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Current Affairs



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Ques : _____ has received approval of funding of \$ 215.6 m from the Green Climate Fund.

_____ को ग्रीन क्लाइमेट फंड से 215.6 मिलियन डॉलर की फंडिंग की मंजूरी मिल गई है।

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

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI), has received approval of funding of \$ 215.6 m from the Green Climate Fund.**
- The loan to SIDBI is part of funding approvals worth \$1 billion for 17 projects in 35 developing countries
- The board of the Green Climate Fund, which is an entity set up by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), approved a \$200 million loan and \$15.6 million grant for capacity building to SIDBI.

About Green Climate Fund :

- Established : 2010
- Established under : United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC)
- HQ : Incheon, South Korea
- Portfolio : 270 projects worth USD 14.9 billion (\$58.7 billion including cofinancing)

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About SIDBI :

- Established : 2 April 1990
- Headquarters : Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh, India
- Chairman & MD : Sivasubramanian Ramann
- The SIDBI is the apex regulatory body for overall licensing and regulation of micro, small and medium enterprise finance companies in India.

Recent related news :

- In July 2024, the Asian Development Bank (ADB) approved a \$240 million loan for rooftop solar projects in India, to be routed through the State Bank of India (SBI) and National Bank For Agriculture And Rural Development (NABARD).
- The Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has partnered with India Post Payments Bank (IPPB) to use the extensive network of postmen for providing credit to micro-entrepreneurs in rural areas.

Ques : Cashfree Payments Receives _____ Licence for Payment Aggregator and Cross-Border Transactions

कैशफ्री पेमेंट्स को पेमेंट एग्रीगेटर और क्रॉस-बॉर्डर लेनदेन के लिए _____ लाइसेंस प्राप्त होता है

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

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Cashfree Payments**, a company specialising in banking solutions and payments, received the **Reserve Bank of India's (RBI)** nod to **operate as a payment aggregator-cross border (PA-CB)**.
- The Bengaluru-based company is one of the first non-banks to receive the PA-CB licence.
- The RBI categorises PA-CBs as Export only PA-CB (PA-CB-E), Import only PA-CB (PA-CB-I), and Export and Import PA-CB (PA-CB-E&I).
- Cashfree Payments has received approval to operate as a PA-CB-E&I.

Criteria for payment aggregator-cross border (PA-CB) licence:

- In a circular issued in October 2023, the RBI had mandated minimum net worth requirements for non-banks to operate as PA-CBs.
- This included a minimum net worth of Rs 15 crore at the time of the application to the regulator, and Rs 25 crore net worth by March 31, 2026.

- New non-banks are required to attain a minimum net worth of Rs 25 crore by the end of the third financial year of the grant of authorisation.

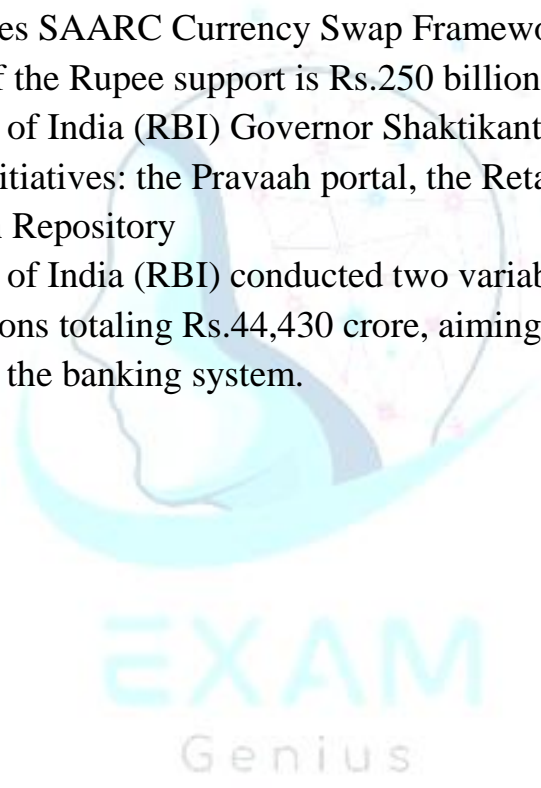
About Cashfree Payments :

- Established : 2015
 - Headquarters : Bangalore, Karnataka
 - CEO : Akash Sinha
-

RBI in News :

- According to a Bloomberg report, India's central bank Reserve Bank of India (RBI) sold Rs.34 billion (\$406 million) of bonds in the secondary market, likely to absorb excess cash in the banking system resulting from inflows into the nation's debt after being included in a global index.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set up a committee to review the fee structure for white-label ATMs (WLAs). The committee is headed by Indian Banks' Association chief executive Sunil Mehta.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has developed new standards for lenders to follow before categorising loan accounts as fraudulent.
- 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).
- 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 : Where is the headquarters of Federal Bank?

