

CURRENT AFFAIRS

For BPSC, Bihar SI, BSSC, Bihar Teacher and all other Competitive Exams of Bihar

April 2024

Year 01 | Issue 04



Bihar, National and International

Modern History of Bihar

Current Affair Practice set

BPSC Model Test Paper

Inclusion of Recent Facts

Destination Bihar Expo 2024 | Sangeet Natak Akademi Award 2022 & 2023 | Panch Pran Programme
Supreme Court declared Electoral Bonds Unconstitutional | Demand of Full Statehood in Ladakh
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CURRENT AFFAIRS

BIHAR SPECIAL

Nutrition Rehabilitation Center

Context

In the last one year there has been negligence in sending weak children from hospitals to Nutritional Rehabilitation Centers (NRC).

More Information

- In the year **2022**, **UNICEF** advised the Health Department to send weak and malnourished children coming to the OPD (Outpatient Department) to the Nutritional Rehabilitation Center after their recovery.



Nutrition Rehabilitation Center (NRC)

- It is a type of **Facility-based** care where both mother and kid get healthy food and medicine.
- The project provides assistance to children aged **6 months to 60 months** who are **Severely and Acutely Malnourished (SAM)**. They are only released, once they have fully recovered.
- Mothers also receive training in nutrition, basic healthcare, hygiene, etc.
- In Bihar, **NIDAN** operates Nutritional Rehabilitation Center.
- In Bihar, an estimated **9,74,610** children, or **8.33** per cent of the total, suffer from severe and

acute malnutrition, putting them at a high risk of death.

Bihar uses AI for Road Construction & Repairing

Context

Recently, for the First time on an experimental basis, the Road Construction Department of Bihar decided to use AI to construct roads at Block Level.

More about the news

- In every Block **60 km** of Road will be monitored by AI.
- For AI monitoring, a Vehicle-Based Mobile Application will be used.
- Road auditing will be done by vehicle, and then AI will transform all the audit Reports into images.
- AI-based systems will use image recognition and machine learning to identify potholes, cracks, bumps, and other hazards related to roads.
- The data gathered from these systems will be used to inform Road maintenance plans, tracking the condition of roads, etc.

Other Initiative

- Bihar Rural Road Maintenance Policy-2018**: Bihar uses several norms of NHAI and International standards in the maintenance and repair of rural roads.
- Anurakshan Mobile App**: It is designed for online vigilance of rural Roads.

Center of Excellence (CoE) for Jardalu Mango

Context

The Bihar Government has announced the setting up of a Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Jardalu Mango in Shahkunda, Bhagalpur.

More about the news

- Under the **4th Agriculture Roadmap**, a CoE for Jardalu Mango was proposed in Bihar.
- In this CoE, **Shed net** and **Poly house** will be established, using which the fruit is grown in an artificial environment.

- The CoE will also serve as a knowledge and skill centre for farmers and training of new technology will be provided to them.
- Research on Jardalu Mango will also be done here, in order to improve the quality.

Jardalu Mango



Jardalu Mango

- **Got a GI Tag in 2018.**
- **Rich in fibre and Enzymes.**
- **Beneficial for the digestive system.**
- **First commercially exported to the UK in 2021.**
- **Known for its intense sweetness and rich flavour.**

Other CoE in Bihar

- Center of Excellence for Vegetables at **Chandi, Nalanda** (opened under India-Israel cooperation).
- Center of Excellence for Mango & Lichi at **Vaishali** (opened under India-Israel cooperation).

Paying Guest Hut Initiative

Context

To boost Tourism in the state, the Department of Tourism has launched the Paying Guest Hut initiative in which villages that are nearby to tourist places will be opened for paying guest facilities.

More about the news

- **AIM:** To develop all villages adjacent to tourist places in Bihar.
- **No financial support** will be provided for this scheme, rather the government encourages the villagers to construct huts and act as a facilitator

for implementation of this scheme.

- The tourism department mapped the potential villages and explained the concept of paying guests to the villagers and its associated benefits.

For this, two Tourist places from every district will be selected.

Districts	Tourist places (adjacent villages developed)
1. Bhagalpur	• Bateshwar Sthan (place) • Teen Pahadi
2. Banka	• Odhani Dam • Mandar Parvat
3. Munger	• Bhim bandh • Rishi Kund
4. Lakhisarai	• Ashok Dham • Shringi Parvat (Mountain)
5. Khagaria	• Katyayani Sthan
6. Saharsa	• Matsya Gandha • Mandan Bharti Dham
7. Madhepura	• Singheswar Temple • Baba Vishu Raut Pachrasi Dham
8. Purnia	• Puran Devi Temple • Prahalad Stambha

Reforming the Health System of Bihar

Context

District Hospitals in Bihar will be connected with medical colleges and a “Doctors Mentoring Programme” will be started in the state to provide better health facilities.

More about the news

- With the help of medical colleges better health facilities will be provided in District hospitals.
- Doctors of the District hospital will be trained in new technology, new health guidelines, modern medicines etc. through medical colleges.

Key Focus area

- To reduce **Infant Mortality Rate (IMR)**, and provide better health facilities to Newborn babies.

Training phase

- In the first phase, Doctors will be trained in emergency childbirth, and providing better health facilities to children.
- In the second phase, doctors of medical colleges will be trained to inspect the hospital every **3 months** and give on-the-spot training if required.
- **Doctors Mentoring Programme** launched by the Department of Health, Bihar, and Indian Public Health Foundation.

Other Health Initiatives by the Govt. of Bihar

1. Chief Minister Digital Health Scheme
2. Sabke liye Atirikt Swasthya Yojana (under Saat Nischay Scheme-2)
3. Wonder App
4. Ashwin portal

Krishi Dev Gyan App

Context

A pilot project named “**Krishi Dev Gyan App**”, Smart Farm Project, is being tested in **Dobhi, Gaya**.

Krishi Dev App

- It is an app developed by **IFFCO** which provides information about the crops to farmers.
- Through this, farmers will get information related to soil moisture, water requirements of plants, plant diseases, pests, and weather-related information on their mobile, a week in advance.
- Farmers will also be able to start and stop the motor pumps installed in their fields from their mobile app while sitting at home.
- Soon farmers across the state will be able to use this app.

Benefits of the App

- This application will detect the common diseases of the plants growing in the field and will inform the farmers through messaging as well as calls.
- It will also provide solutions and suggestions to farmers to save the crops.

Solar Park along the Canals in Bihar

Context

The Government of Bihar will make a total of **250 MW** solar park along different canals of Bihar.

More about the news

- The total combined length of canals under this project will be around **500 km**.
- Canals on different rivers such as Son, Kosi, Gandak, Bagmati, etc. will be used for this project.
- Total outlay for this project is **1.5 thousand crores**.
- Initially, **2 MW** Solar plant construction work started on Son Canal in Bikram, near Patna. Likewise, a **10 MW** solar plant will be built on Phulwaria Lake in Nawada.
- Need of this Project: The state government has to fulfill the target of Renewable Purchase Obligation (RPO).
- As Bihar has limited potential for Wind energy and Hydel energy, therefore, developing a Solar park is necessary for Bihar to fulfill the target of RPO.
- Other Solar Projects in Bihar:

Kajara Solar Plant, Lakhisarai	185 MW Solar PV Plant with a 254 MW battery energy storage system.
Kadirabad Floating Solar power plant, Darbhanga	2 MW capacity

- Government Schemes:
 1. **PM KUSUM Scheme:** For installation of solar pumps in rural areas to reduce dependence on the grid.
 2. **Rooftop Solar Scheme:** To harness solar power by installing Solar panels on rooftops.
 3. **Solar Park Scheme:** To build a number of Solar Parks in India with a capacity of nearly 500 MW.

Glauconite and Nickel-Chromium Mining in Bihar

Context

The Union government has issued a Notice for Inviting people for tender of Nickel-Chromium mines in **Aurangabad** and **Rohtas** Districts of Bihar.

- Since November 2023, the Central government has been issuing orders for the development of these mines in Bihar.
- By Including these mines, **9 Mineral Blocks** have been identified as '**Very Important Mines**' in the state.

More about the news

Block	Geographical Area	Minerals	Others
1. Genjana Ni-Cr and PGE block	1. Districts: [Aurangabad, Gaya]. 2. Block: Bankey Bazar 3. Villages: Genjana, Lakrahi	Pentlandite, Platinum, Palladium, Chromite (Cr_2O_3)	1. Area: 7.8885 Sq KM 2. Level of Exploration: G4
2. Chutia-Nauhatta Glauconite Block (Glauconite sandstone)	1. District: Rohtas 2. Block: Nauhatta 3. Village: Chutia-Nauhatta	Potash (K_2O_3)	1. Area: 4.6395 Sq KM 2. Level of Exploration: G3 3. Resource: 141.73 million Ton (MT)
3. Pipradih-Bhurwa Glauconite Block	1. District: Rohtas 2. Block: Nauhatta 3. Village: Paharia, Mangardah, Chapla, and Banua	Potash (K_2O_3)	1. Area: 4.1538 Sq KM 2. Level of Exploration: G3 3. Resource: 88.38 MT

Note: There are four levels of exploration G1, G2, G3, and G4 where G stands for 'Geological'.

Uses of Minerals

- **Nickel (Ni)-Chromium (Cr):**
 1. Nickel is used in steel to increase tensile strength and hardness, and also improves corrosion resistance.
 2. Chromium is used in steel to improve oxidation and corrosion resistance.
- **PGE Mineral:** used for LED panel making.
- **Platinum:** used in Jewellery.
- Under "Mukhyamantri Jan Arogya Yojana" these deprived families will get Insurance of Rs. 5 lakh per year.
- The Health and Supply Department, Government of Bihar will be the implementing agency of this scheme.
- **Eligibility:** Beneficiary must be a resident of Bihar and must have a **Ration card**.

Ayushman Bharat PM-JAY

Mukhyamantri Jan Arogya Yojana
Context
The Bihar government has decided to give health Insurance of Rs.5 lakh to 58 lakh Families in the state.

About the Yojana

- Under the **National Food Security Act (NFSA)-2013**, a total of 1.79 crore families are listed from Bihar and out of these a total of **1.21 crore** families are insured under the Ayushman Bharat PM Jan Arogya Yojana, thus approximately 58 lakh families are not covered in the Ayushman Bharat PM JAY Scheme.
- So, the Bihar Government has decided to provide health insurance to these 58 lakh deprived families.

1. Launched by	PM Narendra Modi on September 23, 2018, from Ranchi.
2. Monetary Coverage	Up to 5 lakh per family per year, for secondary and tertiary care hospitalization.
3. Beneficiary	PM-JAY primarily targets the poor, deprived rural families and identified occupational categories of Urban workers as per the latest SECC (Socio Economic and Caste Census) data. Approximately 10.74 crore families were identified (approximately 50 crore beneficiaries).
4. Funding	Centrally sponsored scheme

Bihar State Fasal Sahayata Yojana

Context

Bihar government aims to bring **1.5 crore farmers** under **Fasal Sahayata Yojana** in the next 5 years.

More about the news

- Five Lakh Farmers** will be brought under the benefits of Kisan Credit Card in the next 5 years.
- Rs. 541 crore** has been allocated under the Fasal Sahayata Scheme for the financial year 2024-25.
- PACS** (Primary Agriculture Credit Society) would be developed as a multipurpose centre with facilities like CSP Centers, Generic Medicines, fertilizers, pesticides, drones for spraying pesticides, and Petrol outlets available for the farmers.
- In the first phase, 105 PACS have been selected for the **Jan Aushadhi Centre**.
- Godowns have been constructed at 6073 PACS with an additional storage capacity of 15.12 lakh metric tonnes.

Bihar State Fasal Sahayata Yojana

- The Scheme was Launched in **2018** by CM Nitish Kumar.
- The scheme strives to back farmers with financial incentives in the event of a crop loss due to natural calamities.
- Benefits:**
 - Rs 7500 per hectare, if crop loss is less than 20%.
 - Rs 10,000 per hectare, if crop loss is more than 20%.

JEEVIKA Library

Context

Jeevika Library in Bihar is to be opened in **434** more blocks.

Objective of JEEVIKA Library: Its objective is to support Rural education through libraries.

Key Points

- In an attempt to support rural education, it is scheduled to be opened in every block of Bihar.
- In **Kurkuri** village of the **Phulwari** block, the **101st** library will be opened soon.
- Libraries are currently running in **100 blocks** of **32 districts**.
- Each of these libraries is monitored by the **Vidya Didis**.

- It runs for **eight hours** a day.
- Each library has a digital library facility and about **one thousand books**.
- There will be a children's section in all libraries.



Books available under Jeevika Library:

- Contemporary Magazine;
- Daily Newspaper;
- Administrative services books;
- BPSC, Railway, Banking examination books.

Facilities under Library

- Guidance for preparing for jobs and competitive exams.
- Career counselling from experts for rural talents.
- Conducting short training courses.
- Assistance programme for women who have missed their studies to get admission to education institutions.

Infrastructure Development in Bihar

Context

On 21st February 2024, CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated a total of **3618** projects worth Rs. 4446.188 crore from Patna.

More about the news

- Of the total 3618 projects, there are 3590 rural roads and 28 road bridges. These roads and bridges have been constructed by the Rural Works Department, Bihar under different schemes of the State.

Details of development projects

Scheme	Projects	Expenditure
Mukhyamantri Gram Sampark Yojana	1583 Roads and 11 Bridges	1735.814 crore
Mukhyamantri Gramin Sadak Unnayan Yojana	1977 Roads	2576.07 crore
Under other State Plans	30 Roads and 17 Bridges	134.30 crore

- The target of six hours to reach the capital Patna from any remote area of the State has been achieved. Now work is being done on the **target of Five hours**.
- The annual budget of the Rural Works Department which was only Rs. 1390 crore in FY 2007-08, has now been increased to Rs. 11,569 crores in FY 2023-24.
- Mukhyamantri Gramin Sadak Unnayan Yojana: This scheme was launched in 2023, for the maintenance and widening of rural roads in Bihar.

Other Infrastructure Development Schemes in Bihar

1. Gramin Tola Sampark Nischay Yojana
2. Mukhyamantri Gramin Gali-Nali Nischay Yojana
3. Sulabh Samparkata (under Saat Nischay 2.0)

Turn the Bus App

Context

The Bihar Rural Livelihood Programme, **JEEVIKA** has added more than 1 lakh children with **Turn the Bus App** in Bihar.

More about the news

- In December 2023, JEEVIKA ran a special campaign in different districts of Bihar to engage rural and economically backward students with this app.
- For the students unable to take tuition or coaching classes due to financial constraints or any other reasons, JEEVIKA launched a special campaign targeting their preparation for the 10th and 12th Board exams.
- Last year 1,85,000 students of class 10th and 12th took digital classes on this app for their board exam.

- JEEVIKA has also signed an MoU with Turn the Bus App in 2019 in Patna.

About the App

- This app was Launched in 2018 by a USA-based Ed-tech non-profit organization.
- This app is like other e-education apps that provide digital education. This App has features like online classes, online tutorials, quizzes, NCERT materials, and question-answer sections.
- **Mission:** To reduce **income inequality** by reducing educational inequality with the help of smartphones.
- **Partners of this App:** JEEVIKA, BSEB Patna, Tech organizations like- Amazon, Microsoft, Democracy Labs, etc, and Higher Institutions like IIM Calcutta, etc.



Destination Bihar Expo 2024

Context

On 23 February 2024, CM Nitish Kumar launched **Destination Bihar Expo-2024**, in Gandhi Maidan, Patna.

More about the news

- This five-day Expo was organized by the **Bihar Industry Association** and **CREDAI** (The Confederation of Real Estate Developers' Associations of India).
- Approximately 250 companies and more than 400 stalls from across the country have displayed their products and services at the Expo.
- Stalls of different departments and undertakings of the State government were also set up.
- **Objective of the Expo:** It will increase the investment in MSME and other industrial sectors in the state. This will increase the rate of industrialization and employment opportunities in the state.

- During this Expo, a conference was also organized to discuss the “**NEW IT POLICY - 2024**” of the Bihar government.

New IT Policy 2024

- Launched in January 2024 by the Government of Bihar
- **Duration:** Five years.
- Under the policy, fixed capital investments up to Rs 30 crore are eligible for a 30% subsidy. Additionally, an option of 10% interest subvention up to Rs 40 crore for five years is also available.
- Investors can avail Lease Rental Subsidy of **50%** of the rental value for a period of five years. Additionally, they can also get a 25% electricity tariff subsidy for five years.

Bihar Integrated Water Resource Management (BIWRM) Project

Context

The Department of Economic Affairs, Ministry of Finance recently approved the proposal of financial help to Bihar from the **World Bank** for the water resource management project of the state.

More about the news

- The World Bank will provide financial assistance of Rs. 3090 crores for the **BIWRM Project** in Bihar. It is around **70%** of the project cost and the remaining amount will be provided by the Bihar government.
- This project is proposed to be carried out in **six years** at an estimated cost of **Rs. 4415 crore**.

The objective of this Project

- Better management of water resources in the state, minimizing the risk of floods in Bihar, and creation of additional irrigation potential in the state.

Development Works Proposed Under BIWRM Project

1. Targets of schemes like “**Jal Jeevan Hariyali Abhiyaan**” and “**Har Khet tak Sinchayi ka Pani**” will be fulfilled.
2. The **Early Warning System** of State will be modernized.
3. Study of old Barrage strength and maintenance of the Barrage will be carried out.
4. Funds will be used for the various **River Interlinking Projects** in Bihar, etc.

Simaria Dham

Context

On 24 February 2024, CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated development works in **Simaria Dham, Begusarai**.

More about the news

Simaria Dham is being rejuvenated

Highlights of the scheme of Water Resources Department

- **550-meter-long staircase wharf and River Front**
- **Security ring in the river parallel to the ghat**
- **Changing Room**
- **Place for Ganga Aarti**
- **Pavilion for Religious Rituals**
- **Sitting arrangement for devotees- Dharamshala complex, Toilet Complex**
- **Development of Kalpavas area in one lakh square meters, attractive lighting and plantation**
- **Beautiful Pathways**
- **Parking Facilities**
- **Watchtower etc.**

source: wind.bihar.gov.in

- To develop **Simaria Dham** on the lines of **Haridwar's Har Ki Pouri Dham**, CM Nitish Kumar laid the foundation stone for the revitalization of the Simaria Dham a cultural epicentre along the Ganga, on 30 May 2023.
- The **Water Resource Department** has developed a staircase ghat, changing room, Ganga Aarti place, parking, 3-story Dharamshala, etc. at a cost of about Rs. 115 Crore for the convenience of the devotees.
- This development work is being carried out under the “**Riverfront Scheme**” of the water resource department.
- Revitalization of Simaria Dham will establish the place as a pilgrimage site and tourism site which will increase tourism, and employment opportunities in the region and will boost the socio-economic condition of people in the region.

Simaria Dham

- Simaria Ghat is situated on the **left bank of the Uttar Vahini Ganga River** famous for spiritual and religious point of view from the ancient era itself.
- Simaria Dham has the distinction of being an important place for “**Kumbha Sthali**” and “**Kalpwas fair**” since the **Vedic era**.
- It is believed that since the time of **Raja Videh**, the tradition of month-long Kalpvas Mela has continued in Simaria Dham.
- **Kalpwas fair** is held every year in the month of **Kartik**. The government of Bihar accorded **State fair** status to Kalpvas fair in 2012.
- Even for the **last rites**, it is considered the most sacred place in the entire Mithila region.

Tourism Sites in Bihar

Context

The Ministry of Minority Affairs for the first time, has asked for information from the Government of Bihar about the specialities and religious connections of **70 sites** in the state.

More about the news

- The Ministry of Minority Affairs selected these sites from the database of the Archaeological Survey of India (ASI).
- The **objective** of the Ministry for this data collection is to know the status of maintenance work and other arrangements related to the protection of these sites.
- These **70 sites** have been selected from **17 different districts** of Bihar.

Tourism sites

Districts	Places
1. Patna (11 places selected)	Bulandigarh, Choti Pahadi, Kumhrar Palace, Shah Makhdum Daulat Maneri and Ibrahim Dome (in Maner), Statue (Datiyana), etc.
2. Gaya (11 places selected)	Hasrakol Ghati, Somnath Tila, Gunari, Shiva Temple (Konch), All 6 places of Kawadol hills, Kurisarai etc.
3. Bhagalpur (4 places selected)	Vikramshila relics, Teen Pathar Hills, Bateshwar Cave, Ajgaivinath Temple.
4. Kishanganj (1 place selected)	Kanhaiya ji Temple.
5. Aurangabad (1 place selected)	Shamsher Khan's Dome.
6. Buxar (1 place selected)	Prachin Tilla.
7. East Champaran (3 places selected)	Lauriya Areraj, Sagardih stupa, Buddha stupa (Tajpur Deur).
8. Jehanabad (9 places selected)	Gopi caves in Barabar and Nagarjuni hills, etc.
9. Kaimur (2 places selected)	Mundeshwari Temple, Bakhtiyar Khan's Fort.
10. Muzaffarpur (1 place selected)	Ashok Satambha (Kolhua).
11. Saran (1 place selected)	Ancient city at Manjhi.
12. Vaishali (3 places selected)	Jami Masjid, Relics of Stupa, Raja Vishal Ka Garh.
13. Siwan (1 place selected)	Rajendra Prasad's old house.
14. West Champaran (7 places selected)	Ashoka Satambha, Nandargarh Fort, Ruined Fortress (Chankigarh), etc.
15. Nalanda (8 places selected)	Ancient Mound (Bargaon), Tomb of Malik Ibrahim Bayu, Ancient house in Ghorkatora, etc.
16. Madhubani (1 place selected)	Raja Bali house (Balrajgarh)
17. Rohtas (5 places selected)	Chandan Sahib Hills, Rohtasgarh Fort, etc.

State-Level Fellowship Scheme

Context

The Department of Education, Govt. of Bihar will launch a State-level Fellowship scheme to increase research and innovation in the state.

More about the news

- This scheme will be launched in **FY 2024-25** to increase the research and innovation in higher education in the state.
- **Beneficiary:** There is a proposal to provide benefits to **meritorious students** of all socially and economically weaker sections.
- A committee will be established by the Bihar State Higher Education Council to select researchers. This committee will scrutinize online applications received by the researchers and then select the best of them.
- **Coverage:** Fellowship will be provided to the respective students for studying in **foreign as well as Indian institutions**.
- Every year 400 to 450 meritorious students (all subjects students eligible) of Bihar will be given a fellowship to pursue **PhD**.
- **Outlay:** Approximately Rs 6 to 8 crore will be spent every year.
- Researchers will be provided Rs 10-12 thousand every month.

Other Initiative

- **Student Credit Card:** A scholarship of up to Rs.4 Lakh is provided per student under this scheme (to study in 42 different subjects).

Health Care Development Projects in Bihar

Context

Recently in Bihar, healthcare development projects like PMCH redevelopment work, E-Kshamata app, monitoring and implementation of the U-WIN Portal, Tele Monitoring Cell, etc were implemented.

More about the news

PMCH Development Work:

- On 27 February 2024 CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated the first phase of the redevelopment project of PMCH.

Redevelopment works include-

1. OPD block of 20 departments, Blood Bank, and medical store.
 2. Green GIS Power Sub Station, 550-bed Girl's Hostel, Multi-level Parking, etc.
- In February 2021, CM Nitish Kumar launched the redevelopment project of PMCH with the vision to make it a world-class public healthcare facility centre in the state.
 - The project aims to develop PMCH as a 5462-bed hospital, with the completion of development works in 3 phases by 2028.

History of PMCH

- In **1874**, it was established as a **Temple Medical College (TMC)** by the Britishers.
- On **25th February 1925**, TMC was renamed as **Prince of Wales Medical College, Patna**

e-Kshamata App

- To increase the skills and learning capacity of nursing students in the state.
- The Health Department of Bihar in collaboration with **Aastrika Foundation** launched this app.
- **Benefits:** Online study material of ANM and GNM courses, online training facilities, online tests, etc.
- These facilities are available free of cost to all 121 Nursing College students.

Immunization program Monitoring

- Due to the proper implementation of the **Aadarsh Immunisation Center and Corners, U-WIN Portal** and **Tele Monitoring Cell** in Bihar, IMR (infant mortality rate) was reduced to 2 points further and now **IMR is 27 points (for Bihar)**.

1. U-WIN Portal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • For the electronic registry of maintaining all routine immunization work like the Co-WIN Portal. • The U-WIN portal acts like a one-stop solution for India's Universal Immunization program, record of all vaccinations of children and pregnant mothers, etc are recorded by this portal. • The portal was Launched in 2023 by the Government of India.
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2. (Children friendly) Adarsh Immunisation Centre and Corners	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 260 centres established in the state. • Objective: for immunization of children • Launched: In 2021 Health Department, Bihar launched these centers in 35 districts initially.
3. Tele Monitoring Cell	Real-time monitoring of all immunization works in the State.

Other Health care initiatives by the Bihar government

1. CM Digital Health Scheme.
2. Sabke liye Atirikt Sawasthya Suvidha (under Saat Nischay-2 Scheme)
3. Bal Hirday Yojana
4. Wonder App, Ashwin App, etc

Sangeet Natak Akademi Award

Context

Recently artists from Bihar were selected for **Sangeet Natak Akademi** and **Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar** for the years **2022 and 2023**.

More about the news

- **5 Artists** will get the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award and **4 artists** will get the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar.

Sangeet Natak Akademi Award

Artist	Work area
1. Prem Lata Mishra	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maithili stage acting • First women artist in Akashwani Patna.
2. Dr. Nitu Kumar Nutan	• Folk singer of Bihar
3. Bharat Sharma Vyas	• Folk singer of Bihar
4. Sitaram Singh	• Singer
5. Asif Ali Haider Khan	• Play Writer

Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar

Artist	Work area
1. Samit Malik	• Dhrupad Singer
2. Hari Sankar Ravi	• Direction
3. Kumar Ravikant	• Acting
4. Kumar Udaya Singh	• Launda Dance

Sangeet Natak Akademi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Established in 1953 by the Ministry of Education. • Dr P.V. Raja Mannar was the first Chairman of this institution. • Works under the Ministry of Culture. • It is an Autonomous Body. • Objective is to promote and preserve rich Indian art and culture.
Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Started in 2006 in the honour of Ustad Bismillah Khan. • Given in the field of music, dance, drama, and other folk art to the artists under the age of 40. • Total number of prizes shall not exceed 33.
Sangeet Natak Akademi Award	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Given to the artist for their contributions in the field of dance, music, drama, folk art etc. • The recipient of this award gets 1 lakh rupees, a Tampatra, and an Angavastra.

Bihar Listed in Yellow Zone in e-Bird Report

Context

Recently, Bihar and Jharkhand were listed in the **Yellow Zone** in the e-Bird report due to **low number of Bird species** in the state.

More about the news

- Only 326 Species of Birds have been found in the e-Bird Report. Last year 400 species of Birds were found in the state.
- A total of 1371 bird species have been found in the country.
- Due to the reduction in Bird species in the state, it is likely to have a deep impact on the ecosystem in the coming days.
- **This Bird count was done by:** The Zoological Survey of India (ZSI), WWF, Mandar Nature Club, and professional Bird experts and students.

- **Method of Counting:** Bird counting is done by the “**Point Counting Method**”. For this photos of the Birds are collected by experts, and cameras are equipped with GPS.
- **Top Counts Districts:** 1. Paschim Champaran 2. Bhagalpur, 3. Jamui, 4. Patna.
- **Top Hotspots region:** 1. Jagatpur Lake (Bhagalpur), 2. Nagi Dam Bird Sanctuary (Jamui), 3. Madanpur Wetland (southwest) (West Champaran), Gogabil Bird Sanctuary (Katihar)

Bihar Budget on Gender & Child Welfare

Context

Recently the Finance Minister of Bihar presented details of the Gender Budget and the Child Welfare Budget outlay in the **State Assembly for FY 2024-25**.

More about the News

Gender Budget 2024-25

- A total of Rs **39,000 crore**, which is **14% of the total Budget** will be spent on different women’s development programmes in the state in FY 2024-25.
- This amount will be spent on programmes like **Jeevika, Saat Nischay-2, and Women’s Health, Education, Employment, Welfare, etc.**

About Gender Budget in Bihar

- The Gender Budget in Bihar was presented in FY **2008-09, for the first time**.
- The main objective of this Budget is to ensure proper implementation of different schemes for the development and promotion of women.
- The Schemes are divided into two categories under this Budget:

Category-A	100% Expenditure on women	Schemes and Programmes which are fully allocated for the welfare of women and girls.
Category-B	> 30% and < 100% Expenditure on women	Any schemes in which some components are related to women and girls welfare.

Child Welfare Budget 2024-25

- A total of Rs 55,000 crore, which is **16% of the total Budget** will be spent on different children’s welfare programmes in the state in FY 2024-25.

About Child Welfare Budget in Bihar

- The Child Welfare Budget in Bihar was presented for the **First time** in the FY **2013-14**.
- After Kerala and Assam, Bihar was the **3rd State** of India to present a children’s Budget.
- Under this Budget amount has been spent on the health, education, and welfare of children below the age of 18.

Panch Pran Programme

Context

On the occasion of Bihar Police Week, the Panch Pran (oath) was administered to all Police personnel in the state.

More about the news

- For this “Panch Pran” resolutions 100, 75, 30, 20, and 0 have been made the base.

Panch Pran Formula	Objectives
100	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • According to this, 100% of complaints will be registered at Police Stations • After FIR, immediately FIR receipt will be provided, Crime survey, CCTV installation in suspicious places, use of social media apps, etc for better policing in the state
75	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Investigation of any case will be done in 75 days. • After the arrest of 75% of the top 10 criminals in any district, crimes will be revealed.
30	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 30 minutes, assistance will be provided to the people who come to the police station. • Within 30 days, the investigation report will be provided free of cost to people. • Within 30 days, character verification, Licence, and Tenant verification will be done.

20	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Within 20 minutes police must reach the scene of the accident, and reach the site of information about missing people is received. • Within 20 days discharge the warrant/ summons received from the Court.
0	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 0% Tolerance

- An “Independent Citizen Survey” feedback will be done for the evaluation of the police station’s work in the state.

Mineral Blocks Development in Gaya-Aurangabad

Context

Recently the Ministry of Mines confirmed the presence of Minerals (Sn, W and REE) in the area of Gaya-Aurangabad and has promoted its exploration licence Block in Bihar.

More about the news

- Tin(Sn), Tungsten(W), and Rare Earth Elements(REE) were discovered in the **Forest area, South of Deo in Aurangabad district, Bihar**. Some parts of this mineral area also lie in the **Gaya district**.
- Scientists of the **Geological Survey of India(GSI)** confirmed the presence of these minerals in this **550 sq KM area of forest**.
- Now, the Company selected for exploration work will mark the place where the large reserve of these minerals exists and also find out the amount of these minerals present.

Uses of these Minerals

Mineral	Uses
REE	Used in screens of computer devices, and smartphones, as a catalyst in petroleum refining, chemical processing, Batteries of Hybrid and Electric cars, Television, and New generation light bulbs, etc.
Tungsten	Filaments of Light Bulbs, in heavy Metal Alloys (eg. High-Speed Steel), as an electrode, heating elements and field emitters, etc.
Tin	used in solder, used in making alloys of other elements, used as tin plating, coating, and polishing (due to high corrosion resistance)

Other Minerals Found in Gaya and Aurangabad District

	About Minerals
Aurangabad	Genjana Ni-Cr and PGE Block: Area-[Aurangabad, Gaya district] Minerals Found: Pentlandite, Platinum, Palladium and Chromite (Cr_2O_3)
Gaya	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Genjana Ni-Cr and PGE Block 2. Felspar: Gaya, Jamui, Munger 3. Granite: Gaya, Bhagalpur, Jahanabad, Jamui 4. Iron ore (Magnetite): Gaya, Jamui 5. Mica: Gaya, Nawada, Munger, Bhagalpur 6. Uranium: Gaya 7. Quartzite: (Ramshila and Pretshila Hills) Gaya, Munger

Mukhyamantri Krishi Vidyut Sambandh Yojana-2

Context

Recently, 4 Grid sub-centres worth 3904.33 crores were opened at Patna (Mithapur & Digha), Gaya (Bhore), and Araria (Palsy) to provide uninterrupted electricity in the area.

- Under the **4th Agriculture Roadmap 2023-28**, there is a **provision for solarisation and development of electricity infrastructure for individual feeders** and free electricity connection (for agriculture) will be given to 4.80 lakh krishi pump sets.
- Electricity is provided for **agriculture purposes** at the rate of **70 paise per unit**.
- By **SUVIDHA App** farmers can apply for **free electricity connection**.

National Dolphin Research Center, Patna

Context

On 4 March 2024, CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated the **National Dolphin Research Center (NDRC)**, at **Patna**.

More about the news

- **NDRC** is the **first** Dolphin Research Center not only in India but also in the entire Asia. This centre has been established near the Ganga River on the premises of **Patna University**.


- Renowned Gangetic Dolphin expert, **RK Sinha** proposed the idea of **NDRC**, a decade ago.
- The Project got approval in 2013 and CM Nitish Kumar laid the foundation stone of this centre in 2020.

The objective of NDRC

- Scientists will do research on the various aspects of the Dolphin behaviour in their natural habitat, and study factors such as food habits, Survival Skills, Cause of death, and adaptation to climate change of the Gangetic Dolphin in this centre.
- NDRC will also play a crucial role in training fishermen on methods to avoid accidentally harming dolphins during fishing activities.
- Thus, the centre will play a crucial role in conducting research and conservation of the Gangetic Dolphin.
- The other objective is to establish NDRC as a **Center of Excellence** for Gangetic Dolphin Research.

About Gangetic Dolphin

- The Gangetic River dolphin is one of the four Freshwater Dolphin Species in the World.
 1. Yangtze River in China [**now Extinct**]
 2. Indus River in Pakistan
 3. Amazon River in South America.
- In Bihar the Ganga River Dolphins are found at the -
 - Confluence of the Ganga and Gandak at Doriganj, in the Saran

Scientific Name: Platanista Gangetica	
Status: <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Under Wild Life Protection Act, 1972: listed in Schedule -1 Animal (High Protection) 2. Under IUCN Red List: Declared an Endangered Species 3. Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species (CITES): Appendix I 4. Convention on Migratory Species (CMS): Appendix II 	

- Confluence of the Ganga and Gandak at Sonapur, in the Saran
- Confluence of the Ganga and Kosi near Kursela, in the Katihar

- And some parts of Patna and Bhagalpur Districts.
- **Characteristics:**
 - Gangetic Dolphins are **blind** and find their path and Prey in river water through **Echolocation [By emitting sound (Ultrasonic Sound)]**.
 - Gangetic dolphins prefer to live in water that is at least 5 to 8 feet deep and a zone where there is **little or no current**.
- **Significance:**
 - As Gangetic Dolphins live in freshwater, they act as a **reliable indicator of the River Ecosystem**.

Important facts

- In 2009, the Government of India declared the Gangetic Dolphin as a National Aquatic Animal and 5th October as a National Ganga River Dolphin Day.
- This Dolphin is mainly found in the Ganga-Brahmaputra River and their tributaries in India, Nepal, and Bangladesh.

