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Current Affairs



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Ques : _____ Reports Rs 3.4 Lakh Crore Increase in Home Loan Outstanding Over 12 Months

_____ ने 12 महीनों में गृह ऋण बकाया में 3.4 लाख करोड़ रुपये की वृद्धि की रिपोर्ट दी है

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

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Housing loan** outstanding expanded at a **faster pace** even as the growth in the personal loan segment decelerated on a year-on-year basis in May 2024.
- Housing loan outstanding grew by 16.9% (Rs 3.40 lakh crore) to Rs 23.49 lakh crore in May 2024, compared to 13.8% (Rs 20.09 lakh crore) in May 2023.
- Growth in personal loans slowed to 17.8% (y-o-y) in May 2024 from 19.1% in May 2023, mainly due to decelerated growth in other personal loans.
- On a year-on-year (y-o-y) basis, non-food bank credit registered a growth of **16.2% to Rs 162.30 lakh crore** in May 2024 as compared with 15.5% a year ago.
- **Credit to large industries** grew by 7.1% (Rs 26.53 lakh crore) in May 2024 from 4.6% (Rs 24.77 lakh crore) in May 2023.

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- Credit to medium industries grew by 15.5% (Rs 3.13 lakh crore) in May 2024, up from 11% in May 2023.
- Credit to micro and small industries grew by 15.5% (Rs 7.36 lakh crore) in May 2024 from 9.9% (Rs 6.37 lakh crore) in May 2023.
- Credit growth to agriculture and allied activities accelerated to 21.6% (y-o-y) to Rs 21.39 lakh crore in May 2024, from 16.0% in May 2023.
- Credit growth to the services sector was robust at 20.7% (y-o-y) in May 2024, supported by commercial real estate, transport operators, and professional services.
- Credit growth to non-banking financial companies (NBFCs) decelerated in May 2024 compared to May 2023.
- In November 2023, the RBI increased the risk weight on banks' exposure to consumer credit, credit card receivables, and NBFCs by 25% up to 150% to address risk build-up in these segments.

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 Imposes Rs 29.60 lakh Penalty on HSBC for Card Rule Violations ?

कार्ड नियम के उल्लंघन के लिए HSBC पर 29.60 लाख रुपये का जुर्माना कौन लगाता है?

- (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)** imposed a monetary penalty of **Rs. 29.60 lakh** on The **Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation Limited (HSBC)** for non-compliance with specific RBI directions.
- HSBC did not ensure proper calculation methods to prevent negative amortisation while computing the **Minimum Payment Due in certain credit card accounts**.
- The penalty was imposed under **Section 47A(1)(c)** read with Section 46(4)(i) of the Banking Regulation Act, 1949.

What is Minimum Payment Due?

- The Minimum Payment Due (MPD) is the least amount that must be paid on a credit card bill each month to avoid late fees and penalties.
- Typically, it is a percentage of the total outstanding balance on the credit card.

About HSBC :

- Founded: 3 March 1865
- Headquarters: London, United Kingdom

Ques : _____ Increases Basic Demat Account Limit to Rs 10 Lakh to Encourage Participation

_____ ने भागीदारी को प्रोत्साहित करने के लिए बेसिक डीमैट खाते की सीमा बढ़ाकर 10 लाख रुपये कर दी है

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

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) increased the threshold for the Basic Services Demat Account (BSDA) to Rs 10 lakhs from the current Rs 2 lakhs to boost participation of small investors in the securities market.
- The new guidelines will come into force from September 1, 2024.
- **Objective :** To encourage small investors to trade in the stock market and ensure their financial inclusion.

What is meant by BSDA?

- A basic service demat account, or BSDA, is a more basic version of a regular demat account.
- The facility was introduced by markets regulator Sebi in 2012 to reduce the burden of demat charges on investors with small portfolios.

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Eligibility Criteria :

- The investor must have only one demat account as the sole or first holder.
- The investor must have only one BSDA across all depositories.
- The value of securities in the BSDA must not exceed Rs 10 lakh for debt and non-debt securities combined.
- Previously, an individual could hold up to Rs 2 lakh in debt securities and Rs 2 lakh in other securities to be eligible for a BSDA.
- No annual maintenance charge for portfolio values up to Rs 4 lakh.
- Rs 100 annual maintenance charge for portfolio values above Rs 4 lakh and up to Rs 10 lakh.
- If the portfolio value exceeds Rs 10 lakh, the BSDA will automatically be converted into a regular demat account.
- Electronic statements will be provided free of cost.
- Physical statements can be charged at Rs 25 per statement.
- As per the circular, Depository Participants (DPs) will open only BSDAs for eligible accounts unless the account holder opts for a regular demat account via email.
- DPs must review and convert existing eligible demat accounts to BSDA within two months unless the account holder opts to keep their regular demat account via email.