फेडरल बैंक का मुख्यालय कहाँ है?

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

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- **KVS Manian** has been **appointed** as the **Managing Director & Chief Executive Officer of Federal Bank** with effect from September 23, 2024.
- The current MD Shyam Srinivasan will step down from the position after a 14-year stint at the top. The Reserve Bank of India has approved Manian's appointment.
- Manian was earlier the Joint Managing Director of Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited till April 30, 2024, and was responsible for building a high quality integrated and profitable franchise across businesses.

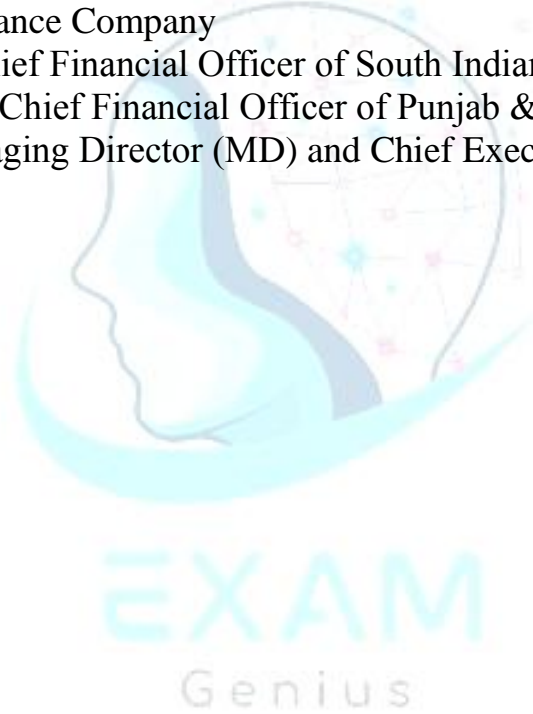
About Federal Bank :

- Federal Bank Limited is an Indian private sector bank headquartered in Kochi, Kerala.
- The bank has 1,336 branches spread across different states in India.
- It also has representative offices abroad in Abu Dhabi, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, and Dubai.
- Founded- 23 April 1931
- Founder- K.P Hormis
- Headquarters – Kochi, Kerala.
- MD & CEO- Shyam Srinivasan

Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- K Paul Thomas : Managing Director & CEO of ESAF Small Finance Bank
- Arun Bansal : Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paytm Payments Bank
- 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
- 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 : _____ launches Generative AI-powered virtual relationship manager and credit line on UPI

_____ ने UPI पर जेनरेटिव AI-संचालित वर्चुअल रिलेशनशिप मैनेजर और क्रेडिट लाइन लॉन्च की

- (a) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (b) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक
- (c) Bank of baroda / बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
- (d) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक
- (e) None of these / इनमें से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- **Bank of Baroda (BoB)** has **launched** a range of **digital and technology-led initiatives**, including a **Generative AI-powered virtual relationship manager (VRM)**, and credit line on UPI for enhancing payments and banking experience for customers.
- The GenAI-powered VRM, a first-of-its-kind initiative in the Indian banking sector, provides real-time information about the bank's products and services while also capturing customer requirements for specific banking services.
- This VRM, which communicates in multiple languages and is accessible through video, audio, and chat interfaces, will fulfil everyday basic banking services, including account statements, cheque book requests, debit card requests, interest certificates, and more.

