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Current Affairs



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Ques : The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 1.31 crore on which bank for non-compliance with certain directions related to KYC and 'loans and advances' in July 2024?

भारतीय रिजर्व बैंक ने जुलाई 2024 में केवाईसी और 'ऋण और अग्रिम' से संबंधित कुछ निर्देशों का पालन न करने पर किस बैंक पर 1.31 करोड़ रुपये का मौद्रिक जुर्माना लगाया है?

- (a) South Indian Bank / साउथ इंडियन बैंक
- (b) Axis Bank / एक्सिस बैंक
- (c) Indian Bank / इंडियन बैंक
- (d) Punjab National Bank / पंजाब नेशनल बैंक
- (e) Karur Vyasya Bank / करूर व्यास बैंक

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The **Reserve Bank of India** has imposed a monetary **penalty** of **Rs 1.31 crore** on **Punjab National Bank** for **non-compliance** with certain directions **related to KYC and 'loans and advances'**.
- The Reserve Bank said it conducted a statutory inspection of the bank concerning its financial position as on March 31, 2022.
- This penalty was imposed for non-compliance with RBI directions regarding 'Loans and Advances: Statutory and Other Restrictions' and the 'Reserve Bank of India (Know Your Customer (KYC) Direction, 2016'.
- RBI has also cancelled the licence of Shimsha Sahakara Bank Niyamitha, Maddur (Karnataka) in the wake of its worsening financial position.
- On liquidation, every depositor would be entitled to receive a deposit insurance claim amount of his/her deposits up to Rs 5 lakh from Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC).

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Recent Penalties imposed on Banks by RBI :

- 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.
- RBI imposes Rs 1.45 cr penalty on Central Bank of India For noncompliance with certain directions related to 'loans and advances' and 'customer protection'.
- RBI imposes Rs 96.4 lakh on Sonali Bank PLC For non-compliance with certain norms, including KYC Directions, 2016.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed a penalty of Rs 88.70 lakh on SBM Bank (India) for non-compliance with specific regulatory norms. This includes licensing conditions and directives related to the Liberalised Remittance Scheme (LRS).
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a fine of Rs 36.38 lakh on foreign lender HSBC for Foreign Exchange Management Act (FEMA) violations.
- The Reserve Bank of India has imposed a penalty of Rs. 1 crore on ICICI Bank for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has imposed Rs 3.10 lakh penalty on Hero Fincorp Ltd for rule violations.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) imposed a monetary penalty of Rs 10 lakh on NABFINS Limited, a subsidiary of NABARD, for non-compliance with certain rules.
- IDFC First Bank (Rs.1 crore) – for non-compliance with certain directions on 'Loans and Advances – Statutory and Other Restrictions'.
- LIC Housing Finance (Rs. 7 lakh) – for non-compliance with certain provisions of the Fair Practices Code
- Nashik's Janalaxmi Cooperative Bank (59.90 lakh) – for non-compliance with certain regulatory norms.
- Solapur Janata Sahakari Bank (28.30 lakh) – For sanctioning fresh loans carrying risk weights of more than 100 per cent in FY22.
- Chikkamagaluru District Cooperative Central Bank, Karnataka (50,000 rupees) – for delay in reporting of frauds to NABARD Rural Development (NABARD)
- DCB Bank (63.6 lakh) – for non-compliance with certain directions related to 'interest rate on advances'

Ques : _____ partners with Online PSB Loans Ltd to digitalize Jan Suraksha Schemes for regional rural Banks

जन सुरक्षा को डिजिटल बनाने के लिए _____ ने ऑनलाइन पीएसबी लोन लिमिटेड के साथ साझेदारी की क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों के लिए योजनाएं

- (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) and Online PSB Loans Limited have signed an agreement to promote financial inclusion through regional rural banks.**
- The collaboration seeks to smoothen the process of enrolment and claim settlement under the **Jan Suraksha Schemes for all 43 Regional Rural Banks (RRBs)** onboarded on one platform through the JanSuraksha Portal.
- The **JanSuraksha Portal** facilitates digital enrolment and claim settlements for the **Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY)** and the **Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)**.

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About schemes :

Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana (PMJJBY) :

- Eligibility : Persons in the age group of 18-50 years having an individual bank or a post office account
- Benefits : Life cover of Rs. 2 Lakh in case of death due to any reason against a premium of Rs. 436/- per annum.

Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana (PMSBY)

- Eligibility : Persons in the age group of 18-70 years having an individual bank or a post office account
- Benefits : Accidental death cum disability cover of Rs.2 lakh (Rs.1 lakh in case of partial disability) for death or disability due to an accident against a premium of Rs.20/- per annum.

About NABARD

- Established : 12 July 1982 (Under recommendations of B. Sivaraman Committee)
- HQ : Mumbai
- Chairman : Shaji K V

Ques : Which of the following company has launched a Deferred Annuity Plan aimed at providing a steady retirement income for customers?

निम्नलिखित में से किस कंपनी ने ग्राहकों के लिए एक स्थिर सेवानिवृत्ति आय प्रदान करने के उद्देश्य से एक आस्थगित वार्षिकी योजना शुरू की है?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) Shriram Life Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Go Digit General Insurance
- (e) Life Insurance Corporation

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Private sector** life insurer **Shriram Life Insurance Company** has **launched a Deferred Annuity Plan** aimed at **providing a steady retirement income for customers.**
- With an **annuity plan** starting at **Rs 60,000 a year**, the entry **age** for the plan is **from 40 to 75 years** and it **includes payable with or without Return of Purchase Price.**
- **Deferment period** is **from 5 to 10 years** after which annuity payments would commence.
- The Shriram Life Deferred Annuity Plan aims to fill this gap by providing an income stream and life cover, ensuring financial support for customers and their spouses without relying on their children or others. Its affordable rates cater to entrepreneurs not covered under social security schemes.

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Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- ICICI Bank has launched the 'Student Sapphire Forex Card', a premium prepaid forex card designed for Indian students pursuing higher education abroad.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched "MSME -Sahaj", a web-based digital business loans solution for MSMEs' (micro, small and medium enterprises) invoice financing.
- Bajaj Housing Finance has launched 'Sambhav Home Loans' targeting first time home buyers with affordable income criteria.
- ICICI Lombard, a leading private general insurer in India, has launched its revolutionary health insurance product, 'Elevate'.
- Bandhan Bank has launched a facility for online collection of direct taxes, enabling its customers and others to pay taxes seamlessly across India.
- Union Bank of India has launched "Union Premier" branches for high-value customers in rural and semi-urban (RUSU) markets.
- Flipkart has launched a Unified Payments Interface (UPI) app 'Super.Money' to offer payments, credit, deposits and other digital financial services.
- HDFC Life Launched 'Bridge the Gap' Campaign to Enhance Life Insurance Awareness
- 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.
- 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 transactions 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 insurance company has launched the 'Jeevan Samarth' initiative, an initiative aimed at transforming the agency ecosystem?

किस बीमा कंपनी ने 'जीवन समर्थ' पहल शुरू की है, जिसका उद्देश्य एजेंसी पारिस्थिति की तंत्र को बदलना है?

- (a) Bharti AXA General Insurance
- (b) Life Insurance Corporation
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (e) Go Digit General Insurance

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** has **launched** the 'Jeevan Samarth', an **initiative** aimed at **transforming the agency ecosystem**.
- To achieve this, **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** has **partnered** with a **global consulting firm**, which will undertake this agency **transformation project** by **reviewing its existing agency framework** on an **end-to-end basis**.
- It will also entail revamping the agency operations at the branch, division and zonal level directed towards establishing global best practices in the wake of the fast-changing industry and regulatory landscape of the insurance sector.

Ques : Young Liu has been awarded the Padma Bhushan award recently. He is the Chairman of which company?

यंग लियू को हाल ही में पद्म भूषण पुरस्कार से सम्मानित किया गया है। वह किस कंपनी के अध्यक्ष हैं?

- (a) Oppo
- (b) IBM
- (c) Toyoto Motor
- (d) Pegatron
- (e) Foxconn

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **Foxconn Chairman Young Liu has received the Padma Bhushan from Manharsinh Yadav of India Taipei Association.**
- Liu was conferred with **Padma Bhushan**, the **third-highest civilian award**, on the eve of the **75th Republic Day this year.**
- Foxconn is not only expanding its iPhone production facility but is also setting up a chip plant in a joint venture with HCL Group.

About Foxconn :

- **Foxconn, headquartered in Taiwan**, is the world's largest contract manufacturer, assembling about 70 per cent of all iPhones.
- In the past year, Foxconn has **invested heavily in expanding its presence in India**, particularly in the southern regions.
- This expansion is part of a broader strategy to reduce reliance on Chinese manufacturing and capitalise on the growing opportunities in the Indian market.