About SEBI :

- Established : 12 April 1988 as an executive body and was given statutory powers on 30 January 1992 through the SEBI Act, 1992
- Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- Chairman : Madhabi Puri Buch (first woman to lead the SEBI)
- SEBI is the regulatory body for securities and commodity markets in India under the ownership of the Ministry of Finance (MoF), GoI.

Ques : _____ Sanctions \$1.5 Billion Loan for India's Green Hydrogen Initiative

_____ भारत की हरित हाइड्रोजन पहल के लिए \$1.5 बिलियन का ऋण स्वीकृत

- (a) International Monetary Fund
- (b) Asian Development Bank
- (c) New Development Bank
- (d) African Development Bank
- (e) World Bank

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- The **World Bank** has approved a **\$1.5-billion loan** to help India accelerate its low-carbon energy development.
- The funds will be used to promote a market for green hydrogen, electrolyzers, and increased renewable energy penetration.
- This is the **second round of funding from the World Bank towards India's green energy initiatives**, following the **\$1.5 billion First Low-Carbon Energy Programmatic Development Policy Operation in June 2023**.
- The Second Low-Carbon Energy Programmatic Development Policy Operation will support reforms to boost green hydrogen production and electrolyzers.

The expected outcomes include:

- Production of at least 450,000 metric tons of green hydrogen annually from FY 25/26 onwards.
- Installation of 1,500 MW of electrolyzers per year.
- Significant increase in renewable energy capacity.
- Reduction of emissions by 50 million tons per year.

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This operation aligns with India's energy transition goals, including:

- Achieving 500 GW of installed renewable energy capacity by 2030.
- Reaching net zero emissions by 2070.
- Launch of the Rs.17,000-crore National Green Hydrogen Mission to promote electrolyser and green hydrogen manufacturing.

The financing for this operation includes:

- \$1.46 billion loan from the International Bank for Reconstruction and Development (IBRD).
- \$31.5 million credit from the International Development Association (IDA).

About World Bank :

- Established : July 7, 1944
- Headquarters : Washington, D.C., United States
- President : Ajay Banga
- The World Bank is an international financial institution that provides loans and grants to the governments of low- and middle-income countries for the purpose of pursuing capital projects.

Ques : Who Launches New UPI App 'Super.Money App' To Offer Financial Services ?

वित्तीय सेवाएं प्रदान करने के लिए नया UPI ऐप 'सुपर.मनी ऐप' किसने लॉन्च किया?

- (a) Amazon
- (b) Flipkart
- (c) Jio mart
- (d) Snapdeal
- (e) Myntra

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- E-commerce platform, **Flipkart** has **launched** a **Unified Payments Interface (UPI) app 'Super.Money'** to offer payments, credit, deposits and other digital financial services.
- As part of the beta version, the **app** will be available for the **first 1 Lakh users and its logo features a QR code and 5% cashback** on various transactions including food and travel.
- The app is now available in **partnership with Axis Bank Limited**, and it offers credit through **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (USBL)**.

Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has launched an exclusive 2-hour window called 'Finquiry' for fintechs to visit the FinTech department of the RBI in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- 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.
- HDFC Bank has launched a new digital investment platform to take wealth services to every Indian and make investments simple and transparent.

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- 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.

Ques : Which of the following has retained its position as India's most valuable brand with a value of \$28.6 billion in 2024, reflecting a 9 per cent increase from last year?

निम्न में से किसने 2024 में 28.6 बिलियन डॉलर के मूल्य के साथ भारत के सबसे मूल्यवान ब्रांड के रूप में अपना स्थान बरकरार रखा है ?