Air Pollution in Bihar

Context

In a recently released IIT Delhi report, 8 districts of Bihar were declared as **Hot Spot districts** in air pollution.

More about the news

- Bihar State Pollution Control Board (**BSPCB**) with the help of **IIT Delhi** has conducted a study on the sources of Air Pollution in Bihar.
- In this report mainly six sources of Air Pollution are identified.

Sources of Air Pollution in the State

Sources	Pollutants	Contribution to Air Pollution
1. Household and Commercial areas	PM 2.5	37%
2. Agriculture	PM 2.5	13%
3. Transport	PM 2.5	10%
4. Solid Waste Burning	PM 2.5	10%
5. Medium and small industry	PM 2.5	7%
6. Electricity and Large Industry	PM 2.5	7%

Key Findings of Report

- **Hot-Spot Districts:** Patna, Vaishali, Samastipur, Saharsa, Purnia, Bhagalpur, Rohtas and Banka.
- **The contribution of Transport and Solid Waste Trash** in Bihar air pollution is **20%**.
- **In Transport Sector Pollution:** Only Patna district is declared as Hot-Spot district.
- **For Household uses Biomass** (Cow dung, Wood, etc) is still used in Patna, Vaishali, and Samastipur.
- **Highest Air Pollution from Agriculture:** In four districts, Saharsa, Rohtas, Bhagalpur, and Purnia.

Government initiatives to curb air pollution in the state

- **Patna Clean Air Action Plan-** Launched by BSPCB to tackle Air Pollution in the City by taking Scientific measures regarding air pollution.
- **Ban old Public Diesel Vehicles in the City** and promote CNG/Electric Vehicles.
- **"Integrated Dashboard for Air Quality Monitoring Center"** established in all 543 Blocks of the state.
- **Draft of "Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Development Pathway for Bihar"** - For the Sustainable environmental development in the state.

Bihar Governor Carried Lord Buddha's Holy Relics to Thailand

Context

A 22-member delegation led by the **Governor of Bihar, Shri Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar** and **Union Minister of Social Justice and Empowerment Dr. Virendra Kumar** has carried the Sacred Relics of Lord Buddha to Thailand, for 26 days exposition in Thailand.

More about the news

- The Holy relics of Lord Buddha and his two honoured disciples, **Arahata Sariputra, and Arahata Maudgalayana**, are set to embark on a sacred journey to Thailand on **22 February 2024**.
- **Four bone Fragments** of Lord Buddha (acknowledged as **Kapilvastu Relics**) are presently kept at the **National Museum** and will be taken to Thailand.
- For The first time, the relics of Buddha disciples Arahata Sariputra and Arahata Maudgalayana from

Sanchi (M.P) were carried along with the relics of Lord Buddha.

- These sacred relics are showcased at multiple venues across Thailand, allowing devotees and enthusiasts to pay homage to these revered artefacts.



- These sacred relics are also exhibited during the **"Makha Bucha Festival"** such that common people pay their reverence to the sacred relics.
- These Relics fall under the **"AA (Rare) category"** of antiquities and art treasures. This means these relics are **not** meant to be lent for exhibition, within India or in foreign countries.
- However, on the Special request of the Thailand government, the Exhibition of these relics was held in Thailand.
- In the past, Relics were taken to Sri Lanka (1976, 2012), Mongolia (1993, 2022), Singapore (1994, 2007), South Korea (1995), and Thailand (1995).

Significance of this Event

- This is a landmark event in the India-Thailand relationship that highlights the **civilizational connection** between the two countries. This cultural event is also part of India's **Act East Policy** to strengthen ties with South East Asian countries.



Increasing Road Accidents in Bihar

Context

A Survey conducted by the Traffic Police of Bihar reveals that more than 8898 people died in Bihar in 2023 in road accidents.

More about the news

- This Traffic Police Survey report said that the maximum number of people (around 3345) who died in a road accident in 2023 were Pedestrians.
- In this report mainly 8 reasons were found for road accidents in Bihar.
- Due to vehicle overturning, the collision with a vehicle, crossing the road by running, and not following the traffic rules (like wearing Helmets, fastening the seat belt, etc).
- According to NCRB's "Accidental Deaths and Suicides in India 2022" report, Bihar ranks 13th in the country. As per the report, Bihar Road accidents in 2022 increased by 13.1% with respect to the year 2021.

Bihar government initiative to curb road accidents

- **Traffic Police Station:** In 2023, the state government opened 28 more Traffic Police Stations (earlier 12 traffic police opened), such that Traffic management in the state is properly managed.
- **Highway Police Patrol Force:** The state government deployed the Highway Patrol Force along the National Highway to reduce road accidents in the state.
- **Liquor Prohibition in Bihar:** Bihar imposed a complete liquor ban in the state in 2016. Due to this decision road accidents in Bihar also reduced.
- **Installation of Camera:** Bihar police also installed cameras at various places such that if any person violates traffic rules (overspeed, wrong-way driving, etc.), then police issue E-Challans to them.
- **National Road Safety Week:** To increase awareness about road safety to curb road accidents, National Road Safety Week is celebrated from 11th to 17th January 2024.

Medical Education in Bihar

Context

Very soon Diploma of National Board (DNB) course and admission in 22 new Nursing Institutes will be started in Bihar.

More about the News

- The Government of Bihar, is planning to start DNB Courses in all District Hospitals and other State main Hospitals.
- From this, 100 DNB seats at the PG level will be increased in the state, which will help provide better health facilities to the people of Bihar.
- Studying Medical students in this course also provided their health services in the hospitals.
- Recognition for the DNB Course is given by the **National Board of Examination for Medical Sciences.**

22 New Nursing Colleges Opened in Bihar

- From this Session, Admission of students will take place in all 22 new ANM, GNM, and BSc Nursing Institutes in the state.
- Now, 1320 new seats for Nursing added to the nursing course in the state.
- This helps in the improvement of the healthcare facilities in the state.

Current Status of Healthcare Facilities in Bihar

- As per the **5th** edition of the **NITI Aayog Health Index 2020-21**, Bihar's ranking is **19th** among the large states.
- In Bihar, Doctor Population ratio is around one doctor per 22,000 people at government Hospitals, While WHO recommended Doctor to Population is 1: 1,000.
- Bihar also suffering with poor healthcare infrastructure, less number of Nursing Staff, and healthcare officials.

Significance of the above projects

- DNB Course pursuing medical students have already completed their MBBS, So they also provide health care services in the Hospitals along with their studies, this helps in overcoming the shortage of doctors in the state.

- Bihar also faces a shortage of trained Medical Nurses, the Newly established ANM or GNM and BSc nursing colleges will help in overcoming this problem.

Inauguration of Agriculture Schemes in Bihar

Context

On 15 March 2024, CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated several schemes of the Agriculture Department, Bihar.

More about the news

- CM Nitish Kumar launched the Four “**Agriculture Knowledge Vehicles**” from Patna. The objective of these vehicles is to provide information about **modern agriculture methodology** to the farmers.
- Under the **4th Agriculture Road Map**, there is a provision to provide Modern Agriculture information to the farmers of the state.
- CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated/laid the foundation stone of 20 schemes (related to Agriculture), worth 811 crore rupees.
- **Schemes Launched by CM Nitish Kumar:**
 - Bihar Nutritious Grain (Millets) Development Scheme
 - Bihar Maize Development Scheme
 - Organic Farming Promotion Scheme
 - Makhana Development, Paan Development, Beekeeping Mission, Banana Development, etc related schemes.
 - Agriculture Mechanization Scheme
- He also launched the “**Kissan Call Center**”, to provide agriculture-related information to farmers.

Other Agriculture related schemes in Bihar

- Mukhyamantri Horticulture Mission
- Chief Minister Rapid Seed Scheme
- Bihar Rajya Fasal Sahayata Yojana
- Mukhyamantri Krishi Vidhut Sambandh Yojana, etc.

Green Township in Bihar

Context

Recently the government of Bihar announced to development of the Green Township in Bihar.

More about the news

- Green Township will be developed near the main city of the state.
- The Green Township Development Plan of the city is in line with the vision of the “**Viksit Bihar**” resolution.
- These townships will be made around the main city which is not developed or underdeveloped.
- Road, Green parks, Drainage, Pure and clean drinking water, etc resources available In these townships.
- **Objective:**
 1. For the development of the surrounding area of the town, which is not developed or under-developed.
 2. The population of the state is increasing so there is a need for these townships of the cities.
 3. The main town of the city is already overpopulated.

Other City development projects:

- **Smart City Mission:**
 - This mission was launched in the year 2015 by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
 - **100 cities** from different States/UTs, were selected for this scheme to make them **Smart City**.
- To improve the competitiveness between different cities in India, the Government also released every year **Smart City Ranking**.

A New Cadre for Special Branch of Bihar Police

Context

Recently Home Department of Bihar has given approval for the establishment of a new cadre for the Special Branch of the Bihar Police.

More about the news

- The Home Department related to this Bihar police special branch constable and Bihar police special branch sub-inspector Rules 2024 has been approved.
- A special training will be provided to this cadre forces.

- All the recruitment of this special branch will be done separately.

Need of this Special Cadre Police

- According to the National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB), “**Crime in India-2022**” report, Bihar topped in ATM frauds and disputes (especially related to land and property) in India.
- Overall, **Bihar recorded a 23% surge** in the number of crimes under the Indian Penal Code (IPC) and special and local laws (SLL), in comparison to 2021.
- With 4736 riots reported in 2022 in the state, the second highest in India after Maharashtra.
- Bihar also registered a **35% rise in forgery/cheating and fraud incidents in 2022**.
- **Around 50,000 cases** registered in Bihar **every year** related to liquor since the **Bihar Liquor Prohibition Act** came into effect.
- Also, Bihar ranked 2nd in Murder cases and ranked 3rd in kidnapping and abduction cases in the country.
- Thus, there is a need for improvement of the law-and-order situation in Bihar.
- To make Bihar as a Startup Hub in the country, attracting foreign investment in the state and developing Bihar a manufacturing destination, the state government must free Bihar from crime and illegal activity.

ONE LINERS

- Who has been appointed as the new chairman of the Asian Development Research Institute, Patna
- **Prof Ajit Sinha.**
- The Centre of Excellence for Jardalu Mango will be established in which district of Bihar
- **Bhagalpur (Shahkundi)**
- In which District of Bihar, Trolley bags will be made from waste products
- **Bhagalpur**
- 'The International Conference on Advanced Ceramics-recent developments and new technology' was held at which educational institute of Bihar
- **IIT, Patna**
- The 14th State level Junior-senior Body-BUILDER Championship was held in which district of Bihar
- **Patna (Patliputra Complex)**
- How many times has CM Nitish Kumar won **Vote of Confidence** in the Bihar Legislative Assembly so far
- **5 times**
- Who has awarded with 'the Pandit Madan Mohan Malviya Award 2024'
- **Dr Birbal Jha (From Madhubani)**
- How many medals did Bihar win at the 67th National School Games Weightlifting Championship in 2023-24-20
(**Monika Sharma-Bronze Medal, Aman Mehta-Silver Medal**)
- What is the rank of **Bihar** in the 6th Khelo India Youth Games-2024
- **21st (5 medals)**
- Where is Pulse Research Institute in Bihar
- **Mokama in Patna District**
- Who has been elected as **vice chairman** of the Bihar State Bar Council
- **Shri Dharmnath Prasad Yadav**
- Rashtriya Lok Janta Dal has been renamed as
- **Rashtriya Lok Morcha**
- How many people were elected for **Rajya Sabha** from Bihar in February 2024 - **6** [Sanjay Kumar Jha: (JDU), Dr. Bhim Singh and Dharmshila Gupta: BJP, Manoj Jha and Sanjay Yadav: RJD, Dr. Akhilesh Prasad Singh: Congress]
- India's second Physical Modelling Center to Study Flood control will be established in which district of Bihar
- **Virpur (Supaul)**
- What is the Mascot of the Naga Bird Festival-2024, held from 17th to 19th February 2024 in **Jamui, Bihar**
- **PIKU, The Pochard**
- Where was the **41st Junior National Boys-Girls Softball Championship 2024** held
- **Patliputra Sports Complex (Patna)**
- CM Nitish Kumar inaugurated a total of 3618 projects (3590 Rural Roads and 28 Bridges) on 21st February 2024. These projects were constructed by
- **Rural Works Department, Bihar**
- When did Mukhyamantri Gramin Sadak Unnayan Yojana launch in Bihar
- **2023**
- Which river in the Bihar is most polluted, according to the Bihar State Pollution Control Board's yearly report 2023-24
- **Sirsiya River (East Champaran)**
- Berra Barrage will be built on which river in Bihar
- **Dardha River, Berra village (Masaurhi Block, Patna)**
- How many blocks have been selected for setting up the "Gramin Mandi" in Bihar
- **25 blocks**
- Recently, the Government of Bihar prepared a "Master Plan" for the development of how many cities in the state
- **100 Cities (Rs 2.82 lakh crore allocated under Budget for this Master Plan)**
- Bihar has been placed in which zone in the recently released eBird report
- **Yellow Zone (Due to less no. of Bird Species)**
- The Bihar government has partnered with which institution to establish Model Laboratory in the schools
- **IIT Patna (initially in 78 Schools)**
- Bihar's first registered vehicle scraping centre has built at which place
- **Teg Bigha Village, (Bakhtiyarpur)**
- How many Artists from Bihar were awarded the Sahitya Natak Akademi Award for the year 2022 and 2023
- **5 Artist**
- In the 68th Junior National Ball Badminton Championship 2024, which state won in the women's category
- **Tamil Nadu (Bihar runner-up)**
- How many prizes were received by Bihar in the "India Today Tourism Survey and Award 2023"
- **3**

- The IIT Delhi's Air pollution survey for FY 2023-24 has marked how many districts of Bihar as Air Pollution Hot-Spot Districts
- **8 Districts (Patna, Vaishali, Samastipur, Saharsa, Rohtas, Banka, Bhagalpur, Purnia)**
- Where did the Smart Gram Panchayat Project launch in Bihar recently
- **Papraur Gram Panchayat (Begusarai)**
- The Ministry of Ayush organised an AYUSH regional review meeting in which district of Bihar - **Patna**
- Recently, Which state government announced to conduct Caste Survey on the lines of Bihar
- **Jharkhand**
- Who is appointed as the new Chief Secretary of Bihar
- **Brajesh Mehrotra**
- Recently, Which private Company is being selected for online electricity metre recharge in North Bihar
- **Orange Pay**
- How many players from Bihar won medals in the Asian Track Cycling Championship 2024
- **2 Players [Suhasani Kumari (Bronze), Jalauddin Ansari (Silver)]**
- Recently PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the Amas-Darbhanga Four lane Expressway in Bihar, this expressway passes through how many districts of Bihar
- **7 Districts (Aurangabad, Gaya, Jehanabad, Patna, Vaishali, Samastipur, Darbhanga)**
- How many medals won by Bihar in Khelo India University Games 2024
- **1 Medal [Lalit Narayan Mithila University, Bihar (Bronze Medal)]**
- Recently, Which Startup from Bihar joined the 100 crore Startup Club in India
- **Vaimanika Aerospace (By Manish Dixit)**
- Who made the Smart Bike Helmet App
- **Prabhat Kumar (He Also made the Smart Welding Helmet)**
- How many writers from Bihar were selected for Prime Minister YUVA Scheme
- **3 Writers (Deep Sikha, Neetu Kumar, Tajim Aalam)**
- How many cities from Bihar were selected in the "CITIIS 2.0 Scheme"
- **One City (Muzaffarpur)**
- Department of Labour Resources, Bihar, recently collaborated with which company for the establishment of the Center of Excellence (CoE) in 151 ITI
- **Tata Technology**
- Indrapuri Reservoir Project is on which river of Bihar
- **Sone River (in Rohtas district, Bihar)**
- According to the NCRB Report, what is the rank of Bihar in Road Accidents
- **13th**
- How many Regional fairs in Bihar have been recognized as "State Fair"
- **14 (regional Fair)**
- Which country was visited by the CM Nitish Kumar from 7 to 11 March 2024
- **UK (London, for Science City)**
- On the occasion of the International Women's Day, the **Retrospective Exhibition** was inaugurated at which place of Bihar
- **Bihar Museum, Patna**
- Where "Bihar State Panchayat Resource Centre" will be opened in Bihar
- **Sonepur (for training of representatives of Panchayat)**
- At which place of Bihar Statue of Kailash Pati Mishra and Kailash Pati Mishra Smriti Udayan inaugurated
- **ICAR Atari, Patna (By Home Minister Amit Shah)**
- What is the percentage of government school students' health checkups in Bihar according to the UDISE report 2021-22
- **Only 0.5%**

NATIONAL

POLITY

Supreme Court declared Electoral Bonds Unconstitutional

Context

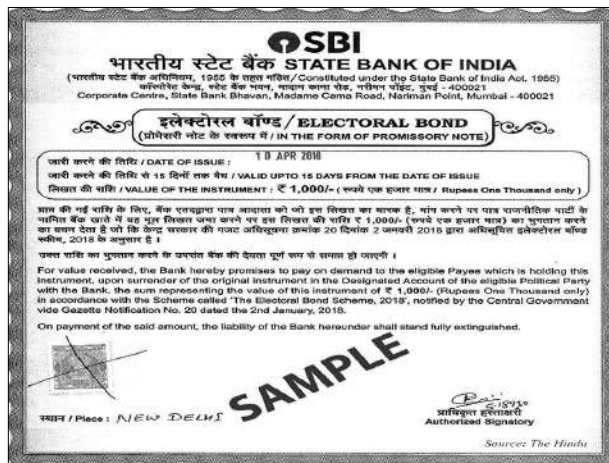
In a unanimous judgment, the Supreme Court declared the Electoral Bond as unconstitutional and manifestly arbitrary. The judgment is given by a 5-judge bench headed by CJI D.Y. Chandrachud.

More About the News

- The judgment held that the scheme and the preceding amendments made to the Representation of People Act, Companies Act, and Income Tax Act violated the voter's Right to Information about political funding under **Article 19(1) (a)**.
- The court observed that the scheme promoted economic inequalities as the corporations with financial power gained an advantage over ordinary citizens.
- So, the Issuance of Electoral Bonds to be stopped now.

Electoral Bonds

- It provides a mechanism for individuals and organizations to contribute political parties, ensuring the anonymity of the donors.
- It was introduced in 2017 with the aim to bring transparency to political donations, and they were rolled out in **2018**.
- Electoral Bonds are available at selected branches of the **State Bank of India**.
- These bonds were purchased either by an individual on their own or in partnership with others.
- The name of the donor is not disclosed on the Electoral Bond.
- Only political parties that are officially recognized under **Section 29A of the Representation of People Act 1951** and have received **at least 1% of the total votes** in the most recent elections to the Lok Sabha or state assemblies were eligible to receive funds through these bonds.



Demand of Full Statehood in Ladakh

Context

Recently, people in Ladakh came on to the streets, demanding full Statehood and Ladakh's inclusion in the **Sixth Schedule** to safeguard their land, culture, language, and environment.

Current status of Ladakh

- After the abrogation of Article 370 in 2019, Ladakh was announced as a Union territory of India.
- Ladakh don't have a legislature, unlike J&K.

What is the Sixth Schedule

- The Sixth Schedule under **Article 244** provides for the formation of autonomous administrative divisions for the tribals that have some legislative, judicial, and administrative autonomy within a state.
- Currently Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram are in the sixth schedule.

Features of the Sixth Schedule

- The Sixth Schedule provides for the creation of **Autonomous District Councils** in certain tribal areas of the North-Eastern states.
- All District Councils have the power to make laws on a range of subjects such as the allotment of land, use of water courses, and inheritance of property.

- As per the constitution of India Autonomous District Council consists of not more than **30 members**.
- Out of 30 members only 4 members can be nominated by the **Governor** of the state and the rest shall be **elected**.
- If there are different Scheduled Tribes in an autonomous district, the governor can separate them as **Autonomous Regions**.

Tribals in Ladakh

In Ladakh, 90% of the population belongs to the tribal community. Some of the tribes inhabiting Ladakh are as follows:

- Balti Beda
- Bot, Boto
- Brokpa,
- Drokpa, Dard,
- Shin Changpa
- Garra, Mon

Privileges Committee of Lok Sabha

Context

The Privileges Committee of the Lok Sabha has recently issued a notice summoning the West Bengal Chief Secretary and other officers.

About Privilege Committee

- The Privileges Committee is a parliamentary committee present in **both the Houses** of Parliament.
- In Lok Sabha, this committee consists of **15 members** nominated by the **Speaker**, while in Rajya Sabha it consists of **10 members** nominated by the **Chairman**.
- Its primary function is to investigate questions involving the breach of privileges of the House or its members.
- The committee investigates each case to determine whether a breach of privilege has occurred or not.
- It submits appropriate recommendations in its report before the speaker or the Chairman.
- Any member of the House can raise a question involving a breach of privilege with the consent of the Speaker/Chairman.

Punishment

- If a member is found guilty, they may face suspension or expulsion from the House. For example, in 1978 Indira Gandhi was expelled from the House for the abuse of powers during Emergency.

Nutritional Needs of Adolescent Girls

Context

Recently, an agreement has been signed to address the nutritional needs of adolescent girls in **five "Utkarsh" districts**.

More about the News

- The **Ministry of Women and Child Development** and the **Ayush Ministry** have signed an agreement to implement Ayush interventions to address the **nutritional needs** of teenage girls in **five "Utkarsh" districts**.
- The 5 pilot districts are **Dholpur in Rajasthan, Paschimi Singhbhum in Jharkhand, Bastar in Chhattisgarh, Gadchiroli in Maharashtra, and Dhubri in Assam**.
- Both ministries have committed to create "**Anaemia-Mukt Bharat**" through the agreement.

Mission Utkarsh

- It was launched in January **2022**.
- **15 central ministries** and departments are working to improve the selected key performance indicators in **bottom districts** and bring them to the levels of state and national average.
- A programme known as "**Rapid improvement of selected districts**" aims to enhance few **Key Performance Indicators (KPIs)** in districts that the Central Ministries have shortlisted.

Objectives of Mission Utkarsh

- To improve the performance of the **selected districts KPIs from the current/base level to state average within a year** and to take them to **national average or better within 2 years**.
- To enhance performance throughout district's by utilizing the knowledge acquired through this Mission.

Districts covered under Mission

S. No.	State	District
1.	Assam	Karbi Anglong
2.	Bihar	Bhojpur
3.	Chhattisgarh	Raigarh
4.	Jharkhand	Jamtara
5.	Madhya Pradesh	Dindori
6.	Meghalaya	West Khasi Hills
7.	Odisha	Mayurbhanj
8.	Rajasthan	Pratapgarh
9.	Tamil Nadu	Cuddalore
10	Uttar Pradesh	Banda

PM-JANMAN

Context


Recently, a scheme related to housing for tribal groups is facing hurdles due to lack of accurate data.

More about the News

- **Out of five lakh houses** that were to be constructed by the centre for tribals, **only 2.5 lakh houses** were sanctioned till **15 February 2024**.

PM-JANMAN (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan)


- It was announced in the **Union Budget 2023**.
- It is a **centrally sponsored scheme**.



PM JANMAN
(Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan)
A Visionary Initiative towards Tribal Welfare

- 18 States & 1 Union Territory
- 75 PVTG Communities
- 24,000 Crore Allocated
- 7 Lakh Households
- 28 Lakh PVTG Population
- Convergence with 9 Ministries
- 11 Basic Amenities

Empowering Tribals | Transforming India



PM JANMAN
(Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan)
A Visionary Initiative towards Tribal Welfare

11 Basic Amenities | 24,000 Crore Allocated | Convergence with 9 Ministries

	Sabko Pucca Ghar
	Har Ghar Nal Se Jal
	Gaon-Gaon Tak Sadak
	Har Ghar Bijli
	Shiksha Ke Liye Hostel
	Kaushal Vikas
	Door Daraz Gaon Tak Mobile Medical Unit
	Sabko Poshan
	Unnat Aajeevika
	Door Daraz Gaon Tak Mobile Network

Empowering Tribals | Transforming India

- It was launched by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 15th November 2023, from the Khunti district of Jharkhand on the occasion of 'Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas' which is celebrated on the birth anniversary of Birsa Munda.
- Nearly **80% of the allocated amount** is only for the construction of houses and roads.
- It was launched for the Financial Year **2023-24 to 2025-26** under the **Development Action Plan for Scheduled Tribes (DAPST)**.

Aim of PM-JANMAN

- The objective is to reach **22,000 families** belonging to Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTG) in **200 districts throughout the nation**.
- It was launched to increase awareness and ensure that all government programmes are fully implemented in the **PVTG majority tribal communities**.

Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

Context

The enrollment under Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) has increased by **27 percent** in the financial year 2023-24.

More about the news

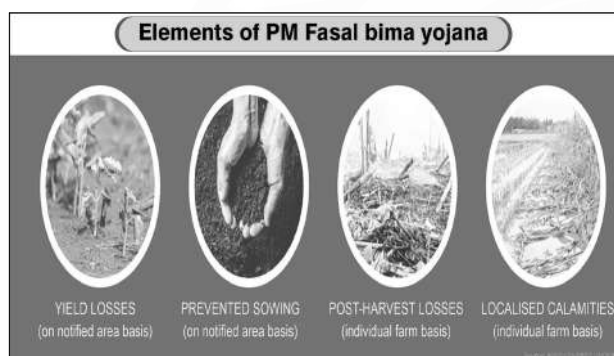
- An amount of Rs **31,130 crore** was deposited by the farmers during this financial year.
- In return, a payment of Rs **1,55,977 crore** was made to the farmers.
- Due to the increase in the amount of compensation received by the farmers, farmers are also joining this scheme on their own.

About PMFBY

- The Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) scheme was launched by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare in New Delhi from the Kharif season of 2016 onwards.
- PMFBY is the Largest crop insurance scheme in the history of independent India and globally, the third largest scheme in terms of premium.

Objectives

- To Provide financial support to farmers suffering crop loss/damage arising out of unforeseen events.
- To Stabilize the income of farmers to ensure their continuance in farming.
- Encouraging farmers to adopt innovative and modern agricultural practices.
- Ensuring the flow of credit to the agriculture sector which will contribute to food security, crop diversification, and enhancing growth and competitiveness of the agriculture sector besides protecting farmers from production risks.



Sashakt Nari – Viksit Bharat Programme

Context

Recently, The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi participated in Sashakt Nari– Viksit Bharat programme organized in New Delhi.

More about the programme

- The Prime Minister witnessed agricultural drone demonstrations conducted by Namo Drone Didis.
- PM handed over drones to 1,000 Namo Drone Didis.

Namo Drone Didi's initiative

- Under the initiative, rural women are given training to become drone pilots for agricultural purposes.
- Aim of the initiative-
 - To enhance financial autonomy of the women by economic empowerment, especially in rural areas.

- Around Rs 8,000 crore Bank loans were disbursed to Self Help Groups (SHGs) at subsidised interest rate.
- About Rs 2,000 crore Capitalization Support Fund was given to SHGs by the PM.

Other Initiatives for Nari Shakti by the Government

1. Beti Bachao Beti Padhao	• To stop foeticide and enhance literacy rate among females.
2. Pradhan Mantri Matru Vandana Yojana	• Under this scheme Rs 5000 is given for nutrition of the expecting mothers.
3. Sukanya Samridhi Yojana	• This scheme ensures availability of resources during the education period of girls.
4. PM Mudra Yojana	• This Scheme promotes entrepreneurship among women by availing funds to them.
5. PM Awas yojana	• Under this scheme, houses are registered in the names of women.
6. Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana	• Under this scheme, free LPG connections are given.

Extension of Subsidies on Ujjwala Scheme

Context

Recently, GOI announced the extension of Rs 300 per LPG cylinder subsidy to poor women under Ujjwala.

About the Ujjwala Scheme

- Pradhan Mantri Ujjwala Yojana is a scheme launched by the Ministry of Petroleum & Natural Gas to provide LPG connections to women from Below Poverty Line (BPL) households.
- The scheme was launched on 1st May 2016 in Ballia, Uttar Pradesh.



Objectives of the scheme

- To promote women's empowerment
- To provide clean cooking fuel
- To prevent hazardous health related issues among

the millions of rural population due to use of fossil fuel.

Eligibility Criteria

- The applicant should be women above the age of 18 years.
- The applicant must be a rural inhabitant carrying a BPL card.
- The women applicant should have a savings bank account in any nationalized bank across the country to receive subsidy amount.
- The applicant's household should not already own a LPG connection.

Note: According to WHO in 1990 indoor pollution killed 1.9 million Indians pre-maturely. After LPG came this number started to decline.

ECONOMICS

Railway Infrastructure Projects

Context

Recently, PM launched **2000** railway infrastructure projects worth Rs **41,000** crores. Around **25,000 crore** will be spent under **Amrit Bharat Station**.

Amrit Bharat Station

- The government has laid the foundation stone of rail overbridges and underbridges as part of an initiative to modernize important railway stations.
- Currently, the plan calls for the modernization and upgrading of **1309 stations** throughout the Indian Railway network.
- **Thirty-three** Railway Stations from Bihar have been selected for special attention under this initiative.
- It involves creating Master Plans and executing them in phases to enhance various station facilities.

Features of Amrit Bharat Station

- One of the most important aspects is the **availability of specific areas in stations, like Executive Lounges and spaces for small business meetings, to accommodate various passenger requirements.**
- The plan also prioritizes the **building of high-level platforms for all station categories, with platforms typically extending up to 600 meters and measuring between 760 and 840 mm in height.**

- Essential facilities are provided, such as restrooms, Divyangjan (specially abled people) facilities, escalators, furniture in the waiting-hall, and free Wi-Fi Connectivity.

Important fact

- In 2023, the Indian Railway carried 1512 MT of freight in addition to serving 3.52 billion passengers.
- Every day, it runs more than 13,000 trains, linking 7,325 stations around the country.

India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement

Context

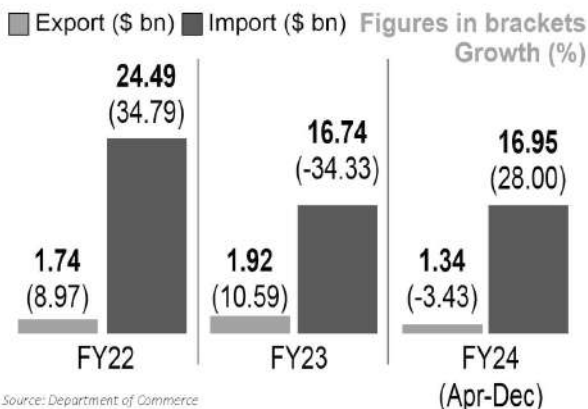
Recently, India signed a Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) with the European Free Trade Association (EFTA).

About the European Free Trade Association (EFTA)

- The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) is the intergovernmental organization based in Europe.
- **Establishment:** This association was established in 1960 by its then seven Member States (Austria, Denmark, Norway, Portugal, Sweden, Switzerland and the United Kingdom) for the promotion of free trade and economic integration between its members. Now it has only Four members.
- **Member countries:** Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland.



INDIA-EFTA TRADE

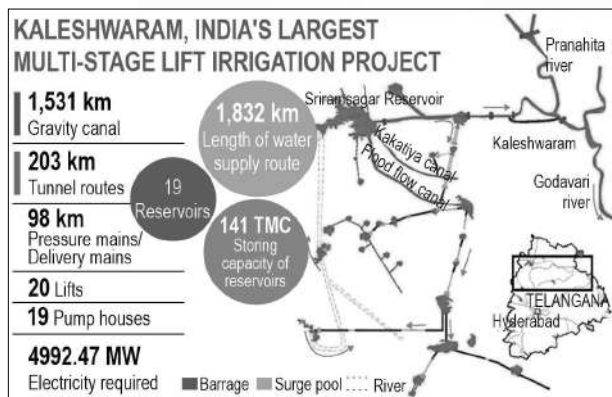


GEOGRAPHY

Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)

Context

It is said by the Comptroller and Auditor General of India that the project cost of the Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project is likely to exceed ₹1.47 lakh crore.



About Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project (KLIP)

- KLIP is the **world's largest** multi-stage lift irrigation project.
- This project is located on the confluence of the rivers **Pranhita** and **Godavari** in Telangana.
- A series of underground and surface water pumping stations are the striking features of this project.

Benefit of the Project

- It will increase water availability for irrigation and drinking purposes.
- It will increase groundwater levels in **Telangana**.
- Water conservation programmes like **Mission Kakatiya** and **Mission Bhagirath** will be boosted by this project.

Godavari River

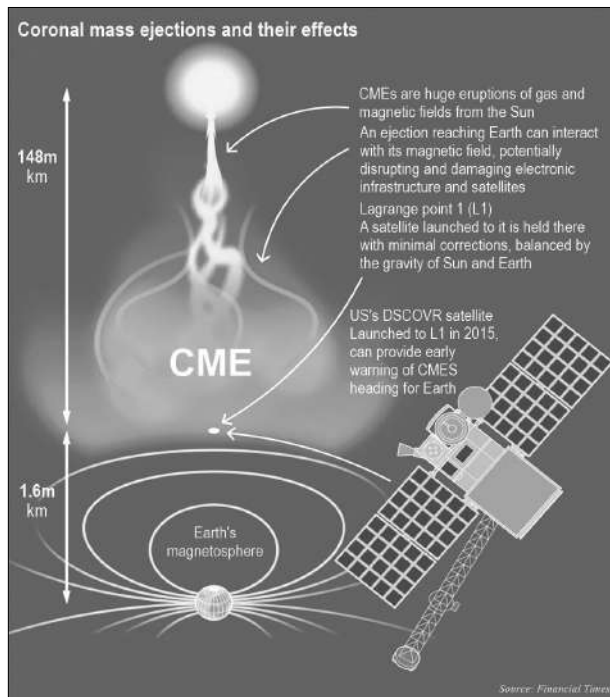
- The Godavari is the **second longest** river in India.
- It is also known as the **Dakshin Ganga**.
- Origin**- Trimbakeshwar Hill near Nasik in Maharashtra.
- Drainage Basin**- The drainage basin of the Godavari river extends mainly over the states of Maharashtra, Telangana, Odisha, Chhattisgarh, and Andhra Pradesh.
- Tributaries**- Purna, Pranhita, Indravati, Sabari, Pravara, Manjira and Maner.
- Cultural Importance**- The Banks of the Godavari River in Nashik are also the site of the **Kumbh Mela**.
- Important projects on the Godavari River - Polavaram Irrigation Project, Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation project, etc.

Coronal Mass Ejection

Context

The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) said that the **Plasma Analyser Package for Aditya (PAPA)** payload onboard the Aditya-L1 has detected the impact of **Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs)**.

Features of PAPA



1. PAPA is an energy and mass analyzer intended for low energy in-situ measurements of solar wind ions and electrons.
2. The Solar Wind Electron Energy Probe (SWEEP) and the Solar Wind Ion Composition Analyser are its two sensors.
3. The sensors can also determine which way solar wind particles are arriving.

