

**CURRENT AFFAIRS: APR 2024**

**1. Utkal Diwas is celebrated annually on 1<sup>st</sup> April in which Indian state?**

- (a) Odisha
- (b) Bihar
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Tamil Nadu

**Answer: A**

**Solution:** Utkal Diwas is celebrated in Odisha on April 1st every year to mark the formation of the state on that date in 1936, highlighting the cultural and historical significance of Odisha's heritage. The celebration is a tribute to Odisha's rich culture, traditions, art forms, and cuisine, symbolized by the festive atmosphere, decorations, and display of the state flag's colours – green, yellow, and red – representing pride and unity among the Odia community.

**2. Which regulatory body has launched the "T+0 settlement" beta version on an optional basis?**

- (a) Reserve Bank of India
- (b) Securities and Exchange Board of India
- (c) Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India
- (d) Competition Commission of India

**Answer: B**

**Solution:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) introduced the beta version of the T+0 settlement, allowing same-day settlement on an optional basis to enhance market efficiency and reduce transactional risks in India's capital markets.

**3. Who has been honoured with the 'International Culture Award' for the year 2024?**

- (a) Meena Charanda
- (b) Rajesh Kumar
- (c) Pooja Sharma
- (d) Sunil Verma

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Professor Meena Charanda, Principal of Kalindi College, Delhi University, has been awarded the prestigious 'International Culture Award' for the year 2024 in recognition of her remarkable contributions to education, social service, and research in political science.

**4. Which state's traditional items, Matabari Pera and Pachra, have been honoured with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag?**

- (a) Tripura
- (b) Assam
- (c) Manipur
- (d) Meghalaya

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Tripura's traditional items, Matabari Pera and Pachra, have been honoured with the Geographical Indication (GI) tag, marking a significant milestone for local artisans and weavers in the state.

**5. Which country appointed its first female Prime Minister amid escalating violence in the eastern region?**

- (a) Congo
- (b) Rwanda
- (c) Uganda
- (d) Kenya

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

The Democratic Republic of Congo appointed Judith Suminwa Tuluka as its first female Prime Minister, fulfilling a campaign promise by President Felix Tshisekedi during a period of heightened violence in the mineral-rich eastern region.

**6. Which country hosted the 'Dosti-16' trilateral exercise involving India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka?**

- (a) Maldives
- (b) India
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Bangladesh

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Maldives hosted the 'Dosti-16' trilateral exercise, showcasing collaboration and interoperability among the coast guards of India, Maldives, and Sri Lanka to address shared maritime security concerns. The exercise aimed to enhance cooperation, strengthen friendship, improve mutual operational capability, and develop interoperability among the participating nations' Coast Guard personnel.

**7. Who became the oldest World No. 1 in ATP Rankings history?**

- (a) Novak Djokovic
- (b) Roger Federer
- (c) Rafael Nadal
- (d) Andy Murray

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Novak Djokovic achieved the milestone of becoming the oldest World No. 1 in ATP Rankings history at 36 years and 321 days, surpassing Roger Federer's record. His dedication to training, recovery, and holistic health practices has contributed to his enduring success in tennis.

**8. Which city in Uttar Pradesh is known as the "City of Imarti"?**

- (a) Lucknow
- (b) Kanpur
- (c) Jaunpur
- (d) Varanasi

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Jaunpur, a city in Uttar Pradesh, is renowned as the "City of Imarti" due to its unique Imarti delicacy, which has a distinct taste and aroma that has been cherished since the British era. The district administration has been working to obtain a Geographical Indication (GI) tag for Jaunpur's Imarti, highlighting its cultural significance.

**9. Which port emerged as India's top cargo-handling port in the fiscal year 2023-24?**

- (a) Mormugao Port
- (b) Kandla Port
- (c) Mumbai Port
- (d) Paradip Port

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

Paradip Port Authority in Odisha surpassed Deendayal Port Authority, Kandla, handling 145.38 MMT of cargo, showcasing its dominance in coastal shipping and productivity excellence. This achievement reflects Paradip Port's cost efficiency, offering the lowest tariffs and maintaining frozen tariff rates for cargo handling for three years, contributing to its success as India's leading cargo-handling port.

