



SIVARAJAVEL IAS ACADEMY
AN IDEAL INSTITUTE FOR CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS

SANGAMAM

Monthly Current Affairs for Competitive Exams

DECEMBER - 2023 (English / Tamil)



**VAISHALI BECOME THE FIRST
WOMEN CHESS GRANDMASTER IN TAMILNADU**



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AN IDEAL INSTITUTE FOR **CIVIL SERVICE EXAMS**

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Vaishali become the third women chess Grandmaster in India

In this Indian name, the name Rameshbabu is a patronymic, and the person should be referred to by the given name, Vaishali.

Silver medal – second place Hangzhou Women's team

Rameshbabu Vaishali is an Indian chess grandmaster. She is the third woman in India to have achieved the grandmaster title, making her and her brother Praggnanandhaa the first-ever brother-sister duo to achieve the grandmaster title. They also became the first-ever brother-sister duo to qualify for the Candidates Tournament.

Vaishali was born in a Tamil family in Chennai. She is the elder sibling of Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa. Her father, Rameshbabu, works at TNSC Bank as a branch manager. Her mother, Nagalakshmi, is a homemaker.

Vaishali's father, Rameshbabu, was an enthusiastic chess player and introduced her to the game when she was a young girl.

Vaishali won the Girls' World Youth Chess Championship for Under and Under-in she defeated future World Chess Champion Magnus Carlsen in a simul competition that Carlsen held while in her hometown of Chennai for the World Chess Championship

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TAMILNADU NEWS

Kazhuveli Bird Sanctuary

- With the onset of the winter season, hundreds of migratory birds have started arriving at Kazhuveli bird sanctuary.

About

- It is located in the state of Tamil Nadu.
- It lies adjacent to the Bay of Bengal along the east coast.
- It is one of the major wetlands on the Coromandel Coast after Pulicat Lake.
- The lake is connected to the Bay of Bengal by the Uppukalli Creek and the Yedayanthittu estuary and is visited for nesting by migratory birds on the Central Asian flyway.
- The southern part of the wetland has been reserved land since 2001.
- It is listed as one of Tamil Nadu's 141 prioritized wetlands, Kazhuveli is also a wetland of international significance and a potential Ramsar site
- Kazhuveli has varied habitats including sloping wetlands preferred by shore birds, darters and waders, birds on floating vegetation and open grasslands preferred by different species of birds and fauna

Logistics Ease Across Different States

- Tamil Nadu has been recognized as the top performer in the Logistics Ease Across Different States (LEADS) 2023 rankings. This highlights the State's commitment to enhancing its logistics ecosystem.

About

- The achievement was the result of initiatives such as the enhancement of first/last mile connectivity, development of Multi-Modal Logistics Parks, and significant improvements in various logistics infrastructure components.

Makkaludan Mudalvar' scheme

- Chief Minister M.K. Stalin will launch the 'Makkaludan Mudalvar' (Chief Minister with the People) State-wide scheme from Coimbatore on Monday to ensure swift and transparent redressal of people's petitions and provision of services related to 13 departments that are frequently used by the public.

Second Edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the second edition of Kashi Tamil Sangamam, a cultural extravaganza aimed at fostering the cultural ties between Varanasi and Tamil Nadu.





Project Collaboration Agreement

- The Ministry of Ayush and the World Health Organization (WHO) formalized a Project Collaboration Agreement.

About

- It aims to bridge Traditional and Complementary Medical Systems with the mainstream of the National Health System, a key initiative outlined in the Traditional Medicine Global Strategy 2025-34 to be prepared by the WHO with the support of the Ministry of Ayush.
- Objective: To standardize Traditional and Complementary Medical Systems, incorporating their quality and safety aspects into the National Health System, and disseminating these practices on an international scale.

Surat Diamond Bourse

- Prime Minister inaugurate the world's largest corporate office hub, Surat Diamond Bourse.

About

- It is located in Khajod village, near Surat.
- It is the world's largest corporate office hub, taking over the erstwhile top position of
- It will also be a global centre for trading both rough and polished diamonds as well as jewellery.

National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) Portal

- The Union Ministry of Mines is to launch the National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) Portal on 19th December 2023 in a ceremony in New Delhi.

About

- It is a comprehensive online platform for accessing, sharing, and analysing geospatial information across India.
- The NGDR initiative was spearheaded by the Geological Survey of India (GSI) and

Bhaskaracharya Institute of Space Applications and Geoinformatics (BISAG-N).

- It represents a significant leap forward in democratising critical geoscience data, empowering stakeholders across industries and academia with unprecedented access to invaluable resources

Article 356 of the Indian Constitution

- The Supreme Court recently held that the declaration of State emergency under Article 356 and the subsequent actions of the President should have a "reasonable nexus".

About

- Article 356 of the Constitution of India is based on Section 93 of the Government of India Act, 1935.
- According to Article 356, President's Rule can be imposed on any state of India on the grounds of the failure of the constitutional machinery.

This is of two types:

- If the President receives a report from the state's Governor or is otherwise convinced or satisfied that the state's situation is such that the state government cannot carry on the governance according to the provisions of the Constitution.
- Article 365: As per this Article, President's Rule can be imposed if any state fails to comply with all directions given by the Union on matters it is empowered to.

Article 370 of the Indian constitution

- The Supreme Court upheld the 2019 revocation of Jammu and Kashmir's special status under Article 370.
- It confirms that Jammu and Kashmir's integration with India, the court declared Article 370 temporary.



Climate club

- Climate Club was formally launched at the 28th Conference of Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.

About

- It is led by Germany and Chile, the Club has garnered support from 36 member countries including Kenya, the European Union, Switzerland and others.
- It aims to make decarbonisation of industries successful for climate and businesses, through ambitious policies, alignment of methodologies

and standards and improving finance and assistance for emerging and developed economies.

Group for Industry Transition

- India and Sweden launched Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) 2.0 during the COP28 World Climate Action Summit, hosted in Dubai

MisrSat-2

- The MisrSat-2 project is originated from a 2019 agreement between the Egyptian Space Agency (EgSA) and the China National Space Administration.

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SCHEMES

CITIIS 2.0 Challenge

- The Union Minister of Housing & Urban Affairs and Petroleum & Natural Gas launched the CITIIS 2.0 Challenge.

About

- It is a program conceived by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) in partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD), Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau (KfW), the European Union (EU), and National Institute of Urban Affairs (NIUA).
- Objective:
 - The program envisages supporting competitively selected projects promoting a circular economy with a focus on integrated waste management at the city level, climate-oriented reform actions at the State level, and institutional strengthening and knowledge dissemination at the National level.

Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana (PMMY)

- The Union Finance and Corporate Affairs Minister recently said women entrepreneurs are accorded first priority under the Centre's flagship Pradhan Mantri Mudra Yojana scheme.

About

- It is a flagship scheme of the Government of India to extend affordable credit to micro and small enterprises.
- Mudra schemes are designed to bring enterprises into the formal financial system or to "fund the unfunded".
- It enables a small borrower to borrow from all Public Sector Banks such as PSU Banks, Regional Rural Banks and Cooperative Banks, Private Sector Banks, Foreign Banks, Micro Finance Institutions (MFI), and Non Banking Finance Companies (NBFC) for loans upto Rs 10 lakhs for non-farm income-generating activities.

- Eligibility: Any Indian citizen who has a business plan for a non-farm sector income-generating activity such as manufacturing, processing, trading, or the service sector and whose credit need is less than Rs 10 lakh can approach either a bank, MFI, or NBFC for availing of Micro Units Development & Refinance Agency Ltd. (MUDRA) loans under PMMY.
- Types of loans provided: Under the aegis of PMMY, MUDRA has already created the following products
 - Shishu: covering loans up to 50,000/-
 - Kishor: covering loans above 50,000/- and up to 5 lakh
 - Tarun: covering loans above 5 lakh and up to 10 lakh
- There is no subsidy for the loan given under PMMY. However, if the loan proposal is linked to some Government scheme wherein the Government is providing capital subsidies, it will also be eligible under PMMY.



Sophisticated Analytical & Technical Help Institutes (SATHI)

- The Centre's move to cancel a call for proposals under the Department of Science and Technology (DST)'s SATHI programme has sparked fears among higher education institutions.

