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Current Affairs



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Ques : _____ Permits Resident Indians to Open Foreign Currency Accounts in Gujarat's International Financial Services Centre

_____ ने निवासी भारतीयों को गुजरात के अंतर्राष्ट्रीय वित्तीय सेवा केंद्र में विदेशी मुद्रा खाते खोलने की अनुमति दी

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

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) in a notification allowed resident individuals to open Foreign Currency Account (FCA) in International Financial Services Centres (IFSCs) at GIFT City in Gujarat under the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).

Previously, remittances under LRS to IFSCs were restricted to:

- Investments in securities issued by entities within IFSCs (excluding those by companies/ entities resident in India outside IFSC).
- Payment of fees for education at foreign universities or institutions located within IFSCs for specific courses.

Authorised Persons can now facilitate remittances for:

- All permissible purposes under LRS to IFSCs.
- Availing of financial services or products as per the International Financial Services Centres Authority Act, 2019 within IFSCs.

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- The directions have been issued under **sections 10(4) and 11(1) of the Foreign Exchange Management Act, 1999 (FEMA)**.

About LRS :

- The Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS) was introduced by the RBI in 2004 to simplify and streamline the process of remitting funds outside India.
- Designed to overcome international fund transfer restrictions set by the Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA), 1999.
- All resident individuals, including minors, can remit funds under LRS.
- Corporates, partnership firms, HUFs, trusts, etc., are excluded from the scheme.
- Individuals can remit up to USD 250,000 per financial year (April–March).
- Remittances can be made in any freely convertible foreign currency.
- There is no restriction on the frequency or number of transactions during a financial year.
- However, the total amount of foreign exchange remitted through all sources in India under LRS during the current FY should be within the LRS limit as specified by the RBI.
- Under the LRS scheme, you are liable to pay a 20% TCS(Tax Collected at Source) for remittances exceeding the limit of 7,00,000, except for education and medical reasons.

RBI in News :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed banks to use ratings by Brickwork Ratings India Private Limited for loans up to Rs.250 crore.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has cancelled the certificates of registration (CoR) of 2 Non Banking Finance Companies (NBFCs), Star Finserv India and Polytex India, due to irregular lending practices.
- According to the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI's) KLEMS [Capital (K), Labour (L), Energy (E), Material (M) and Services (S)] database, Employment growth rate rose to 6% in FY24 against 3.2% in FY23.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cancelled the licence of Banaras Merchantile Co-operative Bank Limited, Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh (UP) over inadequate capital and earnings prospects.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has appointed Arnab Kumar Chowdhury and Charulatha S. Kar as executive directors.
- RBI has joined Project Nexus, a multilateral initiative aimed at enabling instant cross-border retail payments by interlinking domestic Fast Payments Systems (FPSs).
- RBI Announces SAARC Currency Swap Framework For 2024-27. The total corpus of the Rupee support is Rs.250 billion.
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) Governor Shaktikanta Das has unveiled three major initiatives: the Pravaah portal, the Retail Direct Mobile App, and a FinTech Repository
- Reserve Bank of India (RBI) conducted two variable rate reverse repo (VRRR) auctions totaling Rs.44,430 crore, aiming to absorb surplus liquidity from the banking system.

Ques : _____ Subsidiary Launches Rs.750 Crore Agri Fund to Support Startups and Rural Enterprises

_____ ने स्टार्टअप और ग्रामीण उद्यमों को समर्थन देने के लिए Rs.750 करोड़ का कृषि फंड लॉन्च किया

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

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)** informed its arm that it has **launched** a **Rs 750-crore agri fund for startups and rural enterprises**.
- The fund called '**Agri-SURE**' is **announced** by **NABVENTURES**, a **subsidiary of NABARD**, with an initial corpus of Rs 750 crore with Rs 250 crore each from NABARD and the Ministry of Agriculture, and Rs 250 crore from other institutions.
- Aim of the fund is to promote investment in innovative, technology-driven, high-risk, and high-impact activities in agriculture and allied areas.
- Managed by NABVENTURES, a wholly-owned subsidiary of NABARD, the fund is structured to support **approximately 85 agri startups** with **investment sizes of up to Rs 25 crore each** by the end of its term.

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Focus Areas of Agri-SURE:

- Promoting innovative, technology-driven initiatives in agriculture.
- Enhancing the farm produce value chain.
- Creating new rural ecosystem linkages and infrastructure.
- Generating employment.
- Supporting Farmers Producer Organizations (FPOs).

About NABARD :

- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- Chairman: Shri Shaji K V

Establishment:

- Recommendation : B. Sivaraman Committee
- Act : Act 61, 1981 of Parliament
- Date : 12 July 1982
- Role : Apex regulatory body for regional rural banks and apex cooperative banks in India.
- Jurisdiction : Ministry of Finance (MoF), Government of India (GoI).