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Recent Awards & Winners :

- Sustainable Governance Champion Award : Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE) Ltd.
- 12th Vishwa Hindi Samman (World Hindi Conference) : Dr. Usha Thakur
- 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
- KISS (Kalinga Institute of Social Sciences) Humanitarian Award 2021 : Tata Group Chairman Ratan Tata
- World Press Photo of the Year award 2024 – Mohammed Salem
- International Fellowship by the Engineering Academy of Japan – Kaushik Rajashekara
- Asunta Lakra Award : Deepika Soreng

Ques : Recently, Arnab Kumar Chowdhury and Charulatha S. Kar have been appointed as Executive Directors of which of the following organizations?

हाल ही में, अर्नब कुमार चौधरी और चारुलता एस. कर को निम्नलिखित में से किस संगठन के कार्यकारी निदेशक के रूप में नियुक्त किया गया 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)** has **appointed Arnab Kumar Chowdhury and Charulatha S. Kar** as **executive directors**.
- **Prior to being promoted** as executive director, **Chowdhury** was **serving** as Chief General Manager-in-Charge in the Department of Supervision.
- As executive director, he will look after Deposit Insurance and Credit Guarantee Corporation (DICGC), foreign exchange department, and international department.
- **Prior to being promoted** as executive director, **Charulatha** was **serving** as Chief General Manager-in-Charge in the Human Resource Management Department.
- She will look after the Department of Communication, Human Resource Management Department, and Right to Information (First Appellate Authority).

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Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- 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
- 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 : Which of the following has launched the 'Health Saathi' plan, an exclusive health and income protection plan for its merchant partners?

निम्नलिखित में से किसने अपने व्यापारी भागीदारों के लिए एक विशेष स्वास्थ्य और आय सुरक्षा योजना 'हेल्थ साथी' शुरू की है?

- (a) Paytm
- (b) PhonePe
- (c) LIC
- (d) ICICI Bank
- (e) Google pay

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- One 97 Communications Limited (OCL), which owns brand **Paytm**, has rolled out '**Paytm Health Saathi**', an exclusive **health and income protection plan** for its merchant partners.
- This plan is available on the '**Paytm for Business**' app.
- The launch of 'Paytm Health Saathi' **aims to safeguard the wellbeing of its merchants**, ensuring their health and business continuity.
- With this service, Paytm continues to empower its merchant partners, bolstering their resilience, while democratising access to affordable coverage.

Ques : Which country has been admitted as the 10th full member of the Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)?

किस देश को शंघाई सहयोग संगठन (एससीओ) के 10वें पूर्ण सदस्य के रूप में शामिल किया गया है?

- (a) Afghanistan
- (b) Mongolia
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Belarus
- (e) Iran

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The **24th Meeting** of the **Council of Heads of State** of the **Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO)** was held in **Astana, Kazakhstan**.
- Kazakhstan President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev hosted the summit meeting.
- The Eurasian country of **Belarus** was **admitted** as the **10th full member of the SCO**.
- The Indian Prime Minister skipped the meeting, and India was represented by the External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar.

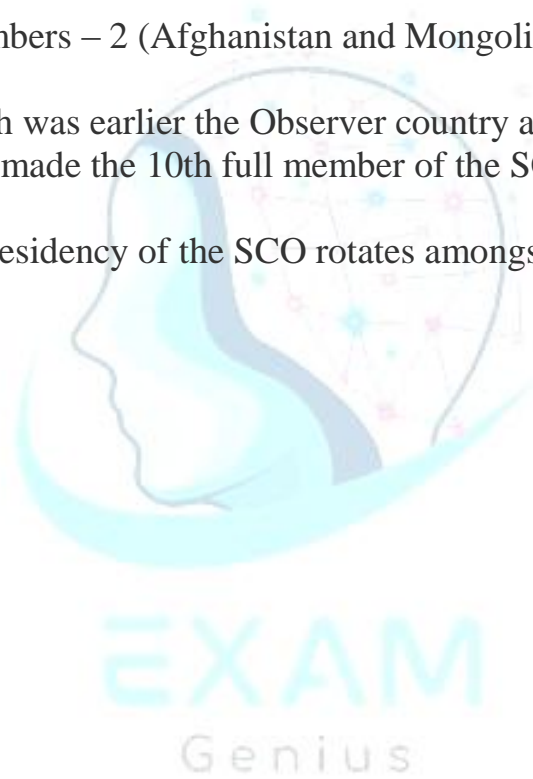
About Belarus :

