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Ques : Which company has launched the “Digit Glow Term Life Insurance” plan?

- (a) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance
- (b) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
- (c) Kotak Mahindra Life Insurance
- (d) Go Digit Life Insurance
- (e) Magma HDI General Insurance

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Go Digit-Life Insurance Limited (Digit-Life), a major new-age digital insurer, has introduced its first individual pure-term life insurance policy, "Digit Glow Term Life Insurance."
- Designed to meet the changing demands of India's self-employed population, the plan aims to make insurance more accessible to approximately 300 million* self-employed individuals, including gig workers, small company owners, and professionals.
- Digit Glow Term Life Insurance tackles the unique issues that self-employed people experience, including as variable income and a lack of formal income verification, by utilizing technology-enabled underwriting methods and alternative credit standards.
- The plan provides comprehensive coverage ranging from Rs.2.25 lakh to Rs.1 crore, making it accessible to persons with lesser incomes.
- Sabyasachi Sarkar is the MD and CEO of Go Digit Life Insurance.





Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- Punjab & Sind Bank, a state-owned bank, will launch a quick loan scheme for the MSME sector of up to Rs 25 lakh this month as part of its initiative to expand lending through its digital platform.
- Union Bank of India has improved digital accessibility by introducing additional features to its Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) app, often known as the Digital Rupee (₹).
- Federal Bank, one of India's leading private sector banks, has unveiled FedOne, a new transaction banking platform built on Nucleus Software's FinnAxia technology
- YES Bank Limited & Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce and Industry (FICCI) Ladies Organisation (FLO) Launched 'YES PowherUp' to empower women entrepreneur in promoting their businesses
- ICICI Prudential Mutual Fund has established the ICICI Prudential Rural Opportunities Fund, an open-ended equity strategy focused on rural and adjacent themes. It starts on January 9, 2025 and ends on January 25, 2025.
- ICICI Prudential Life Insurance has introduced a first-of-its-kind health insurance that covers women's critical illnesses and procedures.
- Shriram Finance Limited, a financial services company, has developed a new vertical to manage all of its green finance commitments.
- Poonawalla Fincorp, a non-banking finance company under Cyrus Poonawalla Group, has implemented AI in HR operations to reduce risks and increase hiring accuracy.
- LazyPay, a leading digital financial services provider by PayU, has launched 'LazyPay EMI' in partnership with its partner lender, PayU Finance. Consumers can finance purchases between Rs. 5,000 to Rs. 1 lakh with flexible repayment options ranging from 3 to 12 months
- BOBCARD LIMITED has launched the TIARA Credit Card, a premium credit card specifically developed for women.
- Golden Jubilee (GJF) Scholarship Scheme 2024 Launched by Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC)
- IDFC FIRST Bank Limited has created a holographic digital avatar of brand ambassador Amitabh Bachchan using AI technology.





Ques : Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) established in which year ?

- (a) 1952
- (b) 1958
- (c) 1999
- (d) 1985
- (e) 1949

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- The EPFO has successfully deployed the Centralized Pension Payments System (CPPS) throughout all regional offices in India, resulting in substantial advancements in pension disbursement.
- This scheme allows over 68 lakh pensioners to obtain their pensions from any bank location countrywide.
- Pensioners can withdraw their pension from any bank branch in India, removing the requirement for transfers between branches.

About EPFO :

- Established : 4 March 1952
- HQ : New Delhi
- CPFC : Ramesh Krishnamurthi

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Ques : IndiaBonds.com, a SEBI-registered Stock Broker (Debt Segment) and licensed Online Bond website Provider (OBPP), now offers Digital Fixed Deposits (FDs) on its website. What is the maximum interest rate available on fixed deposit investments made through IndiaBonds.com?

- (a) 5.5%
- (b) 6.5%
- (c) 7.4%
- (d) 8.4%
- (e) 9.4%

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- IndiaBonds.com, a SEBI-registered Stock Broker (Debt Segment) and licensed Online Bond website Provider (OBPP), now offers Digital Fixed Deposits (FDs) on its website.
- This move improves accessibility and convenience for individual investors by providing a streamlined solution for managing bonds and fixed deposits simultaneously under one roof.
- Fixed deposit investors can earn up to 9.4% interest with an integrated portfolio dashboard that efficiently manages cash flows, returns, and allocations.
- The website also provides adjustable payout options, minimal minimum investment requirements, and the ability to manage all fixed-income investments in one spot. Additional fixed deposit partnerships are likely to increase its offerings in the following weeks.





Ques : Who recently assumed command of the Base Repair Depot (BRD) at Tughlakabad?