About

- It is an initiative by the Department of Science and Technology to boost access to research and testing facilities and address problems of accessibility, maintenance, redundancy,

and duplication of expensive equipment in Institutions.

- It aims to set up a shared, professionally managed Science and Technology (S&T) infrastructure facility which can be readily accessible to academia, start-ups, manufacturing units, industries, and R&D labs.

Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme

- The Union Education Minister recently launched the Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme in Odisha.

About

- It is a centrally sponsored scheme by the Government of India, announced in 2022.
- Objective:
- Development of more than 14,500 schools across the country by strengthening the existing schools among those managed by the Central Government/State/UT Government/local bodies.
- It will nurture students in such a way that they become engaged, productive, and contributing citizens, building an equitable, inclusive, and plural society as envisaged by the National Education Policy 2020.

Amplifi 2.0 portal

- The Union Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs launched the Amplifi 2.0 portal.

About

- Amplifi (Assessment and Monitoring Platform for Liveable, Inclusive, and Future-Ready Urban India) portal aims to provide data on Indian cities.
- It is making raw data from Indian cities available on a single platform for academics, researchers, and stakeholders to help data-driven policymaking.
- Currently, 258 urban local bodies (ULB) have been on-boarded, and data for 150 cities is available on the portal.
- It provides data on a range of information for several cities, including, for example, the total diesel consumption and the number of samples tested for water quality.

PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme

- The National Mission for Clean Ganga (NMCG) on behalf of River Cities Alliance (RCA), has signed a Memorandum of Common Purpose (MoCP) with the Mississippi River Cities and Towns Initiative (MRCTI), representing 124 cities/towns situated along the banks of the Mississippi River, USA

About

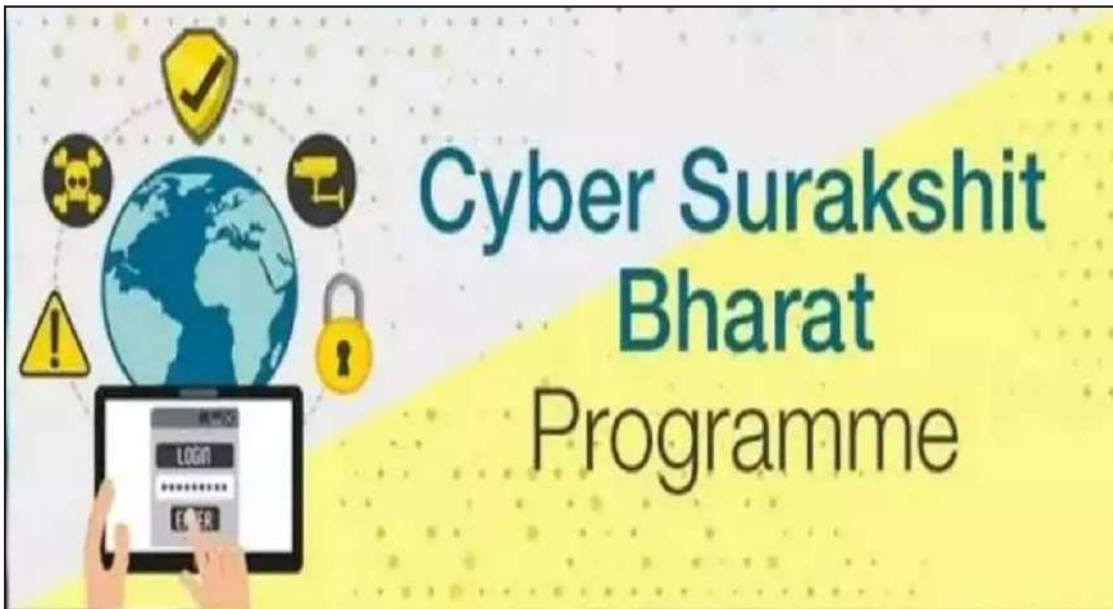
- It is a centrally sponsored scheme launched in 2020.
- Duration:
- The scheme is operational for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 Crore for supporting 2 lakh micro food processing enterprises.

Objectives:

- The objectives of scheme are to build capability of microenterprises to enable:
- Increased access to credit by existing micro food processing entrepreneurs, FPOs, Self Help Groups and Cooperatives;
- Integration with organized supply chain by strengthening branding & marketing;
- Support for transition of existing 2,00,000 enterprises into formal framework;
- Increased access to common services like common processing facility, laboratories, storage, packaging, marketing and incubation services;
- Strengthening of institutions, research and training in the food processing sector;
- Increased access for the enterprises, to professional and technical support.

Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative

- National e-Governance Division (NeGD) organized the 40th Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) Deep-Dive training programme under the Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative.



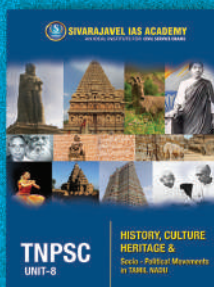
About

- It is an initiative of the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India.
- It was conceptualized with the mission to spread awareness about cybercrime and build the capacities of Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) and frontline IT officials across all government departments.
- It is an initiative to fortify the cyber security system in India with regard to the Government's vision of a Digital India.

NAMO Drone Didi scheme

- PM Modi's NAMO Drone Didi, unveiled on Nov 30, empowers 15,000 women Self Help Groups (SHGs) with agricultural drones, placing rural women at the forefront of the agri revolution

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ENVIRONMENT NEWS



Nidirana noadihing- New frog species

- It is a new species of 'music frog' which is named *Nidirana noadihing*.
- The new frog of the genus *Nidirana* is phenotypically distinct from its congeners by a combination of morphological characters
- It is confirmed for the first time that the *Nidirana* genus has been found in India.
- The *Nidirana* species is known in Japan, Taiwan, China, Vietnam, Laos, and Thailand.
- *Nidirana* are known to inhabit swamps, ponds, and paddy fields, and they often construct nests to lay their eggs.

Dragon Snakehead Fish



- The Dragon Snakehead Fish (*Aenigmachanna gollum*) has been added to the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, indicating potential conservation challenges.

About:

- The Dragon Snakehead Fish is colloquially

known as a 'living fossil' and is named after a character in Lord of the Rings.

- Primarily found in Kerala, India, it is considered a remarkable species that evolved around 120 million years ago, likely coexisting with dinosaurs in the Jurassic period.
- Due to its isolation in underground habitats, scientists believe that extinction events on land may not have significantly impacted its survival.
- Habitat: The Dragon Snakehead Fish is commonly found in wetlands and nearby paddy fields.

Saiga

- The Saiga (*Saiga tatarica*) species has seen a change in its conservation status from Critically Endangered to Near Threatened, as declared by the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN).

About

- It is a large migratory herbivore.

Appearance:

- This antelope has an extremely unusual appearance with an oversized and flexible nose, the internal structure of which acts like a filter.
- Their large noses filter out dust kicked up by the herd in the warm summers and warms the icy air before it reaches their lungs in the winters.
- Habitat: Saigas inhabit open dry steppe grasslands and semi-arid deserts.
- Distribution: Saigas were widespread throughout the Eurasian Steppe, a vast grassland stretching from Hungary in Europe to Manchuria in Asia.
- Presently, they are found in fragmented populations within Kazakhstan, Mongolia, the Russian Federation, and Uzbekistan.

Indian Forest and Wood Certification Scheme

- The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has launched the Indian Forest & Wood Certification Scheme.

About

- This national forest certification scheme offers voluntary third-party certification designed to promote sustainable forest management and agroforestry in the country.
- The scheme includes forest management certification, tree outside forest management certification, and chain of custody certification.
- It can provide market incentives to various entities that adhere to responsible forest management and agroforestry practices in their operations.
- The Forest Management certification is based on the Indian Forest Management Standard, consisting of 8 criteria, 69 indicators and 254 verifiers, which is an integral part of the National Working Plan Code 2023, launched earlier this year.

Cinereous Vulture



- The Cinereous Vulture (*Aegypius monachus*), one of the largest raptors in the world, has been sighted at the Asola Bhatti Wildlife Sanctuary.