- (a) Tata Group / टाटा समूह
- (b) Reliance Group / रिलायंस समूह
- (c) Adani Group / अडानी समूह
- (d) Mahindra Group / महिंद्रा समूह
- (e) SBI / एसबीआई

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- **India 100 2024:** The annual report on the most valuable and strongest Indian brands June 2024 **Published by Brand Finance.**
- **Tata Group** has **retained** its position as **India's most valuable brand** with a value of **\$28.6 billion**, reflecting a **9 per cent increase from last year.**
- Brand Finance's report highlighted **that Tata Group** marks the **first time** an **Indian brand** is **nearing the \$30 billion mark.**
- Meanwhile, HDFC was propelled to the third position driven by its monumental merger with HDFC Ltd. This merger has bolstered HDFC Group's brand value, reflecting a strong presence in the financial sector.
- Taj, valued at \$545 million, maintains its position as India's strongest brand with an impressive Brand Strength Index (BSI) score of 92.9 out of 100 and a prestigious AAA+ rating for brand strength.

Ranking of Top 5 Most Valuable Indian Brands – 2024:

- 1 Tata Group - 28.6 USD billion
- 2 Infosys - 14.2 USD billion
- 3 HDFC Group - 10.4 USD billion
- 4 Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) - 10.1 USD billion
- 5 Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) - 8.4USD billion

Most Valuable Indian Brands in 2024 (Various Sectors):

- Most Valuable Food and Drink Sector : Amul
 - Most Valuable Building Materials Sector : Ultratech Cement
 - Most Valuable Manufacturing and Engineering Sector : Larsen & Toubro (L&T)
 - Most Valuable Hotel Sector : Taj Hotels
 - Most Valuable Insurance Sector : LIC
 - Most Valuable Oil & Gas Sector : Indian Oil Corporation Ltd (IOCL)
 - Most Valuable Tyre Brands : MRF Tyres
-

India's Rankings in Different Indices:

- Largest Domestic Airline Markets : India (3rd), United States (topped)
- 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)
- 2024 Hurun Global Rich List : Mukesh Ambani (10th), Elon Musk(1st)
- DHL Global Connectedness Report 2024 : India's rank (62), Singapore (1st)
- World Happiness Report 2024 : India (126), Finland (1st)
- 6th World Air Quality Report 2023 : India (3rd), Bangladesh (1st)
- Brand Finance Insurance 100 2024 : Life Insurance Corporation of India (1st)
- Business Environment Rankings (BER) 2024 : India (51), Singapore (1st)

Ques : Which city topped the Global Liveability Index 2024 ?

ग्लोबल लिवेबिलिटी इंडेक्स 2024 में कौन सा शहर शीर्ष पर है?

- (a) Vienna / वियना
- (b) Copenhagen / कोपेनहेगन
- (c) Zurich / ज्यूरिख
- (d) Melbourne / मेलबर्न
- (e) Calgary / कैलगरी

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- **Global Liveability Index 2024** Published by **Economist Intelligence Unit (EIU)**.
- **Vienna, the capital of Austria, has topped** the index as **the most liveable city for the third consecutive year**.
- **Denmark's Copenhagen** maintained its **second position**, while Switzerland's Zurich moved up from 6th place (2023) to 3rd on the 2024 list.

List of Top 5 WORLD'S MOST LIVEABLE CITIES :

- 1 Vienna (Austria)
- 2 Copenhagen (Denmark)
- 3 Zurich (Switzerland)
- 4 Melbourne (Australia)
- 5 Calgary (Canada)

List of Top 5 WORLD'S LEAST LIVEABLE CITIES

- 173 Damascus (Syria)
- 172 Tripoli (Lebanon)
- 171 Algiers (Algeria)
- 170 Lagos (Nigeria)
- 169 Karachi (Pakistan)
- 168 Dhaka (Bangladesh)

Ques : Which ministry has initiated a nationwide campaign focused on Tobacco Free Educational Institutions (ToFEI)?

किस मंत्रालय ने तंबाकू मुक्त शैक्षणिक संस्थानों (ToFEI) पर केंद्रित एक राष्ट्रव्यापी अभियान शुरू किया है?

- (a) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare / स्वास्थ्य और परिवार कल्याण मंत्रालय
- (b) Ministry of Environment and Forests / पर्यावरण और वन मंत्रालय
- (c) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs / आवास और शहरी मामलों के मंत्रालय
- (d) Ministry of Education / शिक्षा मंत्रालय
- (e) Ministry of Jal Shakti (Water) / जल शक्ति मंत्रालय (जल)

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The **Ministry of Education (MoE)** under the **National Tobacco Control Programme (NTCP)** has **initiated** a nationwide **campaign** focused on **Tobacco Free Educational Institutions (ToFEI)**.
- Department of School Education & Literacy, Ministry of Education has developed a **“ToFEI Implementation Manual”** for schools and **launched it on World No Tobacco Day (WNTD)** which was observed on 31st May, 2024.
- The **objective** is to make educational institutions across the nation comply with the ToFEI guidelines and become **#Tobacco Free Area**.
- The initiative outlines several key measures to be implemented in schools nationwide, including the display of “Tobacco Free Area” signage within school premises, prohibiting evidence of tobacco use on campus, organizing regular tobacco control activities, and nominating “Tobacco Monitors” among staff.