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Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Navi Mutual Fund has launched Navi Nifty 500 Multicap 50:25:25 Index Fund, the first-ever index fund to track the Nifty 500 Multicap 50:25:25 index
- Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB) has unveiled a new distribution structure, integrating the physical branch network, digital branch channel (encompassing mobile banking and net banking platforms), and voice channel.
- Bandhan Bank has introduced a payment solution using Bharat QR Code for Current and Savings account customers.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has launched a 444-day term deposit scheme, “Amrit Vrishti”, with an interest rate of 7.25 per cent.
- Bajaj Finserv Asset Management has launched a new financial product for retail investors looking to get returns on their idle savings.
- BranchX India Private Limited, a leading neobank innovator, has launched India’s first personal loan solution through the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) and Bank of Maharashtra (BoM) have introduced special deposit schemes to address the increasing credit demand.
- 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.
- State Bank of India has introduced an online loan facility against mutual fund (MF) units through its internet banking (INB) and YONO App.
- BNP Paribas, the European Union’s leading bank and a key player in international banking, has launched operations at the Gujarat International Finance Tec-City - International Financial Services Centre (GIFT-IFSC) through a new branch.
- State-owned Punjab National Bank (PNB) introduced a new security feature 'Safety Ring' within its internet banking system and mobile banking system in response to the increasing number of cyber frauds.
- Tata Asset Management has launched India's first-ever tourism index fund – the Tata Nifty India Tourism Index Fund.
- Ageas Federal Life Insurance has launched a new pension plan named ‘Golden Years Pension Plan’ that aims to provide a comprehensive solution for securing the financial futures of policyholders during their retirement years.
- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has launched the ICICI Prudential Nifty Oil & Gas ETF, India’s first exchange-traded fund (ETF) in the oil and gas sector.
- 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.

- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) has launched the 'Jeevan Samarth', an initiative aimed at transforming the agency ecosystem.
- Private sector life insurer Shriram Life Insurance Company has launched a Deferred Annuity Plan aimed at providing a steady retirement income for customers.
- 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 'Finqury' 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)

Ques : Lallianzuala Chhangte and Indumathi Kathiresan recently seen in News. They belongs to which sports ?

लल्लियानज़ुआला चांगटे और इंदुमथी कथिरेसन को हाल ही में समाचारों में देखा गया। वे किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Cricket / क्रिकेट
- (b) Football / फुटबॉल
- (c) Shooting / शूटिंग
- (d) Badminton / बैडमिंटन
- (e) Table tennis / टेबल टेनिस

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **Lallianzuala Chhangte** and **Indumathi Kathiresan** were named the **AIFF Best Men's and Women's Players** of the Year 2023-24 at the **AIFF Award Night in New Delhi**.
- **Lallianzuala Chhangte**, the 27-year-old winger from Mumbai City FC, secured the **AIFF Men's Player of the Year** award for the second consecutive time.
- **Indumathi Kathiresan**, the 30-year-old midfielder, became the first player from Tamil Nadu to win the **AIFF Women's Player of the Year** award.
- This achievement makes him only the fifth player to win the award multiple times.

AIFF Award Winners for 2023-24:

- Men's Player of the Year Lallianzuala Chhangte
 - Women's Player of the Year Indumathi Kathiresan
 - Promising Men's Player of the Year David Lalhlansanga
 - Promising Women's Player of the Year Neha
 - Men's Coach of the Year Khalid Jamil
 - Women's Coach of the Year Sukla Dutta
 - Referee of the Year Ramachandran Venkatesh
 - Assistant Referee of the Year Ujjal Halder
-

SPORTS NEWS :

- Oscar Piastri won his first Formula One race after completing a McLaren one-two with Lando Norris at the Hungarian Grand Prix.
- India has maintained its 124th position in the latest FIFA men's rankings released. Argentina at the top of the FIFA rankings.
- Rider Kavin Quintal is all set to make a historic debut at the WorldSBK SSP300 competitions and become the first Indian rider to participate in a World Superbike Championship.
- Indian Champions team led by Yuvraj Singh won the inaugural edition of the World Championship Of Legends (2024) by defeating the Younis Khan-led Pakistan Champions team by five wickets during the finals held in Birmingham, England.
- India's final contingent for the upcoming Paris Olympics has been approved by the sports ministry. The contingent will have 117 athletes accompanied by 140 support staff and officials. The games will begin from 26th July to 11th August.
- India's Shaurya Bawa signed off with a bronze medal after going down 0-3 to Egyptian top seed Mohamed Zakaria in the boys' singles semifinal of the World Junior Squash Championships in Houston.
- The Spanish men's football team, also known as La Roja, won their fourth UEFA European Football Championships or the Euro Cup by defeating England 2-1 in the final played at Berlin's Olympiastadion stadium on 14 July 2024.
- Carlos Alcaraz of Spain and Barbora Krejčíková of Czech Republic won the men's and women's single title respectively at the 2024 Wimbledon Tennis Championships .