About

- It is also known as the Eurasian Black Vulture or monk vulture.
- It is one of the heaviest and largest raptors in the world.
- It is one of the two largest Old-World vultures.
- It is an altitudinal migrant — which means it migrates from a higher to a lower altitude.

Habitat:

- This vulture is a bird of hilly, mountainous areas, especially favouring dry semi-open habitats such as meadows at high altitudes over much of the range.

Distribution:

- It is a Eurasian species. It is mainly found in Spain and inland Portugal, South France, central Asia, northern India, northern Manchuria, Mongolia and Korea.
- Conservation status- IUCN: Near threatened.

Banni Grassland

- The Gujarat Government recently said that the Central Government has approved setting up a cheetah breeding and conservation centre in the Banni Grassland.

About

- It is located along the northern border of the Kachchh district in the State of Gujarat.
- It is one of the largest grasslands in the Indian subcontinent with an area of over 2500 sq.km.

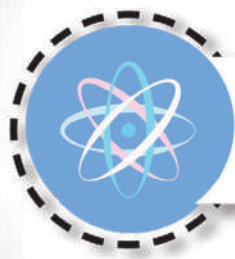
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SCIENCE AND TECH



PACE Mission

- NASA is gearing up to enhance our understanding of Earth's atmosphere with the upcoming Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, Ocean Ecosystem (PACE) mission, scheduled for launch in early 2024.

About

- The mission will employ advanced polarimeters to study the interplay of light, aerosols, and clouds, contributing to a deeper comprehension of their impact on air quality and climate.
- The PACE mission will not only analyze aerosols but also delve into studying the colour of the ocean.

Vyommitra

- India is set to launch Vyommitra, a female robot astronaut, into space as part of the ambitious Gaganyaan project.

About

- Vyommitra is a combination of two Sanskrit words Vyoma (Space) and Mitra (Friend).
- It is a female robot designed and developed by the ISRO to fly aboard unmanned test missions ahead of the Gaganyaan human spaceflight mission.
- It is referred to as a half-humanoid robot as she doesn't have legs. However, she can bend forward and sideways.



Scattered Spiders

- The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) recently issued a warning to organizations about a hacking group called Scattered Spiders.

About

- It is a hacking group notorious for invading various organizations across the world.
- This hacker group is known by other aliases as well, including Starfraud, UNC3944, Scatter Swine, and Muddled Libra.
- The members are as young as 16 years old and primary English speakers.
- They break into the IT environments of victims, exfiltrate as much valuable data as possible, and then demand payment to keep a lid on that information and not leak or sell it.

Presence of Hemoglobin in Epidermis



- Researchers discovered that hemoglobin, a protein found in red blood cells that binds oxygen, is also present in the epidermis.

About

- Epidermis
- It is the outermost layer of the skin and protects the body from the environment.
- The thickness of the epidermis varies in

different types of skin; it is only .05 mm thick on the eyelids and 1.5 mm thick on the palms and the soles of the feet.

- The epidermis layer itself is made up of five sub layers that work together to continually rebuild the surface of the skin:
- The various cells present in the epidermis are Keratinocytes, Melanocytes, Langerhans cells, and Merkel cells.

Tantalum

- A team of researchers from the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT), Ropar, found the presence of tantalum, a rare metal, in the Sutlej river sand in Punjab.

About

- It is a rare metal with the atomic number 73—the number of protons found in one atom of the element.
- The rare metal has been named after a Greek mythological figure, Tantalus.
- It's grey, heavy, very hard, and one of the most corrosion-resistant metals in use today.
- It possesses high corrosion resistance because, when exposed to air, it forms an oxide layer that is extremely difficult to remove, even when it interacts with strong and hot acid environments.

Southern Annular Mode

- The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS) discovered that the Southern Annular Mode (SAM), an important climate pattern, plays a pivotal role in shaping sea conditions across the Indian Ocean.

About

- It is the north-south movement of Southern Westerly Winds over timescales of 10s to 100s of years.
- It is also known as the Antarctic Oscillation.
- They blow almost continuously in the mid- to high-latitudes of the southern hemisphere.
- It is usually defined as the difference in the zonal mean sea level pressure at 40°S (mid-latitudes) and 65°S (Antarctica).

Positive Southern Annular Mode

- In this mode, there is lower anomalous air pressure over Antarctica and higher anomalous air pressure over the mid-latitudes.
- The belt of strong westerly winds strengthens and contracts towards Antarctica.
- Negative Southern Annular Mode
- In this mode, the belt of strong Southern Westerly Winds expands northwards towards the equator, bringing cold, wet weather to Patagonia, glacier advance, and decreased Circumpolar Deep Water upwelling on the Antarctic Continental Shelf.

Noma disease

- The World Health Organization (WHO) announced the inclusion of noma (cancrum oris or gangrenous stomatitis) in its official list of neglected tropical diseases (NTDs).

About

- It is a rapidly progressing severe gangrenous disease of the mouth and the face.
- The disease, also called cancrum oris or gangrenous stomatitis, is mostly found in sub-Saharan Africa.
- It mostly affects children aged 2–6 years suffering from malnutrition, affected by infectious diseases, living in extreme poverty with poor oral health or with weakened immune systems.
- It can also occur among immune compromised adults due to HIV, leukaemia and other diseases.

Treatment:

- Early detection is essential, as therapy is most effective at the early stages of disease when it appears as aggressively swollen gums (acute necrotizing gingivitis).
- Treatment typically includes prescription of widely available antibiotics, advice and support on practices to improve oral hygiene, disinfectant mouthwash and nutrition supplements.

AMRIT Technology

- The Indian Institute of Technology, Madras

has developed a technology called 'AMRIT' (Arsenic and Metal Removal by Indian Technology) technology.

About

- It is developed for the removal of Arsenic and Metal ions from water.
- The technology uses nano-scale iron oxy-hydroxide, which selectively removes arsenic when water is passed through it.
- This water purifier has been developed for both domestic as well as community levels.
- Also, the technology has been recommended by the erstwhile 'Standing Committee' of the Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation for the examination of the best technologies concerning water and sanitation.

Pompe disease

- India's first patient diagnosed with the Pompe disease died after spending nearly six years in a semi-comatose state.

About

- It is a rare inherited disorder that affects one child per million.

Causes:

- Mutations in the GAA gene cause Pompe disease.
- The GAA gene provides instructions for producing an enzyme called acid alpha-glucosidase (also known as acid maltase).
- This enzyme is active in lysosomes, which are structures that serve as recycling centres within cells.

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SPORTS NEWS



Athlete of the Year for 2023

- Lionel Messi has been awarded with Time magazine's 2023 Athlete of the Year following his record eighth Ballon d'Or win, reaffirming his place among the greatest footballers in history.

World Billiards Championship



- Pankaj Advani won his 26th IBSF World Billiards Championship title in a remarkable comeback, defeating compatriot Sourav Kothari in the final.

Chess Grandmaster

- R. Vaishali, became only the third woman from India to get the Grandmaster (GM) title,

the highest a chess player could aspire for. Koneru Humpy was the first; she was, in fact, the world's youngest female player ever, when she became a GM in 2002, at the age of 15.

- The other Indian female GM is Dronavalli Harika. 22-year-old Vaishali completed the final requirement – 2,500 Elo points – during the ongoing Llobregat Open tournament in Spain.

ISSF World Cup Final



- Anish Bhanwala become the first Indian shooter to clinch a medal in the men's 25m Rapid Fire event at the ISSF World Cup Final.
- This surpassed the efforts of past Indian shooters like Vijay Kumar in 2009 and Gurpreet Singh in 2015, who had reached the final but fell short of claiming a medal.

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AWARDS



Indira Gandhi Peace Prize



- The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development 2022 was jointly awarded to the Indian Medical Association and the Trained Nurses Association of India as representatives of the COVID-19 warriors in the country

About

- Indira Gandhi Peace Prize:
- The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development was instituted in the memory of the former prime minister by a trust in her name in 1986.
- It consists of a monetary award of 25 lakh rupees along with a citation.
- The award is given to individuals or organizations that work towards ensuring international peace and development, ensuring that scientific discoveries are used to further the scope of freedom and better humanity, and creating a new international economic order.