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Ques : Who has been appointed as the new Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of SBI General Insurance Company Limited?

एसबीआई जनरल इंश्योरेंस कंपनी लिमिटेड के नए प्रबंध निदेशक और मुख्य कार्यकारी अधिकारी (एमडी और सीईओ) के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Rajnish Kumar / रजनीश कुमार
- (b) Joshit Ranjan Sikidar / जोशित रंजन सिकिदार
- (c) Rajeev Agarwal / राजीव अग्रवाल
- (d) Tablesh Pandey / तबलेश पांडे
- (e) Naveen Chandra Jha / नवीन चंद्र झा

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **Naveen Chandra Jha** has been **appointed** as the new **Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO)** of **SBI General Insurance Company Limited**.
- He **succeeds** Kishore Kumar Poludasu.
- Jha has been associated with the State Bank of India since 1994 and has held several key positions during his tenure.
- Prior to his current role at SBI General Insurance, Jha served as Deputy Managing Director of SBI.

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- A Balasubramanian : reappointed as MD and CEO of Aditya Birla Sun Life Asset Management Company
- 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

- 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

Ques : Indian Air Force and Egyptian Air Force conducted which edition of Exercise-HOPEX ?

भारतीय वायु सेना और मिस्र वायु सेना ने अभ्यास-HOPEX का कौन सा संस्करण आयोजित किया?

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

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- **Indian Air Force and Egyptian Air Force** conducted **4th edition** of **Exercise-HOPEX** this year .
 - This **joint military exercise aimed** to enhance bilateral defense cooperation and promote interoperability between the two air forces.
 - During the weeklong exercise, **IAF's Rafale fighter jets, C-17 Globemaster transport aircraft, and IL-78 tankers** participated.
 - The activities included simulated combat scenarios, air-to-air refueling, and tactical maneuvers.
 - The exercise symbolized the strong historical ties between **India and Egypt** and reinforced their commitment to regional security and cooperation.
-

Recent Exercise :

- 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 Self Defence 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 : Who will represent India at the annual summit of the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) in Astana in July 2024?
जुलाई 2024 में अस्ताना में शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) के वार्षिक शिखर सम्मेलन में भारत का प्रतिनिधित्व कौन करेगा?

- (a) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी
- (b) Rajnath Singh / राजनाथ सिंह
- (c) Amit Shah / अमित शाह
- (d) Ajit Doval / अजीत डोभाल
- (e) S Jaishankar / एस जयशंकर

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar** will represent India at the annual summit of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO)** in **Astana**.
- The **SCO** summit **to be held on July 3 and 4** is expected to focus on the regional security situation and ways to boost connectivity and trade.
- The SCO, comprising **India, China, Russia, Pakistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan** is an influential economic and security bloc that has emerged as one of the largest transregional international organisations.
- India's association with the SCO began in 2005 as an observer country. It became a full member state of the SCO at the Astana summit in 2017.
- The SCO was founded at a summit in Shanghai in 2001 by the presidents of Russia, China, the Kyrgyz Republic, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan. Pakistan became its permanent member along with India in 2017.

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Ques : Where is the headquarters of FATF ?

FATF का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

- (a) Nyon, Switzerland / न्योन, स्विट्जरलैंड
- (b) Berlin, Germany / बर्लिन, जर्मनी
- (c) Paris, France / पेरिस, फ्रांस
- (d) Sofia, Bulgaria / सोफिया, बुल्गारिया
- (e) Vienna, Austria / वियना, ऑस्ट्रिया

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

About Financial Action Task Force (FATF) :

- Founded – 1989
- Headquarters – Paris, France
- Membership – 39
- President – T Raja Kumar (Singapore)

Recently in News :

- Turkey has been removed from the Financial Action Task Force (FATF) ‘grey list’ after recent evaluations of the country’s progress on money laundering and terrorist financing.
- Turkey was placed on the FATF grey list in 2021 due to concerns about money laundering and terrorist financing in the country.
- Turkey has made “significant progress” in improving its regime of anti-money laundering and combating the financing of terrorism.
- The move comes at a crucial time as Turkey battles soaring inflation and a cost-of-living crisis. Improved international standing could facilitate better economic conditions and investor relations.