Ques : Jio Financial Services has received the nod from the ____ to convert into a Core Investment Company

जियो फाइनेंशियल सर्विसेज को _____ से कोर इन्वेस्टमेंट कंपनी में बदलने की मंजूरी मिल गई है

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

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- Jio Financial Services received approval from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to become a Core Investment Company (CIC) from a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC).
- Jio Financial Services applied to the RBI for conversion on November 21, 2023.
- The company can now emphasize core investments rather than other finance activities.

About core investment company (CIC) :

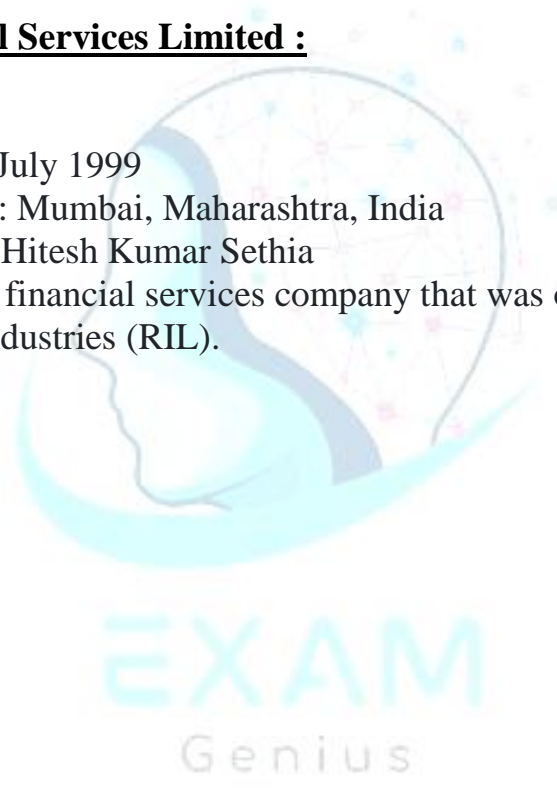
- A Core Investment Company (CIC) is a specialised NBFC with an asset size greater than Rs.100 crore.
- Based on the RBI circular from December 20, 2016, the primary function of a CIC is the acquisition of shares and securities.
- A CIC must hold at least 90% of its net assets in the form of investments in equity shares, preference shares, bonds, debentures, debt, or loans in group companies.
- All CICs with an asset size above Rs.100 crore are regulated by RBI laws.

What changes for Jio Financial Services?

- Jio Financial Services will now have more flexibility in its day-to-day operations.
- The company can now emphasize core investments rather than other finance activities.
- Jio Financial can diversify its investment portfolio to adapt to changing market conditions.

About Jio Financial Services Limited :

- Founded : 22 July 1999
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- MD & CEO : Hitesh Kumar Sethia
- It is an Indian financial services company that was originally a subsidiary of Reliance Industries (RIL).



Ques : Micro-finance Industry Network limiting indebtedness up to _____ per borrower

सूक्ष्म-वित्त उद्योग नेटवर्क ने प्रति उधारकर्ता की ऋणग्रस्तता को _____ तक सीमित कर दिया है

- (a) Rs 2 lakh
- (b) Rs 3 lakh
- (c) Rs 4 lakh
- (d) Rs 5 lakh
- (e) Rs 6 lakh

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- **Micro-finance Industry Network (MFIN)**, announced that **Micro-credit indebtedness per borrower** should be limited to **Rs 2 lakh**, while the number of lenders to a debtor should also be restricted to a **maximum of four**.
- **Nearly 80%** of micro-loans have durations of 18 months or more.
- A Rs 2 lakh limit would reduce the repayment burden on borrowers.
- The microfinance sector targets borrowers with annual incomes below Rs 3 lakh and is supported by favourable regulations.
- As of now, it has a gross loan portfolio of Rs 4.33 lakh crore, serving nearly 7.8 crore borrowers.

About MFIN :

- Founded : 2009
- Location : Gurgaon, Haryana, India
- Chairman : Manoj Kumar Nambiar
- CEO : Alok Misra

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Ques : Who has been appointed as the Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm Payments Bank?