About Coronal Mass Ejection

- Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) are **large expulsions of plasma and magnetic fields from the Sun's corona (Outermost layer of the Sun)**. They can eject billions of tons of coronal material and carry an embedded magnetic field.
- CMEs travel outward from the Sun at speeds ranging from less than **250 kilometers per second (km/s)** to as fast as nearly **3000 km/s**.
- The fastest Earth-directed CMEs can reach our planet in as little as 15-18 hours. Slower CMEs can take several days to arrive.

ENVIRONMENT

Northern Pintail

Context

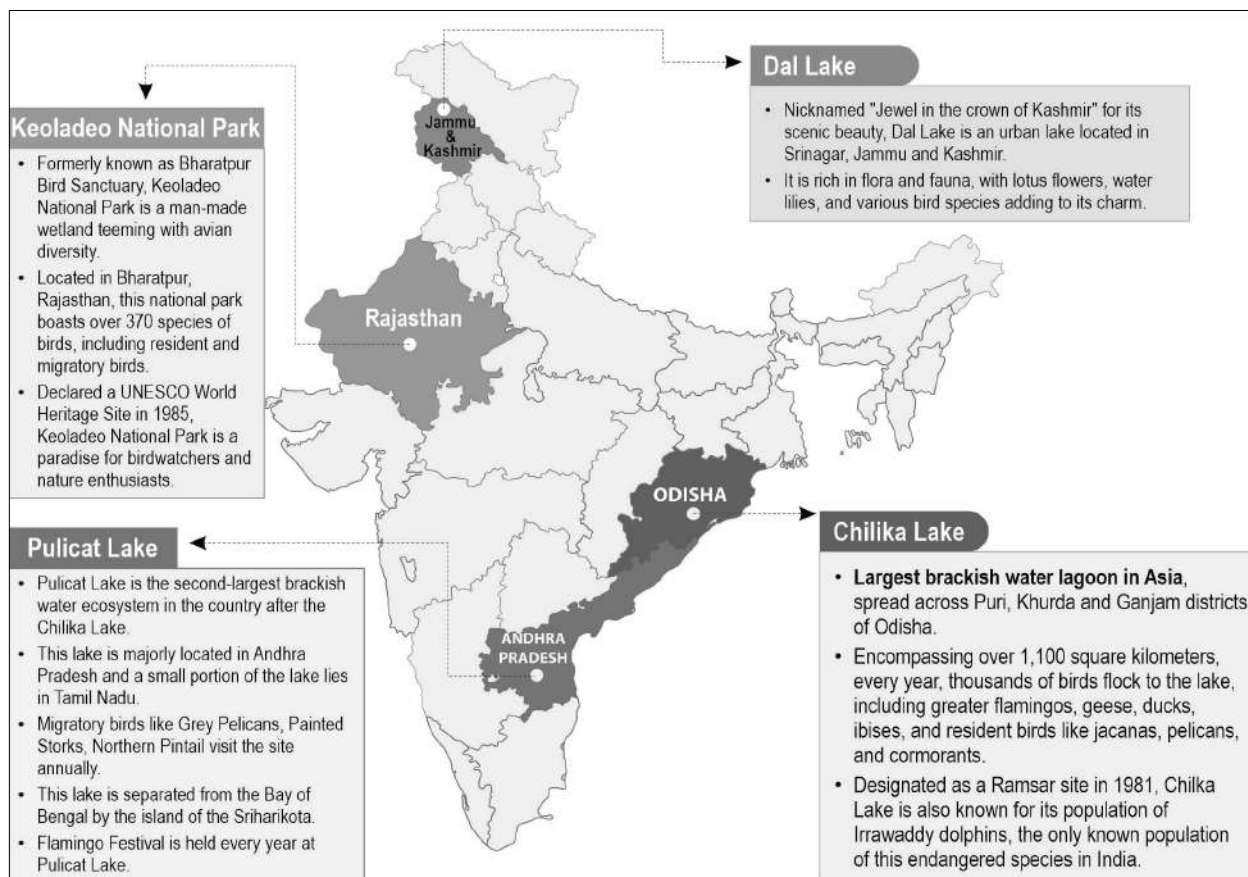
Recently, dozens of Northern Pintail, a migratory duck, were found dead in **Pulicat Lake**. The suspected reason for the death is fertilizer or pesticide ingestion.

About Northern pintail

- The Northern pintail is a migratory duck species with wide geographic distribution.
- They breed in the Arctic region of **Eurasia** and **North America**.
- They migrate to India by November and stay in India till March, then they return to their breeding grounds.
- The Northern pintail can be found in a variety of habitats in India including wetlands, lakes and paddy fields.

- Some of the key sites for the Northern Pintails in India include **Pulicat Lake (Andhra Pradesh and Tamil Nadu)**, **Chilika Lake (Odisha)**, **Keoladeo National Park (Rajasthan)** and **Dal Lake (Jammu and Kashmir)**.





National Board for Wildlife

Context

Recently, the **National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)** approved an elevated road project near **Kaziranga National Park in Assam**.

- NBWL also approved two elevated railway corridors skirting **Deepor Beel**, a major wetland and designated a Ramsar Site in Assam.

About National Board for Wildlife (NBWL)

- The National Board for Wildlife was established in the year **2003** under the **Wildlife Protection Act, 1972**.
- Composition of the NBWL- The NBWL is **chaired by the Prime Minister**. It has **47 members** including the Prime Minister.
- The **Minister of Environment Forest and Climate Change** chairs the standing committee of NBWL.

Kaziranga National Park

- Location- Golaghat and Nagaon districts of Assam.
- Status-
 - It was declared a National Park in 1974.
 - It was declared a Tiger Reserve in 2007.
 - It was declared a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1985.
 - It is recognized as an Important Bird Area by BirdLife International.
- The '**big four**' species of the Kaziranga National Park —The greater one-horned rhino, Elephant, Royal Bengal tiger, and Asiatic water buffalo.
- National Highway 37** passes through it.
- Diphlu River** drains through it.
- Vegetation**- Tropical moist deciduous forests and tropical semi-evergreen forests, tall grasses, open jungle, and short grasses.
- It **reviews all wildlife-related matters** and approves projects in and around national parks and sanctuaries.

- **Alteration of boundaries** in national parks and wildlife sanctuaries can be done with **approval of the NBWL** only.
- The role of the National Board for Wildlife is **advisory in nature**.

Deepor Beel

- Location- Kamrup district, Assam.
- It is a **riverine wetland**, situated in a former channel of the Brahmaputra River.
- It is the **only Ramsar Site** in Assam. It was designated as Ramsar site in November, 2002.

State of India's Environment Report 2024

Context

The **State of India's Environment Report 2024**, published by the **Centre for Science and Environment (CSE)**, was released on **February 28, 2024**, at the **Anil Agarwal Environmental Training Institute** in **Nimli, Rajasthan**.

About Report

- It is compiled and released by **Down To Earth magazine** every year.
- According to data presented in the report, **109 countries experienced losses** as a result of extreme weather events in 2023, with the majority of these countries being in **Africa, Europe, and West Asia**.

States	Incidents
Bihar	Highest Number of Deaths (642 death)
Haryana	Largest affected crop area
Gujarat	Highest number of damaged house
Punjab	Maximum number of animal death

- **Libya** experienced the **highest number of deaths**, while **Indonesia** experienced the **greatest number of affected individuals (nearly 19 million)**.
- India experienced its warmest August and September in **122 years in 2023**.
- In India due to extreme weather conditions that lead to damage of 86,432 homes, 3,287 human lives, affected 2.21 million hectares of crop area, and killed 124,813 animals.
- It impacted **all 36 states and the Union territories** of India.

- **Himachal Pradesh** recorded the **highest number of extreme weather events, with 149 days**, followed by Madhya Pradesh **with 141 days**. Kerala and Uttar Pradesh were next **with 119 days each**.

Sea Slug named after President

Context

Recently, a new marine species of **head-shield Sea Slug** was named after **President Droupadi Murmu** by the **Zoological survey of India(ZSI)**.

About Head-shield Sea Slug

- The newly discovered species belongs to **Melanochlamys** genus of **Phylum Mollusca**.
- The new species of head-shield sea slug is named as **Melanochlamys draupadi**.
- This species was discovered from **Digha of West Bengal coast and Udaipur of Odisha coast**.

Morphological features

- It is a small invertebrate with a maximum length of up to 7 mm.
- It is brownish-black in colour with a ruby-red spot.
- It has a short, blunt, and cylindrical body and a smooth dorsal surface.
- It has two dorsal equal or unequal shields, named the anterior cephalic and posterior shield.

Zoological Survey of India(ZSI)

- The Zoological Survey of India is a subordinate organization under the Ministry of Environment and Forests.
- It was established in 1916.
- It is headquartered in **Kolkata** and has 16 Regional centres.
- The objective of the ZSI is to promote survey, exploration, research, and documentation on various aspects of animal taxonomy in the Indian subcontinent.
- ZSI acts as a designated repository for the National Zoological Collection as per section 39 of the **National Biodiversity Act, 2002**.
- It publishes the **Red Data Book** on Indian Animals.

International Big Cat Alliance

Context

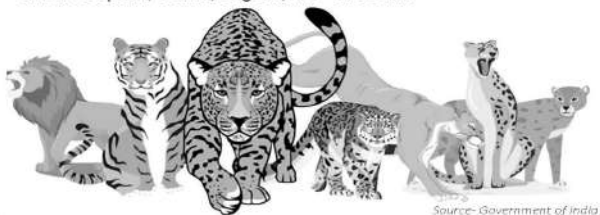
Recently, the **Prime minister Narendra Modi** has announced to establish the **headquarter of International Big Cat Alliance** in **India (IBCA)**.

More about the News

- It will have the allocation of Rs 150 crore from the Centre.

International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA)

The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the program 'Commemoration of 50 years of Project Tiger' at Mysuru and launched the International Big Cats Alliance (IBCA) is focused on the protection & conservation of seven major big cat species in the world. Like Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow Leopard, Puma, Jaguar, and Cheetah.



Source: Government of India

- It will serve as a common platform and a centralised repository of successful practices for conservation of seven big cats namely Tiger, Lion, Leopard, Snow leopard, Cheetah, Jaguar and Puma.
- Five of these tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard and cheetah are found in India.
- The organization will be led by a Secretariat, a Standing Committee and a General assembly consisting of all members.
- It will be modelled on the line of the International Solar Alliance.
- The Union Cabinet, chaired by the prime minister, has approved a one-time budgetary support of Rs 150 crore for the IBCA for a five-year period, from 2023–24 to 2027–28.

International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)

- It is a coalition of 96 nations that are home to big cats, as well as non-range nations that are interested in protecting big cats, scientific organizations, and conservation partners.

Illegal felling of trees in Jim Corbett National Park

Context

Recently, the Supreme Court condemned the illegal felling of over 6,000 trees to construct buildings at the Jim Corbett National Park in Uttarakhand.

Supreme Court Ruled

- The SC described it as a “classic case” of officials and politicians nexus to pollute the environment for purely profit-driven reasons.
- The Court also mandated that a specialized committee be established by the Ministry of Environment, Forests, and Climate Change to investigate and make recommendations regarding the permissibility of tiger safaris within the buffer areas of tiger reserves.
- The court authorized the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) to investigate the case and mandated that the agency submit its report within a three-month period.
- The Court also proposed a specialized committee consisting of National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA), Wildlife Institute of India, Central Empowered Committee and a Joint Secretary from the Ministry.
- The Court said that these errant individuals and officials would pay the restoration costs. The money would be used exclusively for forest restoration.
- The committee’s guidelines would be applied on a pan-India basis.

National Park



An area of ecological, faunal, floral, geomorphological or zoological importance that needs to be protected to conserve wildlife can be declared as a national park.

A region may be designated as a National Park by the state government, regardless of whether it is inside a sanctuary or not.

No human activity is permitted inside the national park except for the ones permitted by the Chief Wildlife Warden of the state under the conditions given in CHAPTER IV, WPA 1972.

Jim Corbett National Park



It is located in Uttarakhand.

This national park was established as Hailey National Park in 1936.

Jim Corbett played an important role in its establishment, therefore this National Park was named on his name.

It is the oldest national park in India.

In 1973, this was the first area to be covered by Project Tiger.

Golden Langur in India

Context

The most recent study on primates in India estimated that there are 7,396 Golden langurs in India.

More about the news

- The detailed population estimation of the endangered primate was carried out in two phases by the Primate Research Centre NE India (PRCNE), Assam Forest Department, Bodoland Territorial Council, Salim Ali Centre for Ornithology and Natural History (SACON), and Conservation Himalayas.
- The entire distribution range of the Golden langur covers the Manas Biosphere Reserve and all fragmented forests in the western part of Assam e.g Raimona National Park – Chirang Reserve Forest, Manas National Park.

About the Golden Langur



- It is an Old World monkey found in Assam.
- Adult males have a cream to golden coat with darker flanks while the females and juveniles are lighter.
- It lives in high trees and has a herbivorous diet of fruits, leaves, seeds, buds and flowers.
- **IUCN status-Endangered**

source: Asian age

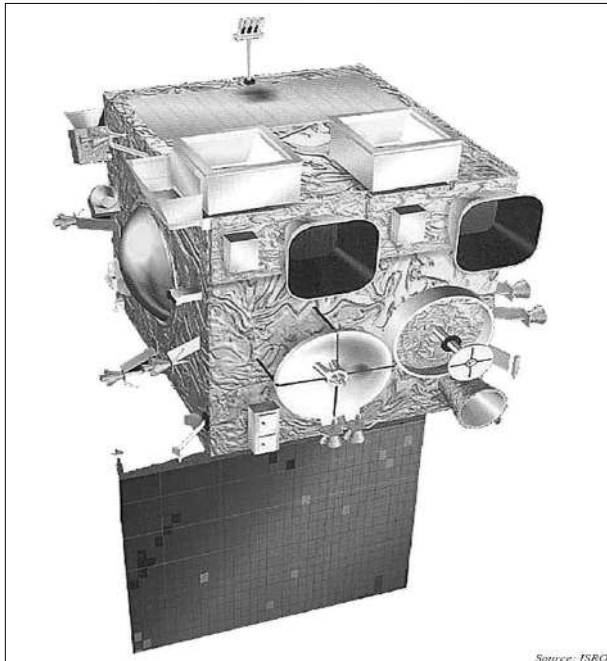
SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle

Context

Recently, ISRO has launched a new generation meteorological satellite INSAT-3DS.

INSAT-3DS



Source: ISRO

- The mission was launched on **February 17, 2024**.
- It is designed to conduct improved monitoring of the environment, oceans, atmosphere, and surface of the earth.
- In order to get its intended geostationary orbit, the satellite sent through the **GSLV-F14** rocket.
- It is **16th** mission of GSLV.

GSLV (Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle)

- It is a **three stage 51.7** meter launch vehicle.
- It has a liftoff mass of **420** tonnes.
- The **first stage** comprises a **solid propellant** (S139) motor having **139-ton** propellant and four **earth-storable propellant stages** (L40) strap-ons which carry **40 tons** of liquid propellant each.
- The **second stage** is an earth-storable propellant stage loaded with **40-ton** propellant.
- The **third stage** is a **cryogenic stage** with a **15-ton** propellant loading of **liquid oxygen (LOX)** and **liquid hydrogen (LH2)**.

- GSLV can be used to launch a variety of spacecraft capable of performing communications, navigation, earth resource surveys, and any other proprietary mission.

Why GSLV is described as “naughty boy”

- GSLV has got the title “naughty boy” due to its inconsistent performance history.
- Before this, GSLV had made **15 flights**, four of which were unsuccessful, which is a very high failure rate for any rocket.

Additional Information

- PSLV has failed only twice in its 60 launches.
- The LVM3 rocket has flown seven times and never failed.

Bubonic Plague in Oregon (USA)

Context

Recently, health officials in Oregon, USA confirmed the first case of Bubonic plague in the state since the year 2005.

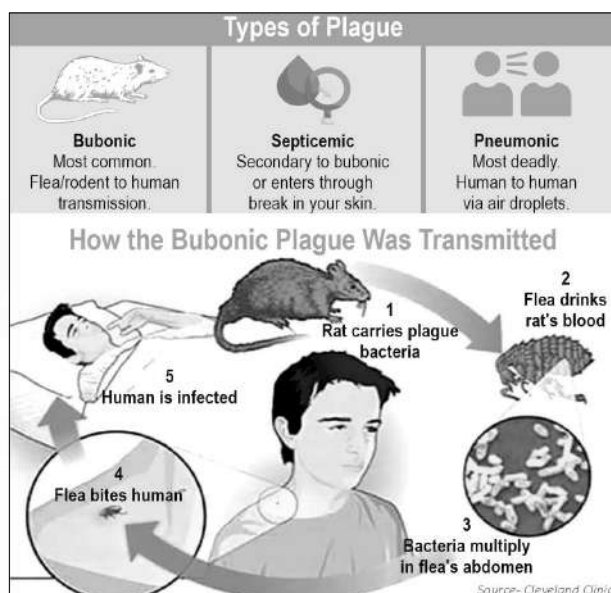
What is Bubonic plague?

- Bubonic Plague is an infectious and a zoonotic disease caused by a bacterium called **Yersinia pestis**.
- It derives its name from the **swollen lymph nodes** (buboes), a symptom of the disease.
- It is also known as **Black Death**, due to the appearance of the dark patches on the skin of the infected individual.

Zoonotic Disease- A disease or infection that can be transmitted naturally from vertebrate animals to humans or from humans to vertebrate animals. More than 60% of human pathogens are zoonotic in origin.

- Symptoms of Bubonic plague:** It causes fever, headache, weakness and swollen lymph nodes.

Transmission of Infection



Bird flu outbreak

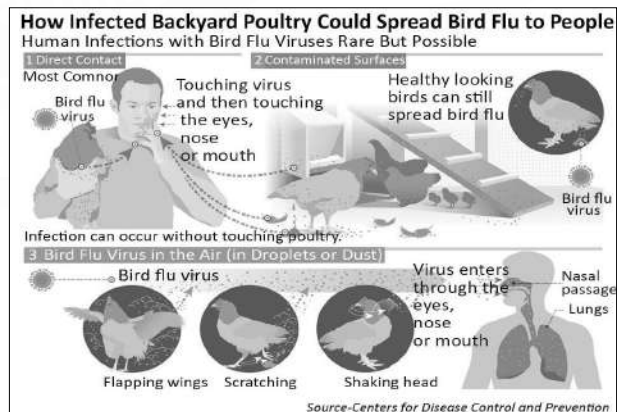
Context

Recently, a Bird Flu outbreak was Reported in Andhra Pradesh's Nellore district.

More about the news

- The **National Institute of High-Security Animal Disease** in **Bhopal** confirmed that it was caused by the **type A strain of the H5N1(Influenza Virus)**.
- These viruses naturally spread among wild aquatic birds worldwide and can infect domestic poultry and other bird and animal species.

About Bird Flu



- Bird flu refers to the disease caused by infection with avian (bird) influenza (flu) Type A viruses.
- Bird flu viruses do not normally infect humans. However, sporadic human infections with bird flu viruses have occurred.
- **Some symptoms in humans:** cough, diarrhea, respiratory difficulties, fever, headache, muscle aches, malaise etc.

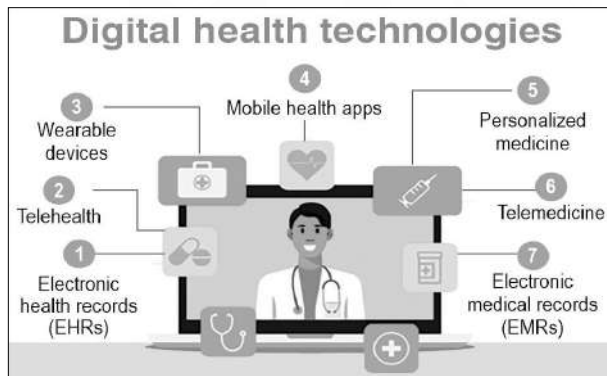
Digital Health Platform

Context

Recently, the World Health Organization launched a **Global Initiative on digital health (GIDH)** platform which was agreed upon by the countries during India's G20 presidency in 2023.

What is Digital Health

- Digital health refers to the use of technology, such as mobile devices, applications, and other digital tools, to improve health services.



- Digital health, or digital healthcare, is a broad, multidisciplinary concept that includes concepts from an intersection between technology and innovation in the healthcare system.
- Digital health also refers to the successful and sounding digital transformation in the healthcare field.
- Examples of Digital Health are Telemedicine, Mobile Health App, Wearable Device, EMR etc .

Benefits

- It will reduce healthcare costs.
- Digital health platforms are accelerating remote patient support.

- Digital Health platform helps to detect diseases like cancer, tuberculosis at a very early stage with the advancement of AI in the medical field.

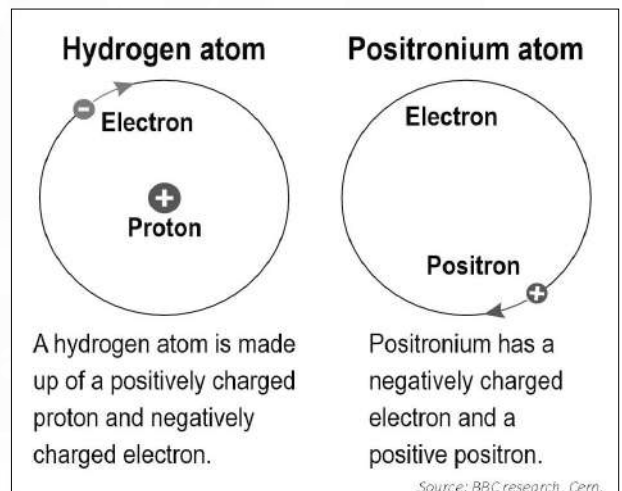
Laser Cooling of Positronium

Context

Recently, an international team of physicists from "the Anti-hydrogen Experiment: Gravity, interferometry, Spectroscopy" (AEGIS) has achieved a breakthrough by demonstrating the laser cooling of Positronium.

About Experiment

- The experiment was performed at the **European Organization for Nuclear Research** (also known as **CERN**) in **Geneva**.
- The experiment was conducted outside of a highly regulated laboratory, under accelerator beam hall.
- Researchers successfully cooled positronium atoms with a laser, initially from about **380 kelvin** to about **170 kelvin**.
- It used a **70-nanosecond** pulsed **alexandrite-based laser system** to demonstrate the cooling in **one dimension**.



Positronium

- It is a **short-lived** hydrogen-like atom composed of an electron and a positron (rather than an electron and a proton).
- Due to its very short life, its half life is **142 nano-seconds**.
- Its mass is **twice** the electron mass.

Anti-hydrogen Experiment: Gravity, Interferometry, Spectroscopy (AEGIS)

- It is a collaboration of physicists from a number of countries. Indian physicists are also part of this organization.
- The primary scientific goal of the Antihydrogen Experiment: Gravity, Interferometry, Spectroscopy (AEGIS) is the direct measurement of the Earth's gravitational acceleration, on antihydrogen.

Kala Azar

Context

India has achieved the target of Reporting less than one case per 10,000 population of Kala Azar across all blocks in 2023.

More about the news

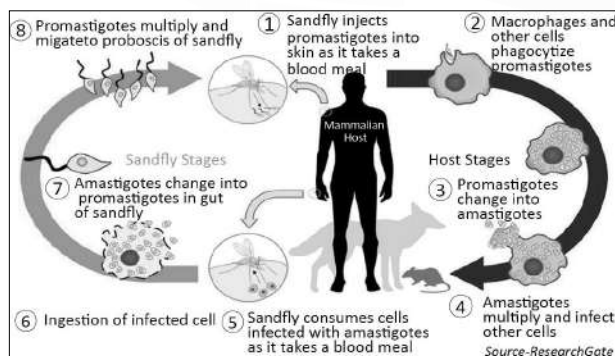
- Data from the National Vector Borne Disease Control Programme showed that there were 595 cases and 4 deaths of Kala Azar reported nationwide last year compared to 891 cases and 3 deaths in 2022.

About Kala Azar

- Kala Azar is one of the most dangerous **Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs)**. It is endemic in 76 countries with approximately 200 million people at risk of infection.
- It attacks the **immune system**, and is almost always fatal, if not treated.

What causes Kala Azar

- Kala azar is caused by bites from **female Phlebotomine sandflies, the vector of the leishmania parasite**.



- The sand flies feed on animals and humans for blood, which they need for developing their eggs.
- If blood containing leishmania parasites is drawn from an animal or human, the next person to receive a bite will then become infected and develop leishmaniasis.
- Months after this initial infection the disease can progress into a more severe form, called visceral leishmaniasis or kala azar.

Garbhini-GA2 AI Model

Context

Researchers have developed an India-specific artificial intelligence(AI) model to precisely determine the gestational age of a foetus in the second and third trimester of pregnancy.

About Garbhini-GA2

- GARBH-Ini is a clinical dataset which consists of a large number of features including **anthropometric, socioeconomic, clinical, and ultrasonographic parameters**.
- Researchers from the **Translational Health Science and Technology Institute in Faridabad** and the **Indian Institute of Technology, Madras** have designed it.
- It is a **component of the DBT India initiative (GARBH-Ini) program**, an interdisciplinary group for advanced research on birth outcomes.
- It reduces error by nearly three times and provides an **accurate age estimate for the foetus**.
- It is the first late-trimester GA estimation model to be developed using the Indian population. (Earlier models have used Western population.)
- In order to lower the rates of maternal and newborn mortality, the Indian data would help pregnant women to receive the proper care and know the exact day of birth.

India's own space station by 2035

Context

Recently, Prime Minister Narendra Modi announced that India will have its own **space station by 2035**.

About Space Station

- A space station is an artificial structure that is launched into earth orbit and is equipped with the power, supplies, environmental systems, pressurized enclosure, and other utilities required to sustain long-term human habitation.
- These include studying Earth's environment and resources, conducting military reconnaissance, keeping an eye on the Sun and other celestial objects, and conducting long-term studies.

International Space station (ISS)

- ISS is a collaborative project of the United States (NASA), Russia's (Roscosmos), Europe's (ESA), Japan's (JAXA), and Canada's (CSA) space agencies.
- The assembling and construction work of ISS was started in 1998 and was finally completed in 2011.
- The largest object ever created by humans to orbit the Earth is the International Space Station (ISS).
- The pressurized volume of the ISS is **roughly 900 m³**.
- ISS has a mass over **400,000 kg**.
- The ISS solar arrays cover an **area of 2,247 sq. meters** and have an annual capacity of **735,000 kW-hours** of electricity production.



- It orbits at an altitude between **370–460 km**.
- Because of atmospheric friction, it is constantly falling towards Earth.
- It requires timely rocket firings to boost itself into orbit.
- ISS is able to **fly over 90% of the inhabited Earth** due to its orbital inclination of **51.6°**.
- It travels around Earth at a speed of about **28,000 km/hr**. This means that it orbits the Earth in about every **90 minutes**.

Some other space stations

1. Tiangong 1 and 2 - China
2. Mir- Soviet Space Program
3. Skylab – USA

India's Second Rocket Spaceport

Context

Recently, the Prime minister inaugurated the **second rocket spaceport** of the Indian Space Research Organization in a coastal village named **Kulasekarapattinam** in the **Thookuri district of Tamil Nadu**.

Objective

- After getting operational, the spaceport will be exclusively used for commercial, on-demand, small satellite launches.

Why does India need a new Spaceport

- To achieve the central government's vision to open the space sector for private players.
- To reduce the burden with high numbers of launches at Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC), Sriharikota Range (SHAR).
- While SHAR will be used only for heavy launch vehicles, the **Kulasekarapattinam Spaceport** will be used for small satellite launch vehicles.

Why it is located in Tamil Nadu

1. **Proximity to the Equator:** A satellite launched from the sites near the equator towards the east direction will get an initial boost equal to the velocity of the Earth's surface. This is similar to an athlete circling round and round before throwing a discus or a shot put.
2. **Rotation of the earth:** Since the earth rotates from west to east, so to use the rotation as a boost and to not rather spend precious fuel against it, we need to launch eastwards.
3. **Safety:** In case of an accident, to avoid endangering human lives or damage properties most space agencies set their launch pads near large water bodies. **Baikonur Cosmodrome in Kazakhstan** is an exception, but it lies in the middle of an uninhabited desert.

Sela Tunnel

Context

Recently, PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the strategically significant “Sela Tunnel” in Arunachal Pradesh.

- The foundation stone of this tunnel was laid by the PM Narendra Modi in the 2019 itself.



More About the Sela Tunnel project

About	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It is the world's longest bi-lane tunnel. • The tunnel is situated at a height of 13,000 feet. • The tunnel is Situated 400 metres below the Sela Pass. • The tunnel connects Tezpur in Assam to Tawang in Arunachal Pradesh near the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China. • The project consists of two tunnels and a link road. Tunnel 1 is a 980- metre-long single-tube tunnel, while Tunnel 2 is a 1,555-metre-long twin-tube tunnel. The link road between these tunnels spans 1,200 metres.
Constructed by	• The Border Road Organisation (BRO)
Total Project cost	• Rs. 825 crore
Safety under the Tunnel	• The tunnels are equipped with a ventilation system, robust lighting and fire-fighting capacity.
Capacity	• Daily 30000 cars and 2000 trucks can pass through the Tunnel.

Significance

Strategic significance

- The tunnel ensures rapid deployment of troops and heavy weaponry including artillery guns from Assam plains to Tawang in case of any dispute with China.
- The Sela pass, visible to Chinese soldiers from LAC (Line of Actual Control) poses a tactical disadvantage to India. This tunnel is passing underneath the Sela pass, thus mitigating the military vulnerability.

Transportation

- The Sela tunnel will reduce the distance between **Tawang** and **kameng** districts of Arunachal Pradesh by **12 Km**, saving about **90- minutes** for commuters.

Test flight of Agni 5

Context

Recently, India has tested the Agni-V missile equipped with **MIRV technology**.

Key Findings

- **The DRDO** has successfully tested a new Agni-V missile that can hit multiple targets and carry multiple warheads.
- This missile has **MIRV(Multiple Independently-targetable Re-entry Vehicles)** technology.

MIRV vs Traditional missiles

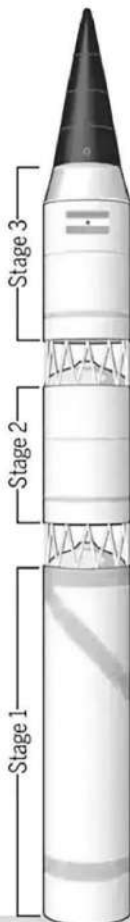
- Traditional missiles are designed to carry a single weapon, or warhead, that is launched toward the target.
- **MIRV technology** has capability that allows multiple warheads to be loaded on a single missile delivery system and programmed to hit different targets at different locations (Same location too).

More about MIRV

- It has the capability to use **nuclear warheads**.
- The **United States** and later the **Soviet Union** were the first to use this technology, which had initially been developed in the **1960s** and deployed in the **1970s**.
- The number of warheads that a missile can carry **depends on its design, weight, size, range and other parameters**.

Benefits of Agni-V missile equipped with MIRV

- These missiles can avoid defence systems to cause additional catastrophic damage.
- India's missile system has undergone a major upgrade with the development of MIRV capability, which also increases its nuclear options.



DRDO tests Agni-5 missile with MIRV tech

- Operational range: 5,000km
- Height: 17m

What is MIRV tech?

- MIRV stands for Multiple Independently targetable Re-entry Vehicles
- This technology allows a single missile to carry multiple warheads, each capable of being aimed at a different target.

India joins select group of nations

- Only the US, UK, Russia, France and China have MIRV technology
- Development and deployment of MIRV tech is a closely guarded subject

Source: The Times of India

Agni Missile system

- It was developed in the 1990s.
- Agni missiles are the main land-based delivery systems for India's nuclear weapons.
- Agni-1 is the first of the five-missile Agni series launched in 1983 by DRDO (nuclear-capable missile)
- The first-generation Agni missiles were deployed in the armed forces in the mid-2000s.

- Agni-I to Agni-IV missiles can carry single payloads weighing 12 to 40 kilotons, and their ranges range from 700 to 3500 km.
- Agni-V, which has MIRV technology installed, has a range of 5,000 km and more.
- Agni-V missiles are upgraded variants of the Agni-1 and Agni-2 short-range missiles.

The Atmospheric Research Testbed

Context

Recently, the first phase of India's Atmospheric Research Testbed (ART) was inaugurated in Madhya Pradesh's Sehore district to identify the Monsoon Core zone (MCZ).

About Atmospheric Research Testbed (ART)

- ART is an open-field, focused observational, and analytical research programme.
- It will conduct ground-based research on weather components like Temperature, Wind speed, Air pressure, etc.
- The setup at ART will also be used for calibrating and validating various satellite-based observations
- 25 high-end meteorological instruments installed to detect the Monsoon Core Zone.

Why is the MCZ is important

- A large portion of Indian agriculture, as well as farming along the Monsoon Core Zone (MCZ), which spread from Gujarat to West Bengal in central India, is rain-fed.
- The southwest monsoon season accounts for 70 percent of the country's annual average rainfall (880mm)
- Majority of Indian kharif crops take place between July and August and the average rainfall is 280.4mm and 254.9mm respectively.
- During this season, low pressure developed in Bay of Bengal and this system moves through MCZ regions causing huge rainfall.
- Therefore identifying the Monsoon Core zone is very important.

Why Sehore District of Madhya pradesh has been Selected

- The region is directly in the path of major rain-bearing synoptic systems.

- This will facilitate direct monitoring and tracking.
- The region is free from pollution and human activities.

Google DeepMind's New AI

Context

Recently, Google DeepMind revealed its latest AI gaming agent called SIMA or Scalable Instructable Multiworld Agent, which can follow natural language instructions to perform tasks across video game environments.

What are features

- SIMA is an AI tool that will play a key role during video gaming.
- It also moves us one step closer to AI that can work effectively with humans to complete tasks in real-world settings as well as in games.

What is SIMA

- SIMA is an AI Agent, which is different from other AI models such as OpenAI's ChatGPT or Google Gemini.
- SIMA can be called a generalist AI Agent that is capable of doing different kinds of tasks.
- It is like a virtual buddy who can understand and follow instructions in all sorts of virtual environments.
- SIMA can be called a generalist AI Agent that is capable of doing different kinds of tasks.

How does SIMA work

- First of all SIMA "understands" user's commands as it has been trained to process human language.
- One interesting feature of this AI tool is that it learns and adopts the human language parallelly.
- SIMA does this through the interactions it has with the user.

ART & CULTURE

Adi Mahotsav

Context

Recently, the annual "Aadi Mahotsav – National Tribal Festival", inaugurated by Hon'ble President, Smt. Droupadi Murmu came to an end on 18th February 2024.

Adi Mahotsav 2024

- From February 10 to February 18, a **nine-day** festival was held at Major Dhyan Chand National Stadium in **New Delhi** by **TRIFED**.
- Its purpose is to **empower tribal communities** through celebration of the spirit of Tribal Entrepreneurship, Crafts, Culture, Cuisine, and Commerce.
- It also **showcases** the extraordinary talent and **craftsmanship of the tribal artisans**, and also the tribal **culture, lifestyle and glorious traditions**.
- The festival also offered a glimpse into the artistic brilliance of tribal communities across the nation.

