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Ques: As per SEBI's new framework effective from April 1, 2025, what is the minimum PAN-level investment required across all SIF strategies under one AMC?

- (a) Rs.1 lakh
- (b) Rs.5 lakh
- (c) Rs.10 lakh
- (d) Rs.15 lakh
- (e) Rs.20 lakh

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) has introduced a regulatory framework for Specialized Investment Funds (SIFs), effective from April 1, 2025

Key Features of the Revised SIF Framework :

- Investors must maintain a minimum total investment of Rs. 10 lakh across all SIF strategies under one AMC, calculated at the Permanent Account Number (PAN) level
- Requires immediate redemption if market fluctuations cause investments to drop below Rs. 10 lakh

Eligibility Criteria for AMCs to Launch SIFs :

- Minimum of 3 years of operational history
- Must maintain an Average Assets Under Management (AUM) of Rs 10,000 crore or more over the last 3 years
- Each AMC is permitted to launch only one Specialized Investment Fund (SIF) strategy per category – equity, debt, or hybrid

SEBI allows SIFs to offer three categories of investment strategies :

- The first is Equity-Oriented Strategies such as Equity Long-Short Funds and Sector Rotation Funds.





- The second is Debt-Oriented Strategies like Debt Long-Short Funds and Sectoral Debt Funds.
- The third category is hybrid Strategies including Active Asset Allocator Funds and Hybrid Long-Short Funds



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Recent News Headlines Related to SEBI

- Capitalmind Financial Services has received final approval from SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) to launch its mutual fund business, branded as Capitalmind Mutual Fund
- SEBI has approved Aye Finance, a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC), to raise Rs.1,450 crore through an Initial Public Offering (IPO)
- SEBI has formed a high-level committee (HLC) of six members to review rules on conflict of interest. The committee is headed by Pratyush Sinha, a retired IAS officer and former Chief Vigilance Commissioner
- SEBI has extended the deadline for regulated firms to implement the Cybersecurity and Cyber Resilience Framework (CSCRF) by three months, until June
- SEBI has introduced a framework for the Past Risk and Return Verification Agency (PaRRVA) to verify performance-related claims made by research analysts, investment advisors, and algorithm providers
- SEBI has approved increasing the disclosure threshold for foreign portfolio investors (FPIs) from Rs.25,000 crore to Rs.50,000 crore in equity AUM.
- SEBI has extended the suspension of derivatives trading in seven agricultural commodities until March 31, 2026
- Paytm Money Limited, a subsidiary of One 97 Communications Limited (OCL), has been registered as a Research Analyst (RA) by the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) under the 2014 Regulations
- The SEBI has reduced the minimum investment requirement for Zero Coupon Zero Principal (ZCZP) instruments on the SSE from Rs 10,000 to Rs 1,000
- The SEBI introduced Specialised Investment Funds (SIFs) to bridge the gap between mutual funds and portfolio management services
- The SEBI has decreased the timescale for completing rights issues from 126 days to 23 days.
- SEBI has collaborated with DigiLocker, a government-backed digital document storage platform, to address the issue of unclaimed assets and enhance investor protection





Ques : What is the primary role of 'Grahak Mitras' deployed by SBI?

- A) To approve loans for rural customers
- B) To guide customers to use self-service banking channels
- C) To audit bank branches
- D) To train SBI employees
- E) To manage SBI's mobile app

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- The State Bank of India (SBI) will deploy 'Grahak Mitras' at 4,500 branches (which is 20% of its total 22,740 branches) to promote alternative banking channels.
- This initiative will be executed by State Bank Operations Support Services (SBOSS), a wholly-owned subsidiary of SBI.
- The primary role of these 'Grahak Mitras' is to guide and assist customers in using self-service banking options and provide first-level support at branches.
- Self-service options include ATMs/ADWMs, barcode-based SWAYAM passbook printing kiosks, cheque deposit kiosks, and digital channels like YONO, Internet Banking, and WhatsApp Banking.
- As of March 2024, 20,135 SWAYAM kiosks were installed at 17,663 branches, and 65,000 ATMs/ADWMs were operational as of December 2024.
- SBI plans to upgrade 40,000 ATMs/ADWMs and install 5,500 new SWAYAM kiosks in FY26.
- Notably, alternate channel transaction ratio improved from 88.1% in March 2019 to 98.1% in December 2024, and 3.4 crore monthly passbook transactions have shifted from counters to kiosks.