**10. In which year was the Kodaikanal Solar Observatory established?**

- (a) 1887
- (b) 1901
- (c) 1899
- (d) 1875

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

The Kodaikanal Solar Observatory was established on April 1, 1899, by the British, marking a significant milestone in solar astrophysics research with its long history of groundbreaking discoveries related to the Sun and a vast database of solar images. In 2024, the observatory celebrated its 125th anniversary, highlighting its enduring legacy in solar science.

**11. Where was India's first home-grown gene therapy for cancer launched?**

- (a) IIT Delhi
- (b) IIT Madras
- (c) IIT Kanpur
- (d) IIT Bombay

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

India's first home-grown gene therapy for cancer, known as 'CAR-T cell therapy,' was launched at IIT Bombay on April 4, 2024. This pioneering treatment marks a significant advancement in the fight against cancer, emphasizing accessibility and affordability.

**12. Who is the new No. 1 chess player from India according to the latest FIDE rankings?**

- (a) Arjun Erigaisi
- (b) Viswanathan Anand

- (c) Praggnanandhaa R
- (d) Gukesh D

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Arjun Erigaisi is the new No. 1 chess player from India as per the latest FIDE rankings, climbing to the ninth position globally with a standard rating of 2756, marking his debut in the top 10 of the Open standard list.

**13. Which country unveiled the world's most powerful laser?**

- (a) France
- (b) Germany
- (c) United States
- (d) Romania

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

Romania revealed the world's most potent laser, utilizing Chirped-Pulse Amplification technology developed by Nobel winners, with applications spanning healthcare to space exploration, showcasing the nation's advancements in laser technology.

**14. In which state is DRDO setting up a new test centre for weapon systems?**

- (a) Odisha
- (b) West Bengal
- (c) Tamil Nadu
- (d) Maharashtra

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) is establishing a test centre for weapon systems in Junput village, West Bengal. This initiative aims to alleviate the testing workload at Odisha's Chandipur Integrated Test Range (ITR) and enhance operational capabilities.

**15. What is the "Akashteer" system designed to automate processes related?**

- (a) Enhance communication
- (b) Improve ground operations
- (c) Automate air defence control
- (d) Enhance surveillance

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

The "Akashteer" system aims to automate air defence control processes through digitization, integrating radar and communication systems for improved situational awareness and control.

**16. In which year was the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) founded?**

- (a) 1945
- (b) 1946
- (c) 1947
- (d) 1949

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

NATO was founded in 1949, marking its 75th anniversary this year, with a special event in Brussels to commemorate seven decades of collective defence and expansion, emphasizing the significance of Article 5 in ensuring member states' security.

**17. Where is the Sannati Buddhist site located?**

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

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

The Sannati Buddhist site is situated in Karnataka, specifically in the Kalaburagi district near Kanaganahalli, on the banks of the Bhima River. It holds historical significance spanning multiple constructional phases and attracts tourists due to its nearby Chandrala Parameshwari Temple.

**18. In which states have the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 been extended by the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA)?**

- (a) Assam and Manipur
- (b) Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh
- (c) Jammu and Kashmir
- (d) Assam and Meghalaya

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) extended the Armed Forces (Special Powers) Act, 1958 in parts of Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh for another six months. This extension grants significant powers to the armed forces and Central Armed Police Forces in specified "disturbed areas."

**19. Who is set to become the first Indian woman to serve as a jury member at the Paris Olympics?**

- (a) Randhir Singh
- (b) Pooja Rani
- (c) Dipa Karmakar
- (d) Bilquis Mir

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

Bilquis Mir, a canoeist from Jammu and Kashmir, is poised to make history as the first Indian woman to serve as a jury member at the Paris Olympics. Her journey reflects her determination and passion for the sport, breaking barriers and contributing significantly to Indian sports.