- (a) Air Commodore Rishi Seth
- (b) Air Commodore Debakinandan Sahu
- (c) Air Commodore Arvind Kumar
- (d) Air Vice Marshal Rajeev Gupta
- (e) Wing Commander Anil Sharma

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- Air Commodore Debakinandan Sahu took leadership of the Base Repair Depot (BRD) in Tughlakabad, following Air Commodore Rishi Seth.
- Air Commodore Sahu was commissioned into the Indian Air Force's Aeronautical Engineering division on May 30, 1994, and brings an impressive career spanning three decades to his current position.
- He is a graduate of the Air Force Technical College (AFTC), Defence Services Staff College (DSSC), and Secunderabad's College of Air Warfare, and is well-known for his extensive knowledge of aviation systems and Guided Weapon Missile technologies.

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Recent Defence related appointments :

- Air Marshal Jeetendra Mishra : Chief of the Indian Air Force's Western Air Command (Replaced Air Marshal Pankaj Mohan Sinha)
- Vitul Kumar : Director General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF) (Replaced Anish Dayal Singh)
- Jared Isaacman : NASA Chief to Oversee Moon Missions
- Valdecy Urquiza (Brazil) : Secretary-General of the International Criminal Police Organisation INTERPOL
- Rajesh Kumar Singh : Defence Secretary at South Block
- Surgeon Vice Admiral Kavita Sahai : Director General Medical Services (Navy)
- Paramesh Sivamani : 26th Director General of the Indian Coast Guard (ICG)
- Air Marshal SP Dharkar : Vice Chief of Air Staff
- IPS Nalin Prabhat : Director General of Police (DGP) of Jammu and Kashmir (Replaced R.R. Swain)
- Surgeon Vice Admiral Arti Sarin : first female officer as Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services (DGAfMS)
- Air Marshal Amar Preet Singh : Vice Chief of the Indian Air Force (IAF) (succeed Air Chief Marshal V.R. Chaudhari)
- Nikhat Zareen (boxer) : Telangana Police as a Deputy Superintendent of Police (Special Police)
- Amrit Mohan Prasad : Director General of Sashastra Seema Bal
- Air Marshal Ashutosh Dixit : Air Officer Commanding-in-Chief (AOC-in-C) of Central Air Command
- Air Marshal Tejinder Singh : Deputy Chief of the Indian Air Force
- Vice Admiral Rajesh Dhankhar : Director General of Project Seabird
- Rajwinder Singh Bhatti : Director General of the Central Industrial Security Force (CISF)
- B Srinivasan : Director General (DG) of National Security Guard





Ques : Who inaugurates Delhi-Meerut Namo Bharat RRTS line worth Rs 4,600 crore ?

- (a) Anurag Thakur
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (e) Amit Shah

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has inaugurated the 13-kilometer extension of the Delhi-Ghaziabad-Meerut Namo Bharat route.
- With this launch, Delhi will receive its first Namo Bharat link. The corridor, worth Rs 4.600 crore, will have several stations, including significant ones in Delhi, Ghaziabad, and Meerut.
- Notable stations include Sarai Kale Khan, Anand Vihar, Sahibabad, and Meerut South.
- The corridor will feature India's fastest rapid transit trains, known as Namo Bharat, which can travel at speeds of up to 160 km/h. These trains are intended to cut the travel time between Delhi and Meerut to around an hour.
- The ticket from New Ashok Nagar Station to Meerut South is Rs 150 for a regular coach and Rs 225 for a premium coach.





Recent Headlines Related to Inauguration :

- The Indian Army recently inaugurated a statue of Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj at Pangong Tso in Ladakh, near the India-China border.
- Two UK universities, Queen's University Belfast and Coventry University, have applied to open international campuses in Gujarat's GIFT City, following the lead of Australian institutions.
- During a function in Khajuraho, Madhya Pradesh, Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the groundwork for the Ken-Betwa National River Linking Project, inaugurated the Omkareshwar Floating Solar Project.
- Union Minister Kinjarapu Rammohan Naidu of the Ministry of Civil Aviation (MoCA) inaugurated the centenary celebration logo for Netaji Subhash Chandra Bose International Airport (NSCBI Airport) in Kolkata, West Bengal (WB), to commemorate its 100-year service.
- GSI Geoscience Museum Inaugurated by Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar at Victoria Market Building in Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will formally inaugurate Mahakumbh-2025 and launch over 600 projects worth Rs.7,000 crore, undertaken and completed ahead of the mega once-in-12-years fair.
- Delhi chief minister Atishi inaugurated an underground shooting range at the National Cadet Corps (NCC) Bhawan in Rohini
- External Affairs Minister S. Jaishankar inaugurated the new Chancery of the Indian Embassy in Rome, emphasizing the deep historical ties between India and Italy.
- Symbiosis International University's first international campus Inaugurated by External Affairs Minister Dr. S. Jaishankar and UAE Minister Sheikh Nahyan bin Mubarak Al Nahyan at Dubai Knowledge Park
- Bengaluru marked a milestone with the inauguration of its first digital population clock at the Institute for Social and Economic Change (ISEC). The project was jointly taken up by ISEC, and the Union Ministry of Health and Family Welfare (MoHFW).
- India's celebrated badminton star and Olympic medallist, PV Sindhu, laid the foundation stone for the PV Sindhu Centre for Badminton and Sports Excellence in Chinna Gadili village on the outskirts of Visakhapatnam.
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated the new Consulate General of India in Brisbane, emphasizing that it will help to deepen India's ties with the Queensland state, promote trade, and serve the diaspora
- PM Modi inaugurated airports at Rewa (Madhya Pradesh), Ambikapur (Chhattisgarh), and Saharanpur (Uttar Pradesh) through the UDAN scheme. The government recently extended the Udan plan for another ten years





Ques : Who launched the BHARATPOL portal developed by the Central Bureau of Investigation in New Delhi ?