Powerful platform to connect Tribal Entrepreneurs with market and profitability

Adi Mahotsav

Celebration of the spirit of Tribal Entrepreneurship, Crafts, Culture, Cuisine and Commerce

Major Dhyan Chand Stadium
India Gate, New Delhi
10-18 फरवरी, 2024

FREE ENTRY

Tribal Empowerment
Glorious India

Source: PIB

- The highlights of this year included the **launching of the Venture Capital Fund for Scheduled Tribes** aiming to nurture startup culture and economic innovation among tribal entrepreneurs.

Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara

Context

Recently, the **Union Ministry of Tribal Affairs** sanctioned **Rs. 2.30 Crores** for the **Medaram Jatara festival, 2024** to promote its tribal culture and heritage.

About “Sammakka Saralamma Jatara”

- **Sammakka Saralamma Jatara** or **Medaram Jatara** is a festival of **honoring the goddesses Sammakka and Saralamma** by offering **Bangarm** (jaggery).
- It is held **every two years** at Medaram Village of Tadvai Mandal of Mulugu district, **Telangana**.
- Priests from the **Koya tribe** perform all Goddess-related rituals in compliance with Koya traditions and customs.

Koya Tribe

- They live in Andhra Pradesh, Telangana, and the Papikonda hill range, along the Godavari River.
- In an effort to preserve Indian bison, they have recently shifted from making their traditional flute, Permakore, from bison horns to palm leaves.
- They are one of the few multilingual and multiracial tribal communities in India.
- The majority of Koya speak Koyi in addition to Gondi or Telugu.
- They build **Menhirs** in remembrance of the deceased.

- This festival was declared a State festival in **1998**.
- Medaram is a remote place in the **Eturnagaram Wildlife Sanctuary**, the largest surviving forest belt in the Deccan.
- It is the world’s biggest Tribal festival and the

second-largest fair of India after the Kumbh Mela; symbolizes ‘Ek Bharat Shreshtha Bharat’

Makha Bucha festival

Context

The sacred Makha Bucha (Magha Puja) ceremony, one of the five most revered events for Buddhists in Thailand, was gracefully conducted by the esteemed Somdet and other senior monks of Thailand.

More About Makha Bucha festival

- Aim of the Makha Bucha- **“To purify one’s mind and do only good.”**
- Makha Bucha is one of the most important Buddhist festivals in Thailand as it celebrates the day when Buddha passed on his teachings and principles of Buddhism to his disciples.
- It is celebrated on the **full moon of the third lunar month**.
- The term **Makha** comes from the word **“Magha”** in Pali and it refers to the **third lunar month**, while **Bucha** can translate as **“to worship”**.
- It is celebrated in **Thailand, Laos and Cambodia**, where the majority of Buddhists practice **Theravada Buddhism**.
- People go to temples and abstain themselves from drinking alcohol or committing any sin on that day.



Source: Reuters

ONE LINERS

- 'Purulia Chhau', a folk dance form, belongs to which state - **West Bengal**
- In which state the 'Kaleshwaram Lift Irrigation Project', located on the Godavari River is situated - **Telangana.**
- Which state is the largest producer of broom grass in India - **Assam**
- Which Space Agency has recently launched a weather Forecasting satellite called "Naughty Boy" using rocket GSLV-F14 - **ISRO.**
- Recently, Which Indian cricketer completed his 500 wickets in the Test Match - **Ravichandran Ashwin.**
- Which state has the highest number of Public electrical vehicle charging stations in the country - **Karnataka**
- Which Tech Company has developed 'Shora' an Artificial Intelligence model that creates videos using text prompts - **OpenAI**
- **T. N. Godavarman Thirumulpad's judgment** of the Supreme Court is related to - **Forest**
- The fourth edition of the Khelo India Winter Games was held at - **Gulmarg (Jammu and Kashmir)**
- Recently which political leader of India received the highest civilian award of France, the 'Chevalier de la Legion d' Honneur' - **Shashi Tharoor**
- Which state/Uts has recently got its first electric train - **Jammu and Kashmir.**
- Recently the Government of India approved 100% FDI in which sector - **Space Sector.**
- Which state government is drafting rules that would mandate multinational companies (MNCs) to display details of Kannadigas employees - **Karnataka.**
- Recently, the International Maritime Seminar 2024 held at - **Visakhapatnam**
- The Kiru Hydel project is situated in which state/ union territories - **Jammu and Kashmir**
- Which state/UTs deletes clauses that include Meiteis in the list of ST communities - **Manipur.**
- Who is the first Indian-origin Chairman of BBC - **Dr Samir Shah.**
- Recently, the First Solar Project of NTPC Renewable Energy Limited began its operation at - **Chhattargarh in Rajasthan**
- Recently, India's First Gati Shakti Research Chair established at - **IIM Shillong**
- Where did India's Largest Global Textiles Mega Event "BHARAT TEX 2024" organized - **New Delhi**
- Recently, India's largest Tribal festival, the Sammakka-Saralamma Jatara celebrated at - **Medaram (Telangana)**
- Former CM of Maharashtra and former Lok Sabha speaker who passed away recently - **Manohar Joshi.**
- Recently, which state/Uts has abolished the 'Muslim marriage law' - **Assam.**
- Recently, the names of four astronaut-designates for the Gaganyaan mission was announced, who are they - **Group captain Prasanth Balakrishnan Nair, Group captain Ajit Krishnan, Group captain Angad Pratap and wing commander Shubhanshu Shukla.**
- Recently, a 12th-century Sri Jagadguru Murugharajendra Bruhan Math was in the news. It is located in which state - **Karnataka**
- What was the theme of National Science Day (28th February) 2024 - **"Science for sustainable development"**
- Who has been appointed as the chairperson of the Lokpal - **A.M. Khanwilkar**
- Recently, which two ministries have jointly launched a nationwide awareness campaign called 'Mera pehla vote desh ke liye' - **The Education Ministry and The Information and Broadcasting Ministry**
- India will launch its own space station by which year - **2035**
- Recently, who has resigned from the post of CEO of Hockey India - **Elena Norman**
- International "Purple Fest 2024" was held in - **Goa (by the Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment)**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone of ISRO's new launch complex at which place
- **Kulasekarapattinam, Thoothukudi district, Tamil Nadu.**
- According to Knight Frank's report, By what percent the number of ultra-rich people in India rises - **6%.**
- India's first indigenous Hydrogen fuel cell ferry inaugurated at - **Kochi.**
- According to a report released by the Environment Ministry, which state has the highest number of Leopard - **Madhya Pradesh (3907)**
- "Chala Kadankottu Makkam Bhagavathi temple" is situated in which state, that recently in the news - **Kerala.**
- The Government of India has recently raised the age of senior citizens to be eligible for the Postal Ballots facility from previous above 80 years - **Above 85 years.**
- Recently, 'INS Jatayu' was launched by the Indian Navy at which place - **Minicoy Island, Lakshadweep.**
- What is the name of the Multi role Helicopter squadron, that is commissioned by Indian Navy recently - **MH-60R**
- What is the GDP of India for the financial year 2024-25, according to Moody report - **6.8%.**
- PM launched India's first underwater Metro line in which city - **Kolkata.**
- Recently, which state government has declared Human-wildlife conflict a state-specific disaster - **Kerala**
- Recently, The Government of which states/UTs has proposed to establish a 'Mobile Veterinary Clinic' - **The Government of Delhi**
- Shankaracharya Hill is situated in which State/UT, which is recently in the news - **Jammu and Kashmir.**
- Who has been recently sworn as president of Pakistan - **Asif Ali Zardari**
- "Poshan Pakhwada" organized by which ministry - **Ministry for Women & Child Development**
- Recently Which state government introduced a bill to recover damages to property in protests - **Uttarakhand**
- Recently, a Floating Sea bridge near the 'Kursura Submarine Museum' was inaugurated, this is at which place - **Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh**
- Recently, India's longest cable-stayed bridge "Sudarshan Setu" was inaugurated in which state - **Gujarat**
- **Consumption Survey Report 2024** launched by - **National Sample Survey Office.**

INTERNATIONAL

INDUS-X summit

Context

The Two days INDUS-X Summit held in New Delhi on 20-21 february.

INDUS-X summit

- It was launched in **June 2023**.
- It is a collaborative effort between **India and the United States** in the field of **defence and innovation**.
- It was organized by **Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)** under the Department of Defence Production, Ministry of Defence, and Department of Defence (DoD), **United States, in conjunction with the U.S.-India Business Council and Society of Indian Defence Manufacturers (SIDM)**.

Aim of the summit

- The summit aims to push strategic technological alliance and defense industry collaboration between the United States and India.

Benefits of the summit

- The summit represents a pivotal role for advancing defence innovation and collaboration between India and the United States.
- It provides a stage for future technological advancements and strategic partnerships between both the countries which is critical for building a successful innovation ecosystem.

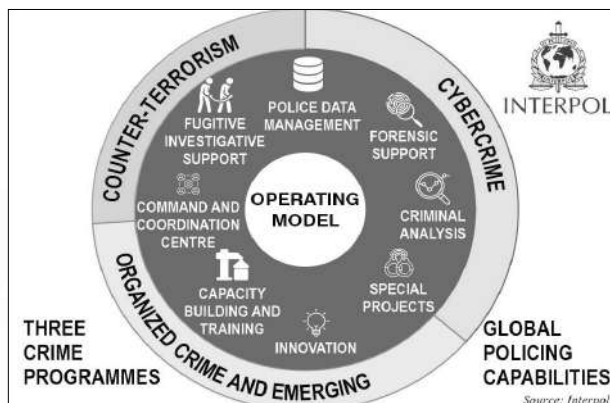
Interpol

Context

Recently, **Interpol's Red Notice or arrest alerts** are subjected to stricter oversight, making it more difficult than ever to abuse them.

Interpol (International Criminal Police Organization)

- INTERPOL was created in **1923** with **20 member** countries.
- It is headquartered at Lyon, France.
- It comprises 196 member countries.
- India joined Interpol in **1949**.
- It connects police around the world both technically and in person for bridging jurisdiction.



- It plays a crucial role as an information sharing network to enable national police forces to combat transnational crimes.
- **I-24/7**, a secure communications system of Interpol, links the 196 member nations to the General Secretariat and to one another.
- It enables the member countries to access Interpol databases and services from both central and remote locations.
- INTERPOL's international radio network was launched in **1935**.
- Interpol implemented an **automatic fingerprint identification system (AFIS)** in **2000** in an effort to significantly decrease the amount of time required for fingerprint checks.

Types of Notices by Interpol

1. **Red Notice:** To locate and capture individuals who are wanted for legal action or to fulfill a sentence.
2. **Yellow Notice:** To assist in identifying people who are unable to identify themselves or in finding missing people, minors.
3. **Blue Notice:** To gather more data regarding an individual's identity, current location, or actions concerning a criminal investigation.
4. **Black Notice:** To gather information of unidentified bodies.
5. **Green Notice:** Provide warning about a person's criminal activities.
6. **Orange Notice:** To issue a warning about something that poses a serious and immediate risk to public safety.

7. Purple Notice: To look for or offer information on criminals' tools, equipment, and techniques for hiding their identities.

Note: In January 2020, Interpol released a blue corner notice in an attempt to track down fugitive self-proclaimed godman **Nithyananda**.

Raisina Dialogue 2024

Context

Recently, the 9th Edition of Raisina Dialogue 2024 was organized from 21st to 23rd February in New Delhi.

More about Raisina Dialogue 2024

- Inaugurated by the PM Narendra Modi.
- **Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of Greece**, was the chief guest.
- Theme Of Raisina Dialogue 2024- **"Chaturanga: Conflict, Contest, Cooperate, Create."**
- The participants of the conference engaged with each other over **"six thematic pillars"**. These include:
 - Tech Frontiers: Regulations & Realities;**
 - Peace with the Planet: Invest & Innovate;**
 - War & Peace: Armouries & Asymmetries;**
 - Decolonising Multilateralism: Institutions & Inclusion;**
 - The Post 2030 Agenda: People & Progress; and**
 - Defending Democracy: Society & Sovereignty.**



About Raisina Dialogue

- Raisina Dialogue is India's flagship conference on **Geopolitics and Geoeconomics**.
- It is an annual conference, organized by the **Ministry of External Affairs** in collaboration with the **Observer Research Foundation**.

- Raisina Dialogue is named after Raisina Hill, an elevation in New Delhi. The Presidential Palace of India, Rashtrapati Bhavan is also situated here.
- **Aim** of the Raisina Dialogue- To address the most challenging issues faced by the world.

Observer Research Foundation

- It was founded in the 1990s.
- It is an independent global Think tank based in Delhi, India.

Aims-

1. To aid and impact policy formulation and evolve policy alternatives;
2. To strengthen India's democratic institutions to enable coherent, reasoned and consistent policy-making;
3. To give direction to India's foreign policy.

USA achieves first moon landing in 50 years

Context

Recently, a Texas(USA) based private company named **"Intuitive Machines"** has landed their lander near the **south pole** of the moon. With this accomplishment, America has reached the moon for the first time since NASA's Apollo programme was shut down in 1972.

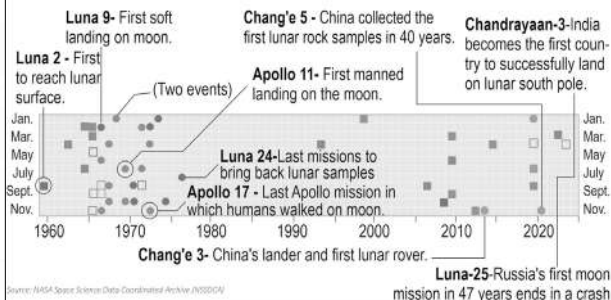
Moon missions through the ages

The Soviet Union, the United States, China and India are the only four countries that have successfully carried out soft landings on the Moon.

SPACECRAFTS THAT LANDED OR CRASHED ON THE MOON

Timeline based on landing or impact dates

● USA ● USSR/Russia ● China ● India ● Other
 □ Failed landing ■ Planned crash ● Soft landing



About Mission

- This spacecraft was built and flown by **"Intuitive Machines"** which landed near the **south pole** of the moon.

- This is the first **ever instance** when a **private sector** entity reached the south pole of the moon.
- This was an **uncrewed mission**.
- It has a six-legged robot-lander named **“Odysseus”**.
- The Intuitive Machines (IM) is a component of NASA’s **Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS)** programme, under which the agency pays a number of private American businesses for cargo services to the Moon; Odysseus’s fee is **\$118 million**.

Nordic-Baltic Eight (NB8)

Context

In the Raisina Dialogue 2024, the participation of the 8 Nordic-Baltic countries (NB8) are seen together as a representatives of the Nordic-Baltic cooperation.

Major areas of discussion

- In times of turmoil and conflict, the world needs more trust, dialogue, and cooperation.
- Strengthen world economy based on free trade, sustainability, and long-term partnerships.

About the NB8

- The NB8 is an informal Nordic-Baltic cooperation format in the area of foreign and security policy.
- The **NB8 is led by foreign ministers**, who meet several times each year to deepen cooperation on contemporary issues.
- NB8 represents the governments of 8 countries, out of which 5 are Nordic nations, i.e, **Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway, and Sweden** and 3 are Baltic nations, i.e, **Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania**.



NORDIC-BALTIC EIGHT



G33

Context

Recently, the G-33 Ministerial Statement on Agriculture Trade Negotiations was held in Abu Dhabi at the 13th WTO Ministerial Conference.

More About the News

- G33 demands a long-term solution to ensure **food security**.
- The meeting was coordinated by **Indonesia**.
- A long-term solution is essential to prevent developing nations, including India, from facing legal issues regarding increased subsidies for stockholding schemes, such as the **minimum support price** which is subject to a ceiling of **10%** of the value of production.

G33

- It is also known as the **“Friends of Special Products in agriculture”**.
- Despite the name G33, this agreement actually **includes more than that number of countries**.
- The G-33 group, which includes **47 developing and Least Developed Countries (LDCs)** and **Net Food Importing Developing Countries (NFIDCs)**.
- **India** is also a member of G33.
- The **World Trade Organization** hosted the G-33 conference for the first time in **Cancun in 2003**.
- This agreement was announced in coordination with the **Doha round** of the World Trade Organization.
- Antigua and Barbuda, the Democratic Republic

of the Congo, the Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Madagascar, Mongolia, Nigeria, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe are some of the member countries of G33.

Objective of G33

- It has taken the lead in bringing up issues affecting **farmers' livelihoods and food security**.

Sweden to join NATO

Context

Recently, Hungary has approved Sweden's bid for joining the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO).

More about news

- By getting approval from all the **31 members** of

NATO, **Sweden** has become **32nd member**. **Finland** became the **31st member**.

- Sweden applied for NATO membership in 2022 and all the member countries agreed to Sweden for joining NATO, except **Hungary and Turkey**.
- This approval marks the end of Sweden's long-standing policy of neutrality, a significant shift in the country's security policy.
- Hungary's approval followed by **diplomatic efforts**, including an **arms deal** between both the countries and a visit by **Sweden's PM Ulf Kristersson** to Hungary.
- Turkey's approval came after negotiations concerning actions against the **Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK)** and an arms sales agreement, including a conditional relationship with the U.S. sale of F-16 jets to Turkey.


































About NATO

NATO, the **North Atlantic Treaty Organization**, is an **intergovernmental military alliance established in 1949**. Its foundational purpose is to guarantee the freedom and security of its member countries through **political and military means**. NATO promotes democratic values and enables members to consult and cooperate on defence and security-related issues, addressing challenges that affect the stability of the Euro-Atlantic area.

- **Founding and Members:** NATO was formed with **12 founding members** and has since grown to include additional countries, reaching **31 members** with the inclusion of **Finland**.
- **Article 5:** A core principle of NATO is **collective defence**, enshrined in Article 5 of the North Atlantic Treaty. It states that **an armed attack against one or more members is considered an attack against all and sets the foundation for collective defence actions**.
- **Article 10:** It defines the parameters for membership. It opens the door for any European state that can uphold the Treaty's principles and contribute to the North Atlantic area's security.
- **Decision-Making Process:** NATO's principal political body, plays a central role in the decision-making process regarding new members. The council **operates on a consensus basis**, meaning that

any decision **to invite a new member requires unanimous agreement among all existing members**. This ensures that all allies are in accord on the strategic and security implications of expanding the Alliance.

Alphabetical list of NATO member countries

 2009 Albania	 1949 Belgium	 2004 Bulgaria	 1949 Canada	 2009 Croatia	 1999 Czechia
 1949 Denmark	 2004 Estonia	 2023 Finland	 1949 France	 1955 Germany	 1952 Greece
 1999 Hungary	 1949 Iceland	 1949 Italy	 2004 Latvia	 2004 Lithuania	 1949 Luxembourg
 2017 Montenegro	 1949 Netherlands	 2020 North Macedonia	 1949 Norway	 1999 Poland	 1949 Portugal
 2004 Romania	 2004 Slovakia	 2004 Slovenia	 1982 Spain	 1952 Türkiye	 1949 United Kingdom
 1949 United States					

Source: NATO

ONE LINERS

- Recently, India signed a pact with which country to link UPI for faster remittance facilitation - **Nepal.**
- The first Hindu temple has been inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi in which country? - **United Arab Emirates (Abu Dhabi).**
- Who was the guest country at the New Delhi World Book Fair - **Saudi Arabia.**
- Which country recently legalized same-sex marriage - **Greece.**
- Indian companies have resumed purchasing 'Sokol Oil' from which country - **Russia.**
- Which country's destroyer, USS Halsey (DDG-97), an Arleigh Burke-class, took part in MILAN 24 hosted by the Indian Navy in Visakhapatnam on February 18th - **United States Navy**
- Which country's former Prime Minister, Thaksin Shinawatra was released on parole after six-months detention - **Thailand.**
- Which two Indian movies have made their entry at the 74th Berlinale award - **Kottukaali and The Fable.**
- The 75th edition of the Formula 1 World Championship was held at - **Bahrain**
- Mike Procter, a legend cricketer, recently passed away, was from which country - **South Africa.**
- Recently, a naval mission called "shield" (Greek-Aspides) has been launched by which organization to protect ships in the Red Sea from Yemen's Houthi rebels - **European Union**
- 'Rafah City' recently seen in the news is from which country - **Palestine.**
- The Odyssey lander was launched by which rocket recently - **SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket.**
- Which country's National Museum displayed Buddha relics that were sent by India - **Thailand.**
- 'Raisina Dialogue 2024', a premier conference on geopolitics and geoeconomics was held in which city - **New Delhi**
- How many medals did India bag at the Asian track cycling event - **4 (1 gold, 2 silver, 1 Bronze).**
- Which Indian company owns the 'Haifa port' in Israel - **Adani Group.**
- Who became the first female Chief Minister of Punjab province in Pakistan - **Maryam Nawaz.**
- Which tech firm created 'Gemini', a new chat product that utilizes artificial intelligence? - **Google**
- **Nordic-Baltic Eight (NB8)** recently seen in the news is is a regional cooperation consists of how many countries - **8 (Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, and Sweden).**
- Which country recently legalized limited possession of 'Marijuana' - **Germany.**
- Which company has become the first private company to soft-land a robotic craft on the Moon - **USA based Intuitive Machines**
- Recently, which social media platform struck a licensing deal with the Google for 60 million dollars annually to have access user generated content on this social media platform - **Reddit**
- Which country's fertility rate went below 1% for the first time recently - **Singapore.**
- Which country launched imaging satellite 'Pars-I' into orbit from Russia - **Iran.**
- A company based in Bengaluru (U-Solar Clean Energy Solution) has signed a contract with which country to build hybrid renewable energy systems - **Sri Lanka.**
- Which country drone 'MQ-9B' has approved its sale to India at an estimated cost of \$3.99 billion - **USA.**
- Recently, Women Exporter in the Digital Economy (WEIDE) Fund was jointly launched by which two organization - **World Trade Organization (WTO) and International Trade Centre (ITC)**
- Recently, which country has recognized 'ecocide' as National as well as International crime - **Belgium**
- Recently, Agalega island is in news, belongs to which Nation - **Mauritius**
- Recently, Munich Security Conference held in which country - **Germany**
- Recently, India conducted bilateral maritime exercise named 'Samudra Laksamana' with which country - **Malaysia**
- Recently which golf player received USGA honour - **Tiger Wood.**

- Which country recently made abortion a constitutional right - **France.**
- According to the United Nation, which year was the deadliest year in the last ten years for Migrants - **2023**
- Recently, which telescope spotted, oldest 'dead galaxy' that stopped forming stars 13 billion years ago - **James webb Telescope**
- UNICEF along with which two organizations pledge close to \$600 million to combat cervical cancer - **World Bank, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation**
- What is the theme for International Women's Day 2024 - **"Invest in Women—Accelerate Progress".**
- Recently, India signed The Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA) With which Association - **European Free Trade Association (Iceland, Liechtenstein, Norway and Switzerland)**
- Which Hollywood film recently got an Oscar for Best Picture - **Oppenheimer**
- 'Democracy Report 2024' which categorized India as "one of the worst autocratisers" is released by - **The Gothenburg-based V-Dem Institute**
- Recently, which International Organization has given its final approval to the world's first AI Law - **European Union.**
- Global Human Development Index is released by - **United Nation Development Programme (UNDP).**
- What is the name of latest gaming Agent developed by Google DeepMind - **SIMA.**
- How many member Countries are there in International Big Cat Alliance - **96.**
- Recently, a volcanic eruption has been seen at Reykjanes Peninsula, where is it situated - **Iceland**
- Recently, the European Union announced a package of aid to Egypt, amounting to how many dollars - **\$8 billion**
- Recently, Sri Lanka has received a stock of bomb squad equipment through a grant from which country - **China**
- Which naval ship has been deployed in the Red Sea by the Indian Navy? - **INS Kolkata**
- Recently, Pokhara has been declared as 'the tourism capital, of which country - **Nepal**

MISCELLANEOUS

Cellular Jail

Context

Recently, The president Of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu visited Cellular Jail at Port Blair in Andaman and Nicobar Islands.

About Cellular Jail



Source: wikipedia

- The Cellular Jail symbolizes the sufferings and pains of Indian Freedom Fighters in their quest for the nation's freedom.
- It is also known as '**Kala pani jail**' due to its remoteness from the mainland of India and the sufferings inflicted on the prisoners of the jail by the jail authority.
- Its **construction started in 1893** and was **completed in 1906**.
- **Purpose:** The Britishers established this jail to imprison Freedom fighters and suppress the Freedom struggle Movement.
- **Design:** There were individual cells in the jail to prohibit communication among prisoners. This design was implemented to counter the exchange of ideas among freedom fighters.
- Some famous Freedom fighters imprisoned in the cellular jail were-
 - Vinayak Damodar Savarkar
 - Batukeshwar Dutt
 - Yogendra Shukla and
 - V.O. Chidambaram Pillai.
- **Cellular jail as National Memorial** - Government of India declared the Cellular jail as "**National Memorial**" on February 11, 1979.

Note: A prisoner of cellular jail named **Sher Ali Afridi** killed **Lord Mayo**, the then viceroy of India, during his visit to Port Blair in February, 1872.

Fali Sam Nariman

Context

Recently, the Jurist and Senior Supreme Court advocate "**FALI SAM Nariman**" passed away.

About FALI SAM Nariman

- He was born on **10 January, 1929, in Rangoon**.
- Enrolled as an advocate of the Bombay High Court in November 1950 to start his legal career.
- He wrote:
 - "Before the Memory Fades"
 - "The State of the Nation"
 - "India's Legal System: Can it be Saved"
 - "God Save the Hon'ble Supreme Court"
 - "You Must Know Your Constitution"
- In January **1991**, he was awarded **Padma Bhushan**.
- In **2007**, he received the **Padma Vibhushan**.
- He was the President of the Bar Association of India from **1991 to 2010**.
- He passed away at the age of **95**.



Source: Farzen India

Landmark cases of Fali Sam Nariman

- Bhopal Gas Tragedy case
- **Golak Nath case**, creating judicial review over constitutional amendments.
- **TMA Pai case**, addressing the extent of minority rights under **Article 30**.
- He represented the Gujarat government in the **Narmada Rehabilitation Case**.

National Youth Parliament 2024

Context

Om Birla (Speaker of Lok Sabha) and Shri Anurag Singh Thakur (Minister of Information & Broadcasting) addressed the National Youth Parliament Festival, 2024 on its Concluding Day.

About News

- The National Youth Parliament Festival, 2024 finals were held in the Parliament's Central Hall on March 5 and 6, 2024.
- Theme for 2024 is 'Young Voices: Engage and Empower for Nation's Transformation'.
- It was conducted nationwide from **February 9th, 2024 to March 6th, 2024** by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports**.
- It was organized in **three phases**, comprising all **785 districts of the nation**.
- Between **February 9th, 2024, to February 14th, 2024**, the District Youth Parliament was also held.



Winner

First Prize Winner	Bhaskar Duggal from Haryana
Second Prize Winner	Vaishna Pitchai from Tamil Nadu
Third Prize Winner	Kanishka Sharma from Rajasthan

National youth parliament

- District, State, and National Youth Parliaments Festival were organized by the Ministry of Youth

Affairs and Sports through the Nehru Yuva Kendra Sangathan (NYKS) and National Service Scheme (NSS).

- It helps young people to develop their leadership skills, reach their full potential, and build their country while doing so.
- The concept behind the National Youth Parliament Festival (NYPF) was presented by the **Prime Minister on December 31, 2017**, during his Mann Ki Baat Address.

Sangeet Natak Akademi Award

Context

Recently, President Droupadi Murmu presented the Sangeet Natak Akademi Awards for the year 2022 and 2023 to the eminent artists associated with arts.

More about the News

- The President also presented the Sangeet Natak Akademi fellowship, or Akademi Ratna, to seven eminent artists.



Awardees	Associated field
Vinayak Khedekar & Veena Virtuoso R. Visweswaran	Folk art
Dulal Roy and D.P. Sinha	Theatre
Sunayana Hazarilal	Kathak
Raja and Radha Reddy	Kuchipudi dance
Bombay jayashri Ramnath	Carnatic Vocalist
Neyveli Narayanan	Carnatic instrumental (mridangam)
Urmila Sathyanarayanan	Bharatanatyam
Pallavi Krishnan	Mohiniyattam

- Notable Awards:-
 - **12** artists from the field of music.
 - **12** from dance.
 - **11** from folk and tribal arts.
 - **9** from the field of theatre.

Sangeet Natak Akademi Award

- It was established in 1953, by a resolution passed by the Ministry of Education.
- Dr. P.V. Raja Mannar was the first chairman of this institute.
- It works under the Ministry of Culture and it is an Autonomous body.
- Objective: To promote and preserve the rich Indian Art, dance, singing, drama, and other art and culture.
- This award is given to the artist who has outstanding contributions in the field of dance, music, drama, folk art, etc.
- The Akademi award recipient gets Rs. 1 lakh, a Tapatra, and an Angavastram.
- The Chairman of Akademi is appointed by the president of India for a term of five years.

First National Creators Awards

Context

Recently, the **First-ever National Creators Award** was presented by PM Narendra Modi at **Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi**.

More about the News

- He urged content creators to start a '**Create on India Movement**' to share with the world about India's history, traditions, culture, and customs.
- He said that content creators are the digital ambassadors of India all over the world and they are also the brand ambassadors of **Vocal for Local**.
- The prime minister recommended focusing on local language content creation in addition to raising awareness of the serious problems with **stress and mental health in children**.
- The PM also suggested producing content that draws attention to the **harmful effects of drugs on youth**.

National creator Awards

- The award recognises the talent of the creator's community and their passion for driving a positive change.



- The aim is to acknowledge excellence and significance in various fields, **such as education, gaming, social change advocacy, storytelling, and environmental sustainability**.
- **More than 1.5 lakh nominations in 20 different categories** were received in the first round.

Person	Field
1. Ranveer Allahbadia	• "Disruptor of the Year Award"
2. Jaya Kishori	• "Best Creator for Social Change"
3. Malhar Kalambe	• "Swachhta Ambassador Award"
4. Drew Hicks	• "Best International Creator Award" For fluent Hindi and Bihari accent
5. Maithili Thakur	• "Cultural Ambassador of the Year Award"

Oscar Awards

Context

Recently, the **96th Academy Awards ceremony**, which was presented by the Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences, took place on **March 10, 2024**, at the Dolby Theatre in Hollywood, Los Angeles.



Oscars 2024: the list of winners

Best picture	Oppenheimer
Best actor in a leading role	Cillian Murphy (Oppenheimer)
Best actor in a supporting role	Robert Downey Jr (Oppenheimer)
Best actress in a leading role	Emma Stone (Poor Things)
Best actress in a supporting role	Da'Vine Joy Randolph (The Holdovers)
Best directing	Christopher Nolan (Oppenheimer)
Best animated feature film	The Boy and the Heron
Best adapted screenplay	American Fiction
Best original screenplay	Anatomy of a Fall
Best cinematography	Oppenheimer
Best costume design	Poor Things
Best documentary feature film	20 Days in Mariupol
Best international feature film	The Zone of Interest
Best original song	What Was I Made For? from Barbie

Oscar Awards

- This Award is also known as the Academy Awards.
- These awards are given annually in recognition of the excellence in the Film Industry.
- Awards given by- The Academy of Motion Picture Arts and Sciences.
- The Oscar Awards ceremony was held in 1929 for the first time.

India Remains World's Largest Arms Importer

Context

India has maintained its position as the world's top arms importer, according to a report released by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

Findings of the Report

- India remains the world's top arms importer and its imports increased by 4.7 per cent between 2014-2018 and 2019-2023.
- Russia remained India's main arms supplier. India imported 36 percent of its total import from Russia.
- The period 2019-2023 was the first instance since 1960-64 when deliveries from Russia made up less than half of India's arms imports.
- Pakistan was the fifth largest arms importer in 2019-23 and China supplied 82 percent of its arms imports.
- China's arms imports reduced by 44 per cent, mainly as a result of indigenisation of the defence sector in China.

Government's Initiative towards Defence Indigenisation

1. Defence Procurement Policy, 2016	• This policy promotes procurement of 'Made in India' weaponry.
2. Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)	• This initiative promotes collaboration among industries (specially Startups), individual innovators, Academies and Governments organizations for innovation in the defence sector.
3. SPRINT Challenges	• Its objective is to integrate at least 75 new indigenous technologies/products into the Indian Navy.
4. Defence Industrial Corridors	• Government has established two defence industrial corridors in Uttar Pradesh and Tamilnadu.
5. Positive Indigenisation Lists	• It promotes import substitution.
6. FDI Policy	• The Government of India is allowing up to 74% FDI under the automatic route for indigenous manufacturing in the defence sector.

Anti Drone System

Context

Defence Ministry signs ₹200 crore contract for anti-drone systems under iDEX initiative.

More in the news

- The contract has been signed between the Indian Army and Indian Air Force (IAF) with Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited (BBBS).
- This is the largest contract signed by the MoD under the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative.
- The focus of the iDEX programme is to foster an ecosystem of innovation and technology development in defence.

About anti drone system

- Anti drone systems are used to detect and/or intercept unwanted drones and unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs).
- Hostile drones may be used to deploy explosives, smuggle contraband or gather intelligence on sensitive assets, and the proliferation of low-cost UAVs has led to an increase in incidents.

What is counter drone technology

- Counter drone technology is used to deal with hostile UAVs, and may encompass a range of detection, identification, tracking and interception methods.



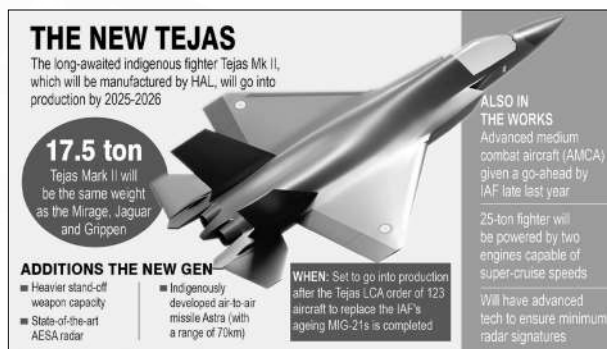
Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft

Context

Recently, the Cabinet Committee on Security (CCS) has cleared the project to design and develop India's fifth-generation(5G) fighter jet Advanced Medium Combat Aircraft (AMCA).

More in the news

- AMCA will get India among selected nations which have developed fifth-generation fighter jets.
- The project will be developed under Aeronautical Development Agency (ADA) under the DRDO.
- Manufacturing company will be Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.



Features of AMCA

- 1. FUEL & WEAPONS:** The aircraft has a large internal fuel tank with a capacity of 6.5 tonnes and an internal weapons bay for a range of weapons, including indigenous weapons, to be buried in its belly.
- 2. Engine Capacity:** AMCA Mk2 will be indigenously developed by the Defence Research and Development organization. The MCA Mk2 engine will be more powerful than the US-built GE414 engine. The engine strength of AMCA Mk2 is 110 kilonewtons (KN).
- 3. Stealth:** The twin-engine aircraft will be bigger than other fighter jet which the Indian Air Force presently have. However, with its bigger size, it has modern stealth technology to avoid detection by enemy radar.