**20. Which country recently held its first Parliamentary Election under Emir Sheikh Meshal?**

- (a) Kuwait
- (b) Qatar
- (c) Bahrain
- (d) Oman

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Kuwait held its first election under Emir Sheikh Meshal, focusing on economic reforms amidst government-parliament deadlock. This election is significant as Kuwait aims to address fiscal challenges and reduce reliance on oil revenue.

**21. Which Indian state's Rignai Pachra textile and Tripureswari temple's Pera received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag?**

- (a) Tripura
- (b) Assam
- (c) Manipur
- (d) Mizoram

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Tripura's Rignai Pachra textile and Tripureswari temple's Pera received the GI tag, highlighting the state's rich cultural heritage and protecting its indigenous products globally.

**22. Which town is famous for its sitar and tanpura craftsmanship?**

- (a) Karjat
- (b) Ratnagiri
- (c) Miraj
- (d) Alibag

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Miraj, a small town in Maharashtra's Sangli district, is renowned for its craftsmanship in making musical instruments, particularly sitars and tanpuras. These instruments recently received Geographical Indication (GI) tags, recognizing their unique origin and quality.

**23. In which Indian state is the Gangaur festival celebrated?**

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

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The Gangaur festival, commemorating the union of Lord Shiva and Goddess Parvati, is celebrated throughout Rajasthan. It symbolizes marriage's happiness and auspiciousness, with significant rituals performed by women seeking blessings for marital harmony and prosperity.

**24. Which country's Sittwe Port has India gained operational control over, expanding its maritime presence?**

- (a) Myanmar
- (b) Sri Lanka
- (c) Bangladesh
- (d) Maldives

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

India has secured operational control over the Sittwe Port in Myanmar, enhancing its maritime presence and connectivity. This strategic move follows approval from the Ministry of External Affairs and positions India strategically in the Indian Ocean region.

**25. Which private bank became the first bank to open a branch in Lakshadweep?**

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

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

HDFC Bank's initiative to open a branch in Lakshadweep, specifically at Kavaratti Island, marks a milestone as it becomes the first private sector bank to establish a presence in the Union Territory. This move underscores HDFC Bank's commitment to expanding its reach and offering banking services, including personalized digital solutions, to the residents and businesses of Lakshadweep.

**26. According to the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024, in terms of unicorn creation, which position does India hold globally?**

- (a) First
- (b) Second
- (c) Third
- (d) Fourth

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

India ranked third globally in unicorn creation with 67 unicorns, trailing behind the United States with 703 unicorns and China with 340, as per the Hurun Global Unicorn Index. This position reflects India's status in the global startup ecosystem, despite a decline in unicorn creation for the first time since 2017.

**27. With which country does India conduct the joint military exercise DUSTLIK?**

- (a) Oman
- (b) Uzbekistan
- (c) Kazakhstan
- (d) Turkmenistan

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The fifth edition of Exercise DUSTLIK takes place in Uzbekistan, marking a significant step in strengthening bilateral relations and enhancing military cooperation between India and Uzbekistan through joint training sessions focusing on subconventional operations.

**28. Which mission did ISRO achieve a 'zero orbital debris' milestone with?**

- (a) GSLV-D6
- (b) PSLV-C35
- (c) PSLV-C58
- (d) GSLV-F08

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

ISRO achieved the 'zero orbital debris' milestone with its PSLV-C58/XPoSat mission by transforming the last stage into POEM-3 and de-orbiting it to ensure no debris remained in orbit.

**29. What country has launched a new gold-backed currency called ZiG?**

- (a) India
- (b) Zambia

- (c) Zimbabwe
- (d) South Africa

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Zimbabwe's introduction of the ZiG currency, backed by gold, reflects efforts to stabilize its economy, particularly addressing the severe devaluation of the Zimbabwean dollar (RTGS). With an annual inflation rate of 55% in March, the country aims to restore confidence in its currency and economic stability under the leadership of Zimbabwe Central Bank Governor John Mushayavanhu.