Ques: Which bank has Piramal Finance Limited partnered with for co-lending to improve credit access in rural and semi-urban areas?

- (a) HDFC Bank
- (b) Axis Bank
- (c) ICICI Bank
- (d) State Bank of India
- (e) Yes Bank

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Piramal Finance Limited and ICICI Bank, both based in Mumbai, have formed a co-lending partnership.
- The collaboration focuses on providing Home Loans and Loan Against Property.
- Target beneficiaries include middle and low-income borrowers, especially in rural and semi-urban areas.

About ICICI Bank :

- Established : 1994
- HQ : Mumbai, Maharashtra
- CEO & MD : Sandeep Bakhshi
- Tagline : Khayal Apka

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Recently signed banking agreements

- The MoU was signed between New Development Bank (NDB) and National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID) to establish a strategic framework for collaboration
- Kotak Mahindra Bank Limited (KMBL) signed an MoU with Kerala Startup Mission (KSUM), the nodal agency under the Government of Kerala
- PNB MetLife India Insurance Company Limited has partnered with Policybazaar to launch the Pension Premier Multicap Fund under its Unit-Linked Insurance Plans (ULIPs)
- Axis Bank has partnered with a Fortune 500 company to launch India's first B2B collections solution using NBBL's Bharat Connect (earlier known as BBPS).
- The Department of Posts (DoP) has partnered with Nippon India Mutual Fund to offer door-to-door KYC verification services for investors.
- Luminous Power Technologies Private Limited has signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with State Bank of India (SBI), India's largest PSB, to increase access to solar finance nationwide
- Central Bank of India said it has entered into MOU with PSB Alliance Pvt Ltd for Digital Supply Chain Finance
- Bandhan Bank has signed an MoU with the Indian Air Force (IAF) to launch the Bandhan Bank Shaurya Salary Account for IAF personnel, veterans, and their families
- This collaboration between Axis Bank and JPMorgan represents a major step in modernizing cross-border transactions, particularly for businesses operating in India
- This partnership between Bank of India (BOI) and New India Assurance (NIACL) is a strategic move to enhance financial security for BOI's customers.
- The Department of Telecommunications (DoT) and NABARD have signed a pact to digitally transform rural areas using the BharatNet broadband network
- The Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (INSPACe) has chosen Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) Venture Capital Limited (SVCL) to oversee a Rs.1,000 crore fund for space technology entrepreneurs in India
- Equitas Small Finance Bank, a leading bank in India, has renewed its association with Chennai Super Kings (CSK) and Gujarat Titans (GT), the most successful teams in the Indian T20 League