Ques : Who has been awarded the 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman at a Hindi Samvad event organized by the Embassy of India in Nepal?
नेपाल में भारतीय दूतावास द्वारा आयोजित हिंदी संवाद कार्यक्रम में 12वें विश्व हिंदी सम्मान से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है?

- (a) Deepak Shenoy / दीपक शेनॉय
- (b) Neeli Bendapudi / नीली बेंदापुडी
- (c) Usha Thakur / उषा ठाकुर
- (d) Shanti Lakra / शांति लकड़ा
- (e) Deepika Misra / दीपिका मिश्रा

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- **Dr. Usha Thakur** was awarded the **12th Vishwa Hindi Samman (World Hindi Conference)** at a Hindi Samvad event organized by the Embassy of India in Nepal.
- This prestigious award recognizes her outstanding contributions to Hindi literature and her efforts in **strengthening the bonds between Hindi and Nepali languages**.
- This event took place at **Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu**, creating a fitting academic backdrop for this literary honour.
- 12th World Hindi Conference was held in Fiji in 2023. As Dr Thakur could not attend the event in Fiji, she was given the award in an event organised in Tribhuvan University in Kathmandu.

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About Nepal:

- Capital: Kathmandu
 - Prime Minister: Pushpa Kamal Dahal
 - President: Ram Chandra Paudel
 - Currency: Nepalese Rupee
-

Recent Awards & Winners :

- 2024 Commonwealth Short Story Prize : Sanjana Thakur for her story “Aishwarya Rai”
- Pen Pinter Prize 2024 : Arundhati Roy
- Karnataka Vikas Grameena Bank (KVGB), sponsored by Canara Bank, has received the national award for significant enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) by the Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA).
- ‘Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award’ : Vinod Ganatra
- Limca Book of Records : Indian Railways for organizing the largest public service event
- V. Shantaram, Lifetime Achievement Award 2024 : Subbiah Nallamuthu
- “Risk Manager of the Year Award 2024” : Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- 2024 Databricks Retail and CPG Partner of the Year : Tredence
- Annual Hindi Sahitya Bharati Award : Krishna Prakash
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has been awarded the 'Best Conduct of Business Regulator' in the Asia Pacific region by The Asian Banker.
- UN’s WSIS 2024 “Champion” Award : Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT)
- Dilip Bose award for lifetime achievement : coach Nar Singh
- Gudleppa Hallikeri Award for 2024 : Siddhalinga Pattanashetti
- Corporate Social Responsibility award in the Non-Fossil Fuel (NF) business category : Power Finance Corporation Limited (PFC)
- United Nations Military Gender Advocate of the Year for 2023 : Major Radhika Sen
- ‘The Economic Times HR World Future Ready Organization Award 2024-25’ : NHPC, India’s premier hydropower company

- Grand Prix Award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival : Indian filmmaker Payal Kapadia
- Best Actress award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival : Anasuya Sengupta (Indian)
- La Cinef Award for Best Short Film at the 77th Cannes Film Festival : Chidanand Naik's film 'Sunflowers Were the First to Know'
- Amal Clooney Women's Empowerment Award : Arti 18-year-old, E-rickshaw driver
- Shaw Prize in Astronomy for 2024 : Srinivas R. Kulkarni (Indian-origin U.S. scientist)
- International Booker Prize for fiction : German author Jenny Erpenbeck and translator Michael Hofmann for "Kairos"
- ATD BEST Award 2024 : NTPC third rank globally
- Global Pride of Sindhi Award 2024 : Pawan Sindhi
- Gold in the 'Best Product Iteration' category at the INMA Awards 2024 : OTTplay
- 'Best Employer' 2023 by Kincentric for the fourth consecutive year : DBS bank
- Title of Best Trading Platform in India : QuantPower
- 2024 Guillermo Cano World Press Prize : Palestinian journalists
- Oxford Bookstore Book Cover Prize : Bhavi Mehta
- Purnima Devi Barman : Whitley Gold Award, also known as the Green Oscar
- Vaishali Ramesh Babu : title of Grandmaster by FIDE, the International Chess Federation
- Lacchu Maharaj Award : Hema Malini and Saira Banu with 8 others
- 2024 Goldman Prize : Alok Shukla
- Winner for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) at the 2024 Cambridge Dedicated Teacher Awards : Sharjah Girls Branch teacher Gina Justus
- Alejandra Rodriguez (aged 60) : Miss Universe Buenos Aires 2024
- Open Challenger Squash title : Velavan Senthilkumar
- International News Media Association (INMA)'s 2024 Global Media Award : India Today Group's AI news anchor, Sana
- Lata Deenanath Mangeshkar Award : Randeep Hooda
- Outstanding Public Sector Undertaking (PSU) of the Year award : Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- IBSi Digital Banking Awards 2024 : Clayfin Technologies & Jana Bank
- Aryabhatta Award : Pavuluri Subba Rao
- Global Energy Transition Impact Award : Dr Sultan Ahmed Al-Jaber
- CIDC Vishwakarma Award for Social Development and Impact : Puravankara Limited