Why AMCA is special

- The AMCA will be India's indigenously developed fifth-generation fighter aircraft.
- The aircraft will have a low electro-magnetic signature, which will make it difficult for enemy radar to detect it.
- Apart from these, AMCA will have advanced sensors and weapons to register the signature of enemy aircraft and take them out.

KIRTI Programme

Context

Recently, the Union Sports minister launched the KIRTI Programme in Chandigarh.

More about the News

- The Union Minister urged every child to register through the MyBharat portal and get the opportunities through KIRTI.
- The launch was made in **50 centres across the country**.
- In the first phase, **fifty thousand applicants** were assessed in ten different sports, including football, boxing, wrestling, hockey, and athletics.
- It was announced that in the first year, 20 lakh assessments would be conducted by designated talent assessment centres in order to identify talent.

KIRTI (Khelo India Rising talent Identification) Programme

- It is a Nationwide Talent hunt scheme.
- This programme aimed at school children in the **age group of 9 to 18 years**.
- Its main goal is to keep kids away from drugs and gadgetry distractions by emphasizing the use of sports as a tool for a healthy lifestyle.

Objective

- Its objective is to reach out to every block in the country and connect with those kids who wants to play the sports.

Global Human Development Index

Context

Recently, the Global Human Development Index was released by the **United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)**.

- This index is part of a report titled '**Breaking the Gridlock: Reimagining cooperation in a polarized world**'. Switzerland topped the index.

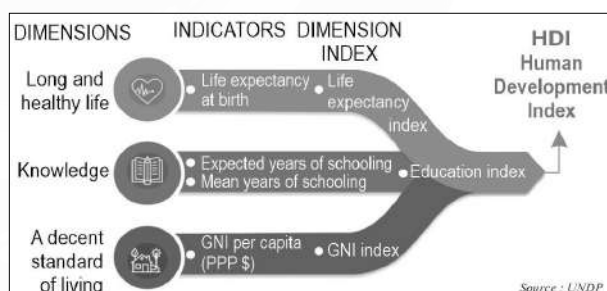
Rank of India

Year of Index	Top Country	Rank of India	Score of India	Total number of Countries
1. Global Human Development Index 2022	Switzerland	134	0.644	193
2. Global Human Development Report 2021	Switzerland	135	0.633	192

About Global Human Development Index

- The Human Development Index (HDI) is a statistical measure to assess the social and economic development of countries around the world.
- It has been released annually by the UNDP since 1990.
- The idea of Global Human Development index was conceived by the Pakistani economist **Mahbub ul Haq** and Indian Nobel laureate **Amartya Sen**.

Dimensions and indicators of the Global Human Development Index



Rank of India's Neighbouring countries in the Global Human Development Index 2022

Name of the country	Rank
Sri Lanka	78
China	75
Bhutan	125
Bangladesh	129

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- UNDP is a United Nations agency, established in 1966.
- **Focus areas of the UNDP**
 - Sustainable development,
 - Democratic governance and peace building
 - Climate and disaster resilience.
- **Funding** – It is funded entirely by voluntary contributions from the members nation.
- **Headquarter** – New York, USA
- **Reports published by the UNDP**
 - Human Development Index
 - Sustainable Development Goals
 - Gender Inequality Index

- India ranked third with an annual average PM 2.5 level of 54.4 µg/m³, after Bangladesh and Pakistan in 134 countries/regions.

Rank	Name of the countries	Average annual PM 2.5 level
1.	Bangladesh	over 70 µg/m ³
2.	Pakistan	over 70 µg/m ³
3.	India	54.4 µg/m ³

- About 1.36 billion people in India experience PM 2.5 concentrations exceeding the WHO recommended annual guideline level of 5 µg/m³.

World Air Quality Report

Context

The World Air Quality Report for the year 2023 was recently released.

About World Air Quality Report

- This report is prepared by a Swiss organization named IQAir.
- This report sources data from monitoring stations of government agencies, educational institutions, and non-profit organizations worldwide.

Key Findings of the Report

- **Delhi** ranked **1st** among the **most polluted capital cities** in the world for 2023.
- Delhi was the 3rd most polluted city in India in terms of PM (Particulate Matter) 2.5 levels for 2023.

Rank	Name of the capital city	Average annual PM 2.5 level
1.	Delhi	92.7 µg/m ³
2.	Dhaka	80.2 µg/m ³

Note: The World Health Organisation (WHO) suggests that annual average PM 2.5 levels should not exceed 5 µg/m³.

Top 3 cities in India having worst Air Quality

Rank	Name of the cities	Average annual PM 2.5 level
1.	Begusarai	118.9 µg/m ³
2.	Guwahati	105.4 µg/m ³
3.	Delhi	92.7 µg/m ³

EX TIGER TRIUMPH – 24

Context

Recently, a joint military exercise called Tiger Triumph-24, between India and the United States was held between 18-30 March.

About EX TIGER TRIUMPH-24

Nature of the exercise	• It is a bilateral tri-service Humanitarian Assistance and Disaster Relief (HADR) Exercise.
Venue of the exercise	• The Eastern Seaboard (East Coast) of India.
Purpose of the exercise	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To develop interoperability for conducting HADR operations between forces of both countries. • To refine Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) to enable rapid and smooth coordination between forces of both countries.
Participants in the exercise	<p>From the Indian side-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Indian Navy ships, helicopters, and landing crafts. • Indian Army personnel and vehicles • Indian Air Force aircraft and helicopters • Rapid Action Medical Team (RAMT) <p>From the US side-</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • US Navy ships • US Marine Corps troops • US Army troops

Phases of the exercise	Harbour Phase- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • It included Training sessions, Expert discussions, Sports events, and Social interactions between Indian and US personnel. Sea Phase- <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ships and troops from both sides conducted maritime, amphibious, and humanitarian assistance/disaster relief operations based on simulated scenarios.
History of the EX TIGER TRIUMPH	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Tiger Triumph exercise was held for the first time in 2019.

Other exercises between India and the USA

1.	EXERCISE VAJRA PRAHAR	It is a Special Forces exercise between the Indo-US.
2.	EXERCISE YUDH ABHYAS	It is an annual exercise conducted jointly by the Indian Army and the United States Army.
3.	Exercise Cope India	This is an exercise between the US Air Force and the Indian Air Force.
4.	MILAN-24	Milan-24 is a multilateral naval exercise in which the Indian and US Navy also participated.
5.	Sea-Defenders 2024	It is a maritime security exercise, held in Port Blair between the Indian Coast Guard (ICG) and the United States Coast Guard.

PRELIMS SPECIAL

PERSONS IN NEWS

S.No.	Person	Associated Field
1.	Sir C.V. Raman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a Physicist. • He discovered the Raman Effect. • National Science Day(28 February) is celebrated to mark the discovery of the Raman Effect. • He was awarded the Nobel Prize for his discovery of the Raman Effect in 1930.
2.	Guru Ravidas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a Mystic poet-saint. • He emphasised on human rights, equality, and spiritual enlightenment through his teachings. • His compositions are also included in the Guru Granth Sahib Ji.
3.	Sunil Bharti Mittal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is the First Indian citizen to receive an Honorary Knighthood from the United Kingdom's King Charles III.
4.	Maryam Nawaz	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She became the First woman Chief Minister of West Punjab in Pakistan.
5.	Arun Goyal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, he has resigned from the post of Election Commissioner of India.
6.	Sudha Murty	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She is an author, educator and philanthropist. • Recently, she has been nominated as a member of the Rajya Sabha.
7.	Alexei Navalny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a prominent Russian opposition leader and an anti-corruption activist. • Recently, he died at the Arctic prison in Russia where he was serving a three-decade prison term.

PLACES IN NEWS

S. No.	Place	About the Place
1.	Zemithang, Taksing and Chayang Tajo village (Arunachal Pradesh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Vibrant Villages program aims to transform 663 border villages into modern settlements with comprehensive amenities. • 17 villages along the borders with China were selected for development as pilot projects under this program. • villages in the Tawang region of Arunachal Pradesh such as Zemithang, Taksing, Chayang Tajo, Tuting, and Kibithu, have been identified for development under this program.
2.	Ponmudi Hill Station (Kerala)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A new damselfly species was found named Cliffside Bamboo Tail (Phylloneura rupestris), in Kerala's Ponmudi Hills.
3.	Shri Kalki Dham Temple-Sambhal (Uttar Pradesh)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, the Prime Minister of India laid the foundation stone of Shri Kalki Dham Temple in Sambhal district, Uttar Pradesh.
4.	The Western Ghats	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recently, scientists have discovered a Bonnet mushroom growing on the Golden-backed Frog in the Western Ghats. • The Western Ghats passes through the States of Kerala, Tamil Nadu, Karnataka, Goa, Maharashtra and Gujarat. • The Western Ghats is recognised as the UNESCO World Heritage Site. • It is one of the eight hotspots of biological diversity in the world.

5.	Ayutthaya city (Thailand)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, the Governor of Bihar visited Thailand's Ancient City of Ayutthaya. This city has been named after Lord Ram's birth city in Ayodhya, India. This city was founded in the year 1350.
6.	Sudarshan Setu (Gujarat)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Sudarshan Setu, formerly known as Okha-Beyt Dwarka Signature Bridge is a cable-stayed bridge in India. This bridge connects the Beyt Dwarka island in the Gulf of Kutch and Okha. The total length of the bridge is 2,320 metres. It was inaugurated on 25 February 2024.
7.	Agalega Island (Mauritius)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, Indian PM and Mauritius PM inaugurated a modern airstrip and jetty on Agalega Island, Mauritius. These projects will strengthen connectivity of islands with mainland Mauritius.
8.	Rangpo railway station (Sikkim)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Recently, the Prime Minister of India laid the foundation of Sikkim's first Railway station in Rangpo.
9.	Kulasekarapattinam Spaceport (Tamil Nadu)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Prime Minister inaugurated the Kulasekarapattinam Spaceport in Tamil Nadu, the second spaceport after Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Andhra Pradesh.
10.	The Gevra mine of South Eastern Coalfields Limited (SECL) in Chhattisgarh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This mine became the largest coal mine in Asia.
11.	Kalpakkam	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This place is located in Tamil Nadu. Kalpakkam is known for its Nuclear Plants.

AWARD AND HONOURS

S. No.	Award	Person/Organisation	About Person/Award
1.	The Highest Civilian award of the France-The Chevalier de la Légion d' Honneur	Shashi Tharoor	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> He is an Indian former international civil servant, diplomat, bureaucrat, politician, a noted writer, and public intellectual who has been serving as a Member of Parliament from Kerala since 2009. Books written by Shashi Tharoor - <i>An Era of Darkness</i> (2016), <i>The Paradoxical Prime Minister</i> (2018), <i>Ambedkar: A Life</i> (2022).
2.	Jnanpith Award 2023.	Gulzar -Urdu poet and Bollywood personality. Jagadguru Rambhadracharya -The distinguished Sanskrit scholar and spiritual leader	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> This is the highest honour in Indian literature. This award was Established in the year 1965 by the Bharatiya Jnanpith. This award includes a cash prize of Rs.11 lakh, a statue of Vagdevi, and a citation. This year was the 58th edition of the award.

3.	BAFTA Awards 2024	Best Film-Oppenheimer. Best Documentary-20 Days in Mariupol Best Animated Film-The Boy And The Heron. Best Director-Christopher Nolan, (Oppenheimer) Leading actor-Cillian Murphy, Oppenheimer Leading actress-Emma Stone, Poor Things.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • BAFTA Stands for British Academy of Film and Television Arts.
4.	Jeevan Raksha Padak	Sh. Shashikant Kumar (a constable of the Railway Protection Special Force).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This award is given by the President of India. • This award was established in 1961. • This award is given to individuals for rescuing someone's life.
5.	Innovative Technology Development Award	REC Limited Maharatna CPSE(Central Public Sector Enterprise) under the Ministry of Power. A prominent NBFC(Non Banking Financial Company)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This Award ceremony was hosted by IIT Madras.
6.	The Underwater Photographer of the Year 2024 Award	Alex Dawson , Swedish photographer.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Name of the image-'Whale Bones'.
7.	The 70th edition of Dadasaheb Phalke International Film Festival Awards 2024	Best actor-Shah Rukh Khan(Jawan) Best actress-Rani Mukerji(Mrs Chatterjee vs Norway) Best Film-Jawan Best Director-Sandeep Reddy Vanga(Animal)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The award ceremony was held in Mumbai. • 40 individuals were awarded.
8.	2023 GD Birla Award	Dr. Aditi Sen De	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She is awarded in the category of Scientific excellence. • She is a distinguished physicist associated with the Harish Chandra Research Institute in Prayagraj. • She is contributing immensely to Quantum Technologies.
9.	Romain Rolland Book Prize 2024	Pankaj Kumar Chatterjee	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was awarded for his remarkable translation of Jean-Daniel Baltassat's "Le Divan de Staline" into Bengali, titled "Staliner Divan."
10.	Global Jain Peace Ambassador	Acharya Lokesh Muni	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His contributions in promoting Indian heritage and Jainism internationally have earned him this prestigious recognition.

11.	Honorary Knighthood	Sunil Bharti Mittal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is the Chairman and founder of Bharti Enterprises. • The Honorary Knighthood has been conferred on him by Britain's King Charles III.
12.	Maharashtra Bhushan Award 2024	Dr. Pradeep Mahajan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • His contributions to the field of regenerative medicines are remarkable.
13.	The Award for Best Performance in Accounts for the Financial Year 2023-24.	The Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This prestigious accolade signifies the Ministry's outstanding contribution and commitment to financial excellence.
14.	The Bob Jones Award 2024	Tiger Woods	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This is the highest honour bestowed by the United States Golf Association (USGA).
15.	1st prize in National Youth Parliament Festival, 2024	Yatin Bhaskar Duggal	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is from Haryana. • He was awarded the first prize for his exceptional performance.
16.	'India-UK Achievers' awards 2024	Zoya Akhtar Asma Khan	<p>Zoya Akhtar</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She was awarded with the Living Legend Award. • She is a renowned filmmaker. <p>Asma Khan</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She is a famous chef. • She runs a women-led Darjeeling Express restaurant in London.
17.	National Creators Award 2024	Awards were given in 20 categories- Maithili Thakur (Cultural Ambassador of the Year). Ankit Baiyanpuria (Best Health and Fitness Creator).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This award started this year itself. • Prime Minister of India presented the Award at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.
18.	'Measles and Rubella Champion' Award	India	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This award is given by the Measles and Rubella Partnership. • This award recognizes India's exemplary efforts in preventing measles and rubella diseases.
19.	Miss World 2024	Krystyna Pyszkova	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She is from the Czech Republic. • The event was held at Mumbai, India.
20.	The Miss World Humanitarian Award 2024	Nita Ambani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She was awarded for her work at the Reliance Foundation, a non-profit organization.
21.	Pritzker Architecture Prize 2024	Riken Yamamoto	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is a Japanese architect. • The Pritzker Architecture Prize is regarded as the highest honour in the field of architecture.

22.	The Erasmus Prize 2024	Amitav Ghosh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This award is given by The Praemium Erasmianum Foundation. • He is awarded for his passionate contribution to the theme “imagining the unthinkable”, in which he explores the unprecedented global crisis of climate change through his literary works.
23.	IAA Golden Compass Award 2024	Mr. Srinivasan Swamy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr. Srinivasan Swamy is the chairman and managing director of RK Swamy Ltd. • He was honoured at the 45th IAA World Congress in Penang, Malaysia. • He is the first Indian industry leader to receive this prestigious honour.
24.	Chameli Devi Jain Award 2024	Greeshma Kuthar – Independent Journalist Ritika Chopra – Indian Express	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • They were awarded in the category of the Outstanding Woman Media Person of the Year jointly.
25.	PV Narasimha Rao Memorial Award	Ratan Tata	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is awarded for his outstanding philanthropic contributions. • He is the former chairman of Tata Sons.
26.	Diana Memorial Award 2024	Uday Bhatia Manasi Gupta	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This award is biennial and given in memory of Princess Diana. • It recognizes exceptional youth for their social work or humanitarian services.
27.	The Sangita Kalanidhi award for 2024.	Thodur Madabusi Krishna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • T M Krishna is a renowned carnatic musician. • This award is considered the Oscar equivalent for Carnatic music. • This award is given by the Music Academy in Chennai.
28.	33rd Saraswati Samman for the year 2023	Prabha Varma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He is a noted Malayalam poet and author. • He has awarded for his novel “Roudra Sathwikam” • The Saraswati Samman, instituted by the K.K. Birla Foundation in 1991.

IMPORTANT DAYS AND THEMES

S. No.	Day	Date	Important Facts
1.	International Mother Language Day 2024	21st February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The idea to celebrate International Mother Language Day was the initiative of Bangladesh. It was approved at the 1999 UNESCO General Conference and has been observed throughout the world since 2000.
2.	Global Tourism Resilience Day 2024	17th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme for 2024- “Resilient Tourism: Building Back Better.”
3.	Rare Disease Day 2024	29th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme: “Share Your Colours”.

4.	National Science day 2024	28th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Theme- "Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat". • On this day in 1928, CV Raman Discovered the 'Raman Effect'. • The celebration of this day commemorates the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' and raises awareness about the importance of science and its role in improving the lives of people. • CV Raman was awarded the Nobel Award for his discovery in 1930.
5.	World sustainable energy day 2024	From February 28 to March 3.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day is celebrated to promote the use of sustainable energy sources for day to day uses.
6.	Central Excise Day 2024	24th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The celebration of this day is a tribute to the enactment of the Central Excise and Salt Act in 1944. • This significant day marks the foundation of the Central Board of Indirect Taxes and Customs (CBIC).
7.	World peace and understanding day 2024	23rd February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day is dedicated to global peacebuilding. • Rotary International's first meeting was held on this day in 1905. • Rotary International is an international organisation dedicated to services.
8.	World Scout Day 2024	22nd February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of Lord Robert Baden-Powell, who founded the Boy Scouts movement. • Theme- "Scouts for a Better World."
9.	World day of Social justice 2024	20th February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day stresses the need to build fairer and more equitable societies. • Theme- "Bridging Gaps, Building Alliances".
10.	Zero Discrimination Day 2024	1st March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Zero Discrimination Day is celebrated to promote equality, inclusion, and tolerance across the globe.
11.	World Wildlife Day 2024	3rd March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day is celebrated to raise awareness about the importance of wildlife conservation and the need to protect endangered species. • The theme for 2024 is "Connecting People and Planet: Exploring Digital Innovation in Wildlife Conservation."
12.	National Safety Day 2024	4th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day is celebrated to commemorate the foundation of the National Safety Council. • This year's theme- "Safety Leadership for ESG(environmental, social, and governance)Excellence,".
13.	International Women's Day 2024	8th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day marks a call to action for accelerating gender parity. • Theme for 2024- 'Invest in Women: Accelerate Progress'.
14.	Pi Day 2024	14th March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This day is celebrated to commemorate the constant value of Pi and its significance in simplifying calculations across various disciplines. • Pi is the ratio of the circumference of a circle to its diameter. This ratio is a constant value of approximately 3.14.

15.	The International Day of Action for Rivers	14th March	• Theme for 2024- “Water for All”.
16.	World Consumer Rights Day 2024	15th March	• This day is celebrated to raise awareness about the rights and responsibilities of consumers in the marketplace. • Theme for 2024- ‘Fair and responsible AI for consumers.’
17.	The International Day of Happiness 2024	20th March	• This day is celebrated to spread awareness about the importance of happiness in our lives.
18.	World Sparrow Day 2024	20th March	• This day is celebrated to raise global awareness about the household sparrow and its alarming population decline.

SPORTS EVENTS

S. No.	Event	Date	Venue
1.	73rd National Junior Basketball Championships	4th -11th February 2024	Bhubaneswar
2.	International High Jump Gala Elmos 2024	The event started on 10th February	Belgium
3.	L&T Mumbai Open WTA Tournament	11th February	Mumbai
4.	U-19 World Cup 2024	11th February	Willowmoore Park, Benoni, South Africa
5.	4th Khelo India Winter games	21st-25th February	• Gulmarg(Jammu and Kashmir) • Mascot-Snow Leopard
6.	The Khelo India University Games	19 February	• Launched in Guwahati by The Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports, Government of India.
7.	1st Asian River Rafting Championships	4th to 9th March	• This Championship was held in Shimla. • 20 national and international teams have participated.
8.	The ICC Men’s T20 World Cup 2024	The event will start on June 1.	• 3 venues in the USA and 6 in the Caribbean.
9.	Sansad Khel Mahakumbh 3.0	It was inaugurated on 5th March.	• It was inaugurated at the Luhnu Cricket Ground in Bilaspur, Himachal Pradesh.
10.	3rd Edition of North East Games 2024	The 3rd Edition of North East Games 2024 commenced on 19th March.	• Nagaland

SPORTS AWARDS/RECORDS/RANKINGS

S. No.	Player/Team	Category	News
1.	Ravichandran Ashwin	Cricket	• He became the second Indian bowler to take 500 wickets in Test matches .
2.	Indian Football Team	Football	• The National football team fell 15 places to the 117th position in the latest FIFA rankings, registering its lowest position in the past seven years .
3.	The Indian women's Badminton Team	Badminton	• The team won the gold medal at the Badminton Asia Team Championships 2024 held in Malaysia.
4.	M S Dhoni	Cricket	• He is selected as the leader of IPL's all-time greatest team.
5.	Babar Azam	Cricketer (Pakistan)	• He became the quickest batter to surpass the milestone of 10,000 runs in T20 cricket .
6.	B. Sai Praneeth	Badminton	• He has announced his retirement from the sport. • He clinched the bronze medal at the World Championships held in Basel, Switzerland in 2019.
7.	Spain's women's Football Team	Football	• Spain's women's team secured a historic victory over France, winning the first-ever UEFA Women's Nations League .
8.	James Anderson	Cricket	• He joined Elite 700 Test Wickets Club .
9.	Mumbai Ranji Team	Cricket	• Mumbai won the Ranji Trophy 2024 by defeating Vidarbha by 169 runs. • This was Mumbai's 42nd Ranji Trophy title.
10.	Max Verstappen	acing	• He won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix.

BOOKS AND AUTHORS

S. No.	Book	Writer
1.	"Dabbling in Diplomacy: Authorised & Otherwise, Recollections of a Non-Career Diplomat",	Professor S.D. Muni
2.	"Sculpted Stones: Mysteries of Mamallapuram"	Ashwin Prabhu
3.	"Basic Structure and Republic"	Shri P. S. Sreedharan Pillai • He is Governor of Goa.
4.	"Swallowing the Sun"	Lakshmi Murdeshwar Puri • She is former Assistant Secretary General of the United Nations. • She is wife of Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri.
5.	"FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup 2023"	• This book was released by Odisha's Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik. • This book encapsulates the essence and excitement of the 15th FIH Odisha Hockey Men's World Cup held in 2023.
6.	"The Conspiracy to Oust Me from the Presidency"	Gotabaya Rajapaksa • He is the former Sri Lankan President.

OBITUARIES

S. No.	Person	Contributions
1.	Kavita Chaudhary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She was an Actor. • She wrote, acted, and directed 'Udaan'(a progressive show about women empowerment centred around an IPS officer).
2.	Alexei Navalny	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a Russian opposition leader, lawyer, anti-corruption activist, and political prisoner. • He was against President Vladimir Putin and his government.
3.	Mike Procter	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a cricket legend and former National coach of the National cricket team of South Africa.
4.	Yogesh Saini	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a street artist. • He started his art drive under the banner of Delhi Street Art(DSA).
5.	Ameen Sayani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was an iconic radio presenter. • He is Known for his program Binaca Geetmala.
6.	Fali S Nariman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a renowned constitutional jurist and senior Supreme Court advocate. • He served as Additional Solicitor General of India and president of The Bar Association of India. • Awards- The Padma Bhushan(1991), The Padma Vibhushan(2007). • He resigned from the post of the Additional Solicitor General in June 1975, in protest against the declaration of emergency. • Books- 'You Must Know Your Constitution' , India's Legal System: Can it be Saved?, God Save the Hon'ble Supreme Court.
7.	Imtiaz Qureshi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a chef by profession. • He is known as a "culinary genius,". • He was awarded Padma Shri in 2016. • He brought back the ancient dum pukht cooking technique to the forefront of Indian cuisine.
8.	Suhani Bhatnagar	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • She played the character of Babita Phogat in the critically acclaimed film "Dangal." • She died at the age of 19.
9.	Acharya Vidyasagar Maharaj	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a renowned Jain monk.
10.	Rituraj Singh	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a versatile actor. • He featured in various iconic television shows such as "Banegi Apni Baat," "Kahani Ghar Ghar Kii," "Kutumb." and "Yeh Rishta Kya Kehlata Hai" .
11.	Manohar Joshi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He served as Chief Minister of Maharashtra from 1995 to 1999. • He also served as speaker of the Lok Sabha. • He was a prominent leader in the shiv sena.
12.	Andreas Brehme	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a German football player and coach. • He is remembered as Germany's World Cup hero of 1990.
13.	Kumar Sahani	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a prominent figure in Indian parallel cinema. • "Maya Darpan" (1972) was the first film he directed.

14.	Pankaj Udhas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was a legendary ghazal singer. • He Was the recipient of Filmfare Award, the Sangeet Natak Akademi Award for Ghazal Singing, and the Padma Shri.
15.	Shafiqur Rahman Barq	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was the senior-most MP in Parliament and a member of the Samajwadi Party.
16.	Brian Mulroney	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was the former Canadian Prime Minister known for his transformative policies.
17.	Aziz Qureshi	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was the Congress leader and former Governor of Uttar Pradesh.
18.	Dr. Arun Kumar Sharma	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He significantly contributed to Indian archaeology. His role was pivotal in the excavation of the Ram Janmabhoomi Ayodhya site.
19.	Kapildev Prasad	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was from Bihar Sharif. • He dedicated his life to preserve and promote the art of handloom and Bawan-booti sarees.
20.	Paul Alexander	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was an American author and lawyer. • He spent a significant portion of his life in an iron lung due to polio.
21.	Admiral Laxminarayan Ramdas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • He was the Chief of Naval Staff of the Indian Navy (1990-1993).

ABBREVIATION

S. No.	Abbreviated Form	Full Form
1.	IED	Improvised Explosive Device
2.	CCTV	Closed Circuit Television
3.	PIL	Public Interest Litigation

REPORTS AND INDICES (INTERNATIONAL)

S. No.	Report	Released By	India's Rank	Top Rank
1.	International Intellectual Property (IP) Index 2024	The US Chamber of Commerce	42nd	United States
2.	Global Arms Import Report 2024	The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)	1st	India
3.	The Gender Inequality Index 2022	The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	108th	Denmark
4.	The United Nations Human Development Index (HDI) 2022	The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)	134th	Switzerland
5.	The World Air Quality Report 2023	IQAir, a Switzerland-based organisation	3rd	Bangladesh
6.	The World Happiness Report 2024	The United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network	126th	Finland

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOUS)

S. No.	Month	Related Areas	Partner Countries/Org.
1.	Feb 2024	Cooperation in the field of Sharing Successful Digital Solutions.	India and Colombia
2.	Feb 2024	To enhance innovation and research in areas of green technologies.	Indian Institute of Technology, Roorkee (IIT Roorkee) and Engineers India Limited (EIL).
3.	Feb 2024	AI Innovation	Telecommunication Engineering Centre (TEC), the technical arm of Department of Telecommunications (DOT), Ministry of Communications, and AMRITA UNIVERSITY.
4.	Feb 2024	Mutual Business	India and Northeast Asian Countries.
5.	Feb 2024	Unlocking the potential of digital commerce in the field of Indian Fisheries.	Department of Fisheries (GoI) and Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
6.	Feb 2024	UPI-NPI linkage for cross-border remittances. NPI- National Payments Interface UPI-Unified Payments Interface	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Nepal Rastra Bank.
7.	Feb 2024	Academic collaboration in Ayurveda and Thai traditional medicine.	National Institute of Ayurveda (NIA), India and Thailand.
8.	Feb 2024	Mutual recognition of Pharmacopoeia.	India and Nicaragua.
9.	March 2024	Geospatial Technology and Artificial Technology(AI) for Rural Development.	Ministry of Rural Development and IIT Delhi.
10.	March 2024	To provide digital services across rural India, (using Bharat Net infrastructure)	Prasar Bharti, Universal Service Obligation Fund (Department of Telecommunication), and ONDC(Open Network for Digital Commerce).
11.	March 2024	Law and dispute resolution (including International Commercial Dispute resolution).	India and Singapore.
12.	March 2024	Applied Research, innovation, and technological development through joint projects, to promote Research & Training Initiative.	IIT Delhi and Israel Aerospace Industry(IAI)
13.	March 2024	Establishment of PM SHRI Schools.	The Government of Tamilnadu and the Government of India.
14.	March 2024	Promotion of innovation and development in the Automotive and Electrical Vehicle (EV).	Ministry of Heavy Industry and IIT Roorkee.
15.	March 2024	To improve the ICT(Information and Communications Technology) Skills, Job opportunities, and international cooperation in the field of technology.	National Institute of Electronics Information Technology (NIELIT), India, and Information Technology Institute (ITI), Egypt.

16.	March 2024	To enable a cross-border UPI(Unified Payments Interface) Payment system between India and Nepal.	NPCI International Payment Ltd (NIPL), India, and Fonepay Payment Service Ltd, Nepal.
17.	March 2024	For promotion of the use of Local Currencies for cross-border transactions.	Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and Bank Indonesia(BI).
18.	March 2024	To establish a NPCI-IISc Center of Excellence(CoE) for Deep Tech Research and Development.	National Payment Corporation of India (NPCI) and The Indian Institute of Science (IISc).
19.	March 2024	To advance India's Telecom sector and promote Atamanirbhar Bharat (in innovation and technology sectors)	Center for Development of Telematics (C-DOT) and Qualcomm Technology.
20.	March 2024	To promote accessibility and inclusivity for Persons with Disabilities (PwDs) in public places and buildings.	Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities(DEPwD), GOI and the Council of Architecture (COA).

MILITARY EXERCISE

S. No.	Name of the Exercise	Date	Venue	Military	Participating Nations/ Militaries
1.	DHARMA GUARDIAN	25th February	Mahajan Field, Rajasthan	Army	India & Japan
2.	EXERCISE VAYUSHAKTI 2024	17th February	Pokhran near Jaisalmer, Rajasthan	Air force	This is the exercise of the Indian Air Force..
3.	LAMITYE 2024	18th March to 31st March	India	Army	India & Seychelles
4.	Bharat Shakti Exercise	12th March	Pokhran, Rajasthan	Tri-Services Exercise	The Army, Navy and the Air Force of India.
5.	EX-TIGER TRIUMPH 2024	18th to 31st March	East Coast, India	Tri-services exercise	India-USA
6.	EX MILAN 2024	19th to 27th February	Visakhapatnam	Navy Multilateral Exercise	50 Nations, including India, participated.
7.	Samudra Laxman Maritime Exercise	28th February to 2nd March	Visakhapatnam	Navy	India - Malaysia
8.	Steadfast Defender 2024	22nd January, 2024 to 31st May, 2024.	Europe	Military Ex (Land, Air, Sea, Cyber, etc)	NATO Nations
9.	Sea Defenders 2024	9-10th March	Port Blair, the Andaman and Nicobar Islands	Coast Guard	India - USA

10.	Maritime Security Belt 2024 Exercise	March 2024	Near the Gulf of Oman	Navy	Russia-Iran-China
11.	Exercise Cutlass Express 2024	26th February to 8th March	Port Victoria, Seychelles	Navy	The Indian Navy also participated in this Multinational exercise.

DEFENCE AND SECURITY

S. No.	Equipment/News	Reason	Characteristics
1.	Strike by USA on Houthis	Self-defence	The United States carried out five strikes in Houthi-controlled areas of Yemen amid rising Red Sea tensions.
2.	Naval Bases to be built in Agatti And Minicoy Islands ,Lakshadweep	To protect crucial maritime communication lanes.	The Lakshadweep and Minicoy Islands sit on the 9-degree channel.
3.	A contract signed between Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) and the Ministry of Defence.	For procurement of Aero-engines for MiG-29 aircraft.	MiG-29 aircraft is a twin-engine fighter aircraft, designed in the Soviet Union.
4.	Contracts signed between the Ministry of Defence and Larsen & Toubro (L&T).	For procurement of Close-in Weapon System (CIWS) and High-Power Radar (HPR).	CIWS is a point-defence weapon system, which detects and destroys short-range incoming missiles and enemy aircraft.
5.	Contracts signed between the Ministry of Defence and BrahMos Aerospace Private Limited (BAPL).	For procurement of BrahMos missiles and ship-borne BrahMos missile systems.	BrahMos is a nuclear-capable supersonic cruise missile system. BrahMos is named after the rivers Brahmaputra and Moskva (Russia)
6.	Indian Army New Tech Unit: Signals Technology Evaluation Adaptation Group (STEAG)	STEAG will focus on studying and incorporating modern technology like 5G, AI, Machine Learning, Quantum Technology, etc.	Objective: Conducting research and evaluation for the next-generation communication Technologies.
7.	451 Aviation Squadron	Indian Army inducts First batch of Apache Helicopters	This squadron was established in Jodhpur, for the AH-64E Apache attack helicopter. This is the 1st squadron of the Indian Army for Apache helicopters.
8.	Dornier 228 Aircraft	Guyana will buy Two Dornier 228 Aircraft from Hindustan Aeronautics Ltd (HAL), India.	Guyana will buy these two aircraft from India with a loan of 23.27 million USD from EXIM Bank.

9.	INS Agray INS Akshay	For Indian Navy	Made by: Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE). This is the 5th and 6th ship in a series of 8 ASW SWC (Anti-Submarine Warfare Shallow water craft) Project. Objective: Anti-submarine operation, Low-Intensity Maritime Operation (LIMO), etc
10.	BBBS's Vajra Sentinel System	It is a state-of-the-art Anti Drone System designed to detect, track, and neutralise drones at extraordinary ranges.	The Ministry of Defence has given an order of Rs.200 crores for Anti Drone system to Big Bang Boom Solutions (BBBS) Pvt Ltd under the iDEX (Innovation for Defence Excellence) initiative.
11.	INS Jatayu	An upgraded Naval Base on Minicoy Island, Lakshadweep.	This base enhances the operational, surveillance, Anti-piracy, and anti-narcotics capabilities of the Indian Navy. INS Dweerprakashak, Kavaratti is another Naval Base in Lakshadweep.
12.	Very Short-Range Air Defence System (VSHORADS)	It is a man portable air-defence system (MANPADS) meant to neutralise low-altitude aerial threats at short ranges.	Made & Tested by: DRDO(Defence Research and Development Organization).
13.	Mission Divyastra	AGNI 5 Missile	DRDO successfully tested the indigenously developed AGNI 5 Missile with MIRV(Multiple Independently Targetable re-entry Vehicle) Technology.
14.	Ammunition & Missile Complex, Kanpur	For arms, ammunition, and missile manufacturing.	Adani Defence opened South Asia's largest ammunition manufacturing centre in Kanpur. This centre is dedicated to the brave soldiers of the "Balakot Strike".