- Capital- Minsk
- Currency- Belarusian ruble
- Continent – Europe
- Official languages- Belarusian, Russian
- President- Aleksandr Lukashenko

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About Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) :

- Founded – 15 June 2001
- Headquarters – Beijing, China
- Member Countries – 10 (Iran, China, India, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Pakistan, Russia, Tajikistan, Uzbekistan, and Belarus)
- The founding members (5) of Shanghai Cooperation Organization (SCO) were China, Russia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan. India and Pakistan officially joined this organization in 2017. Iran joined in 2023.
- Observer members – 2 (Afghanistan and Mongolia).
- Belarus, which was earlier the Observer country at the SCO, was upgraded and made the 10th full member of the SCO in 2024.
- The annual Presidency of the SCO rotates amongst the member states.



Ques : Who has been appointed as Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB)?

प्रेस सूचना ब्यूरो (पीआईबी) के महानिदेशक के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Gaurav Banerjee / गौरव बनर्जी
- (b) Jetha Ahir / जेठा अहीर
- (c) Dhirendra Ojha / धीरेंद्र ओझा
- (d) Rushabh Gandhi / ऋषभ गांधी
- (e) Inder Pal Singh Bindra / इंद्रपाल सिंह बिंद्रा

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Senior Indian Information Service (IIS) officer **Dhirendra Ojha** has been appointed as **Director General of Press Information Bureau (PIB)**.
- Ojha will replace Sheyphali Sharan, who has been appointed as the Director General of the Publications Division.

Recent Appointment in different departments :

- B.N. Gangadhar : Chairperson of the National Medical Commission (NMC)
- Ravi Agrawal : chairman of the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
- Om Birla : speaker of the 18th Lok Sabha
- Sujata Saunik : first woman Chief Secretary (CS) of Maharashtra
- Tapan Kumar Deka : extension as Intelligence Bureau chief for one year
- Dr K Radhakrishnan : head of the government committee on restructuring NTA
- Mrinal Kumar Das : Director in the Department of Consumer Affairs under the Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution
- Kapil Dev : President of the Professional Golf Tour of India
- Aksha Mohit Kamboj : VP of India Bullion Jewellers Association
- Atul Kumar Chaudhary : Secretary of Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)
- Sudhakararao Papa : Director (Enterprise) of Bharat Sanchar Nigam Limited (BSNL)
- Mark Rutte : secretary-general of NATO (North Atlantic Treaty Organization)

- Dr Kapil Dua : President of the Asian Association of Hair Restoration Surgeons (AAHRS)
- Dr PK Mishra : Principal Secretary to the Prime Minister
- Jyoti Vij : director general of the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry(FICCI)
- Inder Pal Singh Bindra : Secretary of Competition Commission of India (CCI)
- Raj Priy Singh : Director of Department of Rural Development under the Ministry of Rural Development
- Rakesh Mohan Joshi : vice-chancellor of the Indian Institute of Foreign Trade (IIFT)
- Sushil Kumar Singh : Chairperson of Deendayal Port Authority
- Gender Sensitisation and Internal Complaints Committee by Supreme Court : Justice Hima Kohli
- Rakesh Ranjan : Chairman of Staff Selection Commission (SSC)
- Gaurav Banerjee : CEO of Sony India
- Justice Najmi Waziri : Chairperson of Equestrian Federation Of India's Ad-Hoc Administrative Committee
- Jetha Ahir : chairman of the National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED)
- Klaus Schwab : chairman of the board of trustees of WEF
- John Slaven : Vice Chairman of the International Aluminium Institute (IAI)
- Mahesh Rajaraman : Chief Risk Officer (CRO) of Mahindra & Mahindra Financial Services
- Dr. Bikramjit Chaudhuri : Chief of Measurement Science and Analytics in Broadcast Audience Research Council (BARC)
- Sanjeev Puri : President of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)
- David Salvagnini : Chief Artificial Intelligence (AI) Officer of NASA
- Senior Advocate Kapil Sibal : President of the Supreme Court Bar Association (SCBA)
- Vivek Bipindada Kolhe : director of IFFCO (Indian Farmers Fertilizers Co-op Ltd.) New Delhi
- Subodh Kumar : Director in the Ministry of Ayush
- Dr. Mallika Nadda : Chairperson of Special Olympics Asia-Pacific Advisory Council
- Prof. Mohammad Rihan : Director General of the National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)
- Sanjaya Kumar Mishra : President GST Appellate Tribunal (GSTAT)
- Shashi Bhushan Singh : Secretary of National Jute Board