पेटीएम पेमेंट्स बैंक के प्रबंध निदेशक (एमडी) और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Vishal Chadha / विशाल चड्ढा
- (b) Arun Bansal / अरुण बंसल
- (c) Gaurav Banerjee / गौरव बनर्जी
- (d) Rajnish Kumar / रजनीश कुमार
- (e) None of these / इनमें से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- Paytm Payments Bank, an associate entity of One97 Communications (OCL), which operates the Paytm brand, has appointed Arun Kumar Bansal as Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO).
- Bansal is a former IDBI Bank executive. He resigned from his position as the executive director and head of treasury (on contract) at IDBI Bank.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Ratan Kumar Kesh : interim MD and CEO of Bandhan Bank
- Siddhartha Mohanty : Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) has re-designated as managing director (MD) and chief executive officer (CEO).
- Charulatha S. Kar : Executive Directors of Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- Challa Sreenivasulu Setty : chairman of State Bank of India (SBI)
- Rushabh Gandhi : Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of IndiaFirst Life Insurance
- Naveen Chandra Jha : Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of SBI General Insurance Company Limited
- A Balasubramanian : reappointed as MD and CEO of Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management Company

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- Paul Thomas : Chairperson of the board of Sa-Dhan
- Anuj Tyagi : Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of HDFC ERGO General Insurance
- Girija Subramanian : chairman and managing director (CMD) of New India Assurance
- Rajeew 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

Ques : ixigo and _____ Unveil Travel Credit Card for RuPay Users.
इक्सिगो और _____ ने RuPay उपयोगकर्ताओं के लिए ट्रैवल क्रेडिट कार्ड का
अनावरण किया

- (a) AU Small Finance Bank Limited / एयू स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
- (b) Capital Small Finance Bank Limited / कैपिटल स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
- (c) Suryoday Small Finance Bank / सूर्योदय स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक लिमिटेड
- (d) Shivalik Small Finance Bank / शिवालिक स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक
- (e) Ujjivan Small Finance Bank / उज्जीवन स्मॉल फाइनेंस बैंक

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- **ixigo**, India's leading OTA for the next billion users and **AU Small Finance Bank**, the largest Small Finance Bank of India, announced the launch of the **RuPay variant for its premium co-branded ixigo-AU Small Finance Bank travel credit card**, enabling UPI-based payments and rewards.

Reward Points:

- 10 reward points for online UPI transactions.
- 5 reward points for offline UPI transactions.

Additional Benefits:

- Access to premium 24/7 concierge services.
- Comprehensive insurance cover of up to INR 2 Lakhs, including Personal Accident Insurance and Permanent Disability Cover.

Travel-Specific Benefits:

- 10% discount on flights, buses, and hotels.
- Zero payment gateway charges on train bookings via the ixigo app.

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Additional Benefits for RuPay Cardholders:

- 1000 reward points and Rs. 1000 ixigo money reward on completing the first transaction within 30 days.
- Fuel surcharge waiver of 1%.
- 10% reward points on train transactions.
- Zero forex markup fee on international spends.
- Complimentary access to 8 railway lounges and 8 airport lounges, plus 1 international lounge access per year.

About ixigo :

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

About AU Small Finance Bank Limited :

- Founded : 1996
- Headquarters : Jaipur, Rajasthan, India
- MD & CEO : Sanjay Agarwal

Ques : Gold accounted for _____ of the Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) reserves increase during the April-June quarter.

अप्रैल-जून तिमाही के दौरान भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक (आरबीआई) के भंडार में _____ की बढ़ोतरी सोने की हुई।

- (a) 57%
- (b) 65%
- (c) 69%
- (d) 63 %
- (e) 55%

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- **Gold** accounted for **69%** of the **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) reserves increase** during the **April-June quarter**.
- The increase was due to both gold purchases and valuation gains from a rise in gold prices.
- **RBI added \$5.6 billion** to its stock of reserves in the **June quarter**.
- Gold value in reserves **rose by \$3.8 billion**.
- **Foreign currency** assets **increased** by **\$1.9 billion** during the same period.
- As per the latest available data with the RBI the RBI bought around 9 tonnes of gold between end March and end May.
- As of June 28,2024 India's foreign currency reserves stand at **\$652 billion**.
- **RBI** is **one of the top three central banks** to **accumulate gold** in the **first quarter** of the calendar year.
- **Turkey and China's central bank** purchased more **gold than India** according to World Gold Council data.

Ques : Who has sanctioned seven new projects for the private sector under the Technology Development Fund scheme.

प्रौद्योगिकी विकास निधि योजना के तहत निजी क्षेत्र के लिए सात नई परियोजनाओं को किसने मंजूरी दी है?

- (a) ISRO
- (b) DRDO
- (c) HAL
- (d) NASA
- (e) None of these

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has sanctioned seven new projects for the private sector under the Technology Development Fund scheme.

About Technology Development Fund (TDF) Scheme:

- It has been established to promote self-reliance in Defence Technology as a part of the 'Make in India' initiative.
- It is a programme of the Ministry of Defence.
- This programme is executed by the DRDO to meet the requirements of the Tri-Services, Defence Production, and DRDO.

These Projects are :

1. Indigenous Scenario and Sensor Simulation Toolkit:

- Company: Oxygen 2 Innovation Pvt Ltd, Noida.
- Purpose: Simulator training for pilots, aiding in full mission planning and large-force engagement simulations.