SUMMITS AND CONFERENCES

S. No.	Name of Summit	Event Date	Venue	Main Point
1.	60th Munich Security Conference	19th February	Germany	Discussion on important global and regional issues as well as bilateral cooperation.
2.	Future SKILLS Summit	15th February	Guwahati	Fostering talent that is prepared for the future for both India and the rest of the globe.
3.	Neem Summit & Global Neem Trade Fair	19-20th February	New Delhi	Highlighted the importance of Neem in human well-being.

4.	13th Ministerial Conference of the World Trade Organization (WTO)	February 26th to 29th, 2024.	Abu Dhabi	To review the multilateral trading system and the WTO's future course.
5.	10th India-Thailand Joint Commission	27th February 2024	New Delhi	Aim: To establish academic collaboration in Ayurveda and Thai traditional medicine.
6.	9th edition, Raisina Dialogue 2024	21st to 23rd February 2024	New Delhi	The Raisina Dialogue is organised annually to discuss geopolitics and geoeconomics of the World. Theme: Chaturanga: conflict, contest, cooperate, create.
7.	4th Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) Startup Forum 2024	19th March 2024	New Delhi	All SCO member states agreed to establish a Special Working Group (SWG) for startups and Innovation. Objective of Summit: To increase Startup interaction, and innovation among member countries.
8.	India - Brazil 2+2 Dialogue	14th March 2024	New Delhi	1st ever India and Brazil 2+2 dialogue was held in New Delhi to strengthen the defence and bilateral relations.
9.	Startup Mahakumbh 2024	18th to 20th March 2024	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi	Experts from various sectors, investors, and entrepreneurs came to this event and shared their knowledge and expertise to increase partnerships and startups in the country.
10.	1st Bharat Steam Boiler Expo 2024	5th - 7th March 2024	Guwahati, Assam	Aim: To increase innovation and collaboration in boiler design and automation, fuel efficiency, pollution control, etc.
11.	All India Research Scholar Summit 2024	4th- 7th March 2024	IIT Madras	At this event experts and scholars from different disciplines from across the country came and shared their views on recent developments in various research domains.
12.	1st US-India Cyber Security Initiative	26th February 2024	This initiative was Launched during the MCCIA Pune Business International Business Summit.	By: US Consulate Mumbai and Mahratta Chamber of Commerce, Industries and Agriculture(MCCIA). Aim: This summit brings together the world's best cybersecurity experts to discuss cutting-edge technological solutions and create employment opportunities in the world.
13.	India-US Defence Accelerator Ecosystem (INDUS-X) Summit	20th February 2024	New Delhi	Aim: To increase cooperation between two nations in the field of defence innovation and startups.

APPOINTMENT-NATIONAL

S. No.	Name	Appointed As
1.	Anil Kumar Lahoti	Chairman of TRAI (The Telecom Regulatory Authority of India).
2.	Justice Ritu Bhandari	Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court(1st Woman Chief Justice of Uttarakhand High Court).
3.	Lt. General Upendra Dwivedi	Vice Chief of the Army Staff of India.
4.	Justice Vijay Bishnoi	Chief Justice of Guwahati High Court.
5.	Naveen Tahilyani	CEO & MD of Tata Digital
6.	Ajay Kumar Choudhary	Non-Executive Chairman of NPCI(The National Payments Corporation of India).
7.	Nikhil Joshi	MD of Boeing Defence India.
8.	Ranjeet Kumar Agrawal	72nd President of ICAI (The Institute of Chartered Accountants of India).
9.	Shubaman Gill	Punjab State icon for 18th Lok Sabha Elections.
10.	Anurag Agrawal	Security head of the Lok Sabha
11.	Daljit Singh Chaudhary	Director General of the NSG(The National Security Guard).
12.	Renu Sud Karnad	Chairperson & Independent Director of the PayU.
13.	Justice A M Khanwilkar	Chairperson of Lokpal.
14.	Arvind Panagariya	Chairman of the 16th Finance Commission.
15.	Champai Soren	12th Chief Minister of Jharkhand.
16.	Sanjay Verma	Member of the UPSC(The Union Public Service Commission).
17.	Apurva Chandra	Secretary, Department of Health & Family Welfare, Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.
18.	Sanjay Jaju	Secretary, Information & Broadcasting Ministry, Government of India.
19.	Ashish Kumar Bhutani	Secretary, Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India.
20.	Sanjay Kumar Jain	MD & CEO of SBI Capital Markets.
21.	Virendra Bansal	CMD of IRCTC(Indian Railway Catering and Tourism Corporation).
22.	Gyanesh Kumar	Election Commissioner
23.	Dr. Sukhbir Singh Sandhu	Election Commissioner
24.	Vinay Kumar	New Ambassador to Russia.
25.	Navneet kumar Sehgal	Chairman of the Prasar Bharti Board.
26.	Naveen Jindal	President of Indian Steel Association.
27.	M V Rao	Chairman, Indian Bank Association.

28.	Rahul Singh	Chairperson of CBSE(The Central Board of Secondary Education).
29.	Kishor Makwana	Chairman of National Commission for Scheduled Castes.
30.	Devendra Jhajharia	President of the Paralympic Committee of India.
31.	Deepak Ballani	Director General, ISMA(Indian Sugar & Bio-energy Manufactures Association).
32.	Sheetal Devi	The Election Commission of India (ECI)'s National Pwd(Person with Disabilities) Icon.
33.	B Sairam	New MD and CEO of NCL (Northern CoalFields).

APPOINTMENT-INTERNATIONAL

S. No.	Country	Capital	Currency	Prime Minister/President
1.	Russia	Moscow	Rubel	Vladimir Putin (President)
2.	El Salvador	San Salvador	USD and Bitcoin	Nayib Bukele (President)
3.	Yemen	Sanaa	Yemeni Rial (YER)	Ahmed Awad bin Mubarak (PM)
4.	Northern Ireland	Belfast	Pound Sterling	Michelle O'Neill (First Minister)
5.	Bhutan	Thimphu	Bhutanese Ngultrum(BTN)	Tshering Tobgay (2nd term as PM)
6.	Malaysia	Kuala Lumpur	Malaysian Ringgit	Sultan Ibrahim (17th King)
7.	Comoros	Moroni	Comorian Franc	Azali Assoumani (President)
8.	Indonesia	Jakarta	Indonesian Rupiah	Prabowo Subianto (President)
10.	Pakistan	Islamabad	Pakistani Rupee	Asif Ali Zardari (14th President)
11.	Pakistan	Islamabad	Pakistani Rupee	Shehbaz Sharif (PM)
12.	Hungary	Budapest	Forint	Tamas Sulyok (President)

APPOINTMENT (INT. ORG.)

S. No.	Organization	Headquarter	Designation	Name of Person
1.	World Gold Council	London. United Kingdom-	CEO of World Gold Council for India.	Sachin Jain
2.	World Bank	Washington, D.C	Managing Director	Wencai Zhang
3.	International Monetary Fund	Washington, D.C	Director of the office of internal audit	Ashlene van der Colff

FESTIVALS

S. No.	Festivals	Month	Place
1.	Aadi Mahotsav	February 2024	New Delhi
2.	Khajuraho Festival	February 2024	Madhya Pradesh
3.	Attukal Pongala	February 2024	Kerala

GI TAG

S. No.	Month	State	Product
1.	March	Gujarat	Kutch Rogan Craft
2.	March	Odisha	Cuttack Rupa Tarakasi
3.	March	West Bengal	Banglar Muslim
4.	March	Gujarat	Ambaji White Marble
5.	March	Andhra Pradesh	Lace Crochet of Narasapur
6.	March	Madhya Pradesh	Ratlam Riyawan Lahsun(Garlic)
7.	March	Assam	Majuli mask
8.	March	Assam	Majuli Manuscript Paintings
9.	March	Tripura	Tripura Risa Textile
10.	March	Telangana	Hyderabad Lac Bangles

ISRO'S MISSION/INITIATIVE

S. No.	Mission/Initiative	Launch Date	Details about Mission/Initiative
1.	ISRO's 2nd Spaceport	28th February	Kulasekarapattinam is a coastal village in Tamil Nadu's Thoothukudi district.
2.	INSAT-3DS Satellite	17th February	Launched by: GSLV F-14 rocket (nicknamed- Naughty Boy). Objectives: It boosts India's weather and climate forecasting services, Early warning system, and Disaster-related services.

VARIOUS OPERATIONS

S. No.	Operation	Launched By	Objectives
1.	Operation Sankalp	Jointly by the Indian Navy and Indian Air Force.	An Anti-Piracy Mission Objective: To retrieve the MV Ruen vessel hijacked by Somali pirates.

MAJOR SCHEME

S. No.	Scheme/ Programme	Launched By	Main Points
1.	PM Matsya Kisan Samridhi Sah-Yojan	Ministry of Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, and Dairying, Government of India.	This scheme is a sub-part of PM Matsya Sampada Yojana. Duration: FY 2023-24 to FY 2026-27 Aim: To gradually Formalise the Unorganised Fisheries sector through self-registration, and provide other facilities.
2.	Van Mitra Scheme	Haryana Forest Department	To boost the Green cover in the State.
3.	Swayam Scheme	Odisha Government	Odisha government offers Rs 1 lakh interest-free loan to the state's youth (18-35 years age), for Youth Empowerment.
4.	Kilkari Programme	Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, Government of India.	This programme aims to deliver 72 Audio Messages via Interactive Voice Response System (IVRS) for the improvement of neonatal, reproductive maternal, and child health care facilities.
5.	World's largest Grain/Food Storage in cooperative sector	Launched by: PM Narendra Modi. Ministries involved: Ministry of Agriculture and Farmer Welfare, Ministry of Food Processing Industry, Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food and Public Distribution.	Aim: To set up storage infrastructure of 700 lakh metric tons over the next 5 years, at a cost of Rs 1.25 lakh crore.
6.	IndiaAI Mission	Government of India	The Union Cabinet approved Rs 10,372 crore for this mission for the next 5 years. This mission has seven key features to develop India as a High-end scalable AI Computing ecosystem, development of indigenous LLM (Large language model), support AI Startups, AI courses, an AI Innovation hub, etc.
7.	Ethanol 100 Fuel	Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas, Government of India	This initiative is inspired by the vision - To transform India from "Annadata to Urjadata". ETHANOL 100 - a more clean and green fuel alternative to gasoline, it also emits lower greenhouse gases and other pollutants. Its Octane rating ranges between 100-105.

8.	E-Vehicle Policy	Government of India	Aim: To promote India as a manufacturing hub and destination for E-Vehicle. Companies that set up manufacturing facilities for E-Vehicle will be allowed limited imports of cars at lower Custom Duty.
9.	Acing Development of Innovative Technologies with iDEX (ADITI) Scheme	Ministry of Defence, Government of India	Defence Minister of India launched the ADITI Scheme during DefConnect 2024, New Delhi. Duration & Outlay: The scheme launched for the period of 2023-24 to 2025-26, with a total budget outlay of Rs 750 crore. Aim: To promote innovation and startups in Defence technology.
10.	Mahtari Vandan Yojana, Chhattisgarh	Launched by PM Narendra Modi.	Under this scheme, approximately 70 lakh women of Chhattisgarh get monthly Rs 1000 by Direct benefit transfer. Aim: Financial empowerment of women.

CAMPAIGN

S. No.	Campaign/ Initiative	Launched By	Main Points
1.	#Mera Pehla Vote Desh Ke Liye	PM of India	This campaign aims to make the electoral process more participative and to spread voting awareness.
2.	Hamara Samvidhan Hamara Samman	Launched By: Vice President of India.	This campaign aims to affirm our collective commitment to the principle enshrined in the constitution of India and celebrate the shared values that unite our Nation.
3.	Vividhata Ka Amrit Mahotsav	President of India	This Mahotsav will showcase the rich diversity of North East India, blending traditional arts, crafts, and culture under one vibrant umbrella.
4.	Bharatiya Bhasha Samiti	Ministry of Education	The aim of this samiti is to promote Indian languages in education.
5.	Jal Shakti Abhiyan: Catch The Rain-2024	Ministry of Jal Shakti	This is the 5th edition of Jal Shakti Abhiyan. The theme of Campaign is- "Nari Shakti se Jal Shakti"

MOBILE APP/PORTAL

S. No.	App/Portal	Launched by	OBJECTIVES
1.	SWAYAM Plus Platform	Launched by- Union Minister of Education, Skill Development and Entrepreneurship. Operated By: IIT Madras.	This portal would offer employability, enhance career prospects, and upskill and re-skill individuals, which would contribute to India's knowledge economy.
2.	Investor Information & Analytics Center	IIT Madras	This platform serves as a one-stop solution for entrepreneurs to access information about government schemes, policies, investors, etc.

3.	NaViGate Bharat Portal	New Media Wing of the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting, Government of India	This portal acts as a single platform for searching, streaming, sharing, and downloading videos of government schemes, initiatives, and campaigns.
4.	Press Sewa Portal	Launched by the Ministry of Information & Broadcasting. Developed By: Press-Register General of India.	This portal is an online system for facilitating the registration of newspapers and other periodicals in the country.
5.	e-Kshamata App	Astrika Foundation and Department of Health, Bihar	To provide online study materials, training, tests for ANM and GNM courses to Nursing students.
6.	Turn the Bus App	Turn the Bus app and JEEVIKA.	Launched in Bihar by Jeevika in collaboration with Turn the Bus app. To provide online classes, tuition, study materials, and tests for class 10 and class 12 IA stream of the Bihar State Education Board (BSEB) examinations.
7.	Krishi Dev Gayan App	IFFCO(Indian Farmers Fertiliser Cooperative Limited).	This App provides information about soil moisture, humidity, crop disease, pest, and weather information.
8.	MAUSAM BIHAR App	Bihar Mausam seva centre	This app provides weather information.
9.	Indus App Store	PhonePe	Allows Indian consumers to download more than 2 lakh apps, and games across 45 categories. Acts as an Indian version of Google.
10.	EV Upyog Portal	Uttar Pradesh's Government	This portal aims to promote electrical vehicles in the state.
11.	iOncology.ai Platform	AIIMS, NEW DELHI	To enhance precision and efficacy in Cancer treatment.
12.	Hanooman	IIT Bombay, Reliance Industries Ltd., Department of Science and Technology(GOI).	It provides services similar to Chat GPT.
13.	Gemini	Alphabet (Google)	This is the Most Advanced AI Model of Google.
14.	GCHAR Portal (Go Home and Re-Unite)	National Commission for Protection of Child Rights(NCPCR)	This portal aims to Digitally Monitor and Track the restoration and repatriation of children as laid down in the laws.
15.	Subhash Abhinandan (Digital Exhibition)	Ministry of Culture, Government of India	On the 134th Foundation Day of National Archives of India, Digital Exhibition of Subash Abhinandan on the life of Subash Chandra Bose was Launched.
16.	National Cooperative Database	Ministry of Cooperation, Government of India	Through this database, All information related to the cooperative sector will be available in no time.

17.	e-Kisan Upaj Nidhi (Digital Gateway)	Ministry of Consumer Affairs, Food & Public Distribution, Government of India	This platform simplifies the digital process and eases the procedure for grain storage at any registered WDRA(Warehousing Development and Regulatory Authority) warehouse, for the farmers.
18.	SAKHI App	Vikram Sarabhai Space Center (ISRO)	Space-borne Assistant and Knowledge Hub for Crew Interaction (SAKHI): A multipurpose app that will help the Astronauts of the Gaganyaan Mission. This app helps astronauts with technical information, communicating with one another, and monitoring the health of Astronauts, etc.
19.	Know Your Candidate (KYC) App	Election Commission of India (ECI)	This app empowers the voters to check crucial information about candidates like the criminal history of the Candidates, etc.
20.	NITI FOR STATES Platform	NITI Aayog	A comprehensive Digital initiative to empower the states/UTs that strengthen cooperative federalism in India. Extensive Knowledge base:7500 curated best practices, 5000 policy documents, 900+ datasheets, 1400 data profiles, and 350 Niti Aayog publications. Multilingual: in the near future this is available in 22 Indian and 7 foreign languages.

KNOW YOUR BIHAR

BIHAR DURING MODERN ERA

Bihar was an important Centre of trade since 17th Century for the trade of Saltpetre, Cotton Textiles, Indigo and Opium. All these made the Bihar, a Centre

of attraction for the European Countries which led to their arrival towards Indian Sub-continent and further in Bihar to establish their Factories and Fortifications.

European Companies	Year of Establishment of their Factories in Bihar	Place	Extra Facts
Portuguese Factory	1579-80	Hooghly	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Portuguese were the First European to enter Bihar. They established their factory at Hooghly in Bengal but frequently visited Patna for trading purpose.
The English East India Company	1620 & 1651	First at Alamganj in Patna later on at Gulzar Bagh.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The English East India Company established a Factory at Alamganj in Patna in 1620 but the factory was closed in 1621. It was again revived at Gulzar Bagh in 1651. Presently, the Company's Factory at Gulzar Bagh has been turned into a government printing press building.
Dutch Factory	1632	Patna	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Dutch Factory site is the present northern building of Patna College.
Danes Factory	1774-75	Patna at Nepali Kothi.	

Role of Bihar in Revolt of 1857

- The revolt of 1857 started on May 10, 1857 at Meerut, but in Bihar, it was started in Rohini village, Deoghar.

Major Events of Revolt in Bihar

- Rohini Village:** The first incidence of revolt in Bihar is being traced from Rohini village of Deoghar District, where on 12th June, 1857 the soldiers revolted by killing two English officials. This resulted into the death sentence of all three soldiers involved in the killings.
- Patna Uprising:** On July 3, 1857 **Pir Ali** (A book seller) along with his associates revolted. During this revolt the Deputy Opium agent of Patna, **Dr. Lyell** was killed. Pir Ali charged with Lyell's murder was convicted and hanged on **July 7, 1857**. **William Taylor** was the Commissioner of Patna division at that time.
- Danapur Mutiny:** On **July 25**, three regiments

stationed at Danapur rebelled. Most of the troops crossed **Son river** into **Shahabad** where they joined the Rebel troop of Kunwar Singh.

Kunwar Singh and Revolt of 1857

- Kunwar Singh was born in November 1777 to **Raja Shahabzada Singh** and **Rani Pancharatan Devi** in **Jagdishpur** of Shahabad District (present Bhojpur). He belonged to the **Ujjainiya clan of Rajput**.
- He was the chief organizer of the Revolt against the British in Bihar.
- At the age of 80, he bravely raised his voice in favour of the peasants and other persecuted people of Bihar.
- He died on **26 April, 1858**.
- After the death of Kunwar Singh, His followers carried out the struggle in different part of Bihar under the leadership of his brother Amar Singh.
- The Forest area of Jagdishpur was the base of Amar Singh's military campaigns.



Source: Navbharat Times

- Amar Singh was imprisoned at **Gorakhpur** where he died of dysentery on **Feb. 5, 1860**.

Major Battles fought by Kunwar Singh	British military officers	Other Facts
Battle of Bibiganj	Major Eyre	On 3 rd August 1857, Major Eyre on his way to Allahabad turned towards Arrah and defeated the forces of Kunwar Singh at Bibiganj.
Battle fought in Jagdishpur	Captain Le Grand	On April 21, 1858, Kunwar Singh fought the British troops under Brigadier Douglas. He crossed Ganges at Shivpur ghat after the battle. A British force led by Captain Le Grand sent against him was defeated on 23 rd April 1858.

Spread of the Revolt in Other Areas

- **Hazaribagh:** Under the leadership of **Madhav Singh**, the companies of Infantry at Hazaribagh revolted against the Britishers. Soon they moved to Ranchi where they revolted under Jaimangal Singh.
- **Singhbhum:** **Raja Arjun Singh** of **Porhat** and his brother led a formidable rising of the Kols of Singhbhum. Initially they defeated the British troops, but later on the king was arrested with the

help of Mewa Lal of Chaibasa.

- **Palamu:** The activities of **Nilamber** and **Pitamber** made Palamu a centre of serious popular agitation during the revolt of 1857.

Bihar Provincial Congress

During the initial year of Congress formation, many delegates from Bihar participated in the sessions of Congress. As a result, a Bihar Provincial Congress Committee was formed in **1908** under the Presidentship of **Nawab Sarfaraz Hussain Khan Bahadur**, with its headquarter at **Patna**.

- The **First** Session of Bihar Provincial Conference was held at **Patna** in **1908** under the Presidentship of **Sir Ali Imam**.
- **27th** Session of Indian National Congress was held in 1912 at **Bankipur** in **Patna** under the Presidentship of **R.N Mudholkar**. Mazhar-ul-Haq was the Chairman of the reception committee and Sachidanand Sinha was the General Secretary.
- **37th** Session of Indian National Congress was held at **Gaya** under the Presidentship of **C.R Das**.

Home Rule Movement in Bihar

- The Home Rule Movement started by **Anne Beasant** also made an impact in Bihar. In a meeting at **Bankipur** on **December 16, 1916**, decision was taken to start this movement in Bihar.
- **President-** Mazhar-ul-Haq
- **Vice-President-** Sarfaraz Hussain Khan, Purnendu Narain Sinha.
- **Secretaries-** Chandrabansi Sahay, Baijnath Narain Sinha.
- Anne Beasant visited Patna twice, on **April 18, 1918** and **July 25, 1918**.

Champaran Satyagraha

Champaran is an area of historic importance, where Mahatma Gandhi tested his new weapon of Satyagraha which was based on truth and non-violence.

Issue in Champaran

- There were two systems of Indigo plantation in North Bihar initiated by European Indigo Planters. They were - **Zerait**, and **Assamiwar**.
- Under **Zerait system**, land was directly cultivated

by the landowners, although tenants were obliged to work on these lands or provide their oxen for a given sum of money.

- The most prevalent one was **Assamiwar system** under which, the factory chiefs had the indigo land cultivated by tenants.
- **Tinkathiya system** which was common in Champaran was the part of Assamiwar system. Under this system a tenant had to cultivate indigo on three Katha per **Bigha (3/20th of the land)** and was entitled to get price for it according to written agreement, that was not acceptable to the tenants.
- Raj Kumar Shukla, a leader of the Champaran managed to bring Gandhiji to Champaran by requesting him **at Lucknow session of INC in 1916**.
- Under the Lucknow session, a resolution was moved by Braj Kishor Prasad regarding the probe into agrarian trouble and the resolution was passed.

Gandhiji in Champaran

- Gandhiji reached Motihari on **April 15, 1917**.
- The Magistrate ordered him, not to enter the villages.



Source: Wikipedia

- A case was lodged against him on 18th April. In spite of lodging of case, Gandhiji refused to leave Champaran without receiving the whole information.
- Watching the situation Government withdrew the case on 20th April.
- The Lieutenant Governor, **Sir Edward Gait** took the constructive measures to solve the problem by forming Champaran Enquiry Committee. Gandhiji was member of this Committee.
- Based on the recommendation of this Committee, **Champaran Agrarian act** was passed on **May 1, 1918**.

Welfare Works Done by Gandhiji

- While probing the situation of Indigo Planters, Gandhiji became well acquainted with the poverty, illiteracy, ignorance and social fabric of Champaran.
- On November 8, 1917, Gandhiji along with Kasturba came to Champaran, where they started many welfare works like-
 - Opening of the first school at Barharwa Lakhan Sen on Nov. 14, 1917.
 - Opening of another school at Bhitiharwa on Nov. 20, 1917. etc.

Role of Bihar in Indian/National Freedom Movements

National Freedom Movements	Role of Bihar
Rowlatt Act Satyagraha, 1919	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Rowlatt bill introduced in 1919, was intended to give new and arbitrary power to the bureaucracy for suppressing sedition and agitation. A satyagraha was started against this act by Gandhiji by calling country wide Hartal and Hunger strike. Bihar also participated by demonstrating at Patna, Muzaffarpur, Chapra, Champaran and many other places.
Non-Cooperation Movement (NCM), 1920	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On August 28, 1920, the Bihar Provincial Conference presided over by Dr. Rajendra Prasad, passed a resolution supporting Mahatam Gandhi's NCM. • Gandhiji visited Patna in December and laid the foundation of a National College and Bihar Vidyapeeth. • There was a strike in the Government Press in Patna. • There were also police strikes in Patna, Purnia, Munger, and Champaran. • Complete boycott of Prince of Wales' Visit of Patna on, December 22, 1920.

Simon Commission (1928)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 1928, An all-party meeting was held in Bihar under the leadership of Anugrah Narain Singh, in which decision was taken to boycott the Commission.
Civil Disobedience Movement (CDM), 1930	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> CDM was started in 1930 under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi. The impact of this revolt was seen in Bihar also. The salt Satyagraha in Bihar was started on April 15, 1930 in Saran and Champaran District. In Patna it was started on 16th of April. Nakhas Pind near Mangle Tank in Patna was chosen as the site for violation of salt law. In Munger Sri Krishna Sinha and Nand Kuma Sinha led the congress activity. The inmates of Chapra jail refused to use foreign clothes and went on Naked hartal till Swadeshi clothes were provided. Agitation for non-payment of Chowkidari Tax.
Individual Civil Disobedience, 1940	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The individual Satyagraha in Bihar started on Nov 28, 1940. Sri Krishna Sinha was the First Individual Satyagrahi followed by Anugrah Narain Sinha. Gauri Shankar Singh was Satyagrahi in Gaya. Shyam Narain Singh was the Satyagrahi at Silaw.

Quit India Movement, 1942	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To prevent the outbreak of the mass movement, the District Magistrate of Patna W.G Archer arrested Rajendra Prasad and took him to Bankipur Jail. The Advocate-General Baldev Sahay resigned from his office. On August 11, a band of students marched in order to hoist National flag on the building of Patna Secretariat. Under the order of District Magistrate 13-14 rounds were fired in which seven students were martyred and several injured.
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Election in Bihar under Government of India Act 1935

- The election to legislature in Bihar took place between January 22 to 27, 1937.
- Out of total 152 seats, Congress contested election on 107 Seats and Secured 98 seats.
- Congress Government was formed in Bihar on July 20, 1937, with Shri Krishna Singh as Chief Minister, Ram Dayalu Singh as Speaker and Abdul Bari became the Deputy- Speaker.
- Baldev Sahay was appointed as Advocate-General.
- The Congress Ministry in Bihar gave its resignation on **October 31, 1939** on the issue of involvement of Indian Soldiers in World War 2 without the consent of Indian Government.

Tribal and Other Movements in Bihar

Movements	Leaders	Place & Year	Extra Facts
Noniya Revolt		Hajipur, Tirhut, Saran & Purnia. (1770-1800)	Bihar was a major centre of the Saltpetre industry. The Noniyas were entrusted with the task of collecting saltpetre soil. The mediator used to purchase that soil on unacceptable price and this led to revolt.
The Chero Revolt	Bhukhan Singh	Palamu in 1800 AD.	The Chero tribe of Palamu revolted under the leadership of Bhukhan Singh in 1800 AD against the high tax collection and re-acquisition of sub-dependent pattas.
Tamar Revolt	Bhola Nath Sahay	Chhota Nagpur Region. (1789-1832)	Tribal Communities from Tamar revolted against Faulty alignment system of government.

The Ho Uprising	The Raja of Parhat	Singbhum and Chhota Nagpur Region between 1820-1837	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The uprising took place against the New Farming Revenue Policy of British. This Uprising later became Munda Rebellion.
The Kol Revolt	Buddhu Bhagat	Chhota Nagpur in 1832	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Kol revolt took place in 1832 against Britishers and Money lenders. It challenged the expansionist policies of the Britishers. The immediate cause of the rebellion was the abduction of the wife of Surya Munda by an outsider named Jafar Ali Khan.
The Bhumij Revolt	Ganga Narayan Singh	Midnapore District in 1832-33	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Britishers have called this revolt Ganga Narayan Hungama.
The Santhal Revolt	Sidhu, Kanhu	Rajmahal hill, 1855-56	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revolt was started under the leadership of Sidhu, Kanhu, Chand and Bhairav against the oppressive rule of Britishers and money lenders.
Birsa Movement	Birsa Munda	Jharkhand, 1895-1899	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The movement was against the policies of Christian missionaries, British official and Money lenders.
Tana Bhagat Movement	Jatra Bhagat	Chhota Nagpur, in 1914	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The revolt was started in Chhota Nagpur region against the local Zamindars and British Officials.
Wahabi Movement	Sayyid Ahmad of Bareilly. In Bihar, it was headed by Wilayat Ali and Inayat Ali.	Initially started in Punjab, later on Shifted to Patna, 1820	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The aim of the Wahabi Movement was to clean Islam and restore it to its fundamental and simple form. Initially, it was a religious movement but later on it became a political movement.

Peasant Movements in Bihar

- 1. Munger Kisan Sabha:** Kisan Sabha at Munger was organized in **1922** by **Sri Krishna Sinha** and **Mohammad Zubair** to discuss the grievances of Peasants as they were under Zamindars, but did not have authority over their land.
- 2. Bihar Provincial Kisan Sabha:** It was formed in **1929** by Swami Sahajanand Saraswati to discuss Peasant's grievances against the Zamindari attacks on their occupancy Rights. In retaliation of this, Zamindars formed United Political Party to suppress the peasants.
- 3. Bihar Kisan Sabha:** It was formed in **1933**, under the Presidentship of Rajendra Prasad. The committee was formed to study the condition of Farmers in Bihar.
- 4. Pandit Yamuna Karjee, Rahul sankritayayan** started publishing weekly Hindi Newspaper "**Hunkar**"

that became the mouthpiece of the peasant and agrarian movements in Bihar.

Role of Women in Creation of Modern Bihar

- 1. Prabhavati Devi:** She was daughter of Braj Kishor Prasad and wife of Jai Prakash Narain. Influenced by the personality of her father and husband, she also took part in freedom struggle and social upliftment of women. She started **Mahila Charka Samiti** at **Patna**. She was sent to Bhagalpur jail during Quit India Movement.
- 2. Amala Mukherjee:** She started agitation in **Muzaffarpur** against **Veil system** during **1921-22**. It was again started in **1928** on the call of Gandhiji. In Darbhanga, Rama Nand Mitra agitated against the Veil System.
- 3. Vindhayavasini Devi:** She was arrested during **Salt Satyagraha** and sent to Muzaffarpur jail. The government declared **Kanya Swyam Sevika Dal** illegal.

Important Personalities of Bihar

Jayprakash Narayan

- The famous political figure also known as JP or Lok Nayak.
- He was born on October 11, 1902 at Sitabdiara of Saran District.
- He started "Total Revolution".
- Ramvriksha Benipuri wrote his biography.
- He was honoured with Bharat Ratna in 1999 and Ramon Magsaysay award in 1965.
- He founded Indian Socialist Party.



Source: Wikimedia

Rajendra Prasad

- Dr. Rajendra Prasad was born on 3rd December 1884 at Zeradei, Siwan.
- He played a vital role in Bihar during all the National Movements.
- He joined Congress at Calcutta Session of 1911.
- He gave slogan of "Grow More Food".
- He served as the President of India from Jan 26, 1950 to May 13, 1962.
- He was awarded with Bharat Ratna in 1962.
- Books written by him: Satyagraha at Champaran, India Divided, and Atmakatha (Autobiography).



Source: Wikipedia

PRACTICE PAPER

BPSC TEST PAPER - 2

Q 1. Which of the following words were NOT included in the Preamble of the Constitution adopted by the Indian people on 26 November, 1949?

- | | |
|--------------|--------------|
| 1. Socialist | 2. Republic |
| 3. Secular | 4. Integrity |

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (A) 1, 2 and 3 (B) 2 and 3
(C) 3 and 4 (D) 1, 3 and 4

Q 2. Which of the following statement(s) is/are NOT true in the context of the reorganization of states?

1. Bills related to state reorganization cannot be introduced in the Parliament without the approval of the President.
2. The President sends these bills to the Legislature of the concerned state for its opinion.
3. For the reorganization of the state, the President is bound to accept the opinion of the concerned state.

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (A) 1 only (B) 3 only
(C) 1 and 2 only (D) 2 and 3 only

Q 3. Correctly match List 1 and List 2 related to the State Reorganization Commission-Formation

- | | |
|-------------------------|------------------|
| 1. Fazal Ali Commission | a. June 1948 |
| 2. Dhar Commission | b. December 1948 |
| 3. J.V.P. Committee | c. December 1953 |

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (A) 1-a, 2-b, 3-c
(B) 1-c, 2-a, 3-b
(C) 1-c, 2-b, 3-a
(D) 1-b, 2-a, 3-c

Q 4. Match List-I with List-II regarding various issues—

List-I Cases	List-II Year
1. Shankari Prasad vs Union of India	a. 1973
2. Sajjan Singh vs. State of Rajasthan	b. 1951
3. Golaknath vs. State of Punjab	c. 1965
4. Keshavananda Bharati vs. State of Kerala	d. 1967

Select the correct answer using the codes given below:

- (A) 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d
(B) 1-b, 2-c, 3-d, 4-a
(C) 1-b, 2-d, 3-c, 4-a
(D) 1-d, 2-c, 3-b, 4-a

Q 5. Which of the following is NOT correctly matched:

- (A) **Absolute Veto:** The President reserves the bill for himself.
(B) **Special Veto:** This veto power is only with the President of India.
(C) **Suspensive Veto:** The President can send the bill back to the Parliament for reconsideration.
(D) **Pocket veto:** The President keeps the bill to himself, in this context, the President of India is more powerful than the President of America.

Q 6. Mandal commission relates to which of the following?

- (A) Panchayati Raj Institutions
(B) Centre-state relationship
(C) First backward commission
(D) Second backward commission

Q 7. Consider the following statements regarding the President issuing ordinances—

1. The powers related to the ordinance of the President are mentioned in Article 123 of the Indian Constitution.
2. The power of the President to issue ordinances is based on his discretionary powers.

Which of the above statements is/are NOT true?

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 8. Below are two statements, one of which is called Assertion (A), and the other is called Reason (R)

Statement (A): In case of deadlock, the President has the power to convene a joint meeting of both the Houses.

Reason (R): Article 108 of the Indian Constitution gives the President the power to call a joint session.

Select the correct answer:

- (A) Both A and R are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both A and R are true but R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) A is true but R is false
- (D) Both A and R are false

Q 9. Which of the following participates in the election process of the President but cannot participate in the process of impeachment of the President?

- (A) Lok Sabha
- (B) State assemblies
- (C) Rajya Sabha
- (D) Legislative Council of States

Q 10. Which of the the following participates in the electoral college of the Vice President?

1. All members of the Rajya Sabha
2. All members of the State Assembly
3. All members of the Lok Sabha
4. All members of the State Legislative Council
5. Elected members of Union Territories

Choose the correct code:

- (A) 1 and 3
- (B) 1, 2 and 3
- (C) 2, 3, 4 and 5
- (D) 1, 3, 4, and 5

Q 11. According to Plate tectonic theory, the movement of the plate is driven primarily by:

1. Tidal force
2. Convection current
3. Rotation of Earth

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 12. Which of the following is NOT a consequence of plate movement?