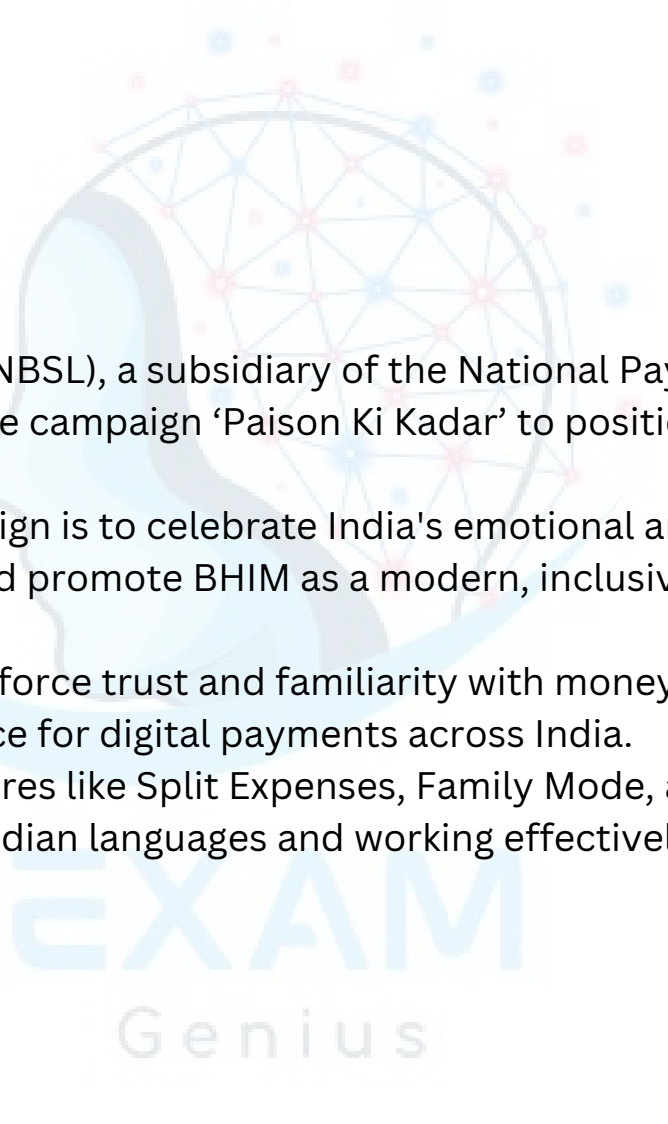
Ques : What is the title of the new BHIM campaign launched to promote it as ‘Bharat Ka Apna Payments App’?

- A) Digital Bharat Abhiyan
- B) Paisa Ki Kadar
- C) BHIM Bharat Pay
- D) Apna Pay Desh Ka
- E) India's Digital Drive

Answer : Option B

Explanation :

- NPCI BHIM Services Ltd. (NBSL), a subsidiary of the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI), launched the campaign ‘Paisa Ki Kadar’ to position BHIM as ‘Bharat Ka Apna Payments App’.
- The purpose of the campaign is to celebrate India's emotional and trusted relationship with money and promote BHIM as a modern, inclusive, and user-friendly payment app.
- The campaign aims to reinforce trust and familiarity with money, making BHIM a preferred and reliable choice for digital payments across India.
- BHIM 3.0 introduces features like Split Expenses, Family Mode, and Spends Analytics, supporting 15+ Indian languages and working effectively in areas with low internet connectivity.





Ques: Razorpay recently became the first payment gateway to integrate which new in-app UPI solution to enhance payment success rates?

- (a) BHIM Pulse
- (b) BHIM Link
- (c) BHIM Vega
- (d) BHIM Nova
- (e) BHIM Pay

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- Razorpay Turbo Unified Payments Interface (UPI) plugin Launched by Razorpay Software Private Limited & NPCI BHIM Services Limited (NBSL)
- It is Sponsored by Axis Bank and Launched on Bharat Interface for Money (BHIM) Vega platform
- Its aim is to address friction in online payments by minimizing drop-offs and increasing transaction success rates
- with this Razorpay has become the first payment gateway to integrate the new in-app UPI solution.
- By enabling users to pay directly within the app, BHIM Vega, a native in-app payment system, removes the need to use third-party platforms, speeding the payment process and guaranteeing a more secure and seamless transaction experience.

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Ques: On April 17, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will conduct an OMO auction to purchase government securities worth how much?

- (a) Rs.20,000 crore
- (b) Rs.40,000 crore
- (c) Rs.80,000 crore
- (d) Rs.1.5 trillion
- (e) Rs.2.9 trillion

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) declared that it will buy Rs 40,000 crore worth of government securities through an open market operation (OMO) auction on April 17.
- The previously announced Rs 80,000 crore OMO project, which is being carried out in four tranches of Rs 20,000 crore each on April 3, April 8, April 22, and April 29, is being supplemented by this auction.
- In order to inject Rs 1.5 trillion into the banking sector, the central bank would also hold a long-term 43-day variable rate repo auction on the same day.
- To date, the RBI has invested Rs 2.9 trillion through OMO auctions. Additionally, through long-term variable rate repo (VRR) auctions, it has contributed Rs 2 trillion.