**30. Which country is deploying its own atomic clocks nationwide to synchronize digital devices?**

- (a) Bhutan
- (b) India
- (c) Russia
- (d) United States

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

India is deploying its own atomic clocks to synchronize digital devices with Indian Standard Time (IST), enhancing timekeeping infrastructure and national defence capabilities. This initiative, led by the National Physical Laboratory (NPL) and the Ministry of Science and Technology, signifies a significant technological advancement for India.

**31. What is profession of Mamta G Sagar, who won the World Literary Prize?**

- (a) Fiction writer
- (b) Academic research
- (c) Kannada poet
- (d) Political activism

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Mamta G Sagar, a Kannada poet, won the World Literary Prize for her significant contributions to literature, as recognized by the World Organization of Writers during the first Congress of WOW in Nigeria. This award highlights her achievements in winning international literature prizes.

**32. Operation Meghdoot was launched in which year?**

- (a) 1978
- (b) 1982
- (c) 1984
- (d) 1990

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Operation Meghdoot was launched on 13 April 1984 by the Indian Army and the Indian Air Force (IAF) to secure strategic heights in the Northern Ladakh region, marking a significant event in military history.

**33. Where is India's second artificial reefs installed after Pondicherry?**

- (a) Pondicherry
- (b) Chennai
- (c) Mumbai
- (d) Goa



**Answer: A**

**Solution**

India's second artificial reef installation is near Worli Koliwada, Mumbai. The project involves deploying 210 reef units made from recycled concrete and steel, aiming to boost marine life and create habitats for various marine organisms. The use of Bio-rock technology in this installation is a significant step toward enhancing marine ecosystems and supporting local fishing communities.

**34. Nyishi tribe celebrated the Longte festival without animal sacrifice, to which state the Nyishi tribe belongs?**

- (a) Arunachal Pradesh
- (b) Assam
- (c) Nagaland
- (d) Manipur

**Answer: A**

**Solution:** The Longte festival celebrated by the Nyishi tribe in Arunachal Pradesh is notable for its cultural importance and unique customs. Unlike many other tribal festivals that involve animal sacrifices, the Longte festival prohibits such practices. Instead, the festival is characterized by symbolic decorations using white feathers and bamboo, highlighting the tribe's reverence for nature and their cultural heritage. This emphasis on non-violence and symbolic rituals sets the Longte festival apart and reflects the Nyishi tribe's values and traditions.

**35. What is the focus of the CDP-SURAKSHA initiative launched by the Indian government?**

- (a) Livestock farming
- (b) Horticulture
- (c) Poultry farming
- (d) Fisheries

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The CDP-SURAKSHA initiative by the Indian government is aimed at revolutionizing horticulture subsidies, and streamlining their distribution through digital integration and secure payment mechanisms. This initiative is a significant step towards supporting horticulture farmers and promoting growth in the horticulture sector.

**36. Who is the author of the memoir titled "Just a Mercenary": Notes from My Life and Career"?**

- (a) Raghuram Rajan
- (b) Y. V. Reddy
- (c) Urjit Patel
- (d) Duvvuri Subbarao

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

The author of the memoir "Just a Mercenary": Notes from My Life and Career" is Duvvuri Subbarao, the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). In this memoir, Subbarao shares insights into his career and the challenges faced, particularly highlighting the tensions between the RBI and the government during his tenure.

**37. Who is the author of the book "India — the Road to Renaissance: A Vision and an Agenda"?**

- (a) R. K. Narayan
- (b) Amartya Sen
- (c) Arundhati Roy
- (d) Bhimeswara Challa

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

Bhimeswara Challa is the author of the book "India — the Road to Renaissance: A Vision and an Agenda." This book presents a compelling vision for India's future and challenges readers to confront the real issues that could shape the nation's trajectory.