Past recipients of this award include:

- Mikhail Gorbachev, former leader of the Soviet Union (1987);
- UNICEF (1989)
- Jimmy Carter, former president of the US (1997)
- UN and its secretary-general Kofi Annan (2003)

- Angela Merkel, chancellor of Germany (2013)
- Indian Space Research Organization (2014)
- Former Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh (2017)
- Sir David Attenborough (2019)
- Pratham NGO (2021)

Nyholm Prize

- Professor Savita Ladage from Mumbai received the Royal Society of Chemistry's Nyholm Prize for Education in recognition of her contributions to chemistry education.

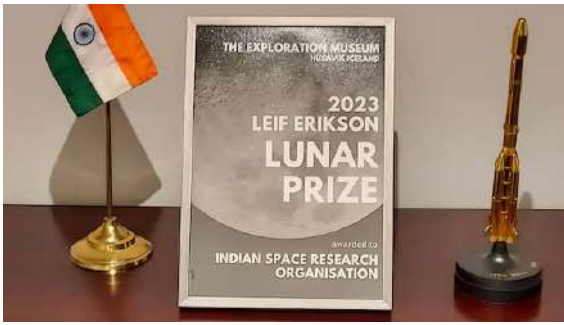
About

- It is awarded to inspirational, innovative and dedicated individuals or teams making a substantial and sustained impact within education.
- It celebrates individuals working in primary, secondary, further education, and higher education, encompassing teachers, technicians, and more.
- It recognizes a major national or international research or innovation contribution to the field of chemical science education.
- This prize was established to commemorate the life and work of Sir Ronald Nyholm, president of the Royal Society of Chemistry from 1968 to 1970.
- It is awarded annually.

Sahitya Akademi prize

- Tamil writer Devibharathi's novel Neervazhi Padoom, depicting the life of the Kudi Navithar, the community barbers in the Kongu region of Tamil Nadu, has won the Sahitya Akademi award for 2023. Neervazhi Padoom is a line from Purananuru poem, a Sangam age literary work.

Leif Erikson Lunar Prize



- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) has been awarded the prestigious Leif Erikson Lunar Prize by the Husavik Museum in recognition of the space agency's unwavering commitment and significant contributions to lunar exploration.

Vir Chakra

- INS Shivaji, Indian Navy's premier marine engineering training institute, has received the Vir Chakra medal awarded to Late Vice Admiral Benoy Roy Chowdhury, the only technical officer of the Indian Navy to be awarded the honour.
- The Vir Chakra is an Indian wartime military bravery award presented for acts of gallantry on the battlefield, on land or in air or at sea

Power of One' Award

- Former Secretary General Ban Ki-moon honored with 2023 Diwali 'Power of One' Award, the 'Oscars of Diplomacy,' alongside three distinguished diplomats at the UN.

OUR RECENT GROUP 1 TOPPERS 2022



Ms. SATHYANANDHI DC
GROUP -I, 2nd RANK, 2022

“Metis (Mains) Programme conducted by Sivarajavel IAS Academy was useful and the inputs given by mentors was helpful to Clear the Examination.”



Ms.Sathyanandhi.G
Rank - 2
Deputy Collector



Ms.Subhalakshmi.S
Rank - 4
Deputy Collector



Ms.Krithika.K
Rank - 18
Assistant Commissioner
Commercial Tax



Ms.K.Ramali Ramalakshmi
Rank - 22
Deputy Superintendent
of police



Mr.Vignesh.C
Rank - 25
Assistant Director of
Rural Development





World Bank Migration and Development Brief

- The World Bank's latest Migration and Development Brief highlights India's significant position as the top remittance recipient, drawing attention to the evolving dynamics in the remittance landscape.

About

- It is prepared by the Migration and Remittances Unit, Development Economics (DEC), the premier research and data arm of the World Bank.
- The brief is produced twice a year.
- The brief aims to provide an update on key developments in the area of migration and remittance flows and related policies over the past six months.
- It also provides medium term projections of remittance flows to developing countries.
- It also presents recent developments on the Global Compact on Migration (GCM).

Climate Change Performance Index

- In a significant stride towards sustainable practices, India has ascended to the 7th position in this year's Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI).

About

- It is an instrument to enable transparency in national and international climate politics.
- It is published by Germanwatch, the New Climate Institute and the Climate Action Network annually.
- It was first time published in 2005.

Panchayat Development Index

- The Union Minister of State for Panchayati Raj briefed the Lok Sabha about the Panchayat Development Index.

About

- It is a multi-domain and multi-sectoral index that is intended to be used to assess the overall holistic development, performance & progress of panchayats.
- It incorporates various socio-economic indicators and parameters to gauge the well-being and development status of local communities within the jurisdiction of a panchayat.
- It would play a significant role for performance evaluation and progress assessment in achieving the localization of Sustainable Development Goals in rural area.

Global Drought Snapshot report

- The 'Global Drought Snapshot' report, launched by the UN Convention to Combat Desertification (UNCCD) at the outset of COP28 climate talks in the UAE, reveals that drought causes more economic losses and affects more sectors of societies.

About

- Originating from the 1992 Earth Summit in Rio de Janeiro, the UNCCD is one of three conventions, the others being the conventions addressing climate change (UNFCCC) and biodiversity (UN CBD).
- It is the only legally binding framework set up to address desertification and the effects of drought.
- There are 197 Parties to the Convention, including 196 country Parties and the European Union.