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Recent News Headlines Related to RBI

- About 500 weak UCBs under RBI's SAF will shift to the Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework from April 1, 2025. PCA enables timely supervisory intervention requiring banks to take prompt remedial measures
- RBI has launched a WhatsApp Channel to enhance its financial literacy campaign, especially targeting remote and underserved areas
- In April 2025, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) cut the repo rate by 25 basis points (0.25%), bringing it down to 6%.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) plans to allow the securitisation of stressed assets using a market-based system, in addition to the existing Asset Reconstruction Company (ARC) route
- The Reserve Bank of India has given a Non-Banking Financial Company (NBFC) license to Securis Finance Private Limited, a subsidiary of FirstPay Technologies situated in Bengaluru, Karnataka
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) will issue new Rs.10 and Rs.500 banknotes. The signatory on these new notes will be Sanjay Malhotra, the current RBI Governor
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has announced that the Foreign Portfolio Investor (FPI) investment limits in debt instruments will remain unchanged for the fiscal year 2025-26
- The Government of India, in coordination with the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), will re-issue two Government Securities (G-Secs) through a price-based auction on April 4, 2025
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) celebrated its 90th anniversary with a grand event. President Droupadi Murmu was the Chief Guest at the celebration
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has raised the aggregate liquidity limit for Standalone Primary Dealers (SPDs) under the Standing Liquidity Facility (SLF) from Rs.10,000 crore to Rs.15,000 crore
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that 98.21% of Rs.2,000 denomination banknotes have been returned to the banking system
- The Reserve Bank amended its Priority Sector Lending (PSL) criteria to better focus bank credit to priority areas of the economy
- The 8th State Level Coordination Committee (SLCC) Meeting was held in Gangtok to discuss financial regulations and fraud prevention measures. It was chaired by Ravindra Telang, Chief Secretary of Sikkim, and convened by Thotngam Jamang, Regional Director of RBI





Ques: Which Indian cricketer became the first player in IPL history to score over 8000 runs and hit 1000 boundaries?

- (a) Rohit Sharma
- (b) David Warner
- (c) Shikhar Dhawan
- (d) Virat Kohli
- (e) KL Rahul

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- Virat Kohli is the highest run-scorer in Indian Premier League (IPL) history and the only player to cross the 8000-run mark.
- He also became the first player to hit 1000 boundaries in IPL history during a 2025 match between RCB and Delhi Capitals at M Chinnaswamy Stadium, Bengaluru.
- He leads the tally ahead of Shikhar Dhawan (920), David Warner (899), and Rohit Sharma (885).

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Recent records in Cricket :

- Virat Kohli : first Indian and fifth cricketer overall to reach 13,000 runs in T20 cricket
- Virat Kohli and Rohit Sharma : Break Yuvraj Singh's Record for Most ICC Final
- Virat Kohli : He played his 300th One Day International (ODI) match against New Zealand in Dubai
- Virat Kohli : fastest hitter to achieve 14,000 runs in one-day internationals
- Rohit Sharma : second fastest batter after compatriot Virat Kohli to complete 11,000 runs in One-day Internationals
- Babar Azam : joint-fastest hitter to reach 6000 ODI runs
- Dinesh Karthik : highest run-scorer in T20 cricket
- Smriti Mandhana : the first Indian woman to score 10 ODI century and Scored a century in just 70 balls
- Jasprit Bumrah : the bowler with the highest average among those with 200 or more Test wickets
- Richa Ghosh : India's wicket keeper-batter, made history by hitting the joint-fastest fifty in women's T20Is
- Nat SciverBrunt : Fastest Test Century in just 96 balls
- Shaheen Afridi (Pakistani) : country's first bowler to take 100 wickets in all formats of international cricket
- Virat Kohli : became the fastest cricketer to amass 27000 international runs, breaking Sachin Tendulkar's previous record.
- Ravindra Jadeja : became the first Indian left arm spinner to reach 300 test wickets
- Jasprit Bumrah : 10th Indian bowler to reach the illustrious milestone of 400 international wickets