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2. Underwater Launched Unmanned Aerial Vehicle:

- Company: Sagar Defence Engineering Pvt Ltd, Pune.
- Purpose: Versatile marine battlefield accessory for Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) and Maritime Domain Awareness (MDA).

3. Long-range Remotely Operated Vehicles:

- Company: IROV Technologies Pvt Limited, Kochi.
- Purpose: Enhance underwater object detection and neutralization capabilities while maintaining a safe distance from key assets.

4. Ice Detection Sensor for Aircraft:

- Company: Craftlogic Labs Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru.
- Purpose: Detect in-flight icing conditions to improve aviation safety.

5. Radar Signal Processor with Active Antenna Array Simulator:

- Company: Data Pattern (India) Limited, Chennai.
- Purpose: Deploy multiple target systems for testing short-range aerial weapon systems.

6. Indian Regional Navigation Satellite System-based Timing Acquisition and Dissemination System:

- Company: Accord Software and Systems Pvt Ltd, Bengaluru.
- Purpose: Indigenize timing systems using Indian satellite constellations.

7. Graphene-Based Smart and E-textiles:

- Company: Alohatech Private Limited, Coimbatore.
- Purpose: Develop multifunctional wearable applications using advanced materials.

About Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) :

- Founded : 1 January 1958
- Headquarters : New Delhi
- Motto : "Strength's Origin is in Knowledge"
- Chairman : Sameer V Kamat

Recent News related to DRDO :

- Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (MR-MOCR) developed by the Jodhpur Laboratory of the Research DRDO was formally handed over to the Indian Navy at a function held in New Delhi.
- DRDO successfully tested the next-generation Supersonic Missile-Assisted Release of Torpedo (SMART) system on 1 May 2024 from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.
- DRDO hands over nine defence tech projects to IIT-Bhubaneswar
- DRDO chairman Samir V Kamat gets one-year extension
- DRDO has taken up a preliminary study on the design and development of an indigenous conventional submarine under Project-76
- DRDO successfully tested the Indigenous Technology Cruise Missile (ITCM) from Chandipur, Odisha
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is reported to be testing a prototype of its DURGA-2 (Directionally Unrestricted Ray Gun Array) system.
- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) carried out successful trials of the ManPortable Anti-Tank Guided Missile (MPATGM) Weapon System at Pokhran Field Firing Range, Rajasthan.

Ques : Exercise Pitch Black 2024 Held in which country ?

अभ्यास पिच ब्लैक 2024 किस देश में आयोजित किया गया?

- (a) New Zealand / न्यूजीलैंड
- (b) Ireland / आयरलैंड
- (c) Australia / ऑस्ट्रेलिया
- (d) South Africa / दक्षिण अफ्रीका
- (e) None of these / इनमें से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent landed at the Royal Australian Air Force (RAAF) Base Darwin, Australia for participating in Exercise Pitch Black 2024.
- The exercise is scheduled to be conducted from 12 July 24 to 02 August 24 (3 Week), and is a biennial, multi- national exercise hosted by the RAAF.

About Exercise Pitch Black :

- The name 'Pitch Black' was derived from the emphasis on night time flying over large un-populated areas.
- Exercise Pitch Black, which includes participation by 20 countries, with over 140 aircraft and 4400 military personnel of various air forces.
- Participating aircraft include IAF's Su-30 MKI, alongside F-35, F-22, F-18, F-15, Gripen, and Typhoon fighter aircraft.
- IAF has previously participated in the **2018 (First time)** and **2022 editions** of Exercise Pitch Black.

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Recent Exercise :

- The Indian Army contingent departed for the 13th edition of IndiaThailand joint military Exercise MAITREE being conducted from the 1st to 15th of July at Fort Vachiraprakan in Tak Province of Thailand.
- Indian Air Force and Egyptian Air Force conducted 4 th edition of Exercise-HOPEX this year.
- The Indian Air Force's first multinational air exercise, Tarang Shakti2024, will be held in August.
- The 8th edition of the Japan-India Maritime Exercise (JIMEX-24) has started at Yokosuka, Japan. The JIMEX-24 exercise is being hosted by the Japan Maritime SelfDefence Force (JMSDF). The Japanese Navy is called the Japan Maritime Self-Defence Force.
- The second edition of India, Australia, Indonesia Trilateral Maritime Security Workshop (TMSW) was conducted at INS Dronacharya, Kochi, India.
- 7th edition of the India-France Joint Military Exercise "Shakti" is scheduled to commence from May 13, to 26, 2024 at the Joint Training Node, Umroi in Meghalaya.
- Indian Navy conducted Exercise Poorvi Lehar on East Coast
- Exercise DUSTLIK 5th edition : between India-Uzbekistan (Army) at Termez District, Uzbekistan
- Gagan Shakti : Indian Air Force Pokhran Field Firing Range, Jaisalmer district, Rajasthan
- Coastal Security Exercise 'Sagar Kavach' – Lakshadweep Islands
- 2nd edition of India-Mozambique-Tanzania Trilateral Exercise (IMT TRILAT 24) – Nacala, Mozambique.
- Exercise "TIGER TRIUMPH 2024" between India and USA – Eastern Seaboard
- 10th edition of Military Exercise LAMITIYE-2024 between India and Seychelles – Seychelles
- 5th edition of Military Exercise 'Dharama Guardian' between India and Japan – Mahajan Field Firing Ranges, Rajasthan
- 12th edition of MILAN Naval Exercise – Visakhapatnam

Ques : Gitanas Nauseda was sworn in as the President of which country for a second five-year term?