1. Formation of mountain ranges
2. Earthquakes and volcanic eruptions
3. Continental drift
4. Isostasy

Choose the correct code:

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 4 only

Q 13. Which Ocean current has the greatest influence on global climate patterns?

- (A) Gulf Stream
- (B) Kuroshio Current
- (C) Antarctic Circumpolar Current
- (D) Humboldt Current

Q 14. What is the primary driving force behind ocean waves?

- (A) Underwater volcanic eruptions
- (B) Earthquakes
- (C) Wind action
- (D) Tidal forces

Q 15. Name the process by which deep ocean currents rise and transport nutrients towards the surface, promoting marine life.

- (A) Upwelling
- (B) Downwelling
- (C) Thermohaline circulation
- (D) Gyre circulation

Q 16. Which pressure belt is characterized by sinking air, high pressure, and generally dry conditions?

- (A) Intertropical Convergence Zone(ITCZ)
- (B) Subtropical high-pressure
- (C) Polar High
- (D) Mid-Latitude Cyclones

Q 17. What force primarily drives the movement of air masses within pressure belts?

- (A) Coriolis Effect
- (B) Temperature differences
- (C) Ocean currents
- (D) Gravity

Q 18. Which phenomenon often leads to precipitation at the boundaries of different pressure belts?

- 1. Converging air masses
- 2. Diverging air masses
- 3. Stable high-pressure systems
- 4. Rising temperatures

Choose the correct code:

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only
- (D) None of the above.

Q 19. Banihal Pass is located in which of the following states/union territory ?

- (A) Himachal Pradesh
- (B) Sikkim
- (C) Arunachal Pradesh
- (D) Jammu and Kashmir

Q 20. Consider the following statements regarding glacial landforms:

- 1. Cirque
- 2. Fjord
- 3. V-shaped valley
- 4. Hanging Valley

How many of the above statements is/are related to Glacier landforms?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 1,3 and 4 only
- (D) 1,2 and 4 only

Q 21. Consider the following:

Local winds

- 1. Burran
- 2. Sirocco
- 3. Berg
- 4. Harmattan

Location

- Russia
- South America
- South Africa
- Sahara

Which of the above is correctly matched?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1, 3 and 4
- (C) 1 and 2
- (D) 1, 2 and 3 only

Q 22. Which of the following rivers runs through Vindhya's southern slope?

- (A) Chambal
- (B) Tapi
- (C) Narmada
- (D) Betwa

Q 23. The plant "Neelakurinji" is found in:

- (A) Himalaya
- (B) Vindhya range
- (C) Western Ghat
- (D) All of the above

Q 24. Gondwana Rocks Found in which of the states of India?

- (A) Haryana, Rajasthan, Gujrat
- (B) Tamil Nadu, Kerala, Karnataka
- (C) Andhra Pradesh, Kerala, Karnataka
- (D) All of the above

Q 25. Which of the following is NOT a tributary of river Cauvery?

- (A) Hemavati
- (B) Kabini
- (C) Bhavani
- (D) None of the above

Q 26. Variations in the length of daytime and night-time from season to season are due to

- (A) the earth's rotation on its axis
- (B) the earth's revolution around the sun in an elliptical manner
- (C) latitudinal position of the place
- (D) revolution of the earth on a tilted axis

Q 27. Which one of the following pairs of islands are separated from each other by the 'Ten Degree Channel'?

- (A) Andaman and Nicobar
- (B) Nicobar and Sumatra
- (C) Maldives and Lakshadweep
- (D) Sumatra and Java

Q 28. Which of the following is/are the characteristics of Indian coal?

1. High ash content
2. Low Sulphur content
3. Low ash fusion temperature

Choose the correct answer using the code below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 29. Who among the following Pala kings assumed the title of "Maharajadhiraja" for the first time?

- (A) Gopala
- (B) Dharmapala
- (C) Devapala
- (D) Vigrahapala

Q 30. Consider the following statements:

1. The Kol revolt was led by Budhu Bhagat.
2. The Bhumij revolt was led by Ganga Narayan.
3. The Tana Bhagat movement was a socio-religious movement.
4. The Ho tribal movement was led by Raja Parhat.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (D) All of the above

Q 31. Consider the statements related to the Revolt of 1857

1. The first incident of the revolt of 1857 in Bihar can be traced to Rohini village in Deoghar.
2. Kunwar Singh was defeated in the battle of Bibiganj by the British troops led by Campbell.
3. Kunwar Singh died on April 26, 1858, four days after the victory over Le Grand's troops.

Choose the correct options given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) 1 and 3
- (D) 1, 2, and 3

Q 32. The Champaran Satyagraha of 1917 led by Mahatma Gandhi in Bihar marked a pivotal moment in India's freedom struggle. Consider the following statements about the Champaran Satyagraha:

1. The primary motive for the movement was to abolish the indigo plantation system.
2. Gandhi faced significant opposition from within the Indian National Congress itself regarding the methods of nonviolent resistance.
3. The movement resulted in the immediate and complete abolition of the Tinkathia system, which forced farmers to cultivate indigo.
4. The success of the Champaran Satyagraha directly sparked the Non-Cooperation Movement three years later.

Choose the most correct code

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 2 and 4 only
- (D) None of the above

Q 33. Which ancient empire, known for its powerful navy and trade along the Silk Road, had its capital city in Pataliputra, located in present-day Bihar?

- (A) Mauryan Empire
- (B) Gupta Empire
- (C) Pala Empire
- (D) Chola Empire

Q 34. Find the wrong match:

Wildlife Sanctuaries	Districts
(A) Valmiki	- West Champaran
(B) Kaimur	- Rohtas
(C) Vikramshila	- Begusarai
(D) Bhimbandh	- Munger

Q 35. Which of the following soil is required for Litchi cultivation?

- (A) Gangetic alluvium
- (B) Terai soil
- (C) Lateritic soil
- (D) None of the above.

Q 36. According to Bihar Economic Survey 2023-24, What is the Per Capita Income of Bihar at current price?

- (A) ₹ 59,637
- (B) ₹ 50,848
- (C) ₹ 34,314
- (D) ₹ 58,964

Q 37. Which unique landform in Bihar, formed by ancient lava flows, rises abruptly from the surrounding plains, featuring dramatic cliffs, waterfalls, and rare flora and fauna. It is also home to an important religious site and a national park.

- (A) Rajgir Hills
- (B) Chota nagpur Plateau
- (C) Kaimur Hills
- (D) Terai region

Q 38. Which of the following statements is TRUE about the population of Bihar based on the most recent census (2011)?

- (A) Bihar has the youngest population in India.
- (B) The majority of Bihar's population lives in urban areas.
- (C) The sex ratio in Bihar is higher than the national average.
- (D) The literacy rate in Bihar is above the national average.

Q 39. Which of the following statements is/ are TRUE with respect to Bihar Economic Survey 2023-24?

1. The share in the **GVA** by the primary sector in 2021-22 was 20.7% in Bihar, and the sector absorbed 47.8% of the total workforce in the state.
2. The secondary sector had 20.7% share in **GVA** of the state in 2021-22 and 25.9% share in employment.
3. The share of tertiary sector in **GVA** of the state in 2021-22 is 58.6% and share in employment is 26.3%

Choose the Correct one:

- (A) 1 & 2
- (B) Only 1
- (C) 1 & 3
- (D) 1,2 & 3

Q 40. According to 2023-24, Economic Survey of Bihar, what is the total egg production in Bihar in 2022-23?

- (A) 125 Crores
- (B) 255 Crores
- (C) 343.43 Crores
- (D) 327.43 Crores

Q 41. Which of the following statements is NOT a feature of Bihar's current political system?

- (A) The state legislature is unicameral, consisting of the Vidhan Sabha (Legislative Assembly) only.
- (B) The Governor, appointed by the President of India, acts as the head of state but holds largely ceremonial powers.
- (C) The Chief Minister, the head of government, is chosen by the party or coalition commanding a majority in the Vidhan Sabha.
- (D) The Panchayati Raj system devolves administrative powers to elected village, block, and district councils.

Q 42. According to Bihar budget 2024-25, in which sector Bihar has spent maximum.

- (A) Education
- (B) Health
- (C) Agriculture
- (D) Roads and Bridges

Q 43. Which of the following given statements is NOT TRUE, about Bihar budget 2024-25?

- (A) JEEVIKA will be expanded to provide for women Self Help Group in Urban Areas.
- (B) To improve financial situation of poor household, a scheme to provide a grant of Rs 3 lakh for setting up a small business has been approved.
- (C) Fiscal Deficit for 2024-25 is targeted as 3% OF GSDP.
- (D) The Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP) of Bihar for 2024-25 (at current price) is projected to be Rs 9.76 Lakh Crore.

Q 44. Consider the following statements regarding Aditya L1.

1. Visible Emission Line Coronagraph (VELC)
2. Solar Ultraviolet Imaging Telescope (SUIT)
3. Solar Low Energy X-ray Spectrometer (SoLEXS)
4. Near-Infrared Telescope (NIRAT)

Which of the above payloads is MOST likely to be used to investigate the origins of solar flares and coronal mass ejections (CMEs)?

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1 and 3 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 2 and 4 only

Q 45. Which of the following renowned Indian classical dancers was awarded the prestigious Nritya Kalanidhi title in 2023?

- (A) Vasanthalakshmi NarasimhaChari
- (B) Sonal Mansingh
- (C) Mrinalini Sarabhai
- (D) Rukmini Arundale

- Q 46. SpaceX primarily focuses on which aspect of space exploration and technology?**
- (A) Deep-space exploration and scientific missions
 - (B) Commercial satellite launches and space tourism
 - (C) Development of reusable rockets and spacecraft
 - (D) All of the above
- Q 47. Which BIMSTEC member country focuses on promoting regional security under the organization's sectoral cooperation?**
- (A) Bangladesh
 - (B) Myanmar
 - (C) India
 - (D) Thailand
- Q 48. Which Indian airport was recently awarded the "Special Prize for an Interior" by UNESCO's Prix Versailles for its outstanding design and beauty?**
- (A) Indira Gandhi International Airport, Delhi
 - (B) Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj International Airport, Mumbai
 - (C) Kempegowda International Airport, Bengaluru (Terminal 2)
 - (D) Cochin International Airport, Kerala
- Q 49. The recently passed Post Office Bill has major concerns regarding privacy and accountability. Which of the following is NOT a valid criticism of the Bill?**
- (A) The Bill exempts India Post from liability for lapses in postal services.
 - (B) The Bill grants the central government exclusive privileges over postal services.
 - (C) The Bill does not specify any offenses and penalties for postal employees.
 - (D) The Bill allows for interception of postal articles based on vague grounds like "emergency," potentially violating fundamental rights.
- Q 50. Which of the following factors was NOT directly attributed to Matthew Perry's death by the Los Angeles County medical examiner's report?**
- (A) Acute effects of ketamine
 - (B) Drowning
 - (C) Coronary artery disease
 - (D) Opioid overdose
- Q 51. The judgment raises concerns about a potential violation of which fundamental right of an accused person under 19(1) of PMLA.**
- (A) Right to remain silent
 - (B) Right to legal representation
 - (C) Right to a fair trial
 - (D) Right to be informed about the reasons for arrest
- Q 52. Which of the following provisions of the Telecommunications Bill 2023 has generated controversy the most?**
- (A) Granting the government power to temporarily take control of telecom services in emergencies.
 - (B) Replacing three existing laws and consolidating the legal framework for telecommunications.
 - (C) Allowing free allocation of satellite broadband spectrum to certain companies.
 - (D) Removing OTT players from the definition of telecommunication services.
- Q 53. Which factor, mentioned in the statements, is NOT cited as a key contributor to India's projected economic growth according to the IMF?**
- (A) India's young population and growing workforce ("demographic dividend")
 - (B) Increasing capital expenditure by the government
 - (C) Transitioning to a green economy and investing in renewable energy
 - (D) India's role as a "bright spot" in the global economic slowdown

- Q 54. Which of the following factors is NOT considered a major challenge in detecting the Namdapha flying squirrel?**
- Its nocturnal habits, make observation difficult.
 - Its similarity in appearance to the red giant flying squirrel.
 - Its small population size and limited range.
 - Its ability to camouflage itself effectively in tree bark.
- Q 55. The IMF has recommended that India is moving towards a more flexible exchange rate regime. Which of the following potential benefits could be associated with such a shift?**
- Less pressure on foreign exchange reserves due to reduced need for intervention.
 - Improved transparency and predictability for foreign investors.
 - Increased ability to control inflation by directly manipulating the exchange rate.
 - Enhanced domestic manufacturing through a weaker rupee that makes exports cheaper.
- Choose the correct code.**
- 1 only
 - 1 and 2
 - 3 and 4
 - 1, 2 and 3 only
- Q 56. A significant obstacle to achieving BIMSTEC's goals of regional economic development and cooperation lies in:**
- The diverse political and economic systems of its member states.
 - The lack of established institutional mechanisms for collaborative projects.
 - The limited trade volume and underdeveloped infrastructure connectivity within the region.
 - The historical geopolitical rivalries and border disputes between certain member countries.
- Q 57. Which of the following factors is MOST significantly attributed to the recent rise in India's Consumer Price Index (CPI)**
- Increase consumer spending due to rising income levels.
 - Lower interest rates lead to higher borrowing and spending.
 - Disruptions in the supply chain caused by the Russia-Ukraine war.
 - Advances in technology leading to lower production costs.
- Q 58. Which of the following statements is INCORRECT about the Sahitya Akademi Awards?**
- Rajasekaran, Patanjali Shastri and E.V. Ramakrishnan are recent recipients of the award.
 - The awards are presented annually for outstanding books of literary merit in 24 Indian languages.
 - English and Rajasthani were recently included as languages eligible for the awards.
 - The Sahitya Akademi was established in 1954 and is headquartered in Kolkata.
- Q 59. Which of the following techniques is NOT commonly used in genetic engineering?**
- Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
 - Restriction enzyme digestion
 - Gene gun bombardment
 - Southern blotting
- Q 60. In a transgenic organism, a foreign gene is inserted into its genome. What potential negative consequences can this have?**
- Introduction of new allergens
 - Disruption of existing gene functions
 - Unintended activation of other genes
 - All of the above

- Q 61. CRISPR-Cas9 is a revolutionary tool for editing genes with greater precision. What is the role of the Cas9 protein in this technique?**
- (A) Identifying the target DNA sequence
 - (B) Guiding the Cas9 protein to the target site
 - (C) Cutting the DNA at the target site
 - (D) Repairing the broken DNA ends
- Q 62. Genetically modified (GM) crops are often controversial. What is a valid argument in favor of using GM crops?**
- (A) Increased agricultural productivity
 - (B) Enhanced resistance to pests and diseases
 - (C) Improved nutritional value
 - (D) All of the above
- Q 63. Which of the following techniques is NOT a part of the modern next-generation sequencing (NGS) workflow?**
- (A) Polymerase chain reaction (PCR)
 - (B) Fluorescent labeling of nucleotides
 - (C) Gel electrophoresis for fragment separation
 - (D) Single-molecule sequencing
- Q 64. What is the primary advantage of whole-genome sequencing (WGS) compared to targeted sequencing methods?**
- (A) Lower cost per sequenced base pair
 - (B) Higher coverage of specific genes of interest
 - (C) Detection of unexpected genetic variations across the entire genome
 - (D) Faster turnaround time for obtaining results
- Q 65. What are some potential ethical concerns surrounding the use of genome sequencing data?**
- (A) Misinterpretation of results leading to inaccurate diagnoses
 - (B) Discrimination based on genetic predispositions
 - (C) Lack of individual control over personal genomic information
 - (D) All of the above
- Q 66. What is the fuel used in most nuclear power plants?**
- (A) Uranium 235
 - (B) Plutonium 239
 - (C) Thorium 232
 - (D) Deuterium
- Q 67. Name the process by which a heavy nucleus splits into smaller nuclei, releasing a large amount of energy**
- (A) Nuclear Fusion
 - (B) Nuclear Fission
 - (C) Nuclear Decay
 - (D) Radioactive Transmutation.
- Q 68. What is the purpose of control rods in a nuclear reactor?**
- (A) To generate heat
 - (B) To initiate the chain reaction
 - (C) To control the chain reaction
 - (D) To control nuclear radiation.
- Q 69. What are the primary concerns regarding the use of nuclear technology?**
1. High cost of electricity generation
 2. Difficulty in finding suitable reactor sites
 3. Risk of nuclear accidents and radioactive waste disposal
 4. Dependence on foreign countries for fuel
- Choose the correct code.**
- (A) 2 only
 - (B) 1 and 3 only
 - (C) 2 and 3 only
 - (D) 3 and 4 only
- Q 70. Which bacterium is the causative agent of tuberculosis?**
- (A) Staphylococcus aureus
 - (B) Mycobacterium tuberculosis
 - (C) Streptococcus pneumoniae
 - (D) Escherichia coli

Q 71. Which one of the following is correct about 'Aaykar Setu'?

- (A) It is a mechanism for achieving excellence in public sector delivery related to GST
- (B) With the use of a mobile app, it facilitates online payment of taxes
- (C) It is a communication strategy designed to collect information and build a database of tax defaulters.
- (D) It enables electronic filing and processing of import and export declarations.

Q 72. Match List I with List II and select the correct answer using the code given below the Lists:

List I: [Committee]	List II: [Subject]
A. Rangarajan Committee	1. Estimating poverty
B. Narasimhan Committee	2. Recommendation for GST
C. Kelkar Committee	3. Reforms in Insurance
D. Malhotra Committee	4. Banking Sector Reform

Codes:

A	B	C	D
(A) 2	1	4	3
(B) 2	4	1	3
(C) 3	4	1	2
(D) 1	4	2	3

Q 73. Consider the following statements:

1. The economic recovery happens after a recession when various sectors of the economy recover at various rates, timeframes, or amounts.
2. It results in modifications to the way the economy is structured.
3. When compared, the economic recovery paths of different sectors of the economy may differ.

The above description most appropriately explains which of the following graphs of economic growth recovery.

- (A) Z-shaped recovery
- (B) V-shaped recovery
- (C) L-shaped recovery
- (D) K-shaped recovery

Q 74. Which Article in the constitution of India deals with the Annual Financial Statement?

- (A) Article 111
- (B) Article 112
- (C) Article 123
- (D) Article 223

Q 75. Consider the following pairs:

Jobs	Nature of Work
1. Blue-Collar	- Manual labour
2. Gold-Collar	- Highly-skilled Workers
3. Red-Collar	- Government Workers

Which of the pairs given above is/are correctly matched?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 76. The term 'Smurfing,' frequently appearing in the news, pertains to which of the following?

- (A) Global Trade Protectionism
- (B) A Money-Laundering Technique
- (C) Insolvency
- (D) The Recovery of Non-Performing Assets

Q 77. Which agency is responsible for formulating and implementing monetary policy in India?

- (A) Finance Ministry
- (B) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- (C) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- (D) Prime Minister's Office

Q 78. What is the primary objective of monetary policy in India?

- (A) Maximize foreign exchange reserves
- (B) Promote exports
- (C) Maintain price stability
- (D) Achieve full employment

Q 79. The pH of acid rain is

- (A) More than 8
- (B) 7
- (C) Less than 5.5
- (D) None of the above

Q 80. One of the constituents of tear gas is

- (A) Ethane (B) Ethanol
(C) Ether (D) Chloropicrin

Q 81. The plasma membrane in eukaryotic cell is made up of

- (A) Phospholipid
(B) Lipoprotein
(C) Phospholipoprotein
(D) Phospho-protein

Q 82. An enzyme produced by HIV that allows the integration of HIV DNA into the host cell's DNA is:

- (A) DNA gyrase (B) Ligase
(C) Integrase (D) Helicase

Q 83. DPT vaccine is categorized as which of the following?

- (A) Anti-viral vaccine
(B) Anti protozoan vaccine
(C) Anti rickettsia vaccine
(D) A combined vaccine

Q 84. Which one of the following substances is normally found in urine?

- (A) Blood proteins
(B) Creatinine
(C) Red blood cells
(D) White blood cells

Q 85. Blood group AB has

- (A) No antigen
(B) No antibody
(C) Neither antigen nor antibody
(D) Both antigen and antibody

Q 86. In the human body, which one of the following hormones regulates blood calcium and phosphate?

- (A) Glucagon
(B) Growth hormone
(C) Parathyroid hormone
(D) Thyroxine

Q 87. Teeth and Bones acquire strength and rigidity from

- (A) Chlorine (B) Sodium
(C) Calcium (D) Fluorine

Q 88. Which of the following statements is/are correct regarding eutrophication?

1. It reduces dissolved oxygen in water.
2. It is the phenomenon of nutrient enrichment of the water body.

Select the correct answer from the code given below.

Code:

- (A) only 1
(B) only 2
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 89. Which statement is NOT true regarding the Nipah virus?

- (A) It spreads through bats
(B) It spreads through air
(C) Can spread through any material or fuel droplets
(D) Can also spread through pigs, goats, horses, dogs and cats

Q 90. The antiseptic compound present in Dettol is

- (A) Iodine (B) Chloroxylonol
(C) Biothional (D) Cresol

Q 91. Which one of the following has the greatest mass?

- (A) electron (B) proton
(C) neutron (D) hydrogen nucleus

Q 92. Which one of the following proteins is present in human hair and nails?

- (A) Oxytocin (B) Keratin
(C) Vasopressin (D) Trypsin

- Q 93. An enzyme that helps in the digestion of protein is**
 (A) Sulfatase (B) Trypsin
 (C) Protease (D) Urease
- Q 94. The walls of the hall, built for musical concerts should:**
 (A) Reflect sound
 (B) Transmit sound
 (C) Absorb sound
 (D) Amplify sound
- Q 95. Consider the following statements about ultrasonic waves:**
 1. They can destroy insects.
 2. They can clean clothes by removing dust.
 3. They can be used to treat diseases.
 4. They can control automatic doors.
- Select the correct answer from the code given below**
 (A) Only 1 and 2
 (B) Only 3 and 4
 (C) Only 1, 2 and 3
 (D) All of the above
- Q 96. Which of the following is the other name of Newton's first law of Motion?**
 1. Law of Inertia
 2. Law of Galileo
- Which of the above statements is/are correct?**
 (A) Only 1 (B) Only 2
 (C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2
- Q 97. A DC can be produced by**
 (A) Rectifiers (B) dynamo
 (C) Battery (D) All of the above
- Q 98. The mass of a body which is equal to the ratio of the force acting on a body to the acceleration produced in the body is**
 (A) The gravitational mass
 (B) The electromagnetic mass
 (C) The internal mass
 (D) The inertial mass
- Q 99. What is the SI Unit of the coefficient of elasticity?**
 (A) N/m^2 (B) N/m
 (C) Ns (D) None of the above
- Q 100. Consider the following statements regarding the Light:**
 1. Light is a form of energy
 2. It travels in the form of electromagnetic radiation
 3. It requires medium to travel
- Which of the above statistics is/are correct?**
 (A) Only 1 (B) Only 1 and 3
 (C) 1, 2 and 3 (D) Only 1 and 2
- Q 101. Choose the wrong match**
- | Catalyst | Process |
|--------------|---|
| (A) Fe + Mo | - Synthesis of NH_3 BY Haber's Process |
| (B) Ni | - Synthesis of Vanaspati ghee |
| (C) $CuCl_2$ | - Preparation of Ether from Alcohol |
| (D) Pt | - Synthesis of H_2SO_4 by Contact Process |
- Q 102. The composition of 'Bronze' which is an alloy is**
 (A) Cu (70%) + Zn (30%)
 (B) Cu (90%) + Sn (10%)
 (C) Cu (80%) + Sn (20%)
 (D) Cu (60%) + Zn (40%)
- Q 103. 'Kaolin' is an ore of**
 (A) Potassium (B) Magnesium
 (C) Aluminum (D) Calcium
- Q 104. Choose the INCORRECT pair:**
- | Nature | % of Carbon |
|----------------|-------------|
| (A) Peat | - 40-50 |
| (B) Lignite | - 60-70 |
| (C) Bituminous | - 75-80 |
| (D) Anthracite | - 90-95 |

Q 105. The mixture of CO and N₂ is known as

- (A) Syngas
- (B) Producer gas
- (C) Coal gas
- (D) Oil gas

Q 106. It is a system in which no exchange of heat between the system and surroundings is known as

- (A) Isothermal process
- (B) Adiabatic process
- (C) Isobaric process
- (D) Isochoric process

Q 107. Which element has the highest 'electron affinity (E_a)'

- (A) Fluorine (B) Cesium
- (C) Chlorine (D) Iodine

Q 108. Which of the following devices is used to measure the concentration of sugar solution?

- (A) Lysimeter
- (B) Saccharimeter
- (C) Tachometer
- (D) Pyrometer

Q 109. What does the Vinaya Pitaka in Buddhism consist of?

- (A) Main teaching or Dhamma of Buddha
- (B) Rules of conduct and discipline for monks and nuns
- (C) Philosophical analysis of the teaching
- (D) Historical accounts of Buddhism

Q 110. Which of the following statements is correct regarding the European Companies?

- (A) European companies began in Bihar in the 17th century
- (B) Portuguese Merchant first arrived in Bihar
- (C) Portuguese established their trade in Hooghly
- (D) All of the above

Q 111. What is the difference between Jainism and Buddhism?

- I. Jainism believes in the transmigration of the soul while Buddhism does not
- II. Buddha prescribed the middle path while Jainism advocated a life of austerity
- III. Jainism does not condemn the varna system while Buddhism does
- IV. Jainism recognized the existence of God while Buddhism did not

Which of the options given above is correct:

- (A) II only.
- (B) I and II only.
- (C) I, II, and III only.
- (D) All of the above.

Q 112. Which Buddhist Council resulted in sectarian conflict and the division of Buddhism into the Hinayana and Mahayana traditions?

- (A) Third Council (B) Second Council
- (C) First Council (D) Fourth Council

Q 113. Consider the following statements in the context of the major movements carried out by Mahatma Gandhi.

- I. For Salt Satyagraha, Mahatma Gandhi took out a foot march from Sabarmati Ashram in Ahmedabad to Dandi village on March 12, 1930.
- II. Champaran Satyagraha, started in 1917 under the leadership of Mahatma Gandhi, was his first civil disobedience movement which started in Champaran district of Bihar.
- III. The Quit India Movement was launched by Mahatma Gandhi on 8 August 1940 during the First World War to end the British Empire from India.

Which of the above statements is/are true?

- (A) Statement 1 and 2
- (B) Statements 1 and 3
- (C) Statements 2 and 3
- (D) Statements 1, 2 and 3

Q 114. Which of the following is/are the most important aspects of the Indian caste system according to Megasthenese?

- I. Endogamy
- II. Social divisions
- III. Hereditary occupations
- IV. Varna system

Which of the options given above is correct:

- (A) I only
- (B) I and II only
- (C) I, II and IV only
- (D) All of the above

Q 115. Which of the following statements is/are true regarding Congress?

- I. The first supporter of Congress was Lord Mayo, the Viceroy of British India.
- II. In the Surat session of Congress, it got divided into two factions namely "moderates" and "Extremists".
- III. George Yule was the first non-Indian to be elected Congress President.

Citation

- (A) Statements 1 and 2
- (B) Statements 1 and 3
- (C) Statements 2 and 3
- (D) Statements 1, 2 and 3

Q 116. Who is often credited with reviving the fortunes of the Satavahanas and is described as the destroyer of the Sakas, Pallavas, and Yavanas?

- (A) Yajna Shri Satakarni
- (B) Gautami Putra Satakarni
- (C) Simuka
- (D) Vaishishtiputra Pulumavi

Q 117. Name those kings who maintained control over the inherited kingdom extending from Gujarat in the west to the Bengal region.

- I. Shri Gupta I
- II. Kumaragupta I
- III. Skandagupta
- IV. Chandragupta I

Which of the above options is correct?

- (A) Only II
- (B) Only II and III
- (C) Only I, II and IV
- (D) All of the above

Q 118. Consider the following statements.

1. Alauddin Khilji had established the department of "Diwan-e-Riyasat" to look after the market system.
2. Alauddin fixed the price of goods on the principle of "progressive production cost".
3. Alauddin Khilji had appointed Malik Yakub as "Diwan-e-Riyasat".

Which of the above statements is/are true?

- (A) Statements 1 and 2
- (B) Statements 1 and 3
- (C) Statements 2 and 3
- (D) Statements 1, 2 and 3

Q 119. Consider the following statements in the context of Mughal period architecture.

1. Humayun's tomb was prepared by 'Mirak Mirza Ghiyas beg'.
2. Humayun's tomb is surrounded by a geometric quadrilateral shaped garden on all sides.
3. Mughal emperors created and developed the Mughal style by coordinating Iranian and Hindu styles.

Which of the above statements is/are NOT true?

Code-

- (A) Any 1
- (B) Any 2
- (C) All three of the above
- (D) None of these

Q 120. Which of the following statements is/ are NOT true in the context of national movements in India?

1. Lala Hardayal started the Gadar movement in 1913 and founded the Gadar Party on 1 November 1913 in Kotland.
2. Tilak started the home Rule movement in April 1916.
3. In the year 1924, H.R.A. (Hindustan Republican Association) was formed in Gonda.

Code-

- (A) Statement 1
- (B) Statement 2
- (C) Statement 3
- (D) Statements 1 and 3

Q 121. Which of the following is NOT correctly matched?

- (A) Montagu–Chelmsford Reform Act - 1919
- (B) Kheda Satyagraha - 1918
- (C) Akali Movement - 1925
- (D) First Round Table Conference - 1930

Q 122. Below are two statements, one of which is called Assertion (A), and the other is called Reason (R)

Assertion (A): The leadership of the Santhal movement was taken over by two brothers whose names were Sidhu and Kanhu.

Reason (R): The lands of Santhals were captured by the landlords.

- (A) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is the correct explanation of A.
- (B) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are true and R is not the correct explanation of A.
- (C) Assertion (A) is correct and reason (R) is wrong.
- (D) Both Assertion (A) and Reason (R) are wrong.

Q 123. Match List-I with List-II and select the correct answer from the codes given below the lists. -ME

**List-I
(Building)**

1. Sultan Garhi
2. Lal Mahal
3. Jamaat Khana Masjid
4. Adhai din ka jhonpra

**List-II
(Constructor)**

- a. Khizr Khan
- b. Qutbuddin Aibak
- c. Iltutmish
- d. Balban

Code-

- (A) 1-c, 2-d, 3-a, 4-b
- (B) 1-c, 2-d, 3-b, 4-a
- (C) 1-c, 2-b, 3-d, 4-a
- (D) 1-a, 2-b, 3-c, 4-d

Q 124. In the Government of India Act 1919, the functions of the Provincial Government were divided into “Reserved” and “Transferred” subjects. Which of the following were treated as “Reserved” subjects?

1. Administration of Justice
2. Local Self-Government
3. Land Revenue
4. Police

Select the correct answer using the code given below:

- (A) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (B) 2, 3 and 4 only
- (C) 1, 3 and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 4 only

Q 125. Who among the following is associated with ‘Songs from Prison’, a translation of ancient Indian religious lyrics in English?

- (A) Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- (B) Jawaharlal Nehru
- (C) Mohandas Karamchand Gandhi
- (D) Sarojini Naidu

Q 126. In the context of colonial India, Shah Nawaz Khan, Prem Kumar Sehgal, and Gurbaksh Singh Dhillon are remembered.

- (A) Leader of Swadeshi and Boycott Movement
- (B) Members of the interim government in 1946
- (C) Members of the Drafting Committee in the Constituent Assembly
- (D) Indian National Army officers

Q 127. Wellesley established the Fort William College at Calcutta because

- (A) He was asked by the Board of Directors in London to do so
- (B) He wanted to revive interest in oriental learning in India
- (C) He wanted to provide William Carey and his associates with employment
- (D) He wanted to train British civilians for administrative purposes in India

Q 128. Regarding the committees of the Constituent Assembly, the names of the committee and its chairman have been given, which of the following is/are correct?

1. Drafting Committee – Dr. Bhim Rao Ambedkar
2. House Committee – G. V. Mavlankar
3. Working Committee – K. M. Munshi
4. Federal Power Committee – Pandit Jawahar Lal Nehru

Code-

- (A) Only 1 and 2
- (B) Only 1, 3 and 4
- (C) Only 2, 3 and 4
- (D) 1, 2, 3 and 4

Q 129. Who established French East India Company in India?

- (A) Jean- Baptiste Colbert
- (B) Franceba Holland
- (C) Frankois Martin
- (D) Franceba Aukad

Q 130. When did the British East India Company establish their solo control over the saltpeter?

- (A) 1757 AD
- (B) 1764 AD
- (C) 1759 AD
- (D) 1758 AD

Q 131. Which of the following statements accurately reflects the significance of the Chola rulers Rajaraja and Rajendra I?

1. They prioritized the construction of temples to commemorate their victories.
2. They significantly expanded the Chola empire through military conquests.
3. They established control over key maritime trade routes.
4. They adopted a policy of peaceful coexistence with neighboring kingdoms.

Select the correct answer from the above statements:

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (C) 1, 3, and 4 only
- (D) All of the above

Q 132. Which Mughal emperor enrolled Guru Govind Singh into Mughal service?

- (A) Bahadur Shah I
- (B) Jahandar Shah
- (C) Farrukhsiyar
- (D) Mohammed Shah

Q 133. Which British Charter Act ended the East India Company's trade monopoly in India, except for specific areas like tea and opium?

- (A) Charter Act of 1793
- (B) Charter Act of 1813
- (C) Government of India Act 1833
- (D) None of the above

Q 134. Which Charter Act established the Indian Law Commission and aimed to codify all Indian law?

- (A) Charter Act of 1793
- (B) Charter Act of 1813
- (C) Government of India Act 1833
- (D) None of the above

Q 135. Which of the following Viceroys Introduced the Vernacular Press Act?

- (A) Lord Rippon
- (B) Lord Lytton
- (C) Lord Lansdown
- (D) Lord Linlithgow

Q 136. Which one of the following observations is NOT true about the Quit India Movement of 1942?

- (A) It was a non-violent movement
- (B) It was launched by Mahatma Gandhi
- (C) It was a spontaneous movement
- (D) It did not attract the labour class in general

Q 137. The most effective contribution made by Dadabhai Naoroji to the cause of the Indian National Movement was that he: -

- 1. Exposed the economic exploitation of India by the British
- 2. Interpreted the ancient Indian texts and restored the self-confidence of Indians
- 3. Stressed the need for eradication of all the social evils before anything else

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 138. Consider the following statements regarding the Tropical Evergreen Forests:

- 1. These forests are not restricted to the heavy rainfall areas.
- 2. These forests are located in the areas of Western Ghats and Island groups of Andaman and Nicobar and Lakshadweep, upper parts of Assam and Tamil Nadu Coast.
- 3. These are located in areas that receive an annual rainfall of more than 200 cm.
- 4. These are cold and dry throughout the season.

Which of the following statements is correct?