Ques : Which Indian state became the first to implement online filing and hearing for Permanent Lok Adalats?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Karnataka
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Kerala
- (e) Telangana

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- Kerala has become the first state in India to implement online filing and hearing for Permanent Lok Adalats (PLAs), initiated by the Kerala State Legal Services Authority (KELSA).
- The goal of this initiative is to simplify legal processes and make justice more accessible, especially to people living in remote and underserved areas.
- This move introduces a technology-driven justice delivery system, enabling citizens to participate in legal proceedings digitally, which is expected to reduce the burden on physical courts and improve efficiency.

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Recent News Headlines Related to First in India and world :

- Dilwale Dulhania Le Jayenge (DDLJ) will be the first Indian film to be honored at London's Scenes in the Square movie trail, Leicester Square
- Kerala is set to become the first state in India to achieve 100% digital literacy, thanks to the Digi Kerala initiative
- India's first high-altitude climate change research station was launched in Udhampur district, Jammu & Kashmir
- On April 14, 2025, Telangana became the first state in India to implement the Scheduled Castes (SC) categorisation system in government jobs and education
- The first tri-service all-women global circumnavigation expedition, "Samudra Pradakshina," was flagged off from Colaba, Mumbai, aboard the Indian Army Sailing Vessel (IASV) Triveni
- For the first time, Odisha has exported drumsticks (Moringa) to Dubai, marking a significant milestone in the state's agri-exports
- Kerala has become the first state in India to establish a dedicated commission for senior citizens through legislation
- East Coast Railway (ECoR) is the first railway zone in India to reach 250 million tons (MT) of originating freight in fiscal year 2024-25.
- Punjab is the first state in India to broadcast its Legislative Assembly proceedings in sign language
- The Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT), a telecom research and development centre, has introduced the first cohort of its incubation program "Samarth" to encourage innovation in telecommunications and Information Technology
- Mizoram sent its first cargo of Anthurium flowers to Singapore, marking an important milestone in the state's floriculture industry
- Indore, Madhya Pradesh, has become the first city in India to launch a green waste processing plant under a Public-Private Partnership (PPP) model
- Ola Electric, India's largest electric vehicle company, has made history by becoming the first two-wheeler automotive electric vehicle (EV) manufacturer in India to receive incentives under the Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme for Automotive and Auto Components
- India's first commercial semiconductor fabrication unit Total investment is Rs 91,000 crore with capacity of 50,000 wafer starts per month (WSPM)





:Ques: Which Indian state has signed an MoU with European companies to launch a pilot electric rapid transit (e-RT) project between Hubballi and Dharwad?

- (a) Maharashtra
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Gujarat
- (d) Karnataka
- (e) Kerala

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- To begin a trial electric rapid transit (e-RT) project between Hubballi and Dharwad, the Karnataka government has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with European businesses.
- This system is entirely electric and will function on city elevated roadways as well as on the ground in other locations. 250 people can travel at once in this.
- Many European nations have successfully adopted this metro-style transportation system.

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Ques: What is the name of the seventh-generation AI chip unveiled by Google, aimed at enhancing AI application performance?

- (a) Coral
- (b) Ironwood
- (c) Sapphire
- (d) Firestorm
- (e) Titan

Answer: Option B

Explanation :

- A major milestone in the company's ten-year, multi-billion-dollar investment in AI hardware, Google has unveiled its seventh-generation AI chip, called "Ironwood,"
- It is intended to speed up the performance of AI applications, particularly in inference computing like creating chatbot responses.
- These Tensor Processing Units (TPUs) are specifically available to Google engineers or through Google Cloud, giving the company a competitive edge in internal AI development and cloud-based AI services.

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Ques : Where is the 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting scheduled to be held in April 2025?