गीतानास नौसेदा ने दूसरे पांच साल के कार्यकाल के लिए किस देश के राष्ट्रपति के रूप में शपथ ली?

- (a) Kyrgyzstan / किर्गिस्तान
- (b) France / फ्रांस
- (c) Lithuania / लिथुआनिया
- (d) Luxenberg / लक्सेनबर्ग
- (e) None of these / इनमें से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- **Lithuanian President Gitanas Nauseda** was sworn in for a **second** five-year **term**.
- The ceremony commenced with a ceremonial event at the Lithuanian Parliament, the Seimas, where Mr. Nauseda took the presidential oath with his hand on the Constitution.
- On this occasion, the 60-year-old economist, Mr. Nauseda proposed **increasing Lithuania's defense budget** to four percent of GDP.
- This would allow Lithuania to fund long-range air defense, a missile shield for the Baltic Sea coast, and border fortifications.

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President :

- President of Iran : Masoud Pezeshkian
- Prime Minister of the United Kingdom : Keir Starmer
- Prime Minister of the Netherlands : Dick Schoof
- President of Slovakia : Peter Pellegrini
- President of South Africa : Cyril Ramaphosa
- First female President of Mexico : Claudia Sheinbaum
- President of Lithuania : Gitanas Nauseda
- President of Taiwan : Lai Ching-te
- Prime Minister of Singapore : Lawrence Wong
- President of the Russian Federation : Vladimir Putin
- President of Panama : Jose Raul Mulino
- Prime minister of Solomon Islands : Jeremiah Manele
- Pakistan's Deputy Prime Minister : Ishaq Dar
- Prime Minister of Bhutan (2nd term) : Tshering Tobgay
- Prime Minister of Yemen : Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak
- Prime Minister of Kazakhstan : Olzhas Bektenov
- Prime Minister of Tuvalu : Feleti Teo
- President of Slovakia - Peter Pellegrini
- President of Senegal – Bassirou Diomaye Faye
- Prime Minister of Portugal – Luis Montenegro
- President of Indonesia – Prabowo Subianto
- PM of Palestinian – Mohammad Mustafa
- President of Pakistan – Asif Ali Zardari (14th)
- Prime Minister of Pakistan – Shehbaz Sharif (2nd term)
- First female Prime Minister of Democratic Republic of Congo - Judith Suminwa Tuluka
- President of Finland - Alexander Stubb
- President of Hungary - Tamas Sulyok

Ques : Which of the following two states have emerged as the top performers in NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2023-24?

नीति आयोग के एसडीजी इंडिया इंडेक्स 2023-24 में निम्नलिखित में से कौन सा राज्य शीर्ष प्रदर्शन करने वाले राज्य के रूप में उभरा है

- (a) Uttarakhand and Kerala / उत्तराखंड और केरल
- (b) Punjab and Goa / पंजाब और गोवा
- (c) Uttarakhand and Odisha / उत्तराखंड और ओडिशा
- (d) Goa and Kerala / गोवा और केरल
- (e) Gujarat and Uttarakhand / गुजरात और उत्तराखंड

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- Uttarakhand and Kerala have emerged as the top performer states in NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 2023-24, which evaluates the progress of states and union territories on social, economic and environmental parameters.
- While Bihar has been adjudged as the worst performer.
- Among states, Uttarakhand and Kerala have emerged as joint top-performing states with a score of 79, followed by Tamil Nadu (78) and Goa (77).
- On the contrary, Bihar (57), Jharkhand (62) and Nagaland (63) were the worst performing states in this year's index.
- Among the union territories, Chandigarh, Jammu and Kashmir, Puducherry, Andaman & Nicobar Islands and Delhi were the top five performers.
- The index shows that out of the 16 goals, India's overall score is below 50 only on the 'Goal 5' (gender equality).
- The fourth edition of SDG India Index measured and tracked national progress of all states and UTs on 113 indicators.

Ques : Sabeera haris recently seen in News, belongs to which Sport?