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- 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.
- 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.

Ques : Who has been appointed as the brand ambassador for MotoGP in India?

भारत में मोटोजीपी के लिए किसे ब्रांड एंबेसडर नियुक्त किया गया है?

- (a) Virat Kohli / विराट कोहली
- (b) MS Dhoni / एमएस धोनी
- (c) Rohit Sharma / रोहित शर्मा
- (d) Shikhar Dhawan / शिखर धवन
- (e) None of these / इनमें से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Star India opener **Shikhar Dhawan** has been **appointed** the brand **ambassador for MotoGP** in India.
 - **Dhawan**, known for his dynamic presence on the cricket field, will ignite his passion for racing through the **latest campaign, 'Face Kar Race Kar'**.
 - The 'Face Kar Race Kar' campaign encapsulates the indomitable spirit of **MotoGP,celebrating resilience and inspiring fan.**
 - This strategic partnership marks a significant milestone in the promotion of motorcycle racing in a country traditionally dominated by cricket fandom.
-

Recently appointed Brand Ambassador :

- Aditya Roy Kapur : Bisleri Limonata
- PV Sindhu : Greenday's 'Better Nutrition' brand
- Shah Rukh Khan : Muthoot Pappachan Group (MPG)
- Pakistan's Shahid Afridi : brand ambassador of 9th ICC Men's T20 World Cup
- Kareena Kapoor : UNICEF India as its new National Ambassador
- Sana Mir : ambassador for the upcoming ICC Women's T20 World Cup
- Mahendra Singh Dhoni : French carmaker Citroen made him as its brand ambassador in India
- Usain Bolt : brand ambassador for the 9th ICC Men's T-20 World Cup
- Valerie Adams : International Event Ambassador for the "16th edition of Tata Consultancy Services' (TCS) World 10K Bengaluru (Karnataka)"
- Ravindra Jadeja : VARNI
- Ranveer Singh : boAt
- Narendra Kumar Yadav : Fit India Movement
- Katrina Kaif : Chennai Super Kings (CSK) for IPL 2024
- Neeraj Chopra : Bharat Petroleum Corporation (BPCL)'s premium petrol variant, 'Speed'
- Actress Nayanthara : Slice
- Neeraj Chopra : Eveready Industries India Limited
- Virat Kohli : for Neo Bharat Latex Paint, Asian Paints

EXAM
Genius

Ques : Charaideo Maidam has been named the first cultural UNESCO World Heritage Site of Northeast India. It is located in which state?

चराइदेव मैदाम को पूर्वोत्तर भारत का पहला सांस्कृतिक यूनेस्को विश्व धरोहर स्थल नामित किया गया है। यह किस राज्य में स्थित है?

- (a) Tripura / त्रिपुरा
- (b) Sikkim / सिक्किम
- (c) Assam / असम
- (d) Arunachal Pradesh / अरुणाचल प्रदेश
- (e) Meghalaya / मेघालय

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- **Charaideo Maidam**, an ancient burial ground in **Assam**, is poised to become **Northeast India's first cultural UNESCO World Heritage Site**.
- This prestigious nomination was announced during the **46th session of the World Heritage Committee held in New Delhi**.
- Previously, Northeast India boasted two natural UNESCO World Heritage Sites — Kaziranga National Park, famous for its one-horned rhinoceroses, and Manas National Park, a renowned tiger reserve.
- Charaideo Maidam's nomination fills a significant gap, recognising Assam's rich cultural heritage.

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About Charaideo Maidam :

- Located in Assam's Charaideo district, Charaideo Maidam is the ancient burial ground of the Ahom dynasty. These impressive structures, similar to Egypt's pyramids, house the remains of Ahom's kings, nobles, and precious artefacts.
 - The tradition of royal burials at Charaideo began with the first Ahom king, Chau-lung Siu-ka-pha, and continued for over 600 years in Assam.
 - Dedicated to kings, queens, princes, and princesses, these Maidams hold deep significance for the Ahom community, symbolising their rich history and culture.
-

UNESCO in News :