- A) Shanghai, China
- B) New Delhi, India
- C) Sao Paulo, Brazil
- D) Brasilia, Brazil
- E) Johannesburg, South Africa

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The 15th BRICS Agriculture Ministers' Meeting is scheduled for 17 April 2025 in Brasilia, Brazil.
- The meeting will focus on “Promoting Inclusive and Sustainable Agriculture” through cooperation, innovation, and equitable trade among BRICS nations.
- Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will represent India, with key bilateral discussions planned with Brazilian ministers.
- Collaboration will center around agriculture, agri-tech, food security, and rural development.
- Additional activities include a tree plantation under the “Ek Ped Maa Ke Naam” campaign and engagement with the Indian diaspora.

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Recent News Headlines Related to Summits / conference

- India's first-ever Agentic AI Hackathon Final Held at Technopark, Kerala and Organised by Techvantage.ai & CrewAI. Venkata Saketh Dakuri, the AI winner, created an AI tool for anti-money laundering and regulatory compliance
- The 9th edition of the three-day Global Technology Summit was opened in New Delhi by the External Affairs Minister Dr S Jaishankar. "Sambhavna" is the theme for the 9th Global Technology Summit
- The 8th AITIGA Joint Committee Meeting was held at Vanijya Bhawan, New Delhi, India. It is Co-chaired by Rajesh Agrawal (India) and Dr. Sugumari S. Shanmuga (Malaysia)
- Bangladesh officially became the new Chair of Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (Bimstec) for the next two years. It received the leadership from Thailand, the previous Chair
- The Government of India will host the inaugural World Audio Visual & Entertainment Summit (WAVES) in Mumbai, Maharashtra, from May 1-4, 2025
- The 4th Joint Working Group (JWG) Meeting on Tourism Cooperation between India and Japan was held in New Delhi. It was co-chaired by Mugdha Sinha, Director General, Ministry of Tourism, Government of India, and Haraikawa Naoya, Commissioner of the Japan Tourism Agency (JTA).
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi attended the sixth BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation) Summit, which was hosted by Thailand, the current chair. The Theme of the Summit was "BIMSTEC: Prosperous, Resilient, and Open"
- President Droupadi Murmu has inaugurated the National Conference on Environment held at the Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. The National Conference on Environment 2025 has been organised by the National Green Tribunal (NGT).
- The 3rd edition of SourceX India 2025 was held at Yashobhoomi Convention Centre, New Delhi. It was inaugurated by Santosh Kumar Sarangi, Director General of Foreign Trade (DGFT) under the Union Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- The Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports will host the 3rd Central Asian Youth Delegation to India from March 22 to 28 under the International Youth Exchange Programme (IYEP)





Ques : Which state government launched 'Rajiv Yuva Vikasam' Scheme ?

- (a) Kerala
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Andhra Pradesh
- (e) Telangana

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- To encourage economic independence and entrepreneurship among young people from SC, ST, BC, minority, and EBC/EWS communities, the Telangana government introduced the "Rajiv Yuva Vikasam Scheme 2025."
- Through targeted assistance, the program, which is run by the appropriate community welfare corporations, seeks to increase financial independence.
- Concessional subsidized loans up to Rs.4 lakh are available to eligible recipients so they can launch their own companies and engage in entrepreneurial endeavors

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Ques: President Droupadi Murmu was recently conferred with an Honorary Doctorate by which Slovakian university for her contributions to public service and social justice?

- (a) Comenius University
- (b) University of Žilina
- (c) Pavol Jozef Šafárik University
- (d) Constantine the Philosopher University
- (e) Technical University of Košice

Answer: Option D

Explanation:

- President Droupadi Murmu was honored by Constantine the Philosopher University, Nitra, Slovakia.
- She received the Honorary Doctorate (Honoris Causa) for her distinguished contributions to public service, social justice, women's empowerment, and cultural diversity.
- The university is named after Saint Constantine–Cyril and recognizes individuals promoting education, humanism, and global understanding.

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:Ques: What is the key objective of the unified health insurance scheme launched in Odisha by Union Health Minister Jagat Prakash Nadda?

