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JUDICIAL TIMES

NOVEMBER 2023

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(NOVEMBER 2023)

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NATIONAL NEWS

1. Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi launches 'Sankalp Saptah', a week-long programme for Aspirational Blocks

- 'Sankalp Saptah,' a week-long program for Aspirational Blocks, will be inaugurated by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi on September 30, 2023 at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi, Delhi.
- Sankalp Saptah' is aimed at facilitating the effective implementation of the Aspirational Block Program (ABP) in India.
- The Aspirational Block Program was originally launched by the Prime Minister on January 7, 2023.
- Starting from October 3 to October 9, 2023, each day of the 'Sankalp Saptah' is dedicated to a specific development theme on which all the aspirational blocks will work.
- The themes for the first six days include 'Sampoorna Swasthya', 'Suposhit Pariwaar', 'Swachhta', 'Krishi', 'Shiksha', and 'Samridhi Diwas'.

2. Indian Oil Introduces India's First Green Hydrogen-Powered Bus Emitting Only Water.

- Indian Oil Corporation (IOC), India's leading oil firm, has unveiled the nation's first green hydrogen-powered bus.
- This bus emits only water as a byproduct, making it an environmentally friendly transportation solution.
- IOC will produce approximately 75 kg of hydrogen by using a process called electrolysis, which involves splitting water using electricity generated from renewable sources.
- The green hydrogen will be utilised to power two buses that will operate in the National Capital Region (NCR).

3. India to become world's number one automobile manufacturing hub in next 3-4 years.

- Road Transport and Highways Minister Nitin Gadkari stated that India has set a target to become world's number one automobile manufacturing hub in the next 3 to 4 years.

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- He stated that in the last nine years, the size of the Automobile Industry has increased from 4.5 lakh crore rupees to 12.5 lakh crore rupees.
 - Mr Gadkari also stated that this industry has given jobs to 4.5 crore youth of the country.
 - The Union government launched Swachhata Campaign 3.0 from October 2-31 will not incur any expense.
4. **Over 50,000 people take pledge to donate their organs, under AyushmanBhav campaign.**
- The 'Ayushman Bhav' campaign, inaugurated by President Droupadi Murmu, is set to roll out on the occasion of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's birthday.
 - The national healthcare initiative aims to ensure extensive coverage of healthcare programmes, reaching every village and town in the country.
 - A person after his death can give new life to eight people by donating vital organs like Kidneys, Liver, Lungs, Heart, and cornea.
 - In the last ten years, the number of people donating organs has increased more than three times.
5. **Cabinet approves Terms of Reference to Krishna Water Dispute Tribunal-II under Inter State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956 - request from State of Telangana .**
- The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi has approved the issue of further Terms of Reference (ToR) to the existing Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II (KWDT-II) under section 5(1) of the ISRWD Act for its adjudication between the States of Telangana and Andhra Pradesh (AP).
 - This is based on receipt of the legal opinion and in light thereof on the issues raised by the Government of Telangana (GoT) in their complaint under section (3) of the Inter-State River Water Disputes (ISRWD) Act, 1956.
 - Krishna Water Disputes Tribunal-II was constituted by the Central Government on 02.04.2004 on requests made by the party States under Section 3 of the ISRWD Act, 1956.

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6. **Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20) to be held in New Delhi.**

- The Ninth G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20) will be held in New Delhi from 13th to the 14th of October 2023.
- Within the G20, Parliament 20 (P20) is an engagement group headed by the speakers of G20 countries and it aims at bringing a parliamentary dimension to global governance.
- The main theme of the P20 is Parliament for One Earth, One Family, One Future.
- A pre-summit event namely Parliamentary Forum on LiFE (Lifestyle for Environment) will be held on the 12th of this month.
- An exhibition namely Mother of Democracy will also be organized at the venue of the summit to highlight India's ancient and participative democratic traditions.