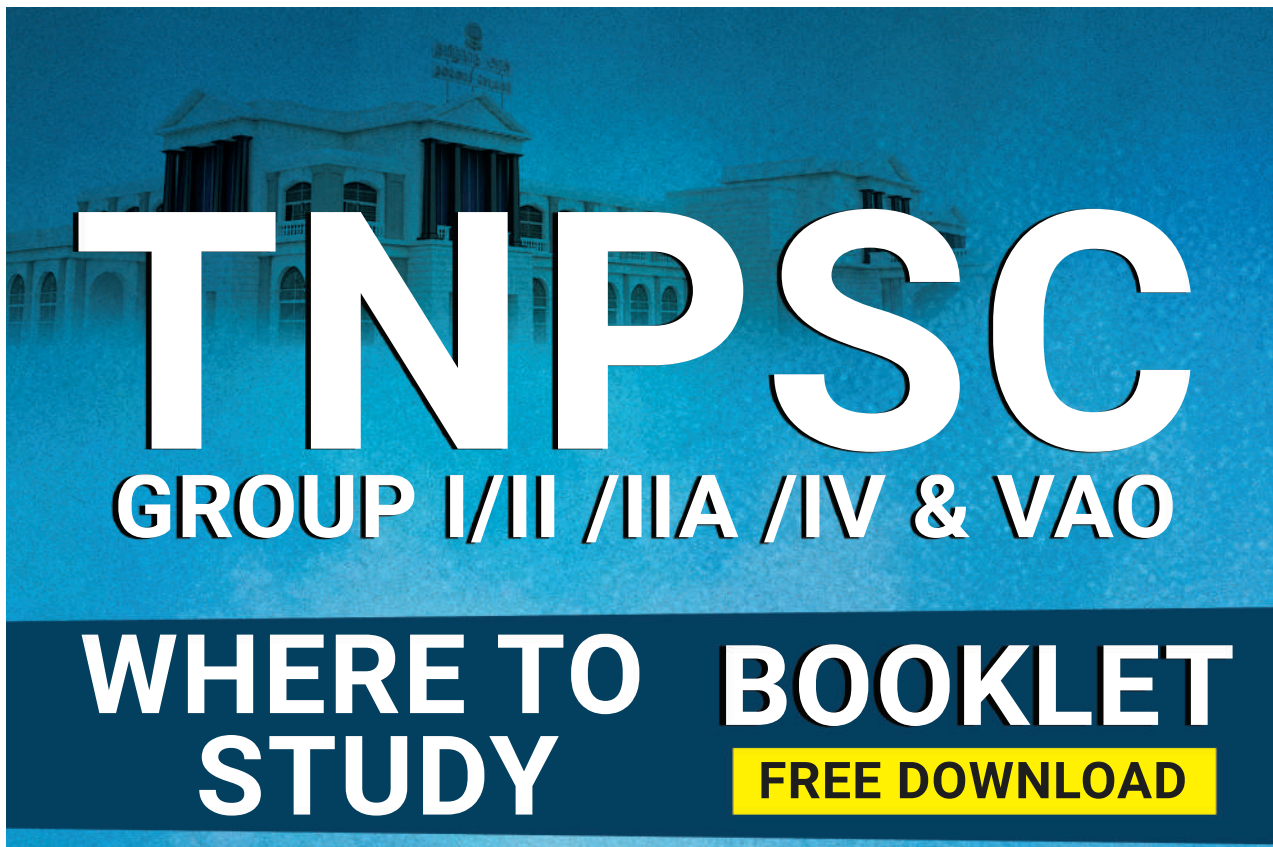
IMPORTANT DAYS



DATE	DAY	THEME AND OBJECTIVES
December 01	World AIDS day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World AIDS Day is observed on 1 December every year to raise awareness and knowledge about HIV and a call to move toward ending the HIV epidemic. It was first celebrated in 1988. The theme of 2023 is "Lead The Communities"
December 02	National Pollution Control day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Pollution Control Day is celebrated on 2 December to raise awareness about pollution and its hazardous effects. This day is observed in memory of the people who lost their lives in the Bhopal gas calamity which is considered one of the biggest industrial disasters
December 02	International day for the abolition of Slavery	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It was observed on 2 December to make people aware of the modern slavery that works against human rights.
December 02	World Computer literacy day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It aims to encourage the development of technological skills, mainly among children and women in India.
December 03	International Day of People with Disabilities	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> to raise awareness about understanding and accepting people with disabilities.
December 04	Indian Navy day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Indian Navy Day is celebrated every year on 4 December to highlight the role, achievements, and difficulties that Navy people face
December 05	World Soil day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Soil Day is observed on 5 December to raise awareness about the importance of soil, healthy ecosystems, and human well-being
December 07	International Civil Aviation day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Civil Aviation Day is observed on 7 December worldwide to raise awareness about its importance to the social and economic development of States and the role that ICAO plays in International air transport.

December 09	International Anti-Corruption day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Anti-Corruption Day is observed on 9 December every year to highlight how corruption affects health, education, justice, democracy, prosperity, and development.
December 10	Human rights day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Human Rights Day is celebrated on 10 December. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights was adopted in 1948 by the United Nations General Assembly. This day is observed to protect the fundamental human rights of all people and their basic human freedom.
December 11	UNICEF Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is observed on 11 December by the United Nations. UNICEF stands for United Nations International Children Emergency Fund.
December 14	National Energy conservation day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is observed on 14 December to raise awareness about the need for energy and its conservation in daily life. Since 1991, it is celebrated every year on 14 December by the Bureau of Energy Efficiency (BEE), under the Ministry of Power.
December 16	Vijay Diwas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vijay Diwas is celebrated on 16 December in India to remember the martyrs, and their sacrifices, and to strengthen the role of armed forces for the cause of the nation
December 18	Minorities Rights day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Minorities Rights Day in India is observed on 18 December to preserve and promote the rights of minority communities in India. This day focuses on issues like the safety of minorities in the state. On this day several campaigns, seminars, and events are conducted to inform and educate people about them.
December 18	International Migrants day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Migrants Day is celebrated on 18 December to raise awareness about the protection of migrants and refugees.
December 22	National Mathematics Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Mathematics Day is celebrated on 22 December annually to commemorate the birth anniversary of the famous mathematician Srinivasa Ramanujan. He had made remarkable contributions to various fields of mathematics and its branches. He was born on 22 December 1887 in Erode

December 23	National Farmers day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Farmer's Day is celebrated on 23 December across the country to commemorate the birth anniversary of the former Prime Minister Chaudhary Charan Singh. On this day various events, seminars, functions, and competitions are organized on agriculture and its importance to educate and provide knowledge to the people.
December 24	National Consumer Rights day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> National Consumer Rights Day is observed on 24 December annually with a particular theme across the country. The Consumer Protection Act, of 1986 received the assent of the president on this day.



The image shows a promotional graphic for a TNPSC booklet. The background is a blue-tinted photograph of a large, classical-style building with columns and a dome. Overlaid on this is the text 'TNPSC' in large, white, bold, sans-serif font. Below it, 'GROUP I/II /IIA /IV & VAO' is written in a smaller, white, bold font. At the bottom, there is a dark blue horizontal bar containing the text 'WHERE TO STUDY' in white, bold font on the left, and 'BOOKLET' in white, bold font on the right. Underneath 'BOOKLET', the words 'FREE DOWNLOAD' are written in black, bold font on a yellow rectangular background.



Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range (NASM-SR)

- The Indian Navy, in association with DRDO, successfully undertook Guided Flight Trials of the first indigenously developed Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range (NASM-SR) from a Sea King 42B helicopter.

About

- It is the first indigenous air-launched anti-ship cruise missile developed for the Indian Navy.
- It was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO).
- It can be launched from attack helicopters.
- This missile will replace the Sea Eagle missiles, which are currently in use with the Navy.
- With the Sea King helicopters also being phased out, it is expected that the NASM-SR will be used with the new MH-60R multi-role helicopters, which are being inducted into the Navy.

Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR

- The Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise “VAJRA PRAHAR 2023” commenced at the Joint Training Node, Umroi, Meghalaya.

About

- It is a joint exercise conducted between the Indian Army and the US Army Special Forces.
- It aims at sharing best practices and experiences in areas such as joint mission planning and operational tactics.
- It is the 14th Edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise “VAJRA PRAHAR 2023,” which commenced at the Joint Training Node, Umroi.

Exercise AUSTRAHIND-23

- The Indian Armed Forces contingent, comprising 81 personnel, departed for

Australia to take part in the second edition of Joint Military Exercise AUSTRAHIND-23.

About

- It was instituted in 2022, and the first edition was conducted in Mahajan, Rajasthan.
- It is planned to be an annual training event to be conducted alternatively in India and Australia.
- The aim of the exercise is to foster collaborative partnerships and share best practices between the two sides.
- This year, the exercise will be conducted in Perth, Australia

Exercise SURYA KIRAN

- The 17th edition of Joint Military Exercise SURYA KIRAN will be conducted in Pithoragarh, Uttarakhand, from November 24th to December 7th, 2023.

About

- It is a joint military exercise between the Indian army and the Nepali army.
- It is an annual event and is conducted alternately in the two countries.
- The Indian Army contingent, comprising 354 personnel, is being led by a battalion from the Kumaon Regiment. The Nepal Army contingent is represented by the Tara Dal Battalion.
- The aim of the exercise is to enhance interoperability in jungle warfare, counter-terrorism operations in mountainous terrain, humanitarian assistance, and disaster relief under the United Nations Charter on peacekeeping operations.

Exercise Astrashakti 2023

- India has effectively showcased the capabilities

of its indigenous Akash surface-to-air (SAM) weapon system as part of its plans to export these systems.

About

- In the recent exercise Astrashakti 2023, a single unit of the Akash weapon system successfully engaged and obliterated four unmanned targets simultaneously.
- This demonstration established India as the first country to exhibit the ability to engage four targets at such distances simultaneously using command guidance from a single firing unit.
- It is a Short-Range Surface-to-Air Missile (SRSAM) Defence System to protect vulnerable areas and points from air attacks.
- It was indigenously designed and developed by the Defence Research and Development Organization (DRDO).

INS Tarmugli

- INS Tarmugli, a Fast Attack Craft has been commissioned into the Navy

About

- It is the first Follow-on Water Jet Fast Attack Craft (WJFAC), is an improved version of WJFAC, earlier constructed by GRSE.
- It is built by M/s Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Ltd (GRSE).
- It is conceived, designed and built indigenously.
- It would be deployed for coastal patrol and surveillance operations along the East Coast of India.
- It is named after a picturesque island in the Andaman group.
-

Barracuda Boat

- In a move towards eco-friendly maritime transportation, the Barracuda, India's fastest solar-electric boat, was ceremoniously launched at Alappuzha.

About

- It is named after the swift, long fish, Barracuda.
- It can be deployed even in the rough seas as a workboat to ferry up to 12 passengers and cargo.
- Features: This vessel can attain a top speed of 12.5 knots (23 kmph) and has a range of seven hours on a single charge.
- It has twin 50 kW electric motors, a marine-grade LFP battery, and 6 kW solar power, epitomizing efficient and clean energy usage.
- This cutting-edge vessel was jointly developed by Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders and Navalt.

Exercise VINBAX-2023

- Indian Armed Forces contingent comprising 45 personnel reached Hanoi, Vietnam to take part in the Joint Military Exercise VINBAX-2023.

About Exercise VINBAX-2023:

- It was instituted in 2018 and the first edition was conducted at Jabalpur, Madhya Pradesh.
- It is an annual training event conducted alternatively in India and Vietnam.
- This year's exercise will be conducted at Hanoi, Vietnam.
- Aim of the exercise is to foster collaborative partnership, promote inter- operability and share best practices between the two sides under Chapter VII of United Nations Charter on Peacekeeping Operations.

INS Sandhayak

- Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE) delivered INS Sandhayak to the Indian Navy on the occasion of Navy Day

About

- It is the largest survey vessel ever built in India.
- It is fully designed and built by the Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers (GRSE),
- It is the first in the series of four Survey Vessels (Large), or SVLs, being built by GRSE.



Purchasing Managers' Index

- India's manufacturing sector continued to perform better with S&P Global Purchasing Managers' Index (PMI) rising to 56 in November against 55.5 in October.

About

- It is an indicator of business activity – both in the manufacturing and services sectors.
- It is a survey-based measure that asks the respondents about changes in their perception of some key business variables from the month before.
- Calculated separately for the manufacturing and services sectors, a composite index is then constructed.
- There are two types of PMI — Manufacturing PMI and Services PMI.



Decline in Agriculture's GDP

- The government data reveals a decline in India's agriculture GDP share from 35% in 1990-91 to 15% in 2022-23, attributed to the rapid growth of the industrial and service sectors during this period.

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International Film Festival of India (IFFI)

- The 54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) recently commenced with a grand opening ceremony at the Dr. Shyama Prasad Mukherjee Indoor Stadium in Panaji, Goa.
- It was founded in 1952 under the patronage of the first Indian Prime Minister, Jawaharlal Nehru, and was organized by the Films Division, Government of India.

International year of Camelids

- The United Nations recently declared 2024 the International Year of Camelids.

About:

- A Camelid refers to any of the even-toed ungulates of the family Camelidae, e.g., camels, llamas, alpacas, guanacos, and vicuñas.
- They are known for their remarkable adaptations to arid and high-altitude environments.
- These ungulates can be classified into two major groups: the Old World and the New World.
- The Old-World Camelids, found in northern Africa and central Asia, are the true camels, such as the dromedary camels (one-humped camel) and the Bactrian camels (two-humped camel), characterized by:
 - Their humps on their backs
- The dulla, which is an organ found on the throat of male camels and is believed to be associated with the display of dominance among males and for attracting females.
- The South American Camelids (New World Camelids) include the modern llamas, alpacas, guanacos, and vicuñas. Wild populations of South American Camelids, such as vicuñas, inhabit the high-altitude regions of the Andes Mountains.

Lakadong turmeric

- Meghalaya's Lakadong turmeric has been awarded the Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- It is considered to be one of the world's best varieties of turmeric, with a curcumin content of around 6.8 to 7.5 per cent.
- It is darker in colour and is grown organically without the use of fertilisers.
- It is found in Lakadong area of Jaintia Hills, has high curcumin content.
- GI products from Tamil Nadu -
 - Salem Fabric
 - Kancheepuram Silk
 - Madurai Sungudi
 - Coimbatore Wet Grinder
 - Thanjavur Paintings
 - Thanjavur Art Plate
 - East India Leather
 - Salem Silk known as Salem Venpattu
 - Kovai Kora Cotton Sarees
 - Arani Silk
 - Eathamozhi Tall Coconut
 - Thanjavur Doll
 - Nilgiri (Orthodox)
 - Virupakshi Hill Banana
 - Sirumalai Hill Banana
 - Madurai Malli
 - Pattamadai Pai ("Pattamadai Mat")
 - Nachiarkoil Kuthuvilakku ("Nachiarkoil Lamp")
 - Chettinad Kottan
 - Toda Embroidery
 - Thanjavur Veenai
 - Thanjavur Art Plate (Logo)

- Swamimalai Bronze Icons (Logo)
- Temple Jewellery of Nagercoil (Logo)
- Mahabalipuram Stone Sculpture
- Erode Manjal (Erode Turmeric)
- Thirubuvanam Silk Sarees
- Kodaikanal Malai Poonda
- Palani Panchamirtham
- Dindigul Locks
- Kandangai Saree
- Srivilliputtur Palkova
- Kovilpatti Kadalai Mittai
- Thanjavur Pith Works
- Arumbavur Wood Carvings

International Institute for the Unification of Private Law

- India's Uma Sekhar was elected to the governing council of the Rome-based International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT)

About

- It is an independent intergovernmental Organization.
- It was set up in 1926 as an auxiliary organ of the League of Nations, following the demise of the League it was re-established in 1940 on the basis of a multilateral agreement, the UNIDROIT Statute.

- Members: It consists of 65 Member States are drawn from the five continents and represent a variety of different legal, economic and political systems as well as different cultural backgrounds.

Global Royal Bengal Tiger Award

- Children of Nobody' won the Golden Royal Bengal Tiger Award at the 29th Kolkata International Film Festival. This Israeli drama highlights overlooked individuals, inspired by a true story.

UNESCO's 'Intangible Cultural Heritage' List

- Garba dance has been officially recognized by UNESCO, earning a coveted spot on the "Representative List of the Intangible Cultural Heritage of Humanity."
- Other intangible cultural heritage list are
- Ramlila.
- Vedic chant
- Yoga
- Kudiyyatam
- Mudiyettu
- Rammam
- Kalbelia and others

வெல்வது உறுதி

நமது சேலத்தில்

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வழிகாட்டி நிகழ்ச்சி

முன்பதிவு

மேலும் விவரங்களுக்கு

9626364444

நாள் : 07.01.2024

நேரம் : காலை 10:00 மணி,

இடம் : கருமுத்து ஆடிட்டோரியம்,

தியாகராஜர் பாலிடெக்னிக் கல்லூரி,

மெயின் ரோடு ஜங்ஷன்,

சேலம் - 636005.

பஸ்டாப் : தியாகராஜர் பாலிடெக்னிக் கல்லூரி

2023 DECEMBER MONTH QUESTIONS

1. Identify the place associated with the following statements

1. It is located in the state of Tamil Nadu.
2. It lies adjacent to the Bay of Bengal along the east coast.
3. It is one of the major wetlands on the Coromandel Coast after Pulicat Lake.

Choose the correct answer

- A. Pazhaverkadu bird sanctuary
- B. Srivilliputhur tiger reserve
- C. Kazhuveli bird sanctuary
- D. Gulf of Mannar biosphere reserve

2. Logistics Ease Across Different States is released by _____

- A. NITI AAYOG
- B. Ministry of commerce
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of Industries

3. Which of the following state is recognised as top performer in Logistics Ease across different states?

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Bihar
- D. Tamil Nadu

4. Makkaludan Mudalvan scheme aims to

- A. Improve the education in Tamil Nadu
- B. Address the grievances of the citizens
- C. Upskill the rural youth
- D. Provide employment to the women

5. Project Collaboration Agreement is an initiative of

- A. World Bank
- B. World Health Organisation
- C. International Monetary fund
- D. United Nations

6. Kasi located on the banks of the river _____

- A. Godavari
- B. Ganga
- C. Kosi
- D. Gomati

7. With reference to the Surat Diamond Bourse consider the following statements

1. It is the world's largest corporate office hub, taking over the erstwhile top position of
2. It will also be a global centre for trading both rough and polished diamonds as well as jewellery.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both statements are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

8. With reference to the National Geoscience Data Repository (NGDR) Portal consider the following statements

1. It is a comprehensive online platform for accessing, sharing, and analysing geospatial information across India.
2. The NGDR initiative was spearheaded by the Geological Survey of India (GSI)

Which of the statements given above is / are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

9. Article 356 of the constitution deals with

- A. Declaration of State emergency
- B. Appointment of Finance commission
- C. Declaration of National emergency
- D. Declaration of Finance emergency

10. Article 370 of the constitution deals with

- A. Assam
- B. Meghalaya
- C. Jammu and Kashmir
- D. Manipur

11. Which of the following state is integrated into by way of police action?

- A. Jammu and Kashmir
- B. Hyderabad
- C. Junagadh
- D. Kerala

12. Nidirana noadihing is a kind of _____

- A. Frog
- B. Lizard
- C. Elephant
- D. Fungi

13. The Saiga (*Saiga tatarica*) species category as a _____

- A. Critically endangered species
- B. Near threatened species
- C. Endangered species
- D. Vulnerable species

14. With reference to the saiga consider the following statements

1. This antelope has an extremely unusual appearance with an oversized and flexible nose, the internal structure of which acts like a filter.
2. The antelope were once found throughout the Eurasian Steppe, the great band of grassland that stretches from Hungary in Europe to Manchuria in Asia

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

15. With reference to the Indian Forest & Wood Certification Scheme consider the following statements

- 1) This national forest certification scheme offers voluntary third-party certification
- 2) It is designed to promote sustainable forest management and agroforestry in the country

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

16. Cinereous Vulture is listed as _____ species

- A. Near threatened
- B. Vulnerable
- C. Endangered
- D. Critically endangered

17. With reference to the Banni grassland consider the following statements

1. It is located along the northern border of Kachchh district in the State of
2. It is one of the largest grasslands in the Indian subcontinent with an area of over 2500 sq. km

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

18. Climate club is an initiative of _____

- A. Germany
- B. India
- C. United States
- D. Russia

19. Climate club group is supported by _____ members

- A. 20
- B. 30
- C. 38
- D. 50

20. Consider the following statements

1. Climate Club was formally launched at the 28th Conference of Parties (COP28) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change.
2. It aims to make decarbonisation of industries successful for climate and businesses, through ambitious policies, alignment of methodologies and standards and improving finance and assistance for emerging and developed economies.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

21. India and _____ launched Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT)

- A. Switzerland
- B. Sweden
- C. Finland
- D. United States

22. Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) was launched at _____

- A. Abu Dhabi
- B. Dubai
- C. Saudi Arabia
- D. Philippines

23. MisrSat-2 is a project between china and _____

- A. Egypt
- B. Russia
- C. Vietnam
- D. India

24. CITIIS 2.0 Challenge was launched by _____

- A. Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs
- B. Ministry of Commerce
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of education

25. Consider the following statements

1. CITIIS 2.0 Challenge is a program conceived in partnership with the French Development Agency (AFD)
2. The program envisages supporting competitively selected projects promoting a circular economy with a focus on integrated waste management at the city level only

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

26. With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Mudra yojana consider the following statements

1. It is a flagship scheme of the Government of India to extend affordable credit to micro and small enterprises.
2. Mudra schemes are designed to bring enterprises into the formal financial system or to “fund the unfunded”.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

27. Pradhan Mantri Mudra yojana was launched by _____

- A. Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs
- B. Ministry of Commerce
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of education

28. Consider the following statements

1. Any Indian citizen who has a business plan for a non-farm sector income-generating activity are eligible for Mudra loans
2. Any Indian citizen whose credit is less than Rs. 10 lakhs are eligible for the loan

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

29. Shishu loans covers loan upto _____

- A. Rs. 10000
- B. Rs. 50000
- C. Rs. 100000
- D. Rs. 200000

30. Kishore loover upto Rs. _____

- A. 100000
- B. 500000
- C. 10000
- D. 1000000

31. Tarun loover upto Rs. _____

- A. 100000
- B. 500000
- C. 10000
- D. 1000000

32. SATHI programme was the initiative of _____

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Science and Technology
- C. Ministry of Commerce
- D. Ministry of education

33. With reference to the SATHI programme consider the following statements

1. It aims to boost access to research and testing facilities and address problems of accessibility, maintenance, redundancy, and duplication of expensive equipment in Institutions.
2. It aims to set up a shared, professionally managed Science and Technology (S&T) infrastructure facility which can be readily accessible to academia, start-ups, manufacturing units, industries, and R&D labs.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

34. Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme is the initiative of _____

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Science and Technology
- C. Ministry of Commerce
- D. Ministry of education

35. Pradhan Mantri Schools for Rising India (PM SHRI) scheme announced in the year _____

- A. 2019
- B. 2020
- C. 2021
- D. 2022

36. With reference to the PM SHRI consider the following statements

1. Development of more than 14,500 schools across the country by strengthening the existing schools among those managed by the Central Government/State/UT Government/local bodies.
2. It will nurture students in such a way that they become engaged, productive, and contributing citizens, building an equitable, inclusive, and plural society as envisaged by the National Education Policy 2020.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

37. Amplifi 2.0 portal was launched by_____

- E. Ministry of education
- F. Ministry of Housing and Urban affairs
- G. Ministry of health
- H. Ministry of science and technology

38. Consider the following statements

1. Amplifi (Assessment and Monitoring Platform for Liveable, Inclusive, and Future-Ready Urban India) portal aims to provide data on Indian cities.
2. It is making raw data from Indian cities available on a single platform for academics, researchers, and stakeholders to help data-driven policymaking.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

39. Mississippi River flows through _____

- A. Brazil
- B. America
- C. Russia
- D. China

40. PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PMFME) Scheme was launched in the year_____

- A. 2019
- B. 2020
- C. 2021
- D. 2022

41. With reference to the PM Formalisation of Micro Food Processing Enterprises (PM-FME) consider the following statements

1. The scheme is operational for a period of five years from 2020-21 to 2024-25 with an outlay of Rs. 10,000 Crore for supporting 2 lakh micro food processing enterprises.
2. Objectives: The objectives of scheme are to build capability of microenterprises to enable:

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

42. Cyber Surakshit Bharat Initiative is an initiative of _____

- A. Ministry of Electronics and Information technology
- B. Ministry of Science
- C. Ministry of Health
- D. Ministry of Home affairs

43. PM Modi's NAMO Drone Didi aims to

- A. Provide education to the children below 14 years of age
- B. Empower women Self Help Groups (SHGs) with agricultural drones
- C. Provide financial services to the rural areas
- D. None of the above

44. The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development 2022 was awarded to _____

- A. Indian Medical Association
- B. Trained Nurses Association of India as representatives of the COVID-19 warriors in the country
- C. Both A and B
- D. Pratham NGO

45. Who among the following is not awarded with the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace?

- A. Indian Space Research Organisation
- B. Former Prime Minister of India, Manmohan Singh
- C. Sir David Attenborough
- D. None of the above

46. The Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace, Disarmament, and Development was instituted in the year ____

- A. 1985
- B. 1986
- C. 1987
- D. 1988

47. What is the cash prize awarded with the Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace?

- A. 10lakhs
- B. 20lakhs
- C. 25 lakhs
- D. 30lakhs

48. Professor Savita Ladage won ____ award

- A. Nobel prize
- B. Nyholm Prize for Education
- C. Indira Gandhi Prize for Peace
- D. None of the above

49. With reference to the Nyholm prize for education consider the following statements

1. This prize was established to commemorate the life and work of Sir Ronald Nyholm, president of the Royal Society of Chemistry from 1968 to 1970.
 2. It is awarded annually.
- choose the correct statements
- A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
 - D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

50. Neervazhi Padoom is written by

- A. Divya Bharti
- B. Devibharathi
- C. Krishnamoorti
- D. Jayakanthan

51. Who among the following won the Sahitya academy award for the year for 2023?

- A. Jayakanthan
- B. Jaganathan
- C. Devibharathi
- D. Balasubramaniam

52. _____ has been awarded the prestigious Leif Erikson Lunar Prize

- A. NASA
- B. ISRO
- C. European space agency
- D. None of the above

53. with reference to the Vir Chakra consider the following statements

1. INS Shivaji, Indian Navy's premier marine engineering training institute, has received the Vir Chakra medal awarded to Late Vice Admiral Benoy Roy Chowdhury, the only technical officer of the Indian Navy to be awarded the honour.
2. The Vir Chakra is an Indian wartime military bravery award presented for acts of gallantry on the battlefield, on land or in air or at sea

choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

54. Migration and Development Brief was released by _____

- A. World Health Organisation
- B. World Bank
- C. UNDP
- D. UNESCO

55. Migration and Development Brief release _____ a year

- A. Once
- B. Twice
- C. Thrice
- D. Four times

56. Consider the following statements

1. Migration and Development brief aims to provide an update on key developments in the area of migration and remittance flows and related policies over the past six months.
2. It also provides medium-term projections of remittance flows to developing countries.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

57. India placed _____ position in the Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI).

- A. Third
- A. Fifth
- A. Seventh
- A. Ninth

58. Climate Change Performance Index (CCPI) was released in the year _____.

- A. 2002
- B. 2004
- C. 2005
- D. 2010

59. Consider the following statements regarding climate change performance index

1. It is an instrument to enable transparency in national and international climate politics.
2. It is published by Germanwatch, the New Climate Institute and the Climate Action Network annually.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

60. Consider the following statements regarding Panchayat Development index

1. It is a multi-domain and multi-sectoral index that is intended to be used to assess the overall holistic development, performance & progress of panchayats.
2. It takes into account various socio-economic indicators and parameters to gauge the well-being and development status of the local communities within the jurisdiction of a panchayat.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

61. 'Global Drought Snapshot was launched by _____

- A. World Bank
- B. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification
- C. UNESCO
- D. IMF

62. United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification was initiated at _____

- A. Stockholm conference
- B. Johannesburg
- C. Rio Earth summit
- D. Abu Dhabi

63. With reference to the United Nations Convention to Combat Desertification consider the following statements

1. It is the only legally binding framework set up to address desertification and the effects of drought.
2. There are 197 Parties to the Convention, including 196 country Parties and the European Union.

Choose the correct answer.

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

64. With reference to the Purchasing Managers Index consider the following statements

1. It is an indicator of business activity – both in the manufacturing and services sectors.
2. It is a survey-based measure that asks the respondents about changes in their perception of some key business variables from the month before.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

65. What is the share of the Agriculture sector to GDP for the year 2022-2024?

- A. 15%
- B. 20%
- C. 35%
- D. 50%

66. Plankton, Aerosol, Cloud, Ocean Ecosystem (PACE) mission is an initiative of _____

- A. ISRO
- B. Russian Space Agency
- C. NASA
- D. EUROPEAN SPACE AGENCY

67. Vyommitra is an

- A. Missile
- B. Robot
- C. Submarine
- D. Space mission

68. Gaganyaan aims to

- A. Land human in mars
- B. Land human in moon
- C. Human space flight mission
- D. None of the above

69. Scattered Spiders is a

- A. Invasive species
- B. Trojan
- C. Hacking group
- D. None of the above

70. _____ is the outermost layer of the skin and protects the body from the environment.

- A. Epidermis
- B. Endodermis
- C. Mesodermis
- D. Hair

71. Tantalum is a _____

- A. Basic
- B. Acid
- C. Mineral
- D. None of the above

72. Presence Tantalum is found in _____

- A. Ravi
- B. Beas
- C. Sutlej
- D. Ganga

73. Southern Annular Mode (SAM) is a _____

- A. Wind pattern
- B. Climate pattern
- C. Cyclone pattern
- D. None of the above

74. With reference to the Noma disease consider the following statements

1. It is a neglected tropical diseases
2. It is a rapidly progressing severe gangrenous disease of the mouth and the face.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

75. 'AMRIT' (Arsenic and Metal Removal by Indian Technology) technology is developed by _____

- A. IIT MADRAS
- B. IIT BOMBAY
- C. IISc
- D. IIT Ahmedabad

76. Pompe disease is a _____ disease

- A. Communicable
- B. Non communicable
- C. Genetic disorder
- D. Rare disease

77. With reference to the following statements regarding Naval Anti-Ship Missile Short Range (NASM-SR) consider the following statements

1. It is the first indigenous air-launched anti-ship cruise missile developed for the Indian Navy.
2. It was developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO).

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

78. Exercise VAJRA PRAHAR is between India and _____.

- A. United States of America
- B. Russia
- C. Japan
- D. France

79. Exercise AUSTRALIND was instituted in the year _____

- A. 2019
- B. 2020
- C. 2021
- D. 2022

80. Exercise SURYA KIRAN is between India and _____

- A. Nepal
- B. Japan
- C. Indonesia
- D. China

81. Akash is a

- A. Surface To Air weapon system
- B. Air to Air weapon system
- C. Surface to surface weapon system
- D. Air to air system

82. **INS Tarmugli is a _____**
- A. Fast Attack craft
 - B. Submarine
 - C. Missile
 - D. None of the above
83. **Barracuda is a _____**
- A. Solar electric boat
 - B. Nuclear powered submarine
 - C. Missile
 - D. Anti missile
84. **Exercise VINBAX-2023 is between India and _____**
- A. Vietnam
 - B. Bangladesh
 - C. Nepal
 - D. Indonesia
85. **Exercise VINBAX was instituted in the year _____**
- A. 2015
 - B. 2017
 - C. 2018
 - D. 2020
86. **With reference to the INS Sandhayak consider the following statements**
1. It is the largest survey vessel ever built in India.
 2. It is fully designed and built by the Garden Reach
- Choose the correct answer
- A. 1 only
 - B. 2 only
 - C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
 - D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct
87. **54th International Film Festival of India (IFFI) was held at _____**
- A. Mumbai
 - B. Kolkata
 - C. Hyderabad
 - D. Goa
88. **International year of Camelids is _____**
- A. 2021
 - B. 2022
 - C. 2023
 - D. 2024
89. **Lakadong turmeric is grown in _____**
- A. Madhya Pradesh
 - B. Tamil Nadu
 - C. Meghalaya
 - D. Jammu and Kashmir
90. **International Institute for the Unification of Private Law was instituted in the year _____**
- A. 1928
 - B. 1926
 - C. 1988
 - D. 2000
91. **_____ is not included in the UNESCO intangible heritage list**
- A. Garba
 - B. Yoga
 - C. Ramlila
 - D. None of the above
92. **World AIDS DAY is observed on _____**
- A. December 01
 - B. December 02
 - C. December 03
 - D. December 04

93. National Pollution Control day is observed on _____

- A. December 01
- B. December 02
- C. December 03
- D. December 04

94. International Day of People with Disabilities is observed on _____

- A. December 01
- B. December 02
- C. December 03
- D. December 04

95. Indian Navy day is observed on _____

- A. December 01
- B. December 02
- C. December 03
- D. December 04

96. World Soil day is observed on _____

- A. December 03
- B. December 05
- C. December 06
- D. December 07

97. International human rights day is observed on _____

- A. December 09
- B. December 10
- C. December 11
- D. December 12

98. UNICEF Day is observed on _____

- A. December 09
- B. December 10
- C. December 11
- D. December 12

99. Minorities Rights day is observed on _____

- A. December 17
- B. December 18
- C. December 19
- D. December 20

100. National Mathematics day is observed on _____

- A. December 18
- B. December 19
- C. December 20
- D. December 22

1.	C	21.	B	41.	C	61.	B	81.	A
2.	B	22.	B	42.	A	62.	C	82.	A
3.	D	23.	A	43.	B	63.	C	83.	A
4.	B	24.	A	44.	C	64.	C	84.	A
5.	B	25.	A	45.	D	65.	C	85.	C
6.	B	26.	C	46.	B	66.	C	86.	D
7.	C	27.	C	47.	C	67.	B	87.	D
8.	C	28.	C	48.	B	68.	C	88.	C
9.	A	29.	B	49.	C	69.	C	89.	B
10.	C	30.	B	50.	B	70.	A	90.	B
11.	B	31.	D	51.	C	71.	C	91.	D
12.	A	32.	B	52.	B	72.	C	92.	A
13.	B	33.	C	53.	C	73.	B	93.	B
14.	C	34.	D	54.	B	74.	C	94.	C
15.	C	35.	D	55.	B	75.	A	95.	D
16.	A	36.	C	56.	C	76.	C	96.	B
17.	C	37.	B	57.	C	77.	C	97.	B
18.	A	38.	C	58.	C	78.	A	98.	C
19.	C	39.	B	59.	C	79.	D	99.	B
20.	C	40.	B	60.	C	80.	A	100.	D

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