- (a) To increase the budget allocation for private hospitals
- (b) To replace Ayushman Bharat scheme with a state-only program
- (c) To integrate state and central health insurance schemes for broader coverage
- (d) To provide health insurance to government employees only
- (e) To reduce the number of hospitals under government schemes

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

The scheme launched in Cuttack, Odisha integrates:

- Ayushman Bharat-Pradhan Mantri Jan Arogya Yojana (AB-PMJAY)
 - Gopabandhu Jan Arogya Yojana (formerly Biju Swasthya Kalyan Yojana)
 - Ayushman Vayo-Vandana Yojana (for senior citizens aged 70+)
-
- Coverage : 5 lakh rupees per family annually + additional 5 lakh for women members.
 - It will benefit 352 lakh people from 1.08 crore families across 29,000+ hospitals in India.
 - Odisha became the 34th state/UT to join AB-PMJAY, with Delhi as the 35th.
 - The previous BJD government had refused to join AB-PMJAY; the BJP government in 2024 reversed that decision.





Ques : Where did India successfully demonstrate its 30-kilowatt laser-based Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) system capable of targeting drones and aircraft?

- (a) Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh
- (b) Balasore, Odisha
- (c) Pokhran, Rajasthan
- (d) Jaisalmer, Rajasthan
- (e) Chandipur, Odisha

Answer: Option A

Explanation :

- At Kurnool, Andhra Pradesh, India successfully demonstrated a 30-kilowatt laser-based weapon system that could fire down missiles, swarm drones, and fixed-wing aircraft.
- A fixed-wing UAV was damaged and swarm drone sensors were disabled by the Vehicle-mounted Laser Directed Energy Weapon (DEW) MK-II(A), which was created by DRDO's CHES in Hyderabad.
- India is now one of the few countries with demonstrated high-power laser DEW capabilities, including the US, China, and Russia.

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:Ques: Which former England cricketer has been awarded a knighthood in Rishi Sunak's resignation honours list?

- (a) Joe Root
- (b) Ben Stokes
- (c) Stuart Broad
- (d) Alastair Cook
- (e) James Anderson

Answer: Option E

Explanation:

- James Anderson, former England fast bowler, received a knighthood for his services to cricket.
- He is the only sportsperson on Rishi Sunak's resignation honours list.
- Anderson is England's all-time leading wicket-taker in Test cricket, with 704 wickets.
- Though retired from Tests, he still plays county cricket for Lancashire but missed the 2025 County Championship opener due to a calf injury.

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Ques : Where was the Symposium on Film Forensics organized by National Forensic Sciences University- NFSU held?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Bengaluru
- c) Chennai
- d) Hyderabad /
- e) New Delhi

Answer : Option E

Explanation :

- In New Delhi, the National Forensic Sciences University (NFSU) hosted a Symposium on Film Forensics.
- The symposium's goal is to bridge the gap between science and cinematic storytelling by providing a forum for discussion and cooperation among students, filmmakers, and forensic specialists.
- In order to increase public interest in crime-solving and scientific methodologies, it also examines and honors the nexus between forensic science and film.

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Ques: Which African country became the first to sign a Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

- (a) Nigeria
- (b) South Africa
- (c) Mauritius
- (d) Kenya
- (e) Egypt

Answer: Option C

Explanation:

- Mauritius is the first African country to sign the Country Partnership Framework (CPF) with the International Solar Alliance (ISA).
- It is the fourth globally, following Bangladesh, Bhutan, and Cuba.
- The CPF ensures structured collaboration on solar energy initiatives, aligned with national priorities.
- ISA, launched in 2015 by India and France, is a treaty-based intergovernmental organization aiming to mobilize USD 1 trillion in solar investments by 2030.
- ISA Director General: Ashish Khanna

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Ques: Who has been re-appointed as the Chairperson of the ICC Men's Cricket Committee in 2025?

- (a) Anil Kumble
- (b) Rahul Dravid
- (c) VVS Laxman
- (d) Sourav Ganguly
- (e) Sunil Gavaskar

Answer: Option D

Explanation :

- In addition to his longtime national teammate VVS Laxman being selected once more as a panel member, former India captain Sourav Ganguly has been reappointed as the chairperson of the ICC men's cricket committee.
- Ganguly was initially named chair of the committee in 2021 and led the Indian team with excellence for five years, from 2000 to 2005.
- Ganguly, 52, took over for fellow countryman Anil Kumble, who resigned after serving up to three three-year mandates.