- Ramcharitmanas, Panchatantra and Sahṛdayāloka-Locana of India is among 20 items of the Asia Pacific region which has been included in the 2024 cycle of the 'UNESCO's Memory of the World Asia-Pacific Regional Register.
- UNESCO's 'State of Ocean Report, 2024' provides crucial insights into the current state of global oceans, emphasising the challenges posed by climate change and human activities.
- A multibillion-dollar dam project underway across the Mekong River in Laos has prompted concerns that it could result in Luang Prabang City losing its UNESCO World Heritage Site status.
- Kozhikode becomes India's first UNESCO 'City of Literature'
- Palestinian journalists covering Gaza awarded 2024 UNESCO/Guillermo Cano World Press Freedom Prize.
- Kempegowda International Airport (KIA) has secured recognition as one of the 'World's Most Beautiful Airports' and has been awarded the 'World Special Prize for an Interior 2023' by the UNESCO's Prix Versailles.
- Gujarat's Garba Dance Enters UNESCO's 'Intangible Cultural Heritage' List
- 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee will take place from July 21 to 31, 2024 in New Delhi, India.
- India has nominated the "Maratha Military Landscapes", a network of forts that showcase the strategic military powers of Maratha rule, for inclusion in the UNESCO World Heritage list for 2024-25.

Ques : Which company has partnered with Tata to manufacture India's first FAL (Final Assembly Line) H125 helicopter, which is set to roll out by 2026?

किस कंपनी ने टाटा के साथ मिलकर भारत का पहला FAL (फाइनल असेंबली लाइन) H125 हेलीकॉप्टर बनाने के लिए साझेदारी की है, जिसे 2026 तक लॉन्च किया जाना है?

- (a) Lockheed Martin / लॉकहीड मार्टिन
- (b) Blue Origin / ब्लू ओरिजिन
- (c) BAE Systems / बीएई सिस्टम्स
- (d) Boeing / बोइंग
- (e) Airbus / एयरबस

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **Airbus and Tata** are joining forces to manufacture **India's first FAL (Final Assembly Line) H125 helicopter**, which is set to **roll out by 2026**.
- This partnership aligns with **India's Atmanirbhar Bharat initiative** and **reflects Airbus's commitment** to investing in the Indian aerospace market despite regulatory challenges.
- The **initial production capacity will be 10 helicopters per year**, with the potential to scale up to **50 helicopters annually** in subsequent years.

Defence Related News :

- China sent a new Earth observation satellite into space from the Taiyuan Satellite Launch Center in north China's Shanxi Province.
- Drone Destination and the National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC) have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to establish a cutting-edge drone training centre at NSIC in New Delhi.

- Europe's latest rocket, the Ariane 6, successfully completed its maiden flight, delivering satellites into orbit and restoring the continent's autonomous access to space.
- India has unveiled its first indigenously designed and developed light battle tank that will be capable of delivering devastating firepower at high altitude battlefields and operating in all-weather conditions. the 25-ton tank named 'Zorawar' is the result of a public-private partnership between DRDO and L&T.
- Russia has approved the schedule for the creation of a Russian orbital station by 2033.
- Indian Air Force Chief Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari has inaugurated the newly established Weapon Systems School (WSS) at Air Force Station Begumpet, Hyderabad.
- The Bangladesh Navy has signed a deal with the Indian Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) for an 800-tonne ocean-going tug—a major contract to be signed under a \$500-million line of credit.
- Adani Defence & Aerospace – the defence arm of the Adani Group – has signed an agreement with the Thales Group to manufacture 70mm rockets in India.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) handed over the Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (MR-MOCR) to the Indian Navy in a ceremony held in New Delhi.
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully conducted the third and final landing experiment of its Reusable Launch Vehicle (RLV) 'Pushpak' at the Aeronautical Test Range in Chitradurga, Karnataka.
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL), based in Bengaluru, has received a Request for Proposal (RFP) from the Ministry of Defence (MoD) for the procurement of 156 Light Combat Helicopters (LCHs) Prachand, estimated to cost Rs 45,000 crore.
- The Indian Army has received the first batch of Indigenous man-portable suicide drones also known as the 1st Indigenous Loitering Munition (LM), Nagastra-1, with the capability of precise strikes on enemy training camps and launch pads.