- (a) Anurag Thakur
- (b) Piyush Goyal
- (c) Narendra Modi
- (d) Dharmendra Pradhan
- (e) Amit Shah

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- Union Home Minister Amit Shah inaugurated the BHARATPOL platform, designed by the Central Bureau of Investigation, in New Delhi.
- The BHARATPOL platform will make it easier to process all requests for international assistance through INTERPOL, including the issue of Red Notices and other color-coded INTERPOL notices.
- The CBI built the BHARATPOL portal. It would provide Indian investigation agencies a new competitive advantage by expanding their global reach in order to achieve the Modi government's aim of a secure Bharat for everyone.
- The BHARATPOL platform will greatly benefit Indian law enforcement organizations by allowing real-time information sharing and faster access to international police support.
- Mr Shah also gave police medals to 35 CBI officers who had received the President's Police Medal for Distinguished Service and the Union Home Minister's Medal for Excellence in Investigation.





Recent News Headlines Related to launched Apps/portals

- M Nagaraju, the Financial Services Secretary, has unveiled the revised 'Baanknet' portal for e-auctioning items like as commercial buildings, industrial land, stores, automobiles, and agricultural and non-agricultural property.
- Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel has unveiled a new citizen-centric project known as the SWAR (Speech and Written Analysis Resource) platform.
- On the occasion of 'Good Governance Day', which commemorates the birth anniversary of former Prime Minister Shri Atal Bihari Vajpayee, Defence Secretary Rajesh Kumar Singh unveiled the Rashtraparv Website and Mobile App on December 25, 2024.
- On National Consumers Day 2024, the Department of Consumer Affairs will make the "Jago Grahak Jago App" and "Jagruti App" available to the public
- Gujarat's Chief Minister, Bhupendra Patel, launched the 'Prakrutik Krushi Portal (Natural Agriculture Portal)' to encourage organic farming
- “Amrit Gyaan Kosh” Portal Launched by Union Minister of State(MoS), Dr. Jitendra Singh, Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions to build a comprehensive knowledge base by curating best practices from across India, with a focus on aligning these practices with 15 of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)
- Pralhad Joshi, Minister of Food and Consumer Affairs, has presented 'Anna Chakra', a game-changing supply chain optimization tool for the Public Distribution System
- Indian Railways has launched the 'Sanraksha' smartphone application, which is an innovative move toward boosting passenger safety and security.
- The Department of Justice is launching a year-long statewide campaign called 'Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman' to commemorate India's 75th year as a Republic and the adoption of its Constitution.
- Union Minister for Commerce and Industry, Piyush Goyal, has launched the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) Ease of Doing Business (EoDB) and Regulatory Affairs Portal in a bid to enhance transparency and facilitate feedback on India's business environment





Ques : Consider the following Statement About Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention 2025 :

- (a) The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD Convention 2025), will be held at New Delhi.
- (b) The theme of this three-day convention is "The Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat".
- (c) Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the PBD Convention.

Which of the following Statement is/are True ?

- (a) Only a
- (b) Both a and b
- (c) Both b and c
- (d) Only b
- (e) Only c

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- The 18th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas (PBD Convention 2025) will be place in Bhubaneswar, Odisha, beginning January 8th.
- The theme of this three-day convention is "The Diaspora's Contribution to a Viksit Bharat".
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will open the PBD Convention. The Chief Guest, Christine Carla Kangaloo, President of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago, will deliver a virtual address.
- The Pravasi Bharatiya Express will operate as part of the Ministry of External Affairs' Pravasi Teertha Darshan Yojana.
- President Droupadi Murmu will preside over the Valedictory Session of the 18th PBD Convention on January 10th.
- Meanwhile, the Youth Pravasi Bharatiya Divas will be conducted on January 8, 2025, in collaboration with the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports.