हाल ही में समाचारों में देखी गई सबीरा हारिस किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Club throw
- (b) Wrestling
- (c) Shooting
- (d) Long jump
- (e) Boxing

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- In Shooting, India's Sabeera Haris has bagged the bronze medal in women's trap event at the International Shooting Sport Federation, ISSF Junior World Cup in Porpetto, Italy.
- Sabeera shot 29 out of 40 targets in the final.
- Carey Garrison of the US won the gold, shooting down 40 out of 50 targets. While Sofia Gori of Italy claimed the silver with 39 hits out of the full quota of 50 targets.
- In the junior women's trap event, another Indian, Bhavya Tripathi, concluded her campaign in 26th place with a score of 102, while compatriot Rajkuwar Ingle finished in 33rd position with 100 points.

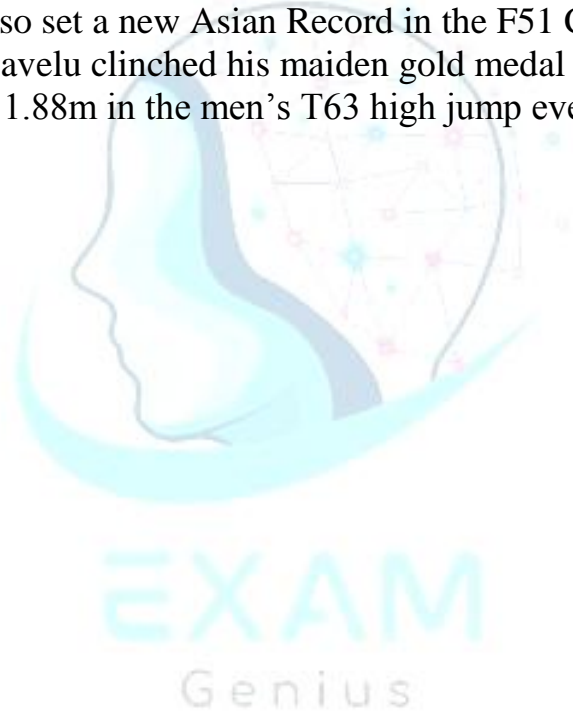
SPORTS NEWS :

- The Indian badminton players dominated the 3rd BWF Saint-Denis Reunion Open 2024 by winning both the men's and women's singles titles. Tharun Mannepilli of Telangana won the men's singles title by defeating Yudai Okimoto of Japan. Women's badminton single player Tasnim Mir of Gujarat defeated Rakshitha Sree of India
- The International Cricket Council (ICC) has revealed the winners of the ICC Player of the Month awards for June 2024 with India's Jasprit Bumrah and Smriti Mandhana both emerging victorious.

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) has named Gagan Narang as the Chef-de-Mission of the Indian contingent to compete in the Paris 2024 Olympic Games, starting on 26th July.
- India's Dhruv Sitwala has won the men's Asian Billiards Championships after defeating Pankaj Advani in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia
- In the lead-up to the Paris Olympics, India's two-time Olympian Vinesh Phogat won the gold medal in the women's 50 kg category in the Grand Prix of Spain international continental wrestling championship.
- The 133rd Durand Cup matches will be held in Kolkata, Kokrajhar (Assam), Jamshedpur (Jharkhand), and Shillong (Meghalaya). For the first time, Jamshedpur will host the Durand Cup matches.
- India emerged as the top-performing nation at the Under 23 Asian Wrestling Championship 2024 in Amman, Jordan. Indian wrestlers secured a total of eight medals in freestyle wrestling: four gold, two silver, and two bronze.
- India's Jyothi Yarraji has won gold medal in the Women's 100m Hurdles at the National Inter State Senior Athletics Championships in Panchkula. While in Men's 110m Hurdles, Tejas Shirse won the gold medal.
- Former world chess champion Viswanathan Anand of India has won the Leon Master chess championship for the 10th time.
- India concluded their campaign at the Under-17 Asian Wrestling Championships in Amman, Jordan, on a resounding note. The young Indian contingent clinched a total of 11 medals, including four gold, two silver, and five bronze medals.
- Sreeja Akula of Hyderabad became the first Indian table tennis player to win a WTT (World Table Tennis) Contender Women's single title.
- In the Archery World Cup Stage 3, Dhiraj Bommadevara won the bronze in the men's individual recurve event as well as in the mixed team event with Bhajan Kaur, in Antalya, Turkey
- Carlos Alcaraz clinched his first French Open title, making him the youngest male tennis player to win Grand Slam titles on all three surfaces: hard, grass, and clay
- The 48th edition of the Copa America football tournament kick off in the United States.
- India's highest-rated chess player GM Arjun Erigaisi continued his top run as he dominated the 10-player field to win the Stepan Avagyan Memorial 2024 in Jermuk, Armenia , with a round to spare.
- Olympic medalist Indian boxer Lovlina Borgohain secured a silver medal in the Grand Prix 2024 competition held in the Czech Republic.
- India opener Smriti Mandhana etched her name into the history book by becoming the second-highest run-scorer for the nation.