- The Gautam Adani-group stepped up its presence in the defence segment by joining hands with Edge Group, one of the world's leading advanced technology and defence group. Aims to establish a global platform leveraging the defence and aerospace capabilities.
- The Vice Chief of the Indian Army, Upendra Dwivedi has launched Vidyut Rakshak, a new Internet of Things (IoT)-enabled integrated generator tracking, protection, and control system.
- The Space agency Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has announced a joint Indo-French infrared earth observation satellite mission, TRISHNA (Thermal Infra-Red Imaging Satellite for HighResolution Natural Resource Assessment), to monitor surface temperature and water management around the world.
- The China National Space Administration's (CNSA) Chang'e-6 lunar probe made a soft landing on the moon's far side to collect and return samples from the rarely explored far side of the moon, a first of its kind in human lunar exploration history.
- ISRO, through its Vikram Sarabhai Space Centre (VSSC), has introduced the PraVaHa software, a Computational Fluid Dynamics (CFD) tool aimed at facilitating aerodynamic design and analysis for aerospace vehicles.
- A Russian cosmonaut became the first person to spend a cumulative 1,000 days in space. Oleg Kononenko, 59, reached the record while on his current mission aboard the International Space Station (ISS).
- The Defence Research & Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully flight-tested the **RudraM-II air-to-surface missile** from the Su-30 MK-I platform of the Indian Air Force (IAF) off the Odisha coast at approximately 1130 hours.
- **NASA** has successfully launched the first of two climate satellites into orbit, designed to study heat emissions at Earth's poles. The satellite, part of the **PREFIRE** (Polar Radiant Energy in the Far-InfraRed Experiment) mission, was carried by Rocket Lab's Electron rocket from the company's Launch Complex 1 in Mahia, New Zealand.

Ques : Kush Maini, who was seen in news in July 2024 for achieving a remarkable achievement, is associated with which of the following sport?

कुश मैनी, जो जुलाई 2024 में एक उल्लेखनीय उपलब्धि हासिल करने के लिए समाचारों में दिखे थे, निम्नलिखित में से किस खेल से जुड़े हैं?

- (a) Discus Throw / चर्चा फेंको
- (b) Archery / तीरंदाजी
- (c) Golf / गोल्फ
- (d) Wushu / वुशु
- (e) Sprint Race / स्प्रिंट रेस

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **India's Kush Maini won his maiden Formula 2 Sprint Race at the Hungarian Grand Prix** after initial winner Richard Verschoor's was disqualified due to a technical infringement.
- Following the top of podium finish, the **23-year-old Invicta racing driver** added 10 points to his season tally.
- This **victory marks Maini's fifth podium of the season**, placing him eighth in the championship standings, just three points behind Dennis Hauger.
- With the win at the at Hungaroring on Saturday, **Maini surpassed Mercedes junior driver Kimi Antonelli** in the Formula 2 Drivers Standings to P8 with 66 points under his belt.

Ques : PR Sreejesh has announced his retirement recently. He is related to which sport?

पीआर श्रीजेश ने हाल ही में संन्यास की घोषणा की है। वह किस खेल से संबंधित हैं?

- (a) Hockey / हॉकी
- (b) Tennis / टेनिस
- (c) Badminton / बैडमिंटन
- (d) Football / फुटबॉल
- (e) Cricket / क्रिकेट

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- India veteran **goalkeeper PR Sreejesh** is set to **retire** from **international hockey** after the **Paris Olympics**, starting later this month.
- Sreejesh will take part in his fourth Olympic Games in Paris and will be hoping to sign off by adding to his **bronze medal from the 2020 edition in Tokyo**.
- The 36-year-old, who made his **debut for India in 2006**.
- Sreejesh was conferred with the Khel Ratna award, the highest sporting honour in the country.

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Recently Retired Players :

- Thomas Muller (German) : International Football
- James Anderson (England): international test cricket
- Ravindra Jadeja : T20 international cricket
- Rohit Sharma and Virat Kohli : T20 international cricket
- Sunil Chhetri (India) – International Football
- Trent Boult (New Zealand) – International cricket
- David Wiese (Namibia) – International cricket
- Kedar Jadhav (India) – International cricket
- Bernadine Bezuidenhout (New Zealand) : international cricket
- Dinesh Karthik (India) : Indian wicketkeeper and Royal Challengers Bengaluru star player
- Midfielder Toni Kroos (Germany) : international football
- Colin Munro (New Zealand) : International Cricket
- Bismah Maroof (Pakistan) : international cricket
- Saurav Ghosal (India) : squash
- Neil Wagner (New Zealand) – International cricket
- Heinrich Klaasen (South Africa) – Test cricket
- David Warner (Australia) – International ODI & Test
- Manoj Tiwary (West Bengal) – All forms of cricket
- Collins Obuya (Kenya) – International cricket
- Matthew Wade (Australia) – First-class cricket

Ques : Which state has been recognized as 'Best Performing State' under PM SVANidhi scheme?