Recent News Headlines Related to Summits / conference

- India will host the World Audio Visual Entertainment Summit (WAVES) for the first time in 2025.
- Amit Shah, the Union Home Minister and Minister of Cooperation, presided over the North Eastern Council (NEC)'s 72nd plenary session in Agartala, Tripura.
- India served as vice chair during the Supply Chain Council's second meeting. India was represented by Shri Rajesh Agrawal, Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce
- Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami opened the 10th World Ayurveda Congress and Arogya Expo 2024 at Dehradun.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi opened the Rising Rajasthan Global Investment Summit 2024 and the Rajasthan Global Business Expo at the Jaipur Exhibition and Convention Centre (JECC) in Jaipur, Rajasthan.
- The two-day maiden India Maritime Heritage Conclave 2024 ended in New Delhi. The Conclave highlighted India's strong maritime tradition dating back to the Harappan period.
- The Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) convened the India-Norway Business Forum in Mumbai in partnership with the Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry of the Government of India
- The India Internet Governance Forum (IIGF) 2024 was hosted in the Bharat Mandapam Convention Center, Pragati Maidan in New Delhi
- The Western Air Command (WAC) staged a two-day Commanders' Conference in New Delhi, with Air primary Marshal AP Singh, Chief of the Air Staff (CAS), as the primary guest, who was greeted with a ceremonial Guard of Honour
- The Indian Embassy in Austria stated that India has been chosen to chair the 68th session of the United Nations Commission on Narcotic Drugs (CND)
- The second India-United Kingdom 2+2 Foreign and Defense Dialogue was conducted in New Delhi.
- The 16th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) began in Riyadh. The theme Our Land. Our Future





Ques : Who won the Men's 10-meter Air Pistol finals at the 67th National Shooting Championship 2024?

- (a) Saurabh Chaudhary
- (b) Abhishek Verma
- (c) Varun Tomar
- (d) Divyansh Singh Panwar
- (e) Anish Bhanwala

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Varun Tomar of the Indian Army has won the Men's 10-meter Air Pistol finals of the 67th National Shooting Championship 2024, which took place at Dr Karni Singh Shooting Range in New Delhi.
- Varun's teammate Pradhyumn Singh won silver, and Rajasthan's Aakash Bhardwaj took bronze.
- Varun Tomar also won the Men's Junior 10-meter Air Pistol event, while his teammate Pradhyumn Singh took bronze. Meanwhile, Nikhil from Uttar Pradesh won the silver medal.
- Furthermore, in the Men's Youth 10-meter Air Pistol event, Chirag Sharma of Uttar Pradesh won gold, his colleague Dev Pratap got silver, and Mayank Choudhary of Rajasthan earned bronze.





Recent News headlines related to Sports

- Haryana Steelers reached a historic milestone by winning their first Pro Kabaddi League (PKL) title. In a thrilling final at the Shree Shiv Chhatrapati Sports Complex in Pune, the Steelers overcame the Patna Pirates by 32-23.
- West Bengal, the most successful team in the Santosh Trophy's history, added to its trophy collection by defeating Kerala in the final of the 78th edition. This was the Bengal team's 33rd Santosh Trophy.
- Hemanth Muddappa, known as the "Drag King," achieved a remarkable triple crown victory in the final round of the MMSC FMSCI Indian National Motorcycle Drag Racing Championship held at the Madras International Circuit (MIC).
- Kerala won the Senior National Men's Handball Championship for the first time, defeating Chandigarh 34-31. The event final was held in Changanassery, Kerala.
- Punjab's Vijayveer Sidhu defeated fellow Olympian Gurpreet Singh of the Army Marksmanship Unit to win his first men's 25m rapid-fire pistol (RFP) title at the 67th National Shooting Championship Competitions (NSCC) for pistol events
- Lakshya Sen from India secured third place at the King Cup International Badminton Open by defeating French player Alex Lanier in straight games
- Karnataka's M. Raghu and Haryana's Devika Sihag won the men's and women's singles titles, respectively, at the 86th Senior National Badminton Championships 2024.
- Koneru Humpy, an Indian Grandmaster, won his second World Rapid Chess Championship, this time in New York. Koneru Humpy, 37, won the title by defeating Irene Sukandar with black pieces in the final round.
- Indian lifter Martina Devi clinched a silver medal in the women's junior +87kg category at the Asian Junior Weightlifting Championships.
- Bihar will host the Women's Kabaddi World Cup in March 2025 at Rajgir Sports Academy's indoor venue.
- The young Indian weightlifters ended the Asian Youth and Junior Weightlifting Championships 2024 with a respectable 33 medals, including 7 gold, 16 silver, and 10 bronze
- India won the inaugural Women's U-19 Asia Cup at Kuala Lumpur's Bayuemas Oval, defeating Bangladesh by 41 runs in the final.