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Ques : As per recent government announcement, what is the new ethanol blending target by 2030 in India?

- A) 20%
- B) 25%
- C) 30%
- D) 35%
- E) 40%

Answer : Option C

Explanation :

- India achieved 20% ethanol blending in petrol in March 2025, ahead of the earlier target of 2030.
- Now, the government has set a new goal of 30% blending by 2030, further advancing its biofuel strategy.
- The ethanol is mainly produced from sugarcane and grains (like maize), and blending helps in reducing crude oil imports, cutting emissions, and supporting farmer incomes.

Over the last 10 years, this ethanol push has led to :

- Rs.1.2 trillion in forex savings
- Rs.1.04 trillion paid to farmers
- CO₂ emission reduction of 62.6 million metric tonnes





Ques: What is the primary objective of the recent NITI Aayog report on India's automotive sector?

- (a) To increase taxes on imported vehicles
- (b) To position India as a global player in the automotive value chain
- (c) To reduce car prices in domestic markets
- (d) To promote electric vehicle use in rural India
- (e) To ban the production of conventional vehicles

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- The NITI Aayog report aims to position India as a global leader in the automotive value chain, focusing on targeted interventions across various types of auto components.
- The report was launched by Vice Chairman Suman Bery and CEO BVR Subrahmanyam.
- India ranks 4th in global vehicle production, with a strong presence in small cars and utility vehicles, supported by the Make in India initiative and a cost-competitive workforce.
- The global auto component market is worth USD 2 trillion, with India's share at USD 70 billion.

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Ques: Which of the following festivals marks the arrival of the spring harvest season and is celebrated as a traditional harvest festival in India?

- (a) Yaoshang
- (b) Vaisakh
- (c) Dussehra
- (d) Pongal
- (e) Sarhul

Answer: Option B

Explanation:

- Vaisakhi in Punjab, Vishu in Kerala, Poila Boishakh in West Bengal, Bohag Bihu in Assam, and Puthandu in Tamil Nadu are all celebrated during mid-April to mark the spring harvest and the beginning of a new year in various regional calendars.
- These festivals reflect India's agrarian roots, cultural diversity, and spirit of renewal and gratitude.
- They emphasize unity, prosperity, and the vibrant traditions of different Indian states.

EXAM
Genius





Ques: Padma Shri awardee D. Ramaiah, who recently passed away, was popularly known for his contributions in which of the following fields?

- (a) Literature
- (b) Social Service
- (c) Environmental Protection
- (d) Agriculture
- (e) Education

Answer: Option C

Explanation :

- The Tree Man of Telangana, Padma Shri D. Ramaiah, died in his hometown of Reddy Palli in the Khammam district of Telangana.
- In 2017, Ramaiah received the Padma Shri in recognition of his outstanding work in environmental conservation. Throughout his life, he planted more than one crore seedlings and was devoted to spreading the word about the value of trees.
- In an effort to motivate young students, the Telangana government has incorporated his life story into the curriculum for Class 6.

EXAM
Genius





Ques : As per the new proposal, what significant change is expected in CPSE classification norms?

- A) CPSEs to be privatized
- B) Increase in public shareholding requirement
- C) New loan scheme for CPSEs
- D) Performance-based downgrade clause
- E) Mandatory CSR spending limit

Answer : Option D

Explanation :

- The central government plans to revise the classification norms of CPSEs by introducing a performance-based downgrade clause.
- Currently, CPSEs are categorized as Maharatna, Navratna, Miniratna I, and Miniratna II, based on financial and operational benchmarks.
- The new provision aims to enhance accountability and drive efficiency, ensuring only consistently performing enterprises retain elite status.
- In FY25, CPSEs paid a record dividend of ₹74,016 crore, with major contributions from Coal India, ONGC, IOCL, PowerGrid, and NTPC.
- This move is part of a larger reform effort to make public enterprises more competitive and responsive to changing market dynamics.