**38. Which city's products, Tiranga Barfi and Dhalua Murli Metal Casting Craft, were awarded GI status?**

- (a) Lucknow
- (b) Agra
- (c) Varanasi
- (d) Kanpur

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Varanasi, a historic city in Uttar Pradesh, was granted the Geographical Indication (GI) status for its Tiranga Barfi and Dhalua Murli Metal Casting Craft. This recognition highlights the cultural and artisanal significance of these iconic products from Varanasi.

**39. Who succeeded Admiral R Hari Kumar as the Chief of the Naval Staff?**

- (a) Dinesh Kumar Tripathi
- (b) Ravi Shankar Prasad
- (c) Hari Kumar
- (d) Rahul Tripathi

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Vice Admiral Dinesh Kumar Tripathi, currently serving as the Vice Chief of the Naval Staff, has been appointed as the next Chief of the Naval Staff by the Government of India, effective from April 30, 2024. He brings a wealth of experience and expertise to this role, having served in various crucial positions within the Indian Navy throughout his distinguished career.

**40. Who has been appointed as the Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG)?**

- (a) Nalin Prabhat
- (b) Sapna Tewari
- (c) Anand Singh
- (d) Rajesh Kumar

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Nalin Prabhat, a 1992 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of the Andhra Pradesh cadre, has been appointed as the Director-General of the National Security Guard (NSG). His appointment is effective until his superannuation on August 31, 2028. The NSG is a specialized force tasked with countering terrorist activities, hijackings, and high-risk situations.

**41. \_\_\_\_\_ is the largest stellar black hole discovered in our Milky Way galaxy by European astronomers?**

- (a) BH-3
- (b) BH-5
- (c) BH-10
- (d) BH-15

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

European astronomers have recently uncovered the largest stellar black hole in our Milky Way galaxy, known as 'BH-3'. This discovery marks a significant milestone in astronomical research, as 'BH-3' boasts a mass 33 times greater than our Sun. What makes this finding even more remarkable is its proximity to Earth, situated a mere 2,000 light-years away. This discovery was made possible by the Gaia Space Observatory, operated by the European Space Agency (ESA), which meticulously maps celestial objects' positions and movements. 'BH-3' stands out as a rare and exceptional cosmic entity, expanding our understanding of the universe's vast and mysterious phenomena.

**42. A rare phenomenon of producing smoke rings known as volcanic vortex rings occurred in which volcano?**

- (a) Mount Fuji
- (b) Mount Vesuvius
- (c) Mount Etna
- (d) Mount Kilimanjaro

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Mount Etna, Europe's largest and one of the world's most active and iconic volcanoes, has recently been producing nearly perfect rings of smoke, a rare phenomenon. This unique display has caught the attention of scientists and volcano enthusiasts, contributing to the ongoing research on volcanic behaviour.

**43. Which type of bond is issued to fund projects having positive environmental and climate benefits?**

- (a) Treasury Bond
- (b) Green Bond
- (c) Blue Bond
- (d) Corporate Bond

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

India's Sovereign Green Bonds (SGrBs) are a type of green bonds specifically issued by the national government to fund projects with positive environmental and climate benefits, marking a significant step towards sustainable investment and financing initiatives.

**44. The "Tagore On The Padma Boat" programme was organized in which country?**

- (a) India
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Bangladesh

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

The "Tagore On The Padma Boat" programme was organized in Bangladesh. This event, directed by Dr. Anand Gupta, showcased musical and dance performances based on Tagore's works, highlighting cultural ties between India and Bangladesh.

**45. Which country is added by the UK to the list of countries considered 'too dangerous to travel'?**

- (a) Russia
- (b) Pakistan
- (c) Israel
- (d) Iran

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The UK's foreign office added Pakistan to its list of countries deemed 'too dangerous to travel' due to a surge in terror attacks and counter-terror operations in 2023, particularly highlighting regions like Khyber Pakhtunkhwa and Balochistan as major hotspots for violence. This move reflects heightened security concerns for travellers to Pakistan.