7. **Shri Nitin Gadkari approves schemes worth Rs 154.25 crore for the Una and Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund.**

- Union Minister for Road Transport and Highways Shri Nitin Gadkari, strengthening the infrastructure for smooth transportation in the country is the priority of the Modi government.
- Schemes worth Rs 154.25 crore for the Una and Kangra region of Himachal Pradesh under the Central Road and Infrastructure Fund CIRF have been approved.
- Under this approval, two bridges will be constructed on Swan River at a cost of Rs 50.60 crore and Pong Dam on Beas River at a cost of Rs 103.65 crore.

8. **50th India International Knit Fair to be held from October 12 to 14.**

- The 50th India International Knit Fair will be held from 12th to 14th October at the India Knit Fair Association complex (IKFA) in Tiruppur, Tamil Nadu.
- The fair's main theme is "Active and Sportswear, Environmental Social Governance, Artificial Intelligence and Digitalisation".
- Leading buyers and their representatives from Europe, the US, the UK and other countries have been invited to the fair

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9. **Khadi opens outlet at IIT-Delhi with breathable, attractive clothes for the young.**
- In an endeavour to introduce Khadi to young people, the Khadi and Village Industries Commission (KVIC) inaugurated a newly-renovated Khadi India outlet at the IIT- Delhi campus on the occasion of Gandhi Jayanti.
 - Manoj Kumar, Chairman-KVIC launched the outlet in the IIT shopping complex and stated that Prime Minister Modi had emphasised the role of khadi in his address at the G20 University Connect Finale at Bharat Mandapam on September 26.
 - Modi stated that the youth of India should show their power by being 'Vocal for local' and by wearing the 'Made in India' fabric of the nation khadi as the preferred fabric for fashion.
 - The center has been set up as a hub and spokes model, with Delhi as a hub and Bengaluru, Gandhinagar, Kolkata and Shillong as spokes.
 - Bal Bhavan is an autonomous institute headquartered in New Delhi.
 - Prime Minister Jawaharlal Nehru founded it in 1956.
 - Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurated an Augmented Reality (AR) and Virtual Reality (VR) Laboratory.

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INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- 1. Russia Seeks Reinstatement in UN Human Rights Council One Year After Removal.**
 - Russia is seeking to rejoin the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) after being removed from the council in April 2022.
 - Russia is actively lobbying member nations to gain support for its position paper at the UN, signalling its desire to return to the UNHRC.
 - Russia aims to rejoin the UNHRC with the belief that it will help restore its international credibility and potentially address allegations of human rights abuses associated with President Vladimir Putin's regime.
- 2. 'UKUSA' Intelligence Alliance Backs Canada's Accusation Against India in Khalistani Leader's Assassination.**
 - Canada has made an accusation regarding India's involvement in the assassination of a Khalistani leader, and this accusation has garnered support from the Five Eyes intelligence alliance, known as United Kingdom-United States Communication Intelligence Act ('UKUSA.').
 - Five Eyes alliance consists of 5 member countries, namely Australia, Canada, New Zealand, the United Kingdom, and the United States.
 - This alliance was established in 1946.
 - These countries are parties to the multilateral UK-USA Agreement, a treaty for joint cooperation in signals intelligence.
 - It is considered a response to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).
- 3. WHO Recommends R21/Matrix-M Vaccine for Malaria Prevention in Children.**
 - The World Health Organisation (WHO) recommended a new vaccine, R21/Matrix-M, for the prevention of malaria in children.
 - The recommendation follows advice from the WHO: Strategic Advisory Group of Experts on Immunization (SAGE) and the Malaria Policy Advisory Group (MPAG) and was endorsed by the WHO Director-General following its regular biannual meeting held on 25-29 September, 2023.
 - The R21 vaccine is the 2nd malaria vaccine recommended by WHO, following the RTS,S/AS01 vaccine, which received a WHO recommendation in 2021.

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- The R21/Matrix-M malaria vