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Ques : Which bank introduced Embassy Fixed Deposit, a specialized foreign currency term deposit scheme ?

किस बैंक ने विशेष विदेशी मुद्रा सावधि जमा योजना, एम्बेसी फिक्स्ड डिपॉजिट शुरू की?

- (a) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (b) IDFC First Bank / आईडीएफसी फर्स्ट बैंक
- (c) Dhanlaxmi Bank / धनलक्ष्मी बैंक
- (d) RBL Bank / आरबीएल बैंक
- (e) Yes Bank / यस बैंक

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- HDFC Bank has launched the Embassy Fixed Deposit scheme, a foreign currency term deposit available only in USD.
- The scheme is designed for diplomats, non-diplomatic staff, and diplomatic missions.
- The minimum deposit amount is USD 5,000, with additional deposits accepted in multiples of USD 1,000.
- Fixed deposit tenures are limited to 1 month, 3 months, 6 months, and 1 year for diplomatic staff.
- Interest rates are updated monthly based on prevailing market conditions, and automatic renewal is not available.
- Upon maturity, a fresh request form is required for reinvestment.
- Premature withdrawals are allowed but attract a 0.5% penalty on the applicable interest rate.
- If the adjusted interest rate after penalty falls below zero, no interest is paid.





Recent Facilities Launched in Banking & Insurance Sector :

- IDFC FIRST Bank has added a "Ace" feature to its mobile banking app, which will provide information on over 2500 mutual funds. This is intended to encourage 'do-it-yourself' investment among its clients
- Kotak Mutual Fund has launched a new investment plan called 'Choti SIP' to make mutual fund investments more accessible for small investors
- Canara Bank has been the first bank in India to introduce an Online Digital Balance Confirmation Certificate through the PSB Alliance Pvt. Ltd platform, marking a significant step forward in digitisation and operational efficiency
- HDFC Bank, one of India's top private banks, will now accept deposits under the Senior Citizens' Savings Scheme (SCSS). This scheme, run by the Government of India, is designed to help elderly individuals save money securely
- Tata AIA Life Insurance has introduced the Tata AIA Shubh Flexi Income Plan, a non-linked, participating life insurance savings plan
- YES Bank Ltd, a private sector lender, has introduced a GST payment facility to improve its digital banking services
- Avanse Financial Services Ltd. (Avanse) has launched 'SWALAKSH', a specialised education loan tailored for female students aspiring to study abroad
- SheTARA campaign Launched by Star Health Insurance at Tamil Nadu. Its aim is to promote preventive healthcare among women while also encouraging more women to join as insurance agents
- Axis Bank has become the first Indian bank to carry out an aircraft finance transaction through its International Banking Unit (IBU) at GIFT City IFSC
- Bank of Baroda (BoB) is the first public sector bank to offer the 'bob Global Women Non-Resident External (NRE) and Non-Resident Ordinary (NRO) Savings Account' for female NRIs
- PhonePe has launched the 'insuring HEROES' campaign in honor of International Women's Day
- Project HAKK (Hawai Anubhavi Kalyan Kendra-Serving those who have served) Launched By HDFC Bank Limited
- HDFC Bank Limited was the first domestic bank to trade 5 kg of gold at the India International Bullion Exchange (IIBX) in GIFT City, Gujarat.





Ques : What was the record profit earned by Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) in FY24?
वित्त वर्ष 2023-24 में क्षेत्रीय ग्रामीण बैंकों (RRBs) द्वारा कमाया गया रिकॉर्ड मुनाफा कितना था?

- (a) Rs.5,621 crore
- (b) Rs.6,850 crore
- (c) Rs.7,571 crore
- (d) Rs.8,210 crore
- (e) None of the above

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Regional Rural Banks (RRBs) earned a record profit of ₹7,571 crore in the financial year 2023-24, as reported by the government in Parliament.
- This reflects a steady improvement in their financial health over the past few years.
- RRBs have shown progress in key areas such as Capital Adequacy Ratio (CRAR), increase in deposits and loans, reduction in Non-Performing Assets (NPAs), and better Credit-Deposit (CD) ratio.
- The improved profitability indicates stronger asset quality and efficient banking operations.
- RRBs play an important role in expanding credit in rural areas and promoting financial inclusion.
- The government is focusing on strengthening RRBs through capital support and digital transformation.

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Ques : What was the total dividend payout by Public Sector Banks (PSBs) in FY24?
वित्त वर्ष 24 में सार्वजनिक क्षेत्र के बैंकों (PSB) द्वारा कुल लाभांश भुगतान कितना था?

- a) Rs.20,964 crore
- b) Rs.18,013 crore
- c) Rs.27,830 crore
- d) Rs.13,804 crore
- e) Rs.25,000 crore

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Public sector banks (PSBs) reported a 33% rise in dividend payouts, disbursing Rs.27,830 crore to shareholders in FY24—up from Rs.20,964 crore in FY23. This marks a significant improvement in the financial health of these banks.
- Of the total dividend, about 65% (Rs.18,013 crore) was paid to the Central Government, reflecting its majority shareholding. In comparison, the government received Rs.13,804 crore in FY23, including payouts from major lenders like State Bank of India (SBI).

Record Profits Back the Dividend Surge :

- In FY24, 12 PSBs posted their highest-ever cumulative net profit of Rs.1.41 lakh crore, compared to Rs.1.05 lakh crore in FY23.
- In the first nine months of FY24, PSBs had already earned Rs.1.29 lakh crore.
- SBI alone contributed over 40% of total PSB profits, earning Rs.61,077 crore in FY24—22% higher than Rs.50,232 crore in FY23.

Top Performers by Profit Growth (YoY) :

- Punjab National Bank (PNB) : 228% growth to Rs.8,245 crore
- Union Bank of India : 62% growth to Rs.13,649 crore
- Central Bank of India : 61% growth to Rs.2,549 crore
- Bank of India : 57% growth to Rs.6,318 crore
- Bank of Maharashtra : 56% growth to Rs.4,055 crore
- Indian Bank : 53% growth to Rs.8,063 crore





Ques : How much dollar-denominated syndicated loan did SBI raise in 2025?
SBI ने 2025 में कितना डॉलर-संकेतित सिंडिकेटेड ऋण जुटाया?

- (a) \$500 million
- (b) \$750 million
- (c) \$1 billion
- (d) \$1.5 billion
- (e) None of the above

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- The State Bank of India (SBI) has raised \$1 billion through a dollar-denominated syndicated loan, making it the largest such loan from India in 2025.
- This move is expected to revive the sluggish foreign currency debt market and reflects growing investor confidence.
- SBI did not exercise the greenshoe option, which could have increased the loan amount by \$250 million.
- The loan facility is for five years and supports India's forex reserves, aiding in economic stability.
- This success may encourage other Indian banks to raise funds in the international markets.

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Ques : Vikram Sahu is set to replace whom as the head of Bank of America's India operations?

विक्रम साहू बैंक ऑफ अमेरिका के भारत परिचालन के प्रमुख के रूप में किसकी जगह लेंगे?

- a) Shyam Srinivasan / श्याम श्रीनिवासन
- b) Kaku Nakhate / काकू नखाते
- c) Chanda Kochhar / चंदा कोचर
- d) Ajay Banga / अजय बंगा
- e) Vishal Sikka / विशाल सिक्का

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- Vikram Sahu, Bank of America's head of global equity research, will take over as the next country executive for India.
- He will succeed Kaku Nakhate, who will conclude 15 years as CEO of Indian operations in June.
- According to an internal memo written by Jin Su, president of Asia Pacific, Sahu will transfer from New York in the second quarter of the calendar year to take over as overall leader of the India franchise.

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Recent Appointment in Banking & Insurance

Sector :

- Rahul Bhawe : Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer (MD & CEO) of IFCI Ltd
- Deena Mehta : reappointed as Additional Director in the function of Independent Director of Fino Payments Bank
- Mythili Balasubramanian : Interim Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer of Edelweiss Asset Reconstruction Company (EARC)
- Indranil Bhattacharyya : Executive Director (ED) of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- Atul Kumar Goel : Chief Executive (CE) of The Indian Banks' Association
- Sumant Kathpalia : reappointment as Managing Director and CEO of Indusind Bank for one year
- Ajit Ratnakar Joshi : Executive Director (ED), in charge of the Department of Statistics and Information Management and the Department of Financial Stability
- Narendra Agrawal : president and head of branch banking and retail liabilities of RBL bank
- T S Pari : chief operating officer (COO) of RBL bank
- Santosh Agarwal : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of Paisabazaar (Replaced Naveen Kukreja, co-founder of Paisabazaar)
- Neeraj Tripathi : Chief Financial Officer (CFO) of Paisabazaar (Replaced Vivek Audichya)
- Dorababu Daparti : SBI Life Insurance Company's Deputy Chief Executive Officer (CEO)
- Finance Secretary Tuhin Kanta Pandey : Chairman of the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for a three-year term
- Shahrukh Todiwala : MD, CEO of Kotak Mahindra Prime, a subsidiary of Kotak Mahindra Bank (KMB)
- Prabdev Singh (P.D.) Singh : Chief Executive Officer (CEO) of India's operation of Standard Chartered of India based in Mumbai (Replaced Zarin Daruwala)





Ques : Which bank has launched the 'mDigiNext' mobile app for corporate cash management services?

किस बैंक ने कॉर्पोरेट कैश मैनेजमेंट सेवाओं के लिए 'mDigiNext' मोबाइल ऐप लॉन्च किया है?

- (a) HDFC Bank / एचडीएफसी बैंक
- (b) Karnataka Bank / कर्नाटक बैंक
- (c) Bank of baroda / बैंक ऑफ बड़ौदा
- (d) Canara Bank / केनरा बैंक
- (e) Bank of Maharashtra / बैंक ऑफ महाराष्ट्र

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Bank of Baroda (BoB) has introduced the 'mDigiNext mobile app' to meet the cash management demands of its corporate customers.
- BoB's specialized cash management services app provides payment functionalities that assist businesses in managing their working capital and cash flows, resulting in increased efficiencies, faster execution, and simplicity of operations.
- The new tool will help corporations optimize their cash management procedures and workflows. It offers users 24/7 access to critical and innovative financial tools, enabling corporates to make educated decisions anytime and anywhere

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Ques : "Terrorism Risk Insurance Pool" was formed in which year?

"आतंकवाद जोखिम बीमा पूल" किस वर्ष बनाया गया था?

- (a) 1999
- (b) 2001
- (c) 2002
- (d) 2008
- (e) 2010

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- The General Insurance Corporation of India (GIC Re) has announced a 15% cut in terrorism insurance premiums under the Terrorism Risk Insurance Pool, effective from April 1, 2025.
- This pool was established in 2002 after international reinsurers stopped offering terrorism risk coverage following the 9/11 attacks in the US.
- The insurance is provided under property policies and covers both residential buildings and fixed assets.
- The maximum indemnity limit for sabotage and terrorism risks has been increased to Rs.2,000 crore per location, compared to the earlier limit of Rs.200 crore.
- In FY24, the terrorism pool collected premiums worth Rs.1,654.63 crore, while claims stood at only Rs.3.12 crore.
- No major terrorism-related insurance losses have been reported since the 2008 Mumbai terror attacks.

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Ques : Which country did the Indian Men's team defeat in the final of the Kabaddi World Cup 2025?

कबड्डी विश्व कप 2025 के फाइनल में भारतीय पुरुष टीम ने किस देश को हराया?

- a) Pakistan / पाकिस्तान
- b) Iran / ईरान
- c) Bangladesh / बांग्लादेश
- d) England / इंग्लैंड
- e) Sri Lanka / श्रीलंका

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- India has won both the Men's and Women's Kabaddi World Cup 2025 titles held in Wolverhampton, England.
- In the final, the Indian Men's team narrowly defeated England 44-41, while the Women's team secured a dominant victory with a 57-34 win over England at the same venue.
- This was the first time the Kabaddi World Cup was held outside Asia, with top teams competing in cities across England's West Midlands, including Birmingham, Coventry, Walsall, and Wolverhampton.
- India had also won both the men's and women's titles in the first edition of the tournament, held in Malaysia in 2019.

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Ques : India has recently imposed an anti-dumping duty on which of the following products?

भारत ने हाल ही में निम्नलिखित में से किस उत्पाद पर एंटी-डंपिंग शुल्क लगाया है?

- (a) Lithium-ion batteries / लिथियम-आयन बैटरी
- (b) Soft Ferrite Cores / सॉफ्ट फेरिट कोर
- © Semiconductor chips / सेमीकंडक्टर चिप्स
- (d) Solar panels / सौर पैनल
- (e) None of the above / उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- India has imposed anti-dumping duties on five Chinese products to protect its domestic industries from unfair pricing and cheap imports.
- The products include Soft Ferrite Cores, Vacuum Insulated Flasks, Aluminium Foil, Trichloro Isocyanuric Acid, and Poly Vinyl Chloride (PVC) Paste Resin.
- A 35% duty has been imposed on Soft Ferrite Cores, which are commonly used in electric vehicle chargers and telecom equipment.
- The duty on Vacuum Insulated Flasks is set at \$1,732 per tonne.
- On PVC Paste Resin, the duty ranges from \$89 to \$707 per tonne for five years, impacting imports from six countries including China.
- Aluminium Foil will have a temporary duty of \$873 per tonne for six months.
- Trichloro Isocyanuric Acid, used in water treatment, will face a duty between \$276 and \$986 per tonne, affecting imports from China and Japan.
- These duties are aimed at discouraging dumping practices and supporting Indian manufacturers.





Ques : Who launched the BioSaarthi initiative?

बायोसारथी पहल का शुभारंभ किसने किया?

- (a) Anurag Thakur / अनुराग ठाकुर
- (b) Piyush Goyal / पीयूष गोयल
- (c) Jitendra Singh / जितेंद्र सिंह
- (d) Nitin Gadkari / नितिन गडकरी
- (e) Kiren Rijiju / किरण रिजिजू

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- The Government of India has launched the BioSaarthi initiative to assist Indian biotech startups in expanding both domestically and internationally.
- The initiative was inaugurated by Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) for Science and Technology.
- The launch took place during an event in New Delhi celebrating the 13th Foundation Day of BIRAC (Biotechnology Industry Research Assistance Council).
- On the same occasion, the “India Bioeconomy Report 2025” was released.
- This report has been prepared by the Association of Biotechnology Led Enterprises (ABLE).

The report's major highlights include the following :

- The Indian bioeconomy has grown from \$10 billion in 2014 to \$165.7 billion by 2024.
- The central government aims to develop a \$150 billion bioeconomy by 2025.
- The bioeconomy contributed 4.25% to the country's GDP.
- Over the last four years, the Bioeconomy industry has grown at a compounded annual rate (CAGR) of 17.9%.





Ques : Which institution Inaugurates "Hack the Future" Hackathon ?
"Hack the Future" Hackathon का आयोजन किस संस्थान में किया गया था?

- (a) IIT Gandhinagar / आईआईटी गांधीनगर
- (b) IIT Delhi / आईआईटी दिल्ली
- (c) IIT Madras / आईआईटी मद्रास
- (d) IIT Indore / आईआईटी इंदौर
- (e) IIT Roorkee / आईआईटी रुड़की

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- The National Statistical Office (NSO) India organized a 36-hour hackathon named "Hack the Future" in collaboration with IIT Gandhinagar on March 24, 2025.
- A total of 18 teams from IITs, NITs, and IIITs participated and worked on three innovation-based challenges with guidance from industry experts, academicians, and ministry officials.
- The closing ceremony was attended by Dr. Saurabh Garg (Secretary, MoSPI), Shri P.R. Meshram (DG, NSO India), and Dr. Rajat Moona (Director, IIT Gandhinagar).
- The hackathon supports the Government's modernization goals by promoting data science and statistics as key tools for innovation.
- Dr. Meshram highlighted the importance of using large datasets for innovation, and Dr. Moona motivated students to keep exploring the fields of data science and statistics.
- Plaksha University won in two categories, Rajiv Gandhi Institute of Petroleum Technology in one category, while IIT Jammu, VIT Vellore, and NIT Goa secured second place. NMIMS Mumbai, IIIT Vadodara, and IIT Kharagpur were third-place winners.
- The event underscored the value of collaboration in fostering innovation and advancing digital solutions.





Recent News Headlines Related to IITs

- India's Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) has signed an agreement with IIT Delhi to develop an advanced generative AI-based chatbot
- IIT Guwahati has developed India's first VR Metaverse, "Gyandhara", for PM SHRI Schools in collaboration with the Ministry of Science and Technology and the Assam Government's Department of Education
- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has inked a MOU with IIT Dharwad, to boost industry-academia collaboration in advanced technologies
- Indian Bank has announced a Cyber Security & FinTech hackathon in collaboration with the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras, set for April 2025
- Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) and Indian Institute of Technology Indore (IIT-I) collaborate to launch 'AgriHub'
- The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), the premier Telecom R&D centre of the Department of Telecommunications (DoT), GoI, has signed an agreement with IIT Mandi, in collaboration with IIT Jammu, for the development of "Wideband Spectrum-Sensor ASIC-Chip, for Enhancing Spectrum Utilization".
- IIT-Madras has successfully commissioned Asia's largest shallow wave basin at its Discovery campus at Thaiyur.
- IIT Madras, has worked with the Union Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare on a project to increase the efficiency and efficacy of the agricultural extension system through digitization.
- IIT Madras has completed a 410-meter Hyperloop test track, marking a big step forward in India's pursuit of futuristic transportation solutions.
- Hyundai Motor Group has partnered with three IITs to build a joint research system in the domains of batteries and electrification, involving a USD 7 million investment over five years.
- IIT Guwahati will host the 10th India International Science Festival (IISF) 2024 from November 30 to December 3.
- Samsung R&D Institute, Noida (SRI-Noida) has signed a MOU with the famed Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay).
- IIT Madras and ISRO Collaborate to create a Centre of Excellence focused on research in 'Fluid and Thermal Sciences'. ISRO will provide seed funding of Rs 1.84 Crore to establish this center.





**Ques : Who has been selected for the 59th Jnanpith Award (2024)?
59वें ज्ञानपीठ पुरस्कार (2024) के लिए किसे चुना गया है?**

- a) Gulzar / गुलज़ार
- b) Manglesh Dabral / मंगलेश डबराल
- c) Vinod Kumar Shukla / विनोद कुमार शुक्ला
- d) Uday Prakash / उदय प्रकाश
- e) Krishna Sobti / कृष्णा सोबती

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Vinod Kumar Shukla has been chosen for the 59th Jnanpith Award in 2024, India's highest literary honor, for his outstanding contribution to Hindi literature.
- At the age of 88, he becomes the first author from Chhattisgarh to receive this prestigious award.
- Shukla is known for his poetic and narrative brilliance, with works like Deewar Mein Ek Khirki Rehti Thi, which won the Sahitya Akademi Award in 1999.
- The Jnanpith Selection Committee, chaired by writer Pratibha Ray, recognized his unique storytelling style and literary impact in modern Hindi writing.

About Jnanpith Award :

- The Jnanpith Award, established in 1961, was first presented to Malayalam poet G. Sankara Kurup in 1965 for his anthology of poems "Odakkuzhal". It is given only to Indian authors.
- The prize includes a financial payment of Rs 11 lakh, a bronze statue of Saraswati, the Hindu goddess of learning, and a citation.



Ques : Who inaugurated the Purple Fest 2025?

पर्पल फेस्ट 2025 का उद्घाटन किसने किया?

- (a) Jagdeep Dhankhar / जगदीप धनखड़
- (b) Rajesh Kumar Singh / राजेश कुमार सिंह
- (c) Ashwini Vaishnaw / अश्विनी वैष्णव
- (d) Droupadi Murmu / द्रौपदी मुर्मू
- (e) Narendra Modi / नरेंद्र मोदी

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the Purple Fest 2025 at the Amrit Udyan, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi.
- The festival is a celebration of the talents, achievements, and aspirations of persons with disabilities (PwDs), also referred to as Divyangjan in India.
- The first edition of Purple Fest was held in Panjim, Goa in January 2023.
- The event is organised by the Union Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment in collaboration with the Rashtrapati Bhavan.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Awards & Winners :

- Knight's Cross of the Order of Dannebrog, a distinguished Danish honour : Vijay Sankar, Chairman of the Chennai-based Sanmar Group
- 2025 Stockholm Water Prize : Austrian hydrologist Gunter Bloschl
- Sangita Kalanidhi award 2025 : Renowned violinist R.K. Shriramkumar
- Maharashtra Bhushan : Veteran sculptor Ram Sutar
- 2025 Holberg Prize : Gayatri Chakravorty Spivak
- iDEX (Innovations for Defence Excellence) Award : Atima Corporation Private Limited for developing the VEER Electric Tactical All-Terrain Vehicle (E-TATV)
- Air Service Quality (ASQ) award : Bengaluru's Kempegowda International Airport (KIAB)
- ACM A.M. Turing Award, often referred to as the "Nobel Prize of Computing" : Dr. Andrew Barto from the USA and Richard S. Sutton from Canada
- Ramsar Award for 'Wetland Wise Use' : Dr. Jayshree Vencatesan, co-founder of Care Earth Trust
- 2026 World Academy of Sciences (TWAS) Award : Suman Chakraborty in Engineering and Computer Sciences (CS) for Developing Low-Cost Medical Diagnostic Solutions
- The Grand Commander of the Order of the Star and Key of the Indian Ocean by Mauritius : Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- Lifetime Achievement Award for Hospitality and Education award : Dr. Suborno Bose, Chairman of the International Institute of Hotel Management (IIHM)
- EY Entrepreneur of the Year Award 2024 : Nithin Kamath, Founder and CEO of Zerodha
- Lifetime Achievement Award : K.V. Kamath, Chairman of Jio Financial Services Limited





Recent News Headlines Related to Festivals & Fairs :

- Nyokum Yullo Celebration : at Boasimla, Kamle District, Arunachal Pradesh by the Nyishi people in Arunachal Pradesh
- Khajuraho Dance Festival : organized by Madhya Pradesh's Department of Culture and supported by Madhya Pradesh Tourism, has showcased India's classical dances
- Ali Ai Ligang festival : Assam by Mising tribe
- 'Pusa Krishi Vigyan Mela' 2025 : in New Delhi, presenting the most recent seed types and agricultural innovations
- Aadi Mahotsav 2025 : India's rich tribal heritage at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in New Delhi
- 24th Divya Kala Mela : at Gulshan Ground in Jammu
- "Culinary, Crafts & Clicks – Moods & Magic", a Festival of Street Food & Handicraft : Amrit Udyan, Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi by Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs (MoHUA)
- 51-day Pir Panjal Winter Festival : inaugurated by Indian Army in the border district of Poonch, Jammu and Kashmir
- 38th edition of the Surajkund International Crafts Mela : in Faridabad
- world's largest Jhumur dance, also known as Jhumoir : Assam
- Nagoba Jatara : second biggest festival in Telangana Held at Keslapur village, Indravelli mandal
- 10th Sci-Fi Science Film Festival of India : Panaji in Goa
- seven-day "International Saraswati Mahotsav 2025" : "Adi Badri" in Haryana's Yamunagar district
- New Delhi World Book Fair 2025 : Bharat Mandapam in Pragati Maidan
- Pangsau Pass International Festival (PPIF) 2025 : Nampong, Arunachal Pradesh on 3rd week of January
- 18th edition of the Jaipur Literature Festival : Jaipur
- Flamingo Festival 2025 : Andhra Pradesh
- Avaniyapuram Jallikattu Festival : Avaniyapuram village, near the Sri Bathrakaliamman Temple, Madurai, Tamil Nadu. 1,100 bulls and 900 bull-tamers participate.