- In the women's category, Chamari Athapaththu of Sri Lanka has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for May 2024.
- Gudakesh Motie of the West Indies as the ICC Men's Player of the Month for May 2024.
- India will host next year's men's Junior Hockey World Cup, the Executive Board of the International Hockey Federation announced.
- In athletics, India's Gulveer Singh has clinched the silver medal in the Men's 5000-metre race at the Portland Track Festival HighPerformance Meet in Portland, US.
- Saurabh Sharma, an athlete from Himachal Pradesh's Hamirpur district, has won two gold medals in the ongoing World Para Athlete Grand Prix in the Nottwil city of Switzerland.
- Dutch-Belgian racing driver Max Verstappen of Red Bull has won the Canadian Grand Prix 2024. Verstappen's triumph at the Canadian Grand Prix 2024 marked his 60th Formula 1 win and his sixth victory in nine races this season.
- The Indian men's tennis player Sumit Nagpal won the men's singles title at the Heilbronn Neckarcup 2024 ATP Challenger Tennis tournament in Germany.
- Indian shooter Sarabjot Singh won the gold medal in the men's 10m air pistol event at the ISSF World Cup 2024 in Munich, Germany.
- DP Manu from India won the gold medal in Javelin throw at the Taiwan Athletics Open 2024, achieving a distance of 81.58 meters.
- In the Taiwan Athletics Open 2024, the Indian contingent concluded the campaign with a remarkable medal haul, bagging seven medals including three golds, three silvers and one bronze medal.
- Muhammad Waseem, the UAE captain and opener, has been named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for his notable run-scoring feats.
- West Indies's Captain Hayley Matthews has been named the ICC Women's Player of the Month for her exceptional all-round performances.
- In Arm Wrestling, the Indian contingent has clinched a total of seven medals including one gold and six bronze at the Asian Championship, 2024 in Tashkent, Uzbekistan.
- Cricket Australia on Wednesday named former Pakistan and Indian stars Wasim Akram and Ravi Shastri among the 54 representatives of its 'Multicultural Ambassadors Program'.
- Classic Football Academy retained the All-India Football Federation Under 17 Elite Youth League 2023-24 Title beating Sudeva Delhi FC 2-1 at the Nagoa Panchayat Ground, Goa.

- Charles Leclerc becoming the first Monegasque driver to win the Monaco Grand Prix since Louis Chiron in 1931.
- Kolkata Knight Riders (KKR) cricket team won their third Indian Premier League (IPL) title by beating Sunriser Hyderabad (SRH) in the final of the 17th IPL.
- Dipa Karmakar of Agartala, Tripura scripted her name in the history books after she clinched India's first-ever gold medal at the Asian Championships.
- Indian weightlifter Preetismita Bhoi smashed the youth clean and jerk world record in the women's 40kg category to win a gold medal at the IWF World Youth Championships here.
- In Para Athletics, India's Sachin Sarjerao Khilari clinched the gold medal in the men's shot put at the World Para Athletics Championship in Kobe, Japan.
- Another Indian, Dharambir bagged the Bronze Medal in the Men's Club Throw. His final throw distance of 33.31 metres not only secured him the Bronze Medal but also set a new Asian Record in the F51 Category.
- Mariyappan Thangavelu clinched his maiden gold medal at the World Para Athletics by leaping 1.88m in the men's T63 high jump event.



Ques : Which state's governments has launched IT Saksham Yuva Scheme 2024?

किस राज्य की सरकारों ने आईटी सक्षम युवा योजना 2024 शुरू की है?

- (a) New Delhi / नई दिल्ली
- (b) Mumbai / मुंबई
- (c) Hyderabad / हैदराबाद
- (d) Haryana / हरियाणा
- (e) None of these / इनमें से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The **Haryana** Cabinet gave nod to **launch** the **IT Saksham Yuva Scheme 2024**, the **target** of which is to **give jobs to 5,000 youths** in the **first phase**.
- The scheme has been designed in accordance with the 'Mission 60,000' announced while presenting the 2024-25 budget proposals aiming to give employment to at least 60,000 young individuals from poor families.
- Under this scheme, employment will be provided to the youths who are graduate or postgraduate applicants from IT backgrounds.
- The aspirants will have to undertake the Haryana IT programme (specially designed short-term courses) for minimum three months after which they will be deployed in various departments, boards, corporations, districts, registered societies, etc., in Haryana or private entities.

About Haryana :

- Capital – Chandigarh
- Chief Minister – Nayab Singh Saini (replace Manohar Lal Khattar)
- Governor – Bandaru Dattatreya

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Ques : World Youth Skill Day is celebrated every year on which day?