Ques : In a first for the Indian Railways, the Central Railway (CR) has installed a floating solar power plant of 10MWp capacity in the Igatpuri Lake. Igatpuri Lake is located in which state?

भारतीय रेलवे में पहली बार सेंट्रल रेलवे (CR) ने इगतपुरी झील में 10MWp क्षमता का फ्लोटिंग सोलर पावर प्लांट लगाया है। इगतपुरी झील किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- (a) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (b) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (c) Odisha / ओडिशा
- (d) Andhra Pradesh / आंध्र प्रदेश
- (e) Kerala / केरल

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- In a **first for the Indian Railways**, the Central Railway (CR) has installed a **floating solar power plant** of **10MWp** capacity in the **Igatpuri Lake in Nashik, Maharashtra**.
- Stepping towards its ultimate goal of **zero carbon emission by 2030**, the CR has **already commissioned 12.05 MWp** (MegaWatt peak) solar plants on railway stations' rooftops and buildings, adding **4 MWp last year**.
- This has **resulted in a saving of Rs. 4.62 crore in 2023-2024**, plus **saving carbon footprints of around 6.95 tons**. We plan to install additional 7 MWp solar power plants in the current year.
- Besides 61 MW solar energy, the CR is already tapping 56.4 MW wind energy, and it has signed PPA's to utilize 325 MW solar and wind energy on a 24-hour basis.
- The CR's current monthly power consumption is 236.92 million units for traction work and 9.7 million units for other non-traction works. After the commissioning of the above sources of renewables, the CR expects that 70 per cent of its traction energy will be green.

Ques : International Day of Parliamentarism is observed annually on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय संसदीय दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 29 June
- (b) 28 June
- (c) 30 June
- (d) 1 July
- (e) 2 July

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- The **International Day of Parliamentarism** is observed annually on June 30th.
 - This day celebrates the **role of parliaments in democratic governance** and highlights their importance in building peace and understanding between nations.
 - **Theme 2024** – Parliamentary diplomacy: Building bridges for peace and understanding.
 - This special day, established by a United Nations General Assembly Resolution in 2018, serves as an opportunity to reflect on the progress made by parliaments worldwide in achieving predetermined goals.
-

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Ques : International Asteroid Day is observed every year on which day?

अंतर्राष्ट्रीय क्षुद्रग्रह दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 28 June
- (b) 29 June
- (c) 30 June
- (d) 1 July
- (e) 3 July

Answer : Option C

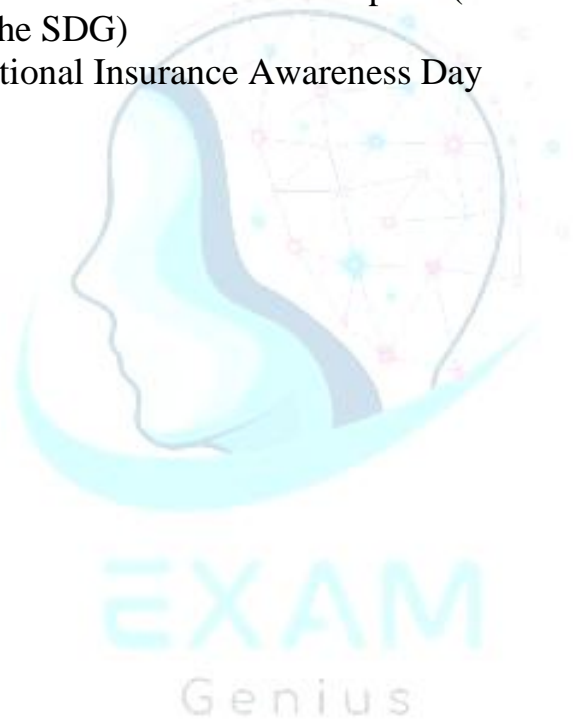
Explanation :