Ques : The newly ordered unit at Ukai Thermal Power Plant by BHEL will have a capacity of:

बीएचईएल द्वारा उकाई थर्मल पावर प्लांट में नई ऑर्डर की गई इकाई की क्षमता होगी :

- a) 660 MW
- b) 1000 MW
- c) 500 MW
- d) 800 MW
- e) 1200 MW

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (BHEL) has received a big order worth ₹7,500 crore from Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Ltd (GSECL) to build a new 800 MW thermal power unit at the Ukai power plant in Tapi district, Gujarat.
- The project will be done on an EPC (Engineering, Procurement, and Construction) basis. This means BHEL will handle everything – from designing to supplying and setting up key parts like boilers, turbines, and generators. The unit is expected to start working within 54 months from March 21, 2025.
- BHEL has been working with GSECL for a long time, starting with the first thermal unit at Ukai in 1976. This new project shows BHEL's continued support in growing India's power generation, with more than 1,70,000 MW already set up across the country.

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Ques : What is the primary objective of the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA)?
राष्ट्रीय ई-विधान एप्लीकेशन (नेवा) का प्राथमिक उद्देश्य क्या है?

- a) To facilitate online voting for the general public / आम जनता के लिए ऑनलाइन मतदान की सुविधा प्रदान करना
- b) To digitize legislative procedures and make assemblies paperless / विधायी प्रक्रियाओं को डिजिटल बनाना और विधानसभाओं को कागज रहित बनाना
- c) To conduct e-learning programs for legislators / विधायकों के लिए ई-लर्निंग कार्यक्रम आयोजित करना
- d) To digitize land records of states / राज्यों के भूमि रिकॉर्ड को डिजिटल बनाना
- e) To integrate judiciary and legislative portals / न्यायपालिका और विधायी पोर्टलों को एकीकृत करना

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The Delhi Legislative Assembly, the Ministry of Parliamentary Affairs, and the Delhi government have signed MoU to execute the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA). With this decision, Delhi becomes India's 28th legislature to adopt a digital system.
- NeVA is intended to make legislative processes paperless and more open, furthering the goal of "One Nation, One Application." It will help to digitize records, improve efficiency, and provide real-time access to legislative materials.
- The platform is housed on India's cloud system, Meghraj 2.0, ensuring its security, scalability, and accessibility across multiple devices. It also supports several languages to suit a diverse set of users.
- Delhi Assembly Speaker Vijender Gupta said the Assembly aims to become fully paperless within 100 days, highlighting a major push towards digital governance.





Ques : What is the last date for Central Government employees to opt for the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)?

केंद्र सरकार के कर्मचारियों के लिए एकीकृत पेंशन योजना (यूपीएस) चुनने की अंतिम तिथि क्या है?

- a) March 31, 2025
- b) April 1, 2025
- c) June 30, 2025
- d) December 31, 2025
- e) May 31, 2025

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Central Government Employees Given Until June 30, 2025, to Opt for Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)
- The Central Government's Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) will officially launch on April 1, 2025, with a three-month window until June 30, 2025, for eligible employees to opt in.

The scheme is open to:

- Employees who joined service on or after January 1, 2004
- Those retiring by March 31, 2025
- Legally wedded spouses of deceased employees (if the option wasn't exercised before the subscriber's death)

Key Benefits of UPS :

- Assured Pension : 50% of the average basic pay over the last 12 months (for service of 25+ years)
- Family Pension : 60% of the employee's pension
- Minimum Guaranteed Pension : Rs.0,000/month (for 10+ years of service)
- Inflation Indexation
- Lump Sum Payment at superannuation, along with gratuity

Contribution Structure :

- Government Contribution: 18.5% (up from 14% in NPS)
- Employee Contribution: 10% of basic pay + Dearness Allowance (DA)





The total corpus will be divided into:

- An individual pension fund
- A pool corpus, managed as per Central Government norms

Investment Options :

Employees can choose:

- 100% investment in Government Securities, or
- Life-cycle funds with equity exposure capped at 25% or 50%

They will also have the flexibility to:

- Switch pension fund once per year
- Change investment pattern twice annually

Enrollment Details:

- Starting April 1, 2025, eligible employees can access enrollment and claim forms online via the Protean CRA Website. Alternatively, forms can also be submitted in person.

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Ques : Maharashtra's Kumbh Mela Authority Law is inspired by which state?
महाराष्ट्र का कुंभ मेला प्राधिकरण कानून किस राज्य से प्रेरित है?