- Pratima Singh : Director of the Department of Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT)
- Krishna M Ella : President of Indian Vaccine Manufacturers Association (IVMA)
- Manoj Kumar : new Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of Jawahar Lal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA)
- Justice Dinesh Kumar : Presiding Officer of the Securities Appellate Tribunal (SAT) for a four-year term.
- Narpat Singh (IRTS) : Railway Adviser in the High Commission of India, Dhaka, Bangladesh
- Narsingh Yadav : chairman of the Wrestling Federation of India's Athletes' Commission
- Nidhi S Jain : Chief Vigilance Officer (CVO) of Cotton Corporation of India Limited (CCI).
- Vice Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU) : Professor Naima Khatoon
- Secretary of the Department of Posts : Vandita Kaul (replace Vineet Pandey)
- National Judicial Academy (NJC) Bhopal : Justice Aniruddha Bose
- As a Member of University Grants Commission (UGC) : Sachidananda Mohanty
- As member of 16th Finance Commission : Manoj Panda
- National women's hockey coach : Harendra Singh (replace Janneke Schopman)
- Head of committee to protect Delhi's forests : Justice Najmi Waziri

EXAM
Genius

Ques : Who has been honoured with the first K. Saraswathi Amma Award ?

प्रथम के.सरस्वती अम्मा पुरस्कार से किसे सम्मानित किया गया है

- (a) Amitav Ghosh / अमिताव घोष
- (b) Vikram Seth / विक्रम सेठ
- (c) Jhumpa Lahiri / झुम्पा लाहिरी
- (d) P Geetha / पी गीता
- (e) Priya A.S. / प्रिया ए.एस.

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Writer, critic and feminist activist **P. Geetha** was presented with the **first K. Saraswathi Amma Award** for her work **"Aan Thachukal"** on MT Vasudevan Nair's scripts.
- It is **instituted by WINGS** (Women's Integration and Growth Through Sports) Kerala.
- **Saraswathi Amma** published her **first short story in 1938**. In her time, she was **dubbed as a 'men hater'**, later the feminist world hailed her as the forerunner of feminist literature.
- Saraswathi Amma was a bold writer who stood alone against the then patriarchal literary world. WINGS is an organisation formed with an objective of making women bold and independent.
- Founder of WINGS – N.A. Vinaya

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Ques : Who has been appointed as the 58th Prime Minister of the United Kingdom?

यूनाइटेड किंगडम के 58वें प्रधान मंत्री के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Jeremy Corbyn / जेरेमी कॉर्बिन
- (b) Keir Stammer / कीर स्टैमर
- (c) Nigel Farage / निगेल फराज
- (d) Liz Truss / लिज़ ट्रस
- (e) Rishi Sunak / ऋषि सुनक

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Keir Starmer** has been **appointed** as the **new Prime Minister** of the **United Kingdom** by Monarch King Charles III.
- Keir Starmer is the **58th Prime Minister** of the United Kingdom.
- Keir Starmer's **Labour Party** won a landslide victory in the recently held parliamentary election. He replaced the Conservative Party leader, Rishi Sunak, whose party badly lost the election.

About United Kingdom (UK) :

- **Capital** – London
- **Currency** – Pound sterling
- **Prime Minister** – Keir Stammer (replace Rishi Sunak)

Newly Appointed Prime Minister & President :

- 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 : What was the amount of India's defense production in FY 2023-24?

वित्त वर्ष 2023-24 में भारत का रक्षा उत्पादन की मात्रा कितनी थी?

