centralised, secure web-based platform that enables individuals or entities to apply online for regulatory approvals, licences, and authorisations from the RBI.
- Retail Direct mobile app : It provides retail investors with a seamless and convenient way to transact in government securities (G-Secs) on their smartphones.
- FinTech Repository : It aims to enhance the RBI's understanding of the Indian fintech sector by providing comprehensive data on fintech firms, both regulated and unregulated.
- Nippon Life India Asset Management Limited (NAM India) has announced the launch of the sonic identity 'The Sound of Freedom', a powerful soundscape symbolising financial freedom
- Maldives intends to launch India's RuPay service, reflecting the strengthening of ties between the two nations.
- Online insurance marketplace Policybazaar has introduced its 'Claim Assurance Program' to accelerate the motor insurance claims process.
- YES BANK has announced the launch of YES Grandeur, an exclusive banking programme designed to address the unique financial and lifestyle needs of India's fast-growing Emerging Affluent segment.
- Axis Bank has introduced the 'ARISE ComeAsYouAre' talent acquisition programme to recruit individuals from the LGBTQIA+ community across India for careers in banking.
- Paytm, has launched the UPI Lite wallet to simplify payments, particularly for low-value transactions.

- Fintech platform Zeta has launched its 'Digital Credit' as a service for bank in India.
- Google announced the launch of the Google Wallet app in India, providing users a centralized platform to save travel tickets, gift cards, event passes, and other digital documents.
- Canara HSBC Life Insurance introduced a new Unit Linked Insurance Plan (ULIP) called Promise4Growth.
- L&T Finance Ltd (LTF) has launched 'The Complete Home Loan', offered through a digitised process, along with a dedicated relationship manager and optional home décor finance.
- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has launched ICICI Pru Platinum, a Unit Linked Investment Plan (ULIP) that ties the distributor's commission to their customers' Assets Under Management (AUM).
- Thomas Cook India has launched video KYC for its retail foreign exchange customers for a safe digital transaction.
- ICICI Bank has rolled out a new facility allowing its non-resident Indian (NRI) customers to make Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transactions in India using their international mobile numbers.
- HDFC Life, a leading insurer in India, has unveiled its latest campaign, 'No Jhanjhat Life Insurance Fatafat'.
- Bajaj Allianz General Insurance has launched Prive, an exclusive customer experience program designed to offer exceptional customer service and coverage.
- Cred has launched an innovative UPI-based 'Scan and Pay' service, marking its entry into the offline payments sphere

Ques : _____ unveils 'SmartLock', a new safety feature for iMobile Pay.

_____ ने आईमोबाइल पे के लिए एक नई सुरक्षा सुविधा 'स्मार्टलॉक' का अनावरण किया

- (a) DBS Bank India / डीबीएस बैंक इंडिया
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Yes Bank / यस बैंक
- (d) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (e) ICICI Bank / आईसीआईसीआई बैंक

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **ICICI Bank** announced “**SmartLock**,” a novel **safety feature** that lets users lock and unlock several banking services at once without contacting customer support via phone or email.
- **SmartLock** is available on the bank's iMobile Pay app and it is the first of its kind in India, according to the company.
- **SmartLock** enables customers to **take control of their account security** by disabling or enabling access to internet banking, UPI payments (including payments from other UPI apps linked to the Bank account), and credit and debit cards with a simple click.
- The feature can also be used to deactivate a particular online service of ICICI Bank.
- SmartLock allows scheduled standing instructions and E-mandates to go through, even when a banking service is locked by the customer.

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Ques : Where is the headquarter of National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) ?

भारतीय राष्ट्रीय राजमार्ग प्राधिकरण (NHAI) का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Bengaluru / बेंगलुरु
- (b) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (c) Chennai / चेन्नई
- (d) Greater Noida / ग्रेटर नोएडा
- (e) Gurugram / गुरुग्राम

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

About National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) :

- Established : 1995
- HQ : New Delhi
- Chairman : Santosh Kumar Yadav

Recently in News :

- **National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) and Indraprastha Institute of Information Technology (Delhi) Signs MoU to Enhance Road Safety by deploying Artificial Intelligence.**
- Its objective is to leverage Artificial Intelligence (AI) based solutions for improvement in the availability of road signs on National Highways.
- The tentative length to be covered under this project shall be around 25,000 km.

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Recent MoU and agreement :

- Punjab Police in association with the Border Security Force (BSF) and Village Defence Committees (VDCs) have launched a 'Mission Nishchay' in Fazilka district.
- Snapdeal and Bhashini signed an MoU to promote digital inclusiveness
- Indira Gandhi National Centre for the Arts (IGNCA) and Sansad TV signed an agreement to make Indian art and culture more accessible to the people.
- The National Company Law Tribunal (NCLT) has granted its approval for the merger of Vistara with Air India allowing a period of nine months for the dissolution of the former.
- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has taken a significant step towards enhancing pensioner services by forging partnerships with four prominent banks. The MoUs with Bank of India, Canara Bank, Central Bank of India, and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers has signed a deal with DRDO to build Research Vessel for DRDO in Rs. 500 crore deal.
- Finnish telecom gearmaker Nokia has signed an agreement with the Gati Shakti Vishwavidyalaya (GSV) for carrying out joint research related to 5G/6G communications in the transportation and logistics sector.
- The Department of School Education, Ministry of Education, has signed an MoU with the National Book Trust to establish an institutional framework for Rashtriya e-Pustakalaya, a pioneering digital library platform.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Wipro 3D have successfully manufactured a 3D-printed rocket engine, the PS4, set to power the fourth stage of the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV).
- Ghana has signed deals with a Reliance Jio subsidiary, Tech Mahindra and other vendors to build 4G and 5G infrastructure as the African country aims to enhance its telecom capabilities.
- Swiggy has partnered with SHIELD, a device-first risk AI platform, to enhance its fraud prevention and detection capabilities.
- Cisco and Tata Communications have launched their Webex Calling solution in India with cloud public switched telephone network (PSTN), aimed at helping enterprises move from on-premises phone systems to a global cloud calling system.
- Airbus Helicopters and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for financing the purchase of Airbus helicopters in India.

- The Department of Animal Husbandry and Dairying (DAHD) under the Union Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry & Dairying has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) India on Digitalization of Vaccine Cold Chain Management, Communication Planning and Capacity Building.
- AIIMS New Delhi has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with UK based University of Bolton Institute of Medicine to collaborate in the field of medical research, innovation and education.
- PUMA India has signed a deal with the Athletics Federation of India to become its official kit sponsor.
- India and Iran Inks 10-year Deal to Operate Iran's Chabahar Port. Under the agreement, India Ports Global Limited (IPGL) committed to investing \$370 million to enhance the port's infrastructure
- India and Moldova signed an agreement allowing holders of diplomatic and official passports from either country to travel to the other without requiring a visa.
- A joint initiative between India and Oman to boost research and conservation of sharks and rays in the Arabian Sea will be launched
- Girish Chandra Murmu, the Comptroller and Auditor General of India (CAG), has signed a MoU with Toyam Raya, Auditor General of Nepal to strengthen collaboration and facilitate the exchange of expertise in auditing practices between the Supreme Audit Institutions (SAIs) of both countries.
- The Indian Coast Guard and Jindal Steel & Power Ltd signed an MoU for the supply of indigenous marine-grade steel.
- The Uttarakhand Tourism Development Board has teamed up with Starscapes, an astro-tourism company, to introduce Nakshatra Sabha, a pioneering initiative aimed at offering a comprehensive astro-tourism experience.
- India and Nigeria have agreed to an early conclusion of the Local Currency Settlement System Agreement to strengthen bilateral economic ties.
- The Indian Army and the Punit Balan Group joined hands to inaugurate the nation's first Constitution Park in Pune.
- The government of India has signed an agreement with the government of Bangladesh to renew the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to train 1500 Bangladeshi officers from 2025 to 2030.
- The Ministry of Mines has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Shakti Sustainable Energy Foundation, to enhance the knowledge base of the critical minerals processing industry in India.

- Gandhinagar-based National Defence University (RRU) and France's Starburst Aerospace signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to promote innovation in the aerospace defence sector.
- NTPC Limited and Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL) signed MOU for for the supply of 9 lakh metric tonnes of limestone.
- NGEL and ITL sign MoU for Renewable Energy Ventures
- CleanMax teams up with Apple to drive renewable energy adoption in India
- KABIL and CSIR-IMMT sign MoU for Technical and Knowledge cooperation for Critical Minerals
- The Cochin Shipyard Limited (CSL) signed the Master Shipyard Repair Agreement (MSRA) with the United States Navy.
- BEML, BEL join hands to develop indigenous train control management system



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Ques : When was the National green hydrogen Mission launched?
राष्ट्रीय हरित हाइड्रोजन मिशन कब शुरू किया गया था?

- (a) January 15, 2023
- (b) January 24, 2023
- (c) January 14, 2023
- (d) January 4, 2023
- (e) January 10, 2023

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

About National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM):

- Launched : January 4, 2023
- Budget : Rs. 19,744 crores
- Its **objective** is to achieve a production capacity of 5 million tonnes per annum of Green Hydrogen by 2030

Recently in News :

- The Ministry of New & Renewable Energy (MNRE) enhanced the share of allocation for the Fertilizer Sector under the SIGHT Programme of the National Green Hydrogen Mission (NGHM) from 5.5 lakh tonnes per annum to 7.5 lakh tonnes per annum of Green Ammonia.
- Due to the growing demand for Green Hydrogen and its derivatives, particularly Green Ammonia in the fertilizer sector, MNRE has increased the allocation under Mode 2A by 2 lakh tonnes per annum.

About SIGHT Programme:

- Full Form : Strategic Interventions for Green Hydrogen Transition
- Implementing agency : Solar Energy Corporation of India (SECI)

Aim :

- Component I Aims at providing electrolyzer manufacturing incentives with a total outlay of INR 4440 crore
- Component II It focuses on green hydrogen production with a financial outlay of INR 13050 crore

Ques : India has become the ____ largest domestic airline market globally

भारत वैश्विक स्तर पर ____ सबसे बड़ा घरेलू एयरलाइन बाजार बन गया है

- (a) 1st
- (b) 2nd
- (c) 3rd
- (d) 4th
- (e) 5th

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- **India** has become the **third largest domestic airline market** globally, up from number **five position** a decade ago.
- **India's domestic airline capacity** has **doubled** in a decade to **15.5 million in April 2024** from **7.9 million in April 2014**.
- **India** has **replaced Brazil**, pushed to fourth place with 9.7 million, and Indonesia, relegated to fifth in the rankings with 9.2 million.
- India's transition to low cost carriers (LCCs) has been the sharpest among the top five.
- In April 2024, LCCs accounted for 78.4 per cent of Indian domestic capacity, followed by Indonesia at 68.4 per cent, Brazil at 62.4 per cent , the US at 36.7 per cent, and China at 13.2 per cent.

Top 5 Largest Domestic Airline Markets with their Seating capacity :

1. United States 86.1 million
2. China 67.8 million
3. India 15.5 million
4. Brazil 9.7 million
5. Indonesia 9.2 million

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India's Rankings in Different Indices:

- Global Energy Transition Index 2024 : India (63rd), Sweden (topped)
- Report of Cost of Living City Ranking 2024 : Mumbai (Expensive city in India), Hong Kong (Hong Kong (sar)) (1st rank)
- 2024 Environment Performance Index (EPI) : India (176th), Estonia (top)
- Global Gender Gap index 2024 : India (129th), Iceland (top)
- Container Port Performance Index 2023 (CPPI 2023) : Visakhapatnam Port (19th rank), China's Yangshan Port (1st rank)
- Oxford Economics' Global Cities Index : Delhi (350th rank), New York ranks first
- Travel & Tourism Development Index 2024 : India (39th), US topped
- Young University Rankings 2024 : Mahatma Gandhi University (MGU) in Kottayam, Kerala, ranked 81(globally), Nanyang Technological University (NTU), Singapore (topped)
- World Migration Report 2024 : United Arab Emirates (UAE) is the top destination for Indian migrants
- The Wealthiest Cities Report 2024 : New York City (top), Mumbai (24th)and Delhi (37th)
- Global Electricity Review report : India (3rd), China (1st)
- World Press Freedom Index 2024 : India (159th), Norway topped
- 'Newsweek – World's Best Hospitals 2024' rankings : Medanta Gurugram
- Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) report, largest military spender in the world in 2023 : India (4th) , United States of America(1st)
- 'Best Airport Staff in India & South Asia 2024' : GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL)
- Three Indian Banks namely, the State Bank of India (SBI), HDFC Bank and ICICI Bank are featured in the list of top 50 largest banks in AsiaPacific Region by Assets – 2024.
- World Cybercrime Index 2024 : India(10th rank), Russia (1st)
- QS World University Rankings by Subject 2024 : Jawaharlal Nehru University (JNU), New Delhi(20th globally), Harvard University of the United States (US) topped
- Global Unicorn Index 2024 : India's rank (3rd), USA (1st) • 2024 Global Hepatitis Report : India's rank (2nd),
- Forbes World's Billionaires List: The Richest in 2024 : India's rank (9th), Bernard Arnault (1st)
- Real 500 list : Indian Oil Corporation (1st rank), China (1st)

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Ques : Hemis Festival is related to which state ?

हेमिस महोत्सव किस राज्य से संबंधित है?

- (a) Delhi / दिल्ली
- (b) Chandigarh / चंडीगढ़
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir / जम्मू और कश्मीर
- (d) Ladakh / लद्दाख
- (e) Puducherry / पुदुचेरी

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The **Hemis Festival**, a vibrant celebration of **Tibetan Buddhism**, takes place annually in **Ladakh, India**.
- The Hemis Festival, also **known as Hemis Tsechu**, commemorates the **birth anniversary** of **Guru Padmasambhava**, a revered figure in Tibetan Buddhism.

Recent Festivals & Fairs :

- India Art Festival (IAF) : Hyderabad
- Saga Dawa festival : Sikkim
- Koothandavar festival : Tamil Nadu
- Ethnic Mamani Festival : Ladakh
- Janakpurdham Cultural Festival : Nepal
- Chapchar Kut Festival : Mizoram
- Divya Kala Mela – Agartala, Tripura
- 11th International Puppet Festival : Chandigarh
- Tawi Festival : Jammu and Kashmir
- 36th National Book Fair : Hyderabad
- Startup Mahakumbh 2024 : New Delhi
- Vividdhta ka Amrit Mahotsav : Rashtrapati Bhavan
- Sammakka Saralamma Jathara : Mulugu district of Telangana
- National Dairy Mela and Agricultural Exhibition : Chaibasa, Jharkhand

Ques : ASK Private Wealth Hurun India Future Unicorn Index 2024 includes ____ Indian future unicorns from 31 cities.

एएसके प्राइवेट वेल्थ हुरुन इंडिया फ्यूचर यूनिकॉर्न इंडेक्स 2024 में 31 शहरों के ____ भारतीय फ्यूचर यूनिकॉर्न शामिल हैं।

- (a) 150
- (b) 151
- (c) 152
- (d) 153
- (e) 154

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

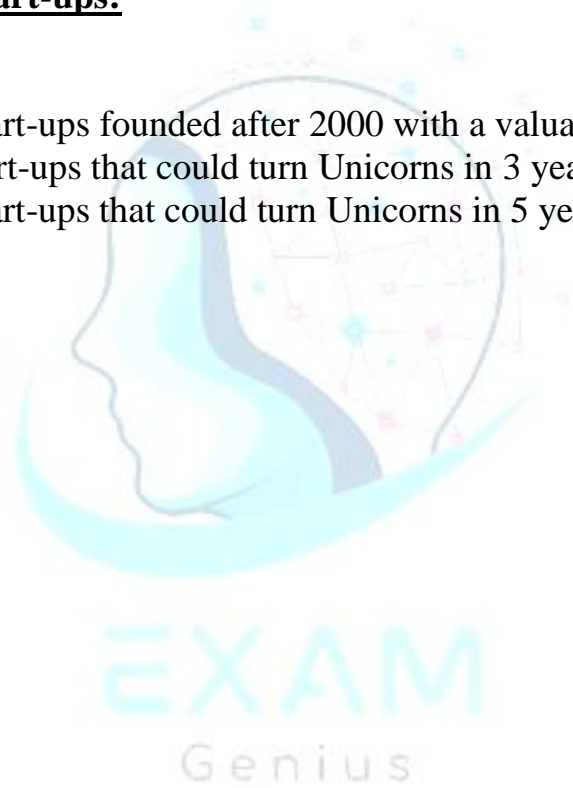
- The **2024 Index** includes **152 Indian future unicorns** from **31 cities**. Of the 152, 12 of these Gazelles and Cheetahs were found in 2020.
- **25 future Unicorns** (5 Gazelles and 20 Cheetahs) including Rapido, Koo, Dunzo, and Paper Boat, were **dropped from the list**
- **India** is **currently** home to **67 Unicorns, 46 Gazelles, and 106 Cheetahs** as against **68 Unicorns 51 Gazelles, and 96 Cheetahs** in the **2023 Index**.
- India's future unicorns are valued at USD 58 billion collectively, with an increase of 1.8%, compared to the 2023 index.
- 35 Indian future unicorns have overseas headquarters, with 31 in the United States of America (USA), 2 in Singapore, and 1 each in the United Kingdom (UK) and Vietnam.
- In the 2024 index, 20 women entrepreneurs from 19 companies have cofounded a total of 5 Gazelles and 14 Cheetahs.

Top 5 Indian Cities:

- 1 Bengaluru (Karnataka)
- 2 Delhi NCR
- 3 Mumbai (Maharashtra)
- 4 Chennai (Tamil Nadu)
- 5 Pune (Maharashtra)

Classification of Start-ups:

- Unicorns : Start-ups founded after 2000 with a valuation of USD 1 billion
- Gazelles : Start-ups that could turn Unicorns in 3 years
- Cheetahs : Start-ups that could turn Unicorns in 5 years



Ques : Who has launched the National STOP Diarrhoea Campaign 2024 in New Delhi?

नई दिल्ली में राष्ट्रीय डायरिया रोकथाम अभियान 2024 का शुभारंभ किसने किया है?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) JP Nadda / जेपी नड्डा
- (c) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
- (d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मू
- (e) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare Jagat Prakash Nadda** has **launched** the **National STOP Diarrhoea Campaign 2024** at a function in **New Delhi**.
- He **launched the campaign** by distributing **oral rehydration salts (ORS)** and **zinc tablets** to children in **presence** of **Minister of States for Health Anupriya Patel** and **Patraprao Jadhav**.
- The **two-month campaign** will begin from the 1st of July and continue till the 31st of August.
- The **goal behind the STOP Diarrhoea Campaign** is to **attain zero child deaths due to childhood diarrhoea**. While the existing diarrhoea strategy entailed a two-week campaign, the new strategy involved a two-month long campaign with the pre-positioning of two ORS packets and zinc as a co-packaging for under-5 children.

Ques : Who has launched “One Week One Theme” (OWOT) campaign showcasing recent success stories of India in different streams of science and technology?

विज्ञान और प्रौद्योगिकी के विभिन्न क्षेत्रों में भारत की हालिया सफलता की कहानियों को प्रदर्शित करने वाला “वन वीक वन थीम”(OWOT) अभियान किसने शुरू किया है?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Suresh Prabhu / सुरेश प्रभु
- (e) Amit Shah / अमित शाह

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- **Dr. Jitendra Singh** has launched “One Week One Theme” (OWOT) campaign showcasing recent success stories of India in different streams of science and technology.
- ‘One week One Theme’ is the brainchild of Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh. ‘OWOT’ is built on the legacy and success of the ‘One Week One Lab’ (OWOL) initiative started last year.
- OWOT program aims to promote their achievements and foster collaboration with industry to empower MSMEs, SHGs, Agripreneurs and Startups.
- He also shared that progress in the Deep-Sea mission, Aroma Mission, millet economy, Bio economy and Next generation technology will propel the Indian economy to grow faster and become 4th largest from 5th largest.

Ques : Who has been appointed as the next Vice Chief of Army Staff?