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

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- Maharashtra CM Devendra Fadnavis has announced a ₹1,100 crore development plan for the Trimbakeshwar Temple in Nashik, along with the introduction of a Kumbh Mela Authority Law.
- This law is modeled after Uttar Pradesh's legal framework for organizing the Kumbh Mela.
- The purpose of the law is to ensure structured planning, legal backing for Kumbh-related projects, and efficient crowd management.
- The Trimbakeshwar Simhastha Kumbh Mela is scheduled for 2027, and preparations include upgrades in public transport, integration of electric vehicles, and improved waste management.
- Additional efforts will include sewage treatment for the purification of the Godavari River and infrastructure development around the temple.
- CM Fadnavis highlighted the Mela's potential to boost economic activity and entrepreneurship despite delays in earlier planning phases.





Ques : Who secured the men's singles title at the SRFI Indian Tour PSA Challenger?
एसआरएफआई इंडियन टूर पीएसए चैलेंजर में पुरुष एकल का खिताब किसने हासिल किया?

- a) Saurav Ghosal / सौरव घोषाल
- b) Ramit Tandon / रमित टंडन
- c) Veer Chotani / वीर चोटानी
- d) Mahesh Mangaonkar / महेश मनगांवकर
- e) Abhay Singh / अभय सिंह

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Anahat Singh, an Indian squash prodigy, and Veer Chotani won the women's and men's singles titles at the SRFI Indian Tour PSA Challenger event.
- The SRFI Indian Tour PSA Challenger event took place at the Indian Squash and Triathlon Academy in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.
- The total prize money for the men's tournament was \$15,000, while the same amount was awarded for the women's event.

About PSA Challenger :

- The PSA Challenger Event is organized by the Professional Squash Association (PSA).
- It is a second-tier tournament where aspiring professional squash players can earn enough points to qualify for the main PSA Squash Tour.
- The PSA Squash Tour is the PSA's flagship top-level tournament, attracting the world's greatest squash players.





Ques : Where was the VLSRSAM missile tested by DRDO?

DRDO ने VLSRSAM मिसाइल का परीक्षण कहाँ किया?

- (A) Pokhran, Rajasthan / पोखरण, राजस्थान
- (B) Wheeler Island, Odisha / व्हीलर द्वीप, ओडिशा
- (C) Integrated Test Range, Chandipur / एकीकृत परीक्षण रेंज, चांदीपुर
- (D) Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh / श्रीहरिकोटा, आंध्र प्रदेश
- (E) None of the above / उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) successfully test-fired the Vertically Launched Short-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (VLSRSAM) for the Indian Navy.
- The test was conducted at the Integrated Test Range (ITR) in Chandipur, Odisha, using a land-based vertical launcher.
- The missile effectively intercepted a high-speed aerial target at a close range and low altitude, demonstrating its precision and reliability.
- The VLSRSAM enhances naval air defence and will act as a key force multiplier for the Indian Navy.
- It showcases India's indigenous defence capabilities and aligns with the Make in India initiative.
- The missile's ability to neutralize aerial threats in low-altitude zones significantly boosts combat readiness at sea.

Genius





Recent News Headlines Related to DRDO

- DRDO successfully tested an indigenous life support system for Tejas light combat aircraft pilots at high altitude.
- The Indian Navy, in partnership with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), successfully tested the indigenously designed Naval Anti-Ship Missile - Short Range (NASM-SR)
- The DRDO has completed user trials for its HIMKAVACH multi-layer apparel system in extreme cold temperatures.
- Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers (GRSE), a defence PSU, formally handed over the "Jaldoot" Unmanned Surface Vessel (USV) to DRDO's Naval Science and Technological Laboratory (NSTL) in Visakhapatnam after successful trials.
- DRDO has completed flight testing for the Guided Pinaka Weapon System as part of the PSQR validation trials.
- DRDO has successfully completed three flight tests of the 4th Generation Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS) at the Pokhran Field Firing Ranges in Rajasthan.
- DRDO, in collaboration with experts from IIT Delhi, has created lightweight bulletproof jackets called ABHED (Advanced Ballistics for High Energy Defeat), which provide 360-degree protection.
- The Indian Light Tank, Zorawar, underwent successful initial vehicle testing undertaken by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).
- The Indian Navy, in collaboration with the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), successfully tested the Vertical Launch Short Range Surface to Air Missile (VL-SRSAM).
- India has completed a successful test-fire of Agni-4 Ballistic Missile in Chandipur, Odisha. The Agni missiles are designed and developed by the DRDO.
- Energy-harvesting shoes with GPS tracking have been created by the IIT Indore, Madhya Pradesh, in collaboration with the DRDO.
- The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) has sanctioned seven new projects for the private sector under the Technology Development Fund scheme.
- Medium Range-Microwave Obscurant Chaff Rocket (MR-MOCR) developed by the Jodhpur Laboratory of the Research DRDO was formally handed over to the Indian Navy at a function held in New Delhi.





Ques : Which state has become the first in India to broadcast its Legislative Assembly proceedings in sign language?