- (A) Only 1
- (B) 1 and 2
- (C) 2 and 3
- (D) 2, 3 and 4

Q 139. Consider the following statements:

- 1. As per the Indus Water Treaty of 1960, India is allowed to use 40% of water while Pakistan is allowed to use 60%.
- 2. The other tributaries of the Indus River system are Zaskar, Shyok, and Hunza.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Both 1 and 2
- (C) Only 2
- (D) None of the above

Q 140. Consider the following statements about the Nebular Hypothesis:

- 1. It was given by Emanuel Kant.
- 2. Later on, it was revised by famous Mathematician Laplace.

Which of the following statements is/are correct?

- (A) Only 1
- (B) Only 2
- (C) Both 1 & 2
- (D) Neither 1 Nor 2

Q 141. Peacocks and foxes live in a zoo in Haryana, whose total number is 80 and their total number of legs is 260. Find out how many foxes live there.

- (A) 30
- (B) 50
- (C) 60
- (D) 20

Q 142. Select the set in which the numbers are arranged in the same way as in the given set.

(12,6,24)

(45,15,180)

(Note: You have to solve the number without breaking it into its digits) E.g., 19 - Operations on 19 such as adding/subtracting/multiplying etc. to 19 can be performed. Breaking down 19 into 1 and 9 and then performing mathematical operations on 1 and 9 is NOT allowed)

(A) (18,9,36) (B) (36,16,220)

(C) (63,7,49) (D) (45,15,190)

Q 143. Which of the four options given below will replace the question mark in the number series?

37, 74, 111, 148, 185, ?

(A) 212 (B) 222

(C) 232 (D) 242

Q 144. Select the missing number in the given question from the four options given below.

9	7	8
4	3	?
45	28	64

(A) 7 (B) 8

(C) 9 (D) 10

Q 145. Four options are given below, out of which three are alike in some manner and one is different. Choose that different option.

48,120,169,35

(A) 48 (B) 120

(C) 169 (D) 35

Q 146. Which two signs should be interchanged so that the following equation becomes correct?

$27 \div 64 \times 8 + 19 - 17 = 218$

(A) - and \times (B) \div and \times

(C) + and \times (D) - and +

Q 147. Given below are some statements and conclusions. Considering the statements to be true, decide which conclusions follow the statements.

Statement:-

a. All copies are cards.

b. All cards are books.

c. No book is rubber.

Conclusion:-

I. Some cards are copies.

II. All copies are books.

III. All copies are rubber.

(A) Only I conclusion follow

(B) Only II conclusion follow

(C) I and II both conclusions follow

(D) Only III conclusion follow

Q 148. Five friends go on a picnic. One of the friends does not have a single rupee to go on the picnic, so the other four friends who have ₹420, ₹480, ₹600 and ₹750 decided to share their picnic expenses with him. If the other four friends shared 10%, 15%, 12% and 6% of their money respectively, find how much money he (the fifth friend) got for the picnic?

(A) ₹231 (B) ₹219

(C) ₹280 (D) ₹312

Q 149. Find the remainder when $(38)_{31} + (24)_{31}$ is divided by 31.

(A) 0 (B) 7

(C) 48 (D) 252

Q 150. The average weight of 40 employees of a company is 52 kg. If a new employee joins the company, the average weight increases by 500g. Find the weight (in kg) of the new employee.

(A) 74.5 kg

(B) 72.5 kg

(C) 73.5 kg

(D) 78.5 kg

ANSWER KEY

1.	D	26.	D	51.	D	76.	B	101.	C	126.	D
2.	B	27.	A	52.	A	77.	C	102.	B	127.	D
3.	B	28.	A	53.	D	78.	C	103.	C	128.	B
4.	B	29.	B	54.	D	79.	C	104.	A	129.	A
5.	B	30.	D	55.	B	80.	D	105.	B	130.	C
6.	D	31.	A	56.	D	81.	A	106.	B	131.	B
7.	B	32.	A	57.	C	82.	C	107.	C	132.	A
8.	A	33.	A	58.	D	83.	D	108.	B	133.	B
9.	B	34.	C	59.	D	84.	B	109.	B	134.	C
10.	A	35.	D	60.	D	85.	B	110.	D	135.	B
11.	B	36.	A	61.	C	86.	C	111.	D	136.	D
12.	D	37.	A	62.	D	87.	C	112.	D	137.	A
13.	C	38.	A	63.	D	88.	C	113.	A	138.	C
14.	C	39.	D	64.	C	89.	C	114.	B	139.	C
15.	A	40.	D	65.	D	90.	B	115.	C	140.	C
16.	B	41.	A	66.	A	91.	C	116.	B	141.	B
17.	A	42.	A	67.	B	92.	B	117.	B	142.	B
18.	A	43.	B	68.	C	93.	B	118.	D	143.	B
19.	D	44.	C	69.	B	94.	C	119.	C	144.	A
20.	D	45.	A	70.	B	95.	D	120.	C	145.	C
21.	B	46.	C	71.	B	96.	C	121.	C	146.	B
22.	C	47.	C	72.	D	97.	D	122.	A	147.	C
23.	C	48.	C	73.	D	98.	D	123.	A	148.	A
24.	C	49.	B	74.	B	99.	A	124.	C	149.	A
25.	D	50.	D	75.	D	100.	D	125.	C	150.	B

*Scan the QR Code for the
 explanation of Bihar Vidhan Sabha
 Mock Test, given in March Month's
 Edition of Bihar Current Affairs.*



CURRENT AFFAIRS PRACTICE QUESTIONS

- Q 1. Recently, Andhra Pradesh's State Assembly speaker disqualified eight MLAs under anti-defection law, which of the following Schedules deals with Anti defection?**
 (A) Fifth schedule
 (B) Sixth schedule
 (C) Eighth Schedule
 (D) Tenth Schedule
- Q 2. Recently, People of Ladakh were demanding for Autonomous District Council (ADC), consider the following statements with respect to ADC -**
 1. ADC comes under the sixth schedule of the constitution.
 2. ADC consists of 36 members.
 3. Only 3 members can be nominated by the Governor
Choose the correct code given below
 (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
 (C) 1 and 3 only (D) All of the above
- Q 3. Recently, Privilege committee of Lok Sabha was in news, it consists of how many members-**
 (A) Fifteen (B) Seventeen
 (C) Twenty one (D) Twenty four
- Q 4. Recently, COP 14 to the Bonn Convention held in Uzbekistan, Bonn convention is associated with which of the following?**
 (A) Protection of migratory species.
 (B) Protection of biodiversity
 (C) Conservation of climate
 (D) Prevention of Nuclear Pollution
- Q 5. Which of the following is/are the objective of the Foreign Exchange Management Act?**
 1. Development and maintenance of the foreign exchange market in India.
 2. Facilitation Of transactions involving foreign exchange or foreign security.
Choose the correct code given below
 (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
 (C) Both 1 and 2 (D) None of them
- Q 6. The eighth-century famed Martand Sun Temple recently was in the news, is located in which of the following states/ Union Territories.?**
 (A) Jammu & Kashmir (B) Puducherry
 (C) Assam (D) Bihar
- Q 7. According to the Global Trade Research Initiative (GTRI), what percentage of India's agriculture imports in 2023 comprised of vegetable oils, pulses, and fruits?**
 (A) 86.4% (B) 62.1%
 (C) 57.8% (D) 72.1%
- Q 8. Recently, the Government of India announced which port as 100% Landlord port?**
 (A) Kandla Port
 (B) Port Blair port
 (C) Tuticorin port
 (D) Jawaharlal Nehru port
- Q 9. Recently, INSAT-3DS was launched by GSLV rocket, Consider the following statements regarding the Geosynchronous Satellite Launch Vehicle (GSLV)-**
 1. GSLV is a three-stage vehicle
 2. Cryogenic engine installed in the upper stage.
 3. Vikash engine used in the first stage.
Choose the correct code given below.
 (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 2 and 3 only
 (C) 1 and 3 only (D) All of the above
- Q 10. Recently, India revised Its Carbon Credit Trading Scheme, consider the following statement regarding the carbon credit-**
 1. One carbon credit is equal to one metric ton of carbon dioxide.
 2. Carbon credits and trading system is based on the cap-and-trade model.
Which of the statements given above is/ are correct
 (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
 (C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 11. Recently, Mangroves were cited as a defense against cyclones at COP-28 to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Which of the following features is/ are found in Mangroves?

1. Viviparity mode of reproduction
2. Presence of pneumatophores
3. Presence of Stilt roots

Choose the correct code given below.

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) All of the above

Q 12. Recently, Who has been appointed as the first woman chief secretary of Uttarakhand?

- (A) Radha Raturi
- (B) Kusum Kandwal
- (C) Kamini Gupta
- (D) Geeta Khanna

Q 13. "Rapid Financing Instrument" and "Rapid Credit Facilities" are related to the provisions of lending by which one of the following?

- (A) Asian Development Bank
- (B) International Monetary Fund
- (C) United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative
- (D) World Bank

Q 14. Recently, the Protection of Child Rights was in the news, consider the following statement regarding the Rights of Children-

1. The Right to education was brought under fundamental right by the 44th Constitutional amendment act.
2. The Constitution of India provides for free and compulsory education to the children between the age group 5 to 16 years.
3. The National Commission for Protection of Child Rights (NCPCR) protects children between 0 to 18 years age groups.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) Both 1 and 2
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 15. Recently, INDUS-X Summit was held in New Delhi. Which of the following statements is/are correct about INDUS-X Summit?

- (A) It was held between India and the USA.
- (B) The Theme was 'the war strategy for the future.'
- (C) INDUS-X was organized by DRDO.
- (D) All the above three statements are correct.

Q 16. Recently, Bird Flu outbreak happened in Andhra Pradesh, Consider the following statement Regarding Bird Flu-

1. Bird flu virus is a type A strain of the H5N1.
2. These viruses naturally spread among wild aquatic birds.
3. Mutation is very frequent in Bird flu.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 17. Recently, Hindu Kush Mountain experienced Alpenglow, which of the following statements is/ are true regarding Alpenglow?

1. It is a beautiful visible light effect in the mountains.
2. The glow is due to light being reflected from the rock.

Choose the correct code given below.

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2
- (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 18. Recently, the Black-crowned Night Herons were spotted in Manipur, what is the primary habitat of the black-crowned Night Heron?

- (A) Wetlands
- (B) Tropical rainforests
- (C) Deserts
- (D) Snow Mountains

Q 19. India is planning to achieve cost-effective green hydrogen production by 2047, consider the following statements regarding Green Hydrogen-

1. It can be used directly as a fuel for internal combustion.
2. It can be used as fuel for heat or power generation by blending it with natural gas.
3. It can be used to run vehicles in the form of hydrogen fuel cell.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 20. Recently, the Ethics Committee was in the news. Consider the following statements regarding the parliamentary committee.

1. Nowhere in the Constitution, the parliamentary committee is mentioned.
2. The department-related standing committees are headed by the Speaker of Lok Sabha.
3. Advice given by the department-related standing committees is binding on parliament.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) None of the above

Q 21. Recently, AIIMS (All India Institute of Medical Sciences) developed the 'Healing Touch device'. Which of the following best describes a Healing Touch Device?

- (A) It is a Robotic surgery advancements.
- (B) It is an AI-based emotional and mental health support system developed by AIIMS.
- (C) It is a Wound healing device for early healing.
- (D) It is a type of medicine for healing.

Q 22. Which of the following States recently mandated the reporting of Snakebite Deaths?

- (A) Kerala
- (B) Karnataka
- (C) Madhya Pradesh
- (D) Chattisgarh

Q 23. Recently, Dand Patta has been announced as a State weapon of which of the following States?

- (A) Maharashtra
- (B) Rajasthan
- (C) Punjab
- (D) Tamil Nadu

Q 24. Recently, who has been appointed as the New Vice Chief of the Indian Army?

- (A) Upendra Dwivedi
- (B) Mahendra Singh
- (C) Manoj Pandey
- (D) None of the Above

Q 25. Recently, the 28th meeting of the Financial Stability and Development Council was organised in New Delhi. Who acted as the chairman of this meeting?

- (A) The Minister of Finance
- (B) The Governor of Reserve Bank of India
- (C) The Chief Economic Advisor to the Government of India.
- (D) The Secretary of the Ministry of Finance.

Q 26. Recently, the Finance Commission was in the news. On which of the following basis Finance Commission allocates funds to States-

1. Income distance
2. Forest and Ecology
3. Tax Collection
4. Demographic performance

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1, 2 and 3 only
- (D) All of the above

Q 27. Recently, the Raisina Dialogue was held. Which of the following ministries organizes the Raisina Dialogue every year?

- (A) Ministry of Home Affairs
- (B) Ministry of External Affairs
- (C) Prime Minister Office
- (D) Ministry of Defense.

Q 28. Recently, Pravasi Bharatiya Divas was celebrated in India on which of the following dates?

- (A) 2nd February
- (B) 4th January
- (C) 9th January
- (D) 21st January

Q 29. Recently, India launched the National Single Window System, it is related to which of the following?

- (A) Digital Health Records Management
- (B) Streamlining Medical Device Import
- (C) Medical Research Funding
- (D) Public Health Surveillance

Q 30. Recently, the Surrogacy Rules, 2022 have been amended, Consider the following statement regarding Surrogacy rule in India-

1. A married woman having a child of her own is eligible for a surrogate mother.
2. A woman can be a surrogate mother only twice in lifetime.
3. The intending couple should have a certificate of infertility.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) All of the above

Q 31. Recently, India reached very close to eliminating Kala Azar, which of the following statements is true regarding Kala Azar?

1. Kala Azar is generally spread by male sandflies.
2. It attacks the immune system.
3. Visceral leishmaniasis is the scientific name of Kala Azar.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1, 2 and 3
- (D) None of the above.

Q 32. Deepor Beel wetland is facing ecological crisis due to increased levels of waste dumping into it. This wetland is located in which of the following states?

- (A) Assam
- (B) Meghalaya
- (C) Mizoram
- (D) Manipur

Q 33. Which of the following Indian companies are going to launch BharatGPT?

- (A) Reliance Industries Ltd.
- (B) Tata Consultancy Service
- (C) Wipro
- (D) Bharat Pay

Q 34. Recently, India Approved 100% FDI in which of the following sectors?

- (A) Space sector
- (B) Pharmaceutical
- (C) Insurance
- (D) Security

Q 35. Recently, the National Board for Wildlife was in the news, consider the following statements about the National Board for Wildlife

1. The National Board for Wildlife is constituted by the Central Government under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.
2. The Board was constituted in 2006.
3. It replaced the Indian Board for Wildlife.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) All are correct
- (D) 1 and 3 only

Q 36. Recently, Disguised unemployment was in the news. Which of the following sentences given below best describes Disguised Unemployment?

- (A) Disguised Unemployment is a type of unemployment that does not affect aggregate output.
- (B) It occurs when there is a mismatch between the jobs that are available and the people looking for work.
- (C) It occurs at different points over the year because of seasonal patterns that affect jobs
- (D) None of them

Q 37. Recently, NB8 visited India, NB8 consists of which of the following Countries

- (A) Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Iceland, Latvia, Lithuania, Norway, and Sweden
- (B) England, France, Germany, Italy, Switzerland, Netherlands, Greece, Poland
- (C) Malta, Hungary, Cyprus, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Monaco, Iceland, Ireland
- (D) Iran, Iraq, Jordan, Republic of Congo, Israel, Syria, Oman, Lebanon.

Q 38. Recently, “the Sammakka Saralamma Jatara” festival was celebrated. Consider the following statement regarding the Sammakka Saralamma Jatara festival-

1. It is the festival of honouring the goddesses and people offer **Bangarm**
2. It is held **every two years** in Kerala
3. Priests from the **Koya tribe** perform all Goddess-related rituals.

Choose the correct code given below.

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) 2 and 3 only

Q 39. Recently, which of the following Neurotech companies’ first time implanted computer chips in the human brain?

- (A) Neuralink
- (B) Kernel
- (C) Blackrock Neurotech
- (D) Neurale

Q 40. ‘Kalaingar Sports Kit’ recently launched by which of the following states?

- (A) Tamil Nadu
- (B) Kerala
- (C) Maharashtra
- (D) Telangana

Q 41. ‘Volt Typhoon’ recently seen in the news is related to the which of the following-

- (A) AI-based attack
- (B) New climate change initiative
- (C) Cyber hacking group
- (D) Cyclone

Q 42. Which Country has recently launched Debt Forgiveness Plan?

- (A) United Kingdom
- (B) Norway
- (C) United States of America
- (D) UAE

Q 43. Which of the following Indian intellectuals recently got France's Highest Civilian Award?

- (A) Sashi Tharoor
- (B) Amartya Sen
- (C) Subramanian Swamy
- (D) Ramachandra Guha

Q 44. Consider the following statements regarding Simariya Dham-

1. CM Nitish Kumar laid the foundation stone for the revitalization of the Simariya Dham, a cultural epicenter along the Ganga, on 30 May 2023.
2. Simariya Ghat is situated on the left bank of the Uttar Vahini Ganga River, famous from spiritual and religious points of view since the ancient era.
3. The government of Bihar accorded State fair status to Kalpvash fair in 2017.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 and 3 Only
- (B) 2 and 3 Only
- (C) 3 only Only
- (D) 1 and 2 Only

Q 45. Which of the following Ministries/ organizations has selected the 70 sites from 17 different districts of Bihar to know the status of maintenance work and other arrangements related to the protection of these sites?

- (A) Ministry of Tourism
- (B) Archeological Survey of India
- (C) Ministry of Minority Affairs
- (D) Ministry of Home Affairs

Q 46. The 13th WTO Ministerial Conference was held at which place?

- (A) Qatar
- (B) Abu Dhabi
- (C) New Delhi
- (D) Saudi Arabia

Q 47. Recently, G-33 was in News, Consider the following statements about G-33-

1. It is also known as the "friends of special products in agriculture".
2. The name G-33 indicates the number of countries that are associated with it.
3. India is not a member country.
4. The World Trade Organization hosted the G-33 conference for the first time in Cancun in 2003.

Which of the following codes is incorrect?

- (A) 1 and 3
- (B) 2 and 3
- (C) 3 and 4
- (D) 1, 2, and 3

Q 48. Dharma Guardian exercise was recently conducted between the Indian Army and the Japan Ground Self Defence Force at which place?

- (A) Tokyo
- (B) Odisha
- (C) Rajasthan
- (D) Gujarat

Q 49. Consider the following statements regarding the India-Japan bilateral relations-

1. India and Japan signed a Peace Treaty on 28 April 1955, marking the beginning of diplomatic relations.
2. Japan also participates in the Malabar naval exercise along with India and the USA.
3. India and Japan both are the members of G4 club, supporting each other's bid for permanent membership at the United Nations Security Council.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 2 only
- (B) 3 only
- (C) 2 and 3 only
- (D) 1, 2, and 3

- Q 50. Recently, Makha Bucha festival was celebrated, which of the following statements regarding Makha Bucha festival is/are incorrect?**
1. It is celebrated on the full moon of the third lunar month.
 2. It is celebrated in Thailand, Laos and Cambodia, where the majority of Buddhists practice Hinayana Buddhism.
- Select the answer using the codes given below:**
- (A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2
(D) Neither 1 nor 2
- Q 51. Sousa chinensis was seen in the news recently. It is a type of-**
- (A) Snake
(B) Dolphin
(C) Bird
(D) Insect
- Q 52. NASA's Curiosity Rover recently captured the crepuscular rays on which planet?**
- (A) Earth
(B) Mars
(C) Jupiter
(D) Venus
- Q 53. Asia's largest 4-meter International Liquid Mirror Telescope was launched in which state?**
- (A) Assam
(B) Arunachal Pradesh
(C) Uttarakhand
(D) Sikkim
- Q 54. The 21st edition of BioAsia, Asia's premier biotechnology and life sciences convention held in which City?**
- (A) Hyderabad
(B) Chennai
(C) Mumbai
(D) Bengaluru
- Q 55. The Lokpal was in the news recently. Consider the following statements regarding Lok pal-**
1. It is a constitutional body
 2. Its Main goal is to investigate allegations of public official corruption.
 3. The Lokpal consists of a chairperson and a maximum of 13 Members
- Choose the correct code given below.**
- (A) 1 only
(B) 2 only
(C) 1 and 2 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3
- Q 56. The economic Food System Transformation policy paper was recently released by which of the following organizations?**
- (A) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
(B) Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO)
(C) Food System Economics Commission (FSEC)
(D) World Bank
- Q 57. INS Sandhayak has been commissioned recently. which kind of vessel is this?**
- (A) Survey vessel ship
(B) Frigate
(C) Naval Destroyer
(D) Aircraft Carrier
- Q 58. The Great pyramid of Giza is located in which of the following countries?**
- (A) Egypt
(B) Greece
(C) Kazakhstan
(D) Uzbekistan
- Q 59. Consider the following statement regarding Foreign direct investment-**
1. It is a long-term investment by foreigners
 2. There are four types of FDI
 3. It is a very stable investment
- Choose the correct code given below**
- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 2 only
(C) 1 and 3 only
(D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 60. Homeland security dialogue was recently held in New Delhi between which of the following countries?

- (A) India and USA
- (B) India and France
- (C) Japan and USA
- (D) India and Japan

Q 61. Recently, MSME was in news, consider the following statement with respect to MSMEs-

1. MSME Development Act came into existence in 2006.
2. It comes under the Ministry of Rural Development.
3. The "Sambandh" portal is related to MSME

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 1 and 2 only
- (C) 1 and 3 only
- (D) All of the above

Q 62. Consider the following statement regarding Municipal Bonds-

1. Municipal bonds are issued by the state government on behalf of the local government.
2. Municipal bonds are exempted from income tax.
3. Usually, municipal bonds are long-term.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 3 only
- (D) 1, 2 and 3

Q 63. Recent citizenship Amendment Act 2019 come into force, consider the following statements regarding the Citizenship Amendment Act 2019 (CAA)-

1. CAA applies to Hindus, Sikhs, Jews, Buddhists, and Christians.
2. Individuals applying for Indian citizenship under CAA 2019 should have knowledge of one Indian language.
3. CAA 2019 will not be implemented in the 6th scheduled and Inner-line permit areas.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only
- (D) All of the above

Q 64. Asian premium recently was in news is related to which of the following-

- (A) It is the extra charge levied by OPEC from Asian Countries.
- (B) It is the penalty imposed by the UNFCCC on Asian Countries.
- (C) It is charged by the Asian Development Bank to withdraw Money.
- (D) None of the above

Q 65. The "Earth Green Term Deposit" Scheme is launched by which of the following banks?

- (A) State Bank of India
- (B) Bank of Baroda
- (C) Bank of India
- (D) Central Bank of India

Q 66. India signed a protocol with which of the following countries to establish the Joint Economic and Trade Committee?

- (A) Dominican Republic
- (B) Hungary
- (C) Czech Republic
- (D) Finland

Q 67. Which of the following is/are the most relevant reason for setting up of the Atmospheric Research Testbed in Madhya Pradesh?

1. It is nearer to the Tropic of Cancer.
2. The region is directly in the path of major rain-bearing synoptic systems.
3. The region is free from pollution and human activities.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only (B) 1 and 2 only
(C) 2 and 3 only (D) 1, 2 and 3 only

Q 68. Recently, India's first Palm oil processing mill was set up in which of the following states-

- (A) Arunachal Pradesh
(B) Sikkim
(C) Assam
(D) Manipur

Q 69. Recently, experts opined that carbon sequestration is a viable option to reduce the impacts of Greenhouse gases. In this context Consider the following statement regarding the Carbon Sequestration-

1. It is a process of removing carbon dioxide from the atmosphere.
2. When carbon is stored in a natural environment called Biological carbon sequestration
3. Deforestation is a very effective way for carbon sequestration.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) 1 and 2 only (D) 1 and 3 only

Q 70. Recently "rhodamine-b" was in the news, it is -

- (A) Food Colour
(B) Antibiotic
(C) Recently discovered asteroid
(D) Robot

Q 71. Recently, scientists have discovered the Noctis Volcano on which of the following planets?

- (A) Mars (B) Neptune
(C) Mercury (D) Earth

Q 72. Recently, a fissure type of volcanic eruption occurred in Iceland, which of the following is the most valid reason behind that?

- (A) Iceland is located on the Mid-Atlantic Ridge
(B) It is located in the subduction zone where the North Atlantic Plate goes below the Eurasian Plate
(C) The Crust on which Iceland is situated is very thin
(D) The Conventional current is very active there

Q 73. Recently, who has been selected as the new Election Commissioner of India?

- (A) Gyanesh Kumar and Sukhbir Singh Sandhu
(B) Aswini Singh and Ramesh Kumar
(C) Anadi Kumar Mahapatra and Ajit Sil
(D) Gyanendra Sekhar and Arvind Singh

Q 74. Which of the following vocalists has been selected for the Sangita Kalanidhi Award of the Music Academy for 2024?

- (A) M. S. Subbulakshmi
(B) Pandit Bhimsen Joshi
(C) T. N. Krishna
(D) K. J. Yesudas

Q 75. Which of the following does not come under the Capital Expenditure of the government?

1. Giving salaries to government employees.
2. Purchasing Defence equipment.
3. Paying of interest on existing loans.
4. Repayment of debt.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2 and 4 (D) 2, 3 and 4

Q 76. "LAMITYE-2024" military exercise held between the Indian Army and which of the following defense forces?

- (A) Seychelles Defence Forces
- (B) South African National Defence Force
- (C) Indonesian National Armed Forces
- (D) The Royal Army of Oman

Q 77. The election commission of India recently launched "Mission 414" to boost voter turnout in which of the following states?

- (A) Uttarakhand
- (B) Himachal Pradesh
- (C) Arunachal Pradesh
- (D) Sikkim

Q 78. Which of the following countries recently banned the use of White Asbestos?

- (A) USA (B) Britain
- (C) France (D) Norway

Q 79. Recently a contract for Anti-drone system has been given to which of the following organisations?

- (A) Big Bang Boom Solutions Private Limited
- (B) Tata Advanced Systems Limited
- (C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited
- (D) Mahindra Aerospace

Q 80. Recently, who has been appointed as the new CEO of the World Gold Council for India?

- (A) Sachin Jain (B) Arti Saxena
- (C) Dharmesh Sodah (D) Sheela Kulkarni

Q 81. Recently, the population assessment exercise of the Golden langur was carried out. In this context, consider the following statements about the Golden Langur-

1. Golden Langur Is endemic to India and Bangladesh
2. Its IUCN status is 'endangered'.

Choose the correct code given below

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
- (C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

Q 82. Consider the following statements-

1. Bihar is the first state in India that collects weather data at the Panchayat level.
2. The government of India will adopt the MAUSAM BIHAR app weather forecast model of Bihar.
3. The MAUSAM BIHAR app gives 5-day prior information about the weather forecast.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1, 2 and 3
- (D) 1 and 3 only

Q 83. Match the following pairs

Name	Related Field
1. Shri Bindeshwar Pathak	a. Art
2. Shri Chandreshwar Prasad Thakur	b. Social Work
3. Shri Ram Kumar Mallick	c. Medicine
4. Shri Surendra Kishore	d. Literature and Education

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 - a, 2 - b, 3 - c, 4 - d
- (B) 1 - b, 2 - c, 3 - d, 4 - a
- (C) 1 - b, 2 - c, 3 - a, 4 - d
- (D) 1 - c, 2 - a, 3 - b, 4 - d

Q 84. Novel "Sirjanhaar" was written by

- (A) Usha Kiran Khan
- (B) Ram Kumar Mallick
- (C) Chetan Baghat
- (D) Arundhati Roy

Q 85. Consider the following statements-

1. 6th Khelo India Youth Games -2024 organised in Tamil Nadu.
2. Bihar ranks 21st in the Medal tally and won 9 Medals.
3. Durga Singh from Bihar won the Gold Medal in the 1500m race.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2 and 3 only
(D) None of the above.

Q 86. Consider the following statements regarding Bihar Laghu udayami Yojana-

1. It will be implemented by the Rural Development Department of Bihar.
2. According to Bihar Caste Survey-2023, 94 lakh families whose family income is less than Rs. 6000, are eligible for this scheme.
3. The government will give a maximum of Rs. 5 lakh per family.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2 and 3 (D) 2 and 3 only

Q 87. Consider the following statements regarding Bharat Ratna Karpuri Thakur-

1. He became a member of the Bihar Legislative Assembly in 1952 from Tajpur constituency as a Socialist Party candidate.
2. He formed the Mungerilal Commission (related to reservation) in June 1971.
3. He is the 50th recipient of the "Bharat Ratna" award.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3
(D) 2 and 3 only

Q 88. Match the following Pairs

Center of Excellence (CoE)	Places (in Bihar)
----------------------------	--------------------

- | | |
|------------------|------------------------|
| 1. Millets | a. Chandi, Nalanda |
| 2. Jardalu Mango | b. Shahkund, Bhagalpur |
| 3. Vegetables | c. Tankuppa, Gaya |

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1-a, 2-b, 3-c (B) 1-c, 2-b, 3-a
(C) 1-c, 2-a, 3-b (D) 1-b, 2-a, 3-c

Q 89. Consider the following statements

1. Apple Farming Promotion Scheme was launched in 2021-22 by the Department of Agriculture Bihar under "Bihar Vishesh Udayanik Fasal Yojana".
2. This Scheme was launched as a pilot project in 11 districts of Bihar.
3. The government gives up to 50% subsidy to farmers under this scheme.
4. The government discontinued this scheme in February 2024.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 1, 3, and 4 only (D) 1, 2, 3, and 4

Q 90. Consider the following table

Mining Sites in Bihar	District
P. Genjana Ni-Cr and PGE Block	1. Rohtas
Q. Chutia-Nauhatta Glauconite Block	2. Aurangabad -Gaya
R. Pipradih-Bhurwa Glauconite Block	3. Rohtas

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) P-1, Q-2, R-3 (B) P-1, Q-3, R-2
(C) P-2, Q-1, R-3 (D) P-3, Q-1, R-2

Q 91. Consider the following statements

1. For the years 2022 and 2023, 5 people from Bihar were awarded the Sahitya Natak Akademi Award.
2. For the years 2022 and 2023, 4 people from Bihar were awarded the Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar.
3. Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar started in 2006, and the prize is given annually.
4. The total number of Ustad Bismillah Khan Yuva Puraskar shall not exceed 33 in the given year.

Choose the correct option given below:

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1, 2 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, 3, and 4 (D) 3 and 4 only

Q 92. Consider the following statements regarding the Gender Budget in Bihar-

1. First-time Gender Budget presented in Bihar in the Year 2008-09.
2. A total of **39,000 crore rupees**, which is 14% of the total Bihar Budget of Financial year(FY) 2024-2025 will be spent on different women's development programs in the state.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 only
(B) Both
(C) 2 only
(D) None of the above

Q 93. Consider the following statements

1. Recently the Trade Mark Registry approved the mark of the Bihar tea brand "Bihar Tea".
2. Kishanganj is the largest Tea producing district in Bihar.
3. Trade Mark has been awarded by the Trade Mark Register, Government of India, Under the Trade Mark Registry Act 1999.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3 (D) 2 and 3 only

Q 94. Consider the following statements

1. Khelo India University Games(KIUG) 2024 was inaugurated by PM Narendra Modi in Guwahati.
2. KIUG 2024 was held across 7 North Eastern States of India and the Mascot for this Game was Ashtalakshmi.
3. Bihar won only one Medal (Bronze) and ranked 115th in Medal Tally.
4. The Women's Team of Lalit Narayan Mithila University won the Bronze medal in Kabaddi.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, 3, and 4 (D) 2, 3, and 4 only

Q 95. Consider the following statements regarding the Bihar Taxation Disputes Settlement Bill 2024-

1. The Bill has a provision to furnish the pre-GST Tax obligation by a one-time settlement scheme.
2. The Bill has a provision to pay 10% of the penalty and the left 90% will be exempted.
3. Traders need to pay 35% of the disputed tax amount to get an exemption of the remaining 65% of the disputed tax amount.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3 (D) 2 and 3 only

Q 96. Consider the following statements-

1. Recently on 2 March 2024, PM Narendra Modi launched projects worth over Rs. 48,000 crore from Begusarai and Aurangabad, Bihar.
2. During this event the PM launched the "1962 Farmer App" and dedicated "Bharat Pasudhan" to the people of India.
3. PM Modi inaugurated the Hindustan Urvarak & Rasayan Ltd (HURL) fertilizer plant in Barauni, Begusarai.
4. Amas-Darbhang Expressway passes from 9 districts of Bihar.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only (B) 1, 2, and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, 3, and 4 (D) 3 and 4 only

Q 97. Consider the following statements

1. The National Climate Vulnerability Assessment Report was released by the Department of Science and Technology (DST).
2. Bihar is among the 25% of most "Vulnerable States" in India.
3. Out of the 50 most "Vulnerable Districts" in India, 14 districts belong to Bihar.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3
(D) 2 and 3 only

Q 98. Consider the following statements-

1. City Investments to Innovate, Integrate and Sustain 2.0 (CITIIS 2.0) Scheme launched by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, for a period of 4 years (2023 to 2027).
2. Under the CITIIS 2.0 Scheme, cities will implement projects promoting a circular solid waste management economy for the next four years.
3. For the CITIIS 2.0 Scheme, 18 Smart Cities have been selected from the country including one (Muzaffarpur) from Bihar.

Choose the correct option

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3
(D) 2 and 3 only

Q 99. Consider the following statements-

1. The Bihar Startup Fund Trust (BSFT) and Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) signed an MoU for enhancing the startup ecosystem in Bihar.
2. This MOU has been signed to administer the Rs 50 crore Bihar Startup Scale-up Financing Fund (BSSFF).
3. The BSFT is the nodal agency constituted by the Department of Industries, Bihar for the implementation of the Bihar Startup Policy.

Choose the correct option given below

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3
(D) 2 and 3 only

Q 100. Consider the following statements-

1. Recently CM Nitish Kumar launched a draft of "Climate Resilient and Low Carbon Development Pathway for Bihar" for sustainable development in the State.
2. Bihar is the First state in India to Launch such a draft report.
3. At the Panchayat level, the Integrated Dashboard for Air Quality Monitoring Center is open in Bihar for air pollution monitoring.

Choose the correct option

- (A) 1 and 2 only
(B) 1 and 3 only
(C) 1, 2, and 3
(D) 2 and 3 only

ANSWER KEY

1	D	11	D	21	C	31	B	41	C	51	B	61	C	71	A	81	B	91	C
2	A	12	A	22	B	32	A	42	C	52	B	62	B	72	A	82	B	92	B
3	A	13	B	23	A	33	A	43	A	53	C	63	B	73	A	83	C	93	C
4	A	14	C	24	A	34	A	44	D	54	A	64	A	74	C	84	A	94	D
5	C	15	A	25	A	35	D	45	C	55	B	65	B	75	B	85	B	95	C
6	A	16	B	26	D	36	A	46	B	56	C	66	A	76	A	86	A	96	B
7	D	17	A	27	B	37	A	47	B	57	A	67	C	77	B	87	A	97	C
8	D	18	A	28	C	38	C	48	C	58	A	68	A	78	A	88	B	98	C
9	A	19	D	29	B	39	A	49	C	59	D	69	C	79	A	89	C	99	C
10	C	20	D	30	C	40	A	50	B	60	A	70	A	80	A	90	C	100	A

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