विश्व युवा कौशल दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 14 July
- (b) 15 July
- (c) 16 July
- (d) 17 July
- (e) 13 July

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

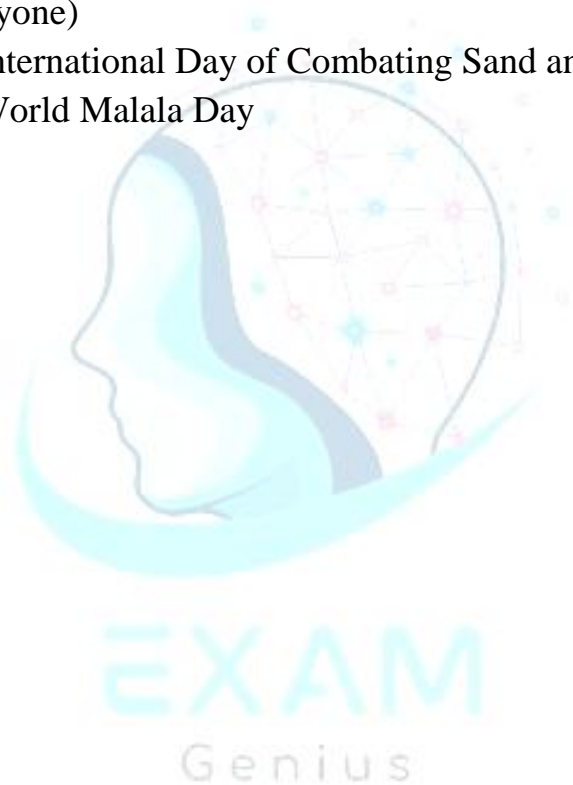
- World Youth Skill Day is celebrated every year on July 15.
- This day recognises the importance of youth skills development to address the global challenges of unemployment and underemployment.
- Theme 2024 – Youth Skills for Peace and Development
- The United Nations General Assembly declared July 15th as World Youth Skill Day in December 2014.

Important days :

- 1 July : National Doctor's Day (Theme 2024 – Healing Hands, Caring Hearts.)
- 1 July : Chartered Accountants Day (CA Day)
- 1 July : National Postal Worker Day
- 2 July : World Sports Journalist Day
- 2 July : World UFO Day

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- 3 July : International Plastic Bag Free Day
- 3 July : Disobedience Day
- 5 July : Pet Remembrance Day
- 6 July : World Zoonoses Day (Theme 2024 – One World, One Health: Prevent Zoonoses)
- 10 July : Chronic Disease Awareness Day
- 10 July : Global Energy Independence Day
- 10 July : National Fish Farmer's Day
- 11 July : World Population Day (Theme 2024 – Leave no one behind, count everyone)
- 12 July : International Day of Combating Sand and Dust Storms
- 12 July : World Malala Day



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Static Banking Awareness Terms Recently in News :

1. Negotiable Instrument Act, 1881

- These are written documents.
- Transferable from one person to another merely by delivery in case of “bearer instrument” and transferable by endorsement in case of “order instrument”.
- The owner is the “bonafide holder for value”.

2. Bill of Exchange

- It must be in writing and duly signed by its drawer.
- It should contain an order to pay.
- The parties to the transaction must be certain.
- A bill of exchange is used in transactions pertaining to goods as well as services. It is signed by a party who owes money (called the payer) and given to a party entitled to receive money (called the payee or seller), and thus, this could be used for fulfilling the contract for payment.

3. Promissory Note

- A promissory note is an unconditional commitment made in writing and signed by a debtor to make payment to a specified person or to the order within a specified period.
- It is always in writing. No verbal promise is accepted.
- It is drawn for specified duration for specified sum of money.

IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

- The **Ministry of Ports, Shipping, and Waterways (MoPSW)** has **approved** a research **proposal** on Valorization of Dredged Sediments. The project, sanctioned at an **estimated cost of Rs. 46,47,380** will be implemented over a duration of three years by the **Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay)**.
- **Shashi Kataria** has been **appointed** as **Chief Financial Officer**, Operations Head and Executive Director of **Quant Money Managers** in place of Harshal Patel, who has resigned due to personal reasons.
- **Sunita Gupta**, currently GM in Oriental Insurance Company Ltd (OICL), has been **appointed** as **Executive Director** in **United India Insurance Company Ltd (UIICL)**.
- The **7th India-Japan Medical Product Regulatory Symposium**, organized by the Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO) under the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India, was successfully **held at the FICCI Convention Hall**.
- The **Patriot (MIM-104)**, which stands for Phased Array Tracking Radar for Intercept on Target, is an allaltitude, all-weather surface-to-air missile defense system to counter tactical ballistic missiles, cruise missiles, and advanced aircraft. It was **developed by United States of America**.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has commissioned a Bengaluru-based firm to indigenously develop a receiver chip to acquire and disseminate Indian time for Navigation with **Indian Constellation (NavIC)** developed by **ISRO**.