- **International Asteroid Day** is observed every year on **30 June**.
- **Objective** – To raise awareness about asteroids and the potential hazards they pose to our planet.
- This day serves as a reminder of the **importance of scientific research and international collaboration** in detecting and mitigating asteroid impacts.
- In 1908, the asteroid event also known as the Tunguska Event occurred in a Siberian desert area; the area is now referred to as Krasnoyarsk Krai.
- The asteroid did not leave any impact crater – it is believed to have disintegrated after entering the earth's surface.
- Stephen Hawking, along with a few other people, including an Apollo 9 astronaut and Brian May, the guitarist for Queen and also an astrophysicist, founded International Asteroid Day.
- In 2014, the day was officially launched. In 2016, the United Nations announced the day to be celebrated every year.

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)
- 25 June : International Day of the Seafarer
- 25 June : World Vitiligo Day (Theme 2024 : United by the skin)
- 26 June : International Day against Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking (Theme 2024 – The evidence is clear: invest in prevention)
- 27 June : Micro Small Medium Enterprise (MSME) Day (Theme 2024 – MSMEs and the SDG)
- 28 June : National Insurance Awareness Day



Static Banking Awareness Terms Recently in News :

About NABARD :

- NABARD is an apex development bank, established in 1982 by a Special Act of the Parliament
- It has power to deal with all matters concerning policy, planning as well as operations in giving credit for agriculture and other economic activities in the rural areas.
- Committee to Review the Arrangements For Institutional Credit for Agriculture and Rural Development” under the Chairmanship of B. Sivaraman.
- Based on the recommendations, NABARD (National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development) started functioning from 12th July, 1982.
- A refinancing agency for those institutions that provide investment and production credit for promoting the several developmental programs for rural development.
- Improving the absorptive capacity of the credit delivery system in India, including monitoring, formulation of rehabilitation schemes, restructuring of credit institutions, and training of personnel.
- Co-ordinates the rural credit financing activities of all sorts of institutions engaged in developmental work at the field level.

IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

- The **Pench Tiger Reserve** recently **launched** an advanced **Artificial Intelligence (AI) system** for the **early detection of forest fires**. It is located on the **southern part of Madhya Pradesh**, to be specific, in the districts of Seoni and Chhindwara, which **also shares a boundary with Maharashtra**.
- Indian multi-role stealth frigate INS Shivalik, mission deployed in South China Sea and North Pacific Ocean, has reached Pearl Harbour in Hawaii to take part in the **Rim of the Pacific (RIMPAC) exercise**.
- In a first, **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)** will **launch** its latest large satellite, **GSAT 20**, on **SpaceX's Falcon 9 rocket**.
- The **Union Minister for Agriculture and Farmers' Welfare and Rural Development** **launched** web portal for faster bank settlements of interest subvention claims under Agriculture Infrastructure Fund along with **Krishi Katha platform**
- **UltraTech Cement**, led by Kumar Mangalam Birla, has **announced** the acquisition of a 23% stake in Chennai-based India Cements Ltd (ICL) for Rs 1,889 crore.
- **Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL)**, a state-owned engineering firm, has secured a significant **contract worth Rs 13,300 crore** from **Damodar Valley Corporation (DVC)** to establish a 1600 MW thermal power plant in Koderma, Jharkhand.
- The **Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** has successfully **completed six consecutive developmental trials of High Speed Expendable Aerial Target (HEAT) 'ABHYAS'** with improved booster configuration from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur, Odisha.
- **Vikram Misri** appointed as the 35th Foreign Secretary of India
- Former Prime Minister of Portugal **Antonio Costa** has been elected as the **new President** of the **European Council of the European Union**.
- The **Government of India** has made a whopping **contribution** of **USD 1,169,746** for **'Hindi @ UN' project** to expand the use of Hindi in the United Nations.
- **Central Electronics Limited (CEL)** was recently granted **"Mini Ratna"** status (Category-1) at its Golden Jubilee celebration.