पीएम स्वनिधि योजना के तहत किस राज्य को 'सर्वश्रेष्ठ प्रदर्शन करने वाले राज्य' के रूप में मान्यता दी गई है?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh / उत्तर प्रदेश
- (b) Gujarat / गुजरात
- (c) Rajasthan / राजस्थान
- (d) Maharashtra / महाराष्ट्र
- (e) Madhya Pradesh / मध्य प्रदेश

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- **Madhya Pradesh** has been recognized as the 'Best Performing State' under the Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme, which supports urban street vendors with collateral-free loans up to Rs.50,000.

PM SVANidhi scheme: 'Best Performing State' category :

1st: Madhya Pradesh
2nd: Assam

Best Performing Urban Local Bodies (ULBs) - Loan Performance with mega and million plus cities :

1st: Municipal Corporation of Delhi (MCD)
2nd: Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike (BBMP)
3rd: Ahmedabad Municipal Corporation

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National Urban Livelihood Mission (DAY-NULM) category of Systematic Progressive Analytical Real Time Ranking (SPARK) :

1st: Kerala

2nd: Uttar Pradesh

3rd: Rajasthan

About PM SVANidhi Scheme:

- Implemented in : 1st June 2020
- Funded by : Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
- **Objective** : For providing affordable working capital loans to street vendors to resume their livelihoods that have been adversely affected due to Covid-19
- **Target** : 42 lakh street vendors are to be provided benefits under PM SVANidhi Scheme by December, 2024.

Ques : National Broadcasting Day is celebrated in India every year on which day?

भारत में हर साल किस दिन राष्ट्रीय प्रसारण दिवस मनाया जाता है?

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

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- **National Broadcasting Day** is celebrated in India every year on **July 23**.
- It is a day to remember and appreciate the impact of radio as a medium of communication, entertainment, and education.
- Radio has played a significant role in connecting people across India, sharing news, music, and stories that have shaped the nation's cultural and social landscape.
- The history of National Broadcasting Day dates back to July 23, 1927. On this day, the Indian Broadcasting Company (IBC) made its first radio broadcast from Bombay (now Mumbai).
- This event marked the start of organised radio broadcasting in India. The IBC was later taken over by the government and renamed All India Radio (AIR) in 1936. Since then, AIR has become one of the largest radio networks in the world, reaching millions of listeners across the country.

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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
- 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
- 15 July : World Youth Skill Day (Theme 2024 – Youth Skills for Peace and Development)
- 17 July : World Day for International Justice
- 17 July : World Emoji Day
- 18 July : Nelson Mandela International Day (Theme 2024 – Combatting poverty and inequality is in our hands)
- 18 July : World Listening Day (Theme 2024 – Listening to the Weave of Sound)
- 19 July : National Football Day
- 20 July : International Moon Day (Theme 2024 – Illuminating the Shadows)
- 20 July : International Chess Day

IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

- **Prime Minister Modi announced** that India will **contribute one million dollar** to the **UNESCO World Heritage Centre**. This grant will be used for capacity building, technical assistance and conservation of the world heritage sites.
- The **Comptroller and Auditor General** of India **Girish Chandra Murmu** **inaugurated** the **International Centre for Audit of Local Governance (iCAL)** at Rajkot in Gujarat.
- Former Foreign Secretary **Vinay Kwatra** **appointed** as **India's next Ambassador to the United States**. He replaced Taranjit Sandhu.
- **Ivory Coast** (Côte d'Ivoire) has recently become the **53rd Party to the 1992 UN Water Convention**, officially known as the Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes. This accession marks Ivory Coast as the 10th African nation to join the treaty.
- **BTS member Kim Seokjin** (stage name: Jin) **participated** in the **torch relay** of the **2024 Paris Olympic Games** as South Korea's torchbearer in Paris, France.
- Recently, **NASA collaborated** with **Grammy-winning rapper, singer, and songwriter Missy Elliott** to send her song "The Rain (Supa Dupa Fly)" to Venus, Elliott's favorite planet.
- The **Uttar Pradesh government** notified the **formation of the State Capital Region' (SCR) on the lines of the National Capital Region (NCR)**. Governor Anandiben Patel also approved the establishment of Uttar Pradesh State Capital Region Development Authority (UP-SCRDA).