**46. India exported first batch of BrahMos missiles for the first time to which country?**

- (a) Philippines
- (b) Vietnam
- (c) Thailand
- (d) Indonesia

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

India is delivering the first batch of BrahMos missiles to the Philippines as part of a deal worth nearly \$375 million. This marks a significant milestone in India's defence exports, particularly with the BrahMos missile, which is jointly developed by India and Russia.

**47. Which substance, alleged causing cancer in the long term, led to the banning of certain spice powders in Hong Kong and Singapore?**

- (a) Ethylene oxide
- (b) Sodium chloride
- (c) Calcium carbonate
- (d) Potassium sorbate

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

The banning of certain MDH and Everest-branded spice powders in Hong Kong and Singapore was due to the alleged presence of ethylene oxide at levels exceeding permissible limits. Ethylene oxide is a chemical that has been linked to long-term health risks, including cancer, prompting regulatory actions to protect public health.

**48. Where have archaeologists recently uncovered significant megalithic monuments, an Iron Age megalithic site, and rock art sites?**

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

**Answer: D**

## **Solution**

Archaeologists in Telangana have made significant discoveries, including over 200 megalithic monuments in dense forests, an exceptional Iron Age megalithic site at Ooragutta, and two rock art sites at Damaratogu. These findings provide valuable insights into the ancient heritage of Telangana and highlight the need for continued exploration and preservation efforts in the region.

**49. Where was the "First International Rainbow Tourism Conference" to promote LGBT-friendly tourism was launched?**

- (a) Bhutan
- (b) Nepal
- (c) Sri Lanka
- (d) Maldives

**Answer: B**

## **Solution**

Nepal recently hosted its 1st Rainbow Tourism Conference, organized by Mayako Pahichan Nepal and the Nepal Tourism Board. The conference aimed to highlight Nepal as a leading LGBT-friendly tourism destination, showcasing the country's legal advancements such as the recognition of same-sex marriages. The initiative reflects Nepal's efforts to promote inclusivity and diversity in its tourism sector, attracting visitors from the LGBT community and fostering a welcoming environment for all travellers.

**50. Who become the youngest-ever challenger in the World Chess Championship?**

- (a) Gukesh
- (b) Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa
- (c) Harikrishna
- (d) Aravindh Chithambaram

**Answer: A**

## **Solution**

Indian chess prodigy Dommaraju Gukesh, aged 17, recently made history by winning the FIDE Candidates tournament and becoming the youngest-ever challenger in the history of the World Chess Championship. His exceptional performance and victory at the tournament have positioned him as a formidable contender for the world chess crown, showcasing his remarkable talent and potential in the chess world.

**51. Who has been honoured with the prestigious 'Aryabhata Award' for his contributions to astronautics?**

- (a) G Satheesh Reddy
- (b) Pavuluri Subba Rao
- (c) Rajagopalachari
- (d) Avinash Chander

**Answer: B**

## **Solution**

Pavuluri Subba Rao, the Founder, CEO, and Chairman of Ananth Technologies, has been honoured with the 'Aryabhata Award' by the Aeronautical Society of India (ASI) for his significant contributions to astronautics in India. This recognition highlights Rao's

entrepreneurial success and pioneering contributions to the Indian space program through Ananth Technologies.

**52. Who secured India's first Paris Olympics quota in rowing?**

- (a) Ravi Singh
- (b) Neha Gupta
- (c) Manisha Patel
- (d) Balraj Panwar

**Answer: D**

**Solution:** Balraj Panwar made history by securing India's first Paris Olympics quota in rowing. He achieved this milestone by finishing third in the men's single scull event of the Asian Olympic qualifiers in Chungju, South Korea, showcasing his talent and determination in the sport.

**53. Where was the new species of clouded tiger cat discovered?**

- (a) India
- (b) Brazil
- (c) Australia
- (d) Indonesia

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The new species of clouded tiger cat, named *Leopardus pardinoides*, was discovered in the dense rainforests of Brazil. This discovery has sparked interest among scientists and conservationists, leading to renewed efforts to protect the region's biodiversity.

**54. Which country launched the first-ever Hindi radio broadcast to strengthen ties with India?**

- (a) Yemen
- (b) Oman
- (c) Qatar
- (d) Kuwait

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

Kuwait's Ministry of Information launched the first Hindi radio broadcast in Kuwait, demonstrating their commitment to cultural exchange and strengthening ties with India. This initiative aims to foster closer relations between India and Kuwait, highlighting the significance of bilateral cooperation in cultural and diplomatic spheres.

**55. Where was the 34th Seng Kihlang Festival concluded?**

- (a) Mizoram
- (b) Meghalaya
- (c) Nagaland
- (d) Manipur

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The 34th Seng Kihlang Festival, a significant event for the Khasi Indigenous Faith, concluded in Wahiajer, Meghalaya. This annual festival celebrates unity and traditions within the indigenous community, with the symbolic exchange of the Monolith representing the enduring spirit of unity among believers.

**56. Where was the 2024 Ocean Decade Conference held?**

- (a) Paris
- (b) London
- (c) Rome
- (d) Barcelona

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

The 2024 Ocean Decade Conference was held in Barcelona, Spain, from April 10 to 12, 2024. During the conference, India, represented by Earth Sciences Secretary M. Ravichandran, advocated for establishing a region-specific ocean observation centre as part of efforts to achieve the objectives of the United Nations Decade of Ocean Science for Sustainable Development.

**57. Who won the World Press Photo of the Year award in 2024?**

- (a) Mohammed Salem
- (b) Ahmed Hassan
- (c) Fatima Ali
- (d) Ibrahim Khan

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

Mohammed Salem, a Palestinian photographer working with Reuters, won the World Press Photo of the Year award in 2024. He received this prestigious award for his poignant photograph capturing the aftermath of the Israeli bombing in Gaza, showcasing the tragic loss and suffering caused by armed conflicts.

**58. When is National Panchayati Raj Day observed?**

- (a) April 24
- (b) April 25
- (c) May 1
- (d) April 15

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

National Panchayati Raj Day is observed on April 24th every year to commemorate the establishment of the Panchayati Raj system in India. This system, introduced through the 73rd Constitutional Amendment Act in 1993, empowers local self-governing bodies at the village level, known as Gram Panchayats, promoting participatory democracy and inclusive development.

**59. Which country appointed Col Edison Napyo as its first Defence Advisor to India?**

- (a) Fiji
- (b) Maldives
- (c) Papua New Guinea
- (d) Vanuatu

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Papua New Guinea appointed Col Edison Napyo as its first Defence Advisor to India, marking a significant development in bilateral relations between the two countries. The appointment underscores the warm and friendly relations enjoyed by India and Papua New Guinea, which formalized diplomatic ties in 1976. Port Moresby serves as the capital of Papua New Guinea, and the currency used is the Papua New Guinean Kina.

**60. Who has been appointed as the first woman Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU)?**

- (a) Dalip Tahil
- (b) Sultan Jahan
- (c) Irfan Habib
- (d) Naima Khatoon

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

Professor Naima Khatoon has been appointed as the first woman Vice-Chancellor of Aligarh Muslim University (AMU), breaking a century-old glass ceiling. This historic appointment is significant, representing a step towards inclusive leadership and showcasing the government's commitment to empowering women in leadership roles.

**61. As per the Passport Affordability Rankings, which country's passport is the most affordable?**

- (a) UAE
- (b) India
- (c) Australia
- (d) USA

**Answer: A**

**Solution**

According to a recent study, the UAE passport is ranked as the most affordable globally, while the Indian passport follows as the second cheapest. The study highlights the cost-effectiveness of the Indian passport in terms of acquisition and yearly expenses, but it notes the limited visa-free access compared to higher-priced passports from countries like Australia and the USA.

**62. Which states lead India's clean energy transition?**

- (a) Maharashtra and Tamil Nadu
- (b) Kerala and Rajasthan
- (c) Karnataka and Gujarat
- (d) Punjab and Haryana

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

The report highlights Karnataka and Gujarat as leading states in India's clean energy transition, showcasing their strong performances in integrating renewable energy sources and decarbonizing their power sectors. Conversely, states like Jharkhand, Bihar, West Bengal, and Uttar Pradesh require increased efforts to enhance renewable energy deployment and strengthen distribution companies.

**63. What type of virus is Mpox?**

- (a) RNA virus



- (b) DNA virus
- (c) Retrovirus
- (d) Adenovirus

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

Mpox, also known as monkeypox, belongs to the family Poxviridae and is classified as a DNA virus. DNA viruses like Mpox have double-stranded DNA as their genetic material, and they exhibit specific characteristics in terms of replication and infection mechanisms compared to RNA viruses or other types of viruses.

**64. Which news group developed the AI-powered news anchor named Sana?**

- (a) Indian Express
- (b) London Media Group
- (c) India Today Group
- (d) The Hindu Group

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

The AI-powered news anchor named Sana was developed by India Today Group. This innovative AI technology earned recognition and awards at the International News Media Association (INMA) Global Media Awards, showcasing India Today Group's expertise in AI-driven journalism.

**65. Which provision of the Indian Constitution allows for the establishment of an autonomous state within the State of Assam?**

- (a) Article 244
- (b) Article 244(B)
- (c) Article 244(A)
- (d) Article 244(C)

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Article 244(A) of the Indian Constitution, added through the Twenty-second Amendment Act in 1969, empowers Parliament to enact a law for establishing an autonomous state within Assam, comprising tribal areas specified in the Sixth Schedule. This provision aims to address demands for autonomy and special administration in certain regions, such as Assam's predominantly tribal Diphu Lok Sabha constituency.

**66. Who is known as the "Father of Indian Psychology"?**

- (a) Sigmund Freud
- (b) Carl Jung
- (c) Alfred Adler
- (d) Sudhir Kakar

**Answer: D**

**Solution**

Sudhir Kakar, renowned as the "Father of Indian Psychology," passed away at the age of 85, leaving behind a legacy of bridging Western psychoanalytic thought with Indian culture. His pioneering work, including "The Inner World," explored the Indian psyche, cultural nuances, and societal influences on human behaviour, making significant contributions to the field of psychology and cultural critique.

**68. Where was India's first multi-purpose green hydrogen pilot project inaugurated?**

- (a) Jharkhand
- (b) Himachal Pradesh
- (c) Uttarakhand
- (d) Karnataka

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

India's first multi-purpose green hydrogen pilot project was inaugurated at the Nathpa Jhakri Hydro Power Station in Himachal Pradesh. Spearheaded by SJVN, the project aims to produce green hydrogen using renewable energy sources, marking a significant advancement in India's renewable energy sector and supporting the National Green Hydrogen Mission's objectives.

**69. A landmark environmental movement, the Chipko Movement began in Uttarakhand in which year?**

- (a) 1960
- (b) 1973
- (c) 1985
- (d) 1992

**Answer: B**

**Solution**

The Chipko Movement, a significant environmental movement, started in Uttarakhand in 1973. It was a response to rampant deforestation and commercial activities threatening the region's forests. The movement gained attention for its non-violent methods, including tree-hugging, to protect natural resources and raise awareness about ecological conservation.

**70. Which city is constructing the world's largest airport, Al Maktoum International Airport?**

- (a) Japan
- (b) London
- (c) Dubai
- (d) Singapore

**Answer: C**

**Solution**

Dubai is constructing Al Maktoum International Airport, set to be the world's largest airport with impressive capacity and infrastructure. This ambitious project reflects Dubai's commitment to innovation, global connectivity, and economic growth.