- (a) 1.17 lakh
- (b) 1.27 lakh
- (c) 1.07 lakh
- (d) 1.37 lakh
- (e) 1.57 lakh

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Ministry of Defence** has achieved the highest-ever growth in indigenous defence production in value terms during **Financial Year (FY) 2023-24**.
- As per the data received from all Defence Public Sector undertakings (DPSUs), other PSUs manufacturing defence items and private companies, the value of defence production in the country has gone up to a record-high figure i.e., Rs 1,26,887 crore, reflecting a growth of 16.7% over the defence production in F24.
- The value of defence production in FY 2022-23 was Rs 1,08,684 crore.
- Of the total value of production (VoP) in 2023-24, about 79.2% has been contributed by DPSUs/other PSUs and 20.8% by the private sector.
- The feat has been achieved due to the policy reforms/initiatives and ease of doing business brought in by the Government in the last 10 years with focus on attaining self-reliance.
- In the last five years (since 2019-20), the value of defence production has been increasing steadily, and grown by over 60%.

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Ques : Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah addressed “Sahkar Se Samriddhi” conference on the occasion of 102nd International Day of Cooperatives in which city?
केंद्रीय गृह मंत्री और सहकारिता मंत्री अमित शाह ने 102वें अंतर्राष्ट्रीय सहकारिता दिवस के अवसर पर किस शहर में “सहकार से समृद्धि” सम्मेलन को संबोधित किया?

- (a) New Delhi
- (b) Bengaluru
- (c) Chennai
- (d) Indore
- (e) Gandhinagar

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, Amit Shah** addressed “Sahkar Se Samriddhi” conference on the occasion of **102nd International Day of Cooperatives in Gandhinagar, Gujarat.**
- The Ministry of Cooperation organised ‘Sahkar se Samriddhi’ conference on this day to mark the celebration of International Day of Cooperatives 2024.
- The **International Day of Cooperatives is an annual celebration** of the cooperative movement around the world. It has been observed on the first Saturday of July (6 July) ever since 1923 by the International Cooperative Alliance (ICA).
- The **theme** for the 102nd International Cooperative Day is-
“Cooperatives Build a Better Future for All.”

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Ques : World Zoonoses Day is observed every year on which day?
विश्व जूनोसिस दिवस हर साल किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 6 July
- (b) 7 July
- (c) 8 July
- (d) 9 July
- (e) 10 July

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- **World Zoonoses Day** is observed every year on **July 6**.
- **Objective** – To raise awareness amongst the public and the stakeholders about the danger of diseases that can be transmitted from animals to humans.
- **Theme 2024** – One World, One Health: Prevent Zoonoses”
- On 6 July 1885, the French biologist Louis Pasteur successfully administered the first rabies vaccine to a 9-year-old boy, Joseph Meiste, who had been bitten by a rabid dog. To mark such a momentous event in medical science, every year, 6 July is observed as World Zoonoses Day.
- The root of the Zoonoses word is the Greek word ‘**Zoon " and "nosos "**. In Greek “Zoon” means animal, and “nosos” means illness. Thus, Zoonoses refers to a disease that spreads from **vertebrate animals to humans** and vice versa.

Important days :

- 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
- 30 June : International Day of Parliamentarism (Theme 2024 – Parliamentary diplomacy: Building bridges for peace and understanding.)
- 30 June : International Asteroid Day
- 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
- 3 July : International Plastic Bag Free Day
- 3 July : Disobedience Day

IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

- **Indiabulls Housing Finance Ltd's** name has been **changed** to **Sammaan Capital Ltd**, following its **transformation** into a board-run and diversely-held financial institution, from being a promoter-led and promoter-driven lender.
- Jharkhand Mukti Morcha (JMM) leader **Hemant Soren** was **sworn** in as **Jharkhand Chief Minister** for the **third term**.
- **NITI Aayog** has **launched Sampoonata Abhiyan Campaign** to achieve saturation of six key indicators in Aspirational Districts and Aspirational Blocks across the country. This is a three-month campaign running from June 4 to September 30.
- The **National Informatics Centre (NIC)** and the **Spices Board of India** have **signed** an **MoU** to develop **Artificial intelligence (AI)** tools for **detecting** and classifying large **cardamom diseases** in **Sikkim**.
- **Meta** has **introduced** a new **AI tool** that can **generate or retexture 3D objects** in under a minute. Meta 3D Gen AI System is a combined AI system that can generate high-quality 3D assets, with both high-resolution textures and material maps, all within one minute
- **Japan** launched the **Advanced Land Observation Satellite-4 "DAICHI-4" (ALOS-4)** on July 1, 2024. The **launch** took place **from the Tanegashima Space Center** using the third flight of the H3 Launch Vehicle (H3 F3).