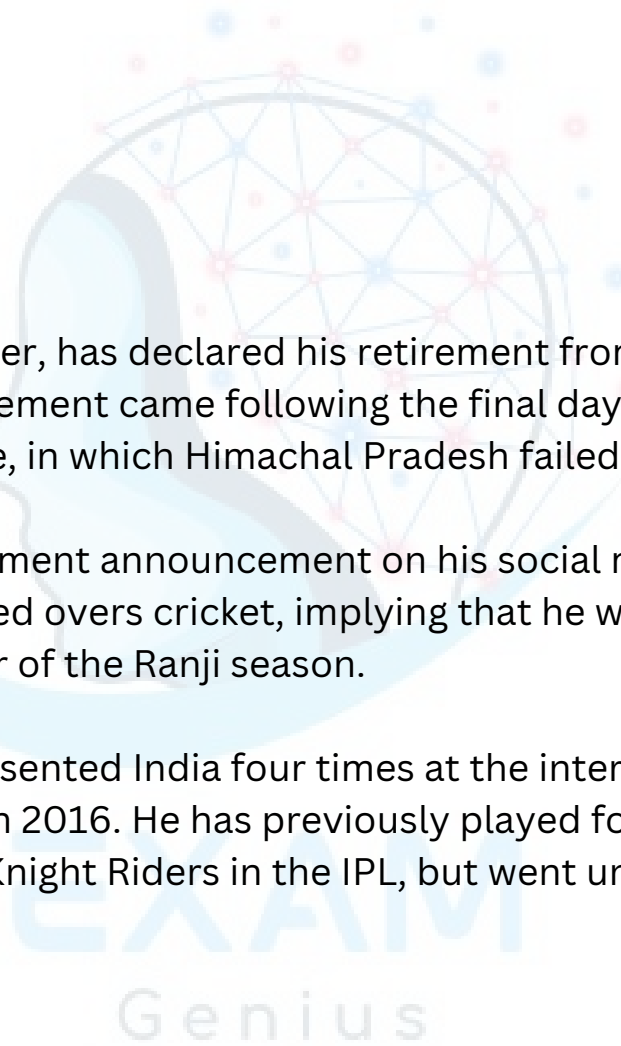
Ques : Rishi Dhawan has announced his retirement recently. He is related to which sport?

- (a) Cricket
- (b) Football
- (c) Shooting
- (d) Badminton
- (e) tennis

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- Rishi Dhawan, an allrounder, has declared his retirement from Indian limited overs cricket. Dhawan's announcement came following the final day of the Vijay Hazare Trophy's group stage phase, in which Himachal Pradesh failed to advance.
- However, Dhawan's retirement announcement on his social media handle particularly mentions limited overs cricket, implying that he will be ready to play for Himachal for the remainder of the Ranji season.
- The 34-year-old has represented India four times at the international level, with all four appearances coming in 2016. He has previously played for the Mumbai Indians, Punjab Kings, and Kolkata Knight Riders in the IPL, but went unsold in the most recent auctions.





Recently Retired Players :

- Ravichandran Ashwin (Indian) : International cricket
- Imad Wasim (Pakistan) : International cricket
- Siddarth Kaul (Indian) : cricket
- Emma McKeon (Australia): professional swimming
- Rafael Nadal (Spain) : professional tennis
- Tim Southee (New Zealand) : international cricket
- Mohammad Nabi (Afghanistan) : Retire from ODI Cricket
- Wriddhiman Saha (India) : retired from all cricket formats
- Rani Rampal : Retirement from Hockey
- Wicketkeeper-Batter Matthew Wade : Retires from International Cricket
- Andres Iniesta (Spain) : Retirement from professional football
- Rafael Nadal (from Spain) : Retirement from professional tennis
- Dipa Karmakar : Retirement from gymnastics
- Dwayne Bravo : All forms of cricket
- Luis Suarez (Uruguay) : National football team
- Moeen Ali (England) : Retirement from international cricket
- Shannon Gabriel (West Indies) : Retirement from international cricket
- Dawid Malan (England) : Retirement from international cricket
- Shikhar Dhawan (India) : All forms of cricket
- Ilkay Gundogan (Germany) : International football

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Ques : How many individuals were honored with the Presidential Medal of Freedom in this ceremony?

- (a) 12
- (b) 15
- (c) 17
- (d) 19
- (e) 22

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Lionel Messi, captain of Argentina's men's football team, was one of 19 individuals recognized with the Presidential Medal of Freedom during a ceremony at the White House.
- Messi became the first male football player to win the award, following Megan Rapinoe's win in 2022.
- The honor was given to 19 remarkable individuals by American President Joe Biden, whose time as 46th President ended on January 19, 2024.

The following individuals will be awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom :

- Ashton Baldwin Carter (posthumous) : served as the 25th Secretary of Defense and devoted his career to making the nation safer for all.
- Michael J. Fox : actor who has won five Emmy Awards, four Golden Globe Awards, two Screen Actors Guild Awards, and a Grammy Award.
- Jose Andres : A renowned Spanish-American culinary innovator who popularized tapas in the United States.
- Tim Gill : visionary entrepreneur whose work has advanced LGBTQI rights and equality.
- Bono : frontman for legendary rock band U2 and a pioneering activist against AIDS and poverty.
- Hillary Rodha Clinton : made history many times over decades in public service, including as the first First Lady elected to the United States Senate.



- Jane Goodall : world-renowned ethologist and conservationist whose research transformed our understanding of primates and human evolution
- Ralph Lauren : fashion designer who redefined the fashion industry with a lifestyle brand that embodies timeless elegance and American tradition
- Fannie Lou Hamer (posthumous) : transformed the struggle for racial justice in America
- Robert Francis Kennedy (posthumous) : remembered as an Attorney General who fiercely combatted racial segregation, and as a United States Senator who sought to address poverty and inequality in the country.
- Lionel Messi : most decorated player in the history of professional soccer.
- Earvin “Magic” Johnson : legendary retired basketball player who led the Los Angeles Lakers to five championships.
- George W. Romney (posthumous) : businessman who served as the chairman and president of American Motors Corporation.
- Denzel Washington : an actor, director, and producer who has won two Academy Awards, a Tony Award, two Golden Globes, and the 2016 Cecil B. DeMille Lifetime Achievement Award.
- William Sanford Nye : inspired and influenced generations of American students as “Bill Nye the Science Guy.”
- George Soros : an investor, philanthropist, and founder of the Open Society Foundations.
- David M. Rubenstein : co-founder and co-chairman of The Carlyle Group, where he built one of the most successful global investment firms.
- George Stevens, Jr. : an award-winning writer, director, author, and playwright.
- Anna Wintour : a renowned fashion icon who has led Vogue as editor-in-chief since 1988.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- Padmapani Lifetime Achievement Award : Sai Paranjpye for her contributions to both Indian cinema and Marathi literature
- Gangadhar National Award for Poetry 2023 : Odia poet Prativa Satpathy
- Bahrain's prestigious 'Medal of Efficiency' (First Class) by King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa : Dr. Ravi Pillai
- "Great Place to Work" certification for January 2025–2026 : Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
- SKOCH Award : Maharashtra government's initiative 'Shasan Aplya Dari' ('Government at Your Doorstep')
- 34th Vyas Samman for 2024 : Hindi writer Suryabala for Her novel "Kaun Des Ko Vasi: Venu Ki Diary" which was published in 2018
- Prestigious "Gold Award" in the State Energy Conservation Award 2024 : RINL, the corporate entity of the Visakhapatnam Steel Plant
- Royal honors 'knighthood' and 'damehood' by King Charles III : Oscar award winning filmmaker Christopher Nolan and his wife, Emma Thomas
- Pandit Swapan Chaudhuri : Rashtriya Tansen Samman 2023
- Sanand Nyas Sanstha from Indore : Raja Mansingh Tomar Samman 2023
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi : Kuwait's highest civilian honour, the Order of Mubarak Al Kabeer
- Mrs. India USA 2024 : Caitlin Sandra Neil, a 19-year-old Indian-American teenager born in Chennai, India
- Miss Teen India USA 2024 : Sanskriti Sharma from Illinois
- 14th PSE Excellence Awards in 3 Category : "Corporate Governance" and "Corporate Social Responsibility & Sustainability" and "Operational Performance Excellence" : Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency Limited (IREDA)
- Public Relations Society of India (PRSI) National Awards 2024 (in 8 category) : Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL)
- US Navy's prestigious Distinguished Public Service Award : Tom Cruise
- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar : Sri Chandrasekarendra Saraswathi National Eminence Award for Public Leadership by the South Indian Education Society (SIES)
- Biocon Group Chairperson Kiran Mazumdar-Shaw : Jamsetji Tata Award by the Indian Society for Quality (ISQ)
- Best FIFA Men's Player : Vinícius Junior of Spain and Real Madrid football club of Spain
- Best FIFA Women's Player : Aitana Bonmatí of Spain and Barcelona football club of Spain





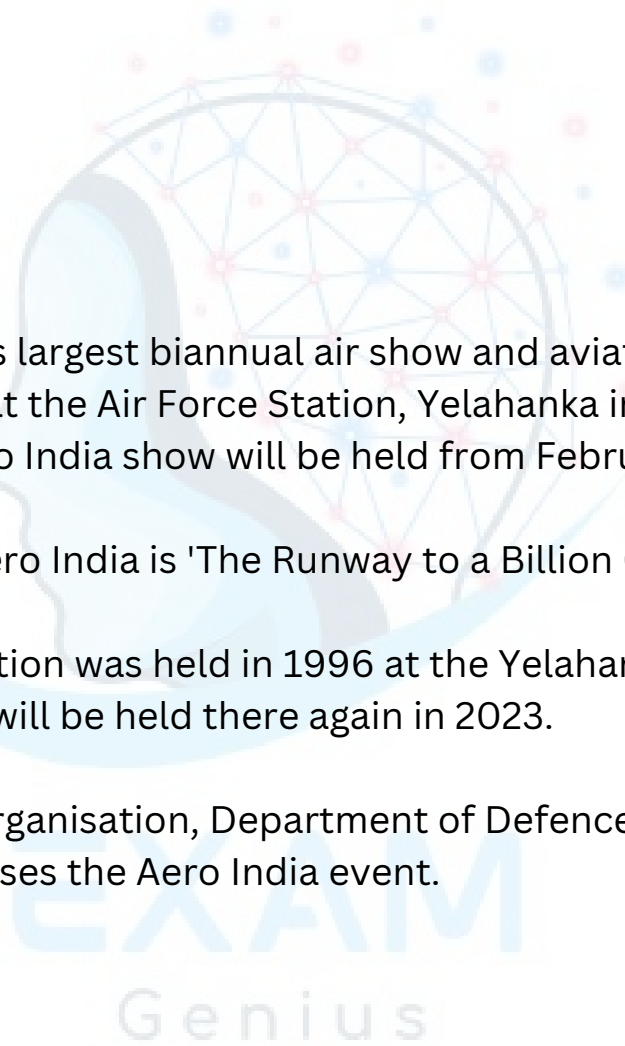
Ques : The latest edition of Asia's largest biannual air show and aviation exhibition, Aero India 2025, will take place in which city ?

- (a) Bengaluru
- (b) New Delhi
- (c) Chennai
- (d) Greater Noida
- (e) Gurugram

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- The latest edition of Asia's largest biannual air show and aviation exhibition, Aero India 2025, will take place at the Air Force Station, Yelahanka in Bengaluru, Karnataka. The 15th edition of the Aero India show will be held from February 10 to 14, 2025.
- The theme for the 15th Aero India is 'The Runway to a Billion Opportunities'.
- The first Aero India exhibition was held in 1996 at the Yelahanka Air Force Station base, and the 14th edition will be held there again in 2023.
- The Defence Exhibition Organisation, Department of Defence Production, Union Ministry of Defence, organises the Aero India event.





Ques : India's first coastal and wader bird census held in which state ?

- (a) Uttar Pradesh
- (b) Gujarat
- (c) Rajasthan
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Madhya Pradesh

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The Gujarat government will conduct the country's first census of coastal and wader birds in the Marine National Park and Sanctuary in Jamnagar.
- The Bird Conservation Society of Gujarat and the state forest department will collaborate to organize the census.
- The Marine National Park and Marine Sanctuary in Gujarat is India's first recognized marine national park, covering 170 km of shoreline and 42 islands between Okha and Navlakhi.
- It is located in the districts of Devbhoomi Dwarka, Jamnagar, and Morbi.

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Recent News Headlines Related to First in India and world :

- In a first, Chhattisgarh state has devised an innovative concept that combines forest ecosystem services with Green Gross Domestic Product (Green GDP).
- Kanyakumari, Tamil Nadu's famed tourist resort, has added another pearl to its crown. India's first glass bridge across the sea was inaugurated.
- Devi Ahilyabai Holkar Airport in Indore has been officially declared India's first Zero-Waste Airport.
- Uttarakhand has recently inaugurated its first wine production unit in Kotdwar, which is part of the government's new excise policy aimed at promoting wine tourism.
- The Punjab Chief Minister, Bhagwant Singh Mann, approved the Punjab State (Development and Promotion of Sports) Act, 2024, making it the first state in the country to do so.
- Adani Ports and Special Economic Zone (APSEZ) Mundra welcomed CMA CGM Fort Diamant, the first LNG-powered container vessel to berth at the port's Container Terminal-CT4.
- Uttar Pradesh is the first state to connect its procurement process with the Centre's Govt e-Marketplace (GeM), replacing its traditional tendering system.
- Masali, a village in Gujarat's Banaskantha district, has become India's first 'solar village' near the border, a key milestone in the country's renewable energy efforts.
- Uttarakhand, often known as "Devbhoomi," will be the first Indian state to enact a specific Yoga Policy, aiming to make the state a global yoga destination.
- The first Ganges River Dolphin (*Platanista gangetica*) has been tagged in Assam, marking a historic moment in animal conservation.
- NLC India Limited (NLCIL) and Uttar Pradesh Rajya Vidyut Utpadan Nigam Limited (UPRVUNL) partners to commence commercial operations of its 1st supercritical power plant '1980 Mega Watt (MW) Ghatampur Thermal Power Plant' (GTPP) in Uttar Pradesh.
- Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology, unveiled Kisan Kavach, India's first indigenous anti-pesticide bodysuit.
- The New Delhi Indira Gandhi International (IGI) Airport has become the first airport in India to connect 150 destinations.
- The Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) in collaboration with the Madras Diabetes Research Foundation (MDRF) has set up the country's first diabetes biobank in Chennai.
- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) – Indian Institute of Spices Research (IISR) introduced India's first ginger variety, "IISR Surasa," which was developed to use as a vegetable.





Ques : Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Union Minister of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, has opened the country's first organic fisheries cluster in which state ?

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Sikkim
- (c) Himachal Pradesh
- (d) Maharashtra
- (e) Uttarakhand

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- Rajiv Ranjan Singh, Union Minister of Animal Husbandry and Fisheries, has opened the country's first organic fisheries cluster in Sikkim.
- The organic fish cluster in Sikkim's Soreng District would increase farmer income while also promoting aquaculture sustainability.
- The project intends to sell organic fish that are free of antibiotics, chemicals, and pesticides in environmentally conscious markets around the world.
- Singh inaugurated 50 critical projects worth Rs.50 crore under the Pradhan Mantri Matsya Sampada Yojana (PMMSY), including all northeastern states except Arunachal Pradesh and Mizoram, in Guwahati.

EXAM
Genius





Ques : Dr Rajagopala Chidambaram passed away at the age of 88. He joined Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in which year ?

- (a) 1950
- (b) 1988
- (c) 1954
- (d) 1962
- (e) 1960

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Dr. Rajagopala Chidambaram, the Chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission and the Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India when India conducted the critical Pokhran-II nuclear tests, died at the age of 88.
- Chidambaram joined the Bhabha Atomic Research Centre in 1962.
- Chidambaram was born in Chennai in 1936 to C Rajagopal Aiyar, a Controller of Defence Accounts, and Ananthalakshmi.
- He graduated first at Madras University with a B.Sc (Honours). He later joined the Indian Institute of Science in Bengaluru in 1956, earning his master's degree in a year and his PhD in 1961.
- Though Chidambaram's name is mainly linked with Pokhran-II (India's second nuclear testing, in May 1998), he did play a significant role in the 1974 Pokhran-I, for which he received the Padma Shri award in 1975 and the Padma Vibhushan in 1999.





Ques : Earth's Rotation Day is observed every year on which day ?

- (a) 4 January
- (b) 5 January
- (c) 6 January
- (d) 7 January
- (e) 8 January

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- Earth's Rotation Day is held every year on January 8.
- The day raises awareness of the Earth's 24-hour rotational period, which is the foundation for the idea of time and the division of hours, minutes, and seconds.
- The Earth's Rotation Day commemorates the anniversary of French physicist Leon Foucault's 1851 confirmation that the Earth rotates around its axis. The day also commemorates Foucault's initial public demonstration in Paris.
- The Earth's diameter is 12,714 kilometers (7,900 miles) from the North to the South Poles and 12,756 kilometers (12,756 miles) along the equator (7,926 miles).
- 70% of the Earth's surface is covered in water. Only 3% of that is freshwater, whereas 97% is salty.

Genius





Important days :

- 13 December : National Horse Day
- 14 December : National Energy Conservation Day (Theme 2024: Powering Sustainability: Every Watt Counts)
- 16 December : Vijay Diwas 2024 (Commemorates India's decisive victory over Pakistan in the 1971 Indo-Pak War)
- 18 December : International Migrants Day (Theme 2024: Recognizing the contributions of migrants and protecting their rights)
- 18 December : Minorities Rights Day
- 18 December : World Arabic Language Day (Theme 2024: Arabic Language and AI: Driving Innovation While Preserving Cultural Heritage)
- 19 December : Goa Liberation Day
- 20 December : International Human Solidarity Day (Theme 2024: Promote friendship and collaboration)
- 21 December : World Meditation Day (Theme 2024: Inner Peace, Global Harmony)
- 21 December : World Basketball Day
- 22 December : National Mathematics Day 2024 (Theme 2024 Mathematics: The Bridge to Innovation and Progress)
- 23 December : Kisan Diwas, also known as National Farmer's Day (Theme 2024: Empowering 'Annadatas' for a Prosperous Nation)
- 24 December : National Consumer Rights Day
- 25 December : Good Governance Day
- 26 December : Boxing Day
- 26 December : Computer Operators' Day
- 26 December : Veer Bal Divas A Day of Valor And Righteousness
- 27 December : International Day of Epidemic Preparedness
- 29 December : International Cello Day
- 1 January : Global Family Day (Theme 2025: Let's Start the Year With Love, Unity, and Appreciation)
- 2 January : World Introvert Day (Theme 2025: Finding peace and calm in a noisy world)
- 2 January : 67th Foundation Day of Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO)
- 3 January : International Mind-Body Wellness Day
- 4 January : World Braille Day
- 5 January : National Bird Day (Theme 2025: Protecting Our Birds, Protecting Our Future)
- 6 January : World Day of War Orphans





IMPORTANT ONE – LINER Current Affairs

Costas Simitis, former Prime Minister of Greece and the architect of the country's joining the common European currency, the euro, has died at age 88. Mr. Simitis, a co-founder of the Socialist PASOK party in 1974.

Mike Johnson, a Republican from Louisiana Appointed as Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives

The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) lifted business restrictions on Arohan Financial Services Limited, a microfinance institution situated in Kolkata (West Bengal), after the lender implemented remedial steps and committed to fair loan pricing.

Farmers in Telangana will receive Rs.12,000 per acre annually under the Rythu Bharosa scheme, as the State government has increased the cash benefit under the scheme by Rs.2,000.

Uttarakhand government and Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) signed an MOU to promote tourism in the border areas of the state.

A Japanese woman who was the world's oldest person according to Guinness World Records has died. Tomiko Itooka was 116 and died at a care home in Ashiya in the Hyogo Prefecture, according to elderly policies official Yoshitsugu Nagata.

The plan aims to expand heli-services to border areas near popular tourist locations including Adi Kailash, Om Parvat, and Timmarsain Mahadev.