अगले उप सेना प्रमुख के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) R K Gupta / आर के गुप्ता
- (b) Kalikesh Singh Deo / कलिकेश सिंह देव
- (c) Raj Shukla / राज शुक्ला
- (d) NS Raja Subramani / एन एस राजा सुब्रमणि
- (e) Paritosh Tripathi / परितोष त्रिपाठी

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- **Lt Gen NS Raja Subramani** is set to be the **next Vice Chief of Army Staff** with the government clearing his appointment to the post.
- The officer, who is presently helming the Army's Central Command, will succeed Lt Gen Upendra Dwivedi.
- **Lt Gen Dwivedi**, currently serving as **the Vice Chief**, will be the **next Chief of the Army Staff** when incumbent **Gen Manoj Pande** retires on **June 30**.
- Lt Gen Subramani has a distinguished and illustrious military career spanning more than 37 years.
- Lt Gen Subramani has the distinction of commanding a battalion during 'Operation Rhino' in Assam, an infantry brigade along the International Boundary with Pakistan and a 'Black Cat' division in Northeast India.
- He also commanded Uttar Bharat Area in 2020 and the premier Kharga Corps at Ambala.

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Ques : International Day of the Seafarer is celebrated every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय नाविक दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 24 June
- (b) 23 June
- (c) 22 June
- (d) 25 June
- (e) 26 June

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- **International Day of the Seafarer** is celebrated every year on **25 June**.
- This special day was created by the International Maritime Organization (IMO) to recognize the **important role seafarers play in our daily lives and the global economy**.
- The Day of the Seafarer was **established** during an important **meeting in Manila in 2010**. At this meeting, countries **agreed** on **new standards for training seafarers** (called the STCW Convention).
- The resolution that created this day encourages everyone involved in shipping – from governments to companies – to promote the Day of the Seafarer and find meaningful ways to celebrate it.

Important days :

- 1 June : World Milk Day
- 3 June : World Clubfoot Day
- 3 June : World Bicycle Day
- 4 June : International Day of Innocent Children Victims of Aggression
- 5 June : World Environment Day (Theme 2024 – Land Restoration, Desertification, and Drought Resilience)

- 6 June : UN Russian Language Day
- 7 June : World Food Safety Day
- 8 June : World Oceans Day (Theme 2024 – Awaken New Depths)
- 8 June : World Brain Tumour Day (Theme 2024 – Brain Health and Prevention)
- 9 June : : World Accreditation Day (Theme 2024 – Accreditation: Empowering Tomorrow and Shaping the Future.)
- 11 June : International Day of Play
- 12 June : World Day Against Child Labour Day (Theme 2024 – Let's Act on Our Commitments: End Child Labour)
- 12 June : International Albinism Awareness Day (Theme 2024 – 10 years of IAAD: A decade of collective progress)
- 14 June : World Blood Donor Day (Theme 2024 – 20 years of celebrating giving: thank you blood donors)
- 15 June : Global Wind Day
- 16 June : The International Day of Family Remittances (IDFR) (Theme 2024 – Digital remittances towards financial inclusion and cost reduction.)
- 17 June : World Day to Combat Desertification and Drought (Theme 2024 – United for Land. Our Legacy. Our Future)
- 18 June : World Sustainable Gastronomy Day
- 18 June : International Day for Countering Hate Speech
- 19 June : World Sickle Cell Day (Theme 2024 – Hope Through Progress: Advancing Sickle Cell Care Globally.)
- 20 June – World Refugee Day
- 21 June : International Day of Yoga (Theme 2024 – Yoga for Self and Society)
- 21 June : World Hydrography Day (Theme 2024 – Hydrographic Information – Enhancing Safety, Efficiency and Sustainability in Marine Activities)
- 21 June : World Music Day
- 22 June : World Rainforest Day (Theme 2024 - Empowering the World in Defense of Our Rainforests)
- 23 June : International Olympic Day (Theme 2024 – Let's Move and Celebrate)
- 23 June : : United Nations Public Service Day
- 24 June : International Day of Women in Diplomacy (Theme 2024 – Women's Leadership in Multilateral Diplomacy)