कौन सा राज्य भारत में अपनी विधानसभा की कार्यवाही को सांकेतिक भाषा में प्रसारित करने वाला पहला राज्य बन गया है?

- (a) Punjab / पंजाब
- (b) Delhi / दिल्ली
- (c) Tamil Nadu / तमिलनाडु
- (d) Karnataka / कर्नाटक
- (e) Rajasthan / राजस्थान

Answer : Option A

Explanation :

- Punjab is the first state in India to broadcast its Legislative Assembly proceedings in sign language.
- The groundbreaking endeavor is expected to make the proceedings of the Punjab Legislative Assembly more accessible to people with deafness disabilities, as well as raise awareness of government policies and legislative deliberations.
- The state government's Ministry of Social Security, Women, and Child Development spearheaded the move to broadcast key aspects of the House's legislative procedures.

EXAM
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Ques : Who has been appointed as the next Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court in 2025?

2025 में उड़ीसा उच्च न्यायालय के अगले मुख्य न्यायाधीश के रूप में किसे नियुक्त किया गया है?

- a) Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh / न्यायमूर्ति चक्रधारी शरण सिंह
- b) Justice Dipankar Dutta / न्यायमूर्ति दीपांकर दत्ता
- c) Justice Subhasis Talapatra / न्यायमूर्ति सुभासिस तलपात्रा
- d) Justice S. Muralidhar / न्यायमूर्ति एस. मुरलीधर
- e) Justice Harish Tandon / न्यायमूर्ति हरीश टंडन

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- Justice Harish Tandon has been appointed as the new Chief Justice of the Orissa High Court. He is currently serving as a judge at the Calcutta High Court.
- Earlier this month, the Supreme Court collegium had recommended his elevation to the post of Chief Justice.
- The position became vacant in January after the retirement of Justice Chakradhari Sharan Singh.
- Justice Tandon has been serving at the Calcutta High Court since his appointment in April 2010.

EXAM
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Ques : Where is Maruti Suzuki setting up its third plant with an investment of Rs.7,410 crore?

मारुति सुजुकी Rs.7,410 करोड़ के निवेश से अपना तीसरा प्लांट कहाँ स्थापित कर रही है?

- (a) Manesar, Haryana / मानेसर, हरियाणा
- (b) Gurugram, Haryana / गुरुग्राम, हरियाणा
- (c) Kharkhoda, Haryana / खरखौदा, हरियाणा
- (d) Sanand, Gujarat / साणंद, गुजरात
- (e) None of the above / उपरोक्त में से कोई नहीं

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Maruti Suzuki India Ltd. (MSIL) will invest Rs.7,410 crore to set up its third plant in Kharkhoda, Haryana.
- The plant will have a production capacity of 2.5 lakh units per year, increasing the total capacity to 7.5 lakh units annually by 2029.
- This Greenfield project will start commercial operations in February 2025.
- The investment will be funded through internal accruals, reflecting the company's financial strength.
- The plant will focus on advanced technologies including AI, ML, and automation to enhance manufacturing efficiency.
- The expansion is aimed at catering to rising demand in domestic and export markets.
- Currently, MSIL has four facilities in India – Gurugram, Manesar, Kharkhoda (Haryana), and Gujarat.
- Tapan Sahoo has been appointed as Senior Management Personnel, and Sunil Kakkar as Additional & Whole-time Director (Corporate Planning).



Ques : World Tuberculosis Day is observed every year on which day ?

विश्व क्षय रोग दिवस हर वर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 21 March
- (b) 22 March
- (c) 23 March
- (d) 24 March
- (e) 25 March

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- Every year on March 24, World Tuberculosis Day is commemorated to raise awareness about the catastrophic health, social, and economic implications of tuberculosis (TB), as well as to intensify efforts to stop the global TB epidemic.
- Theme 2025 – Yes! We Can End TB: Commit, Invest, Deliver
- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), the anniversary commemorates the day in 1882 when Dr. Robert Koch declared that he had found the bacteria that causes tuberculosis, paving the path for the diagnosis and treatment of the disease.
- Tuberculosis is an infectious disease caused by bacteria that primarily affects the lungs. It spreads through the air when persons with tuberculosis cough, sneeze, or spit. Tuberculosis is preventable and cured.

EXAM
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Ques : The International Day of the Unborn Child is observed annually on which day ?

अजन्मे बच्चे का अंतर्राष्ट्रीय दिवस प्रतिवर्ष किस दिन मनाया जाता है?

- (a) 23 March
- (b) 24 March
- (c) 25 March
- (d) 26 March
- (e) 27 March

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- The International Day of the Unborn Child is observed every year on March 25 to recognize the value and dignity of unborn children and to encourage a culture that respects all human life from the moment of conception.
- This day was established in 1999 by Pope John Paul II, and it aligns with the Feast of the Annunciation, which marks the Christian belief that Jesus was conceived in the womb of the Virgin Mary on this date, symbolizing the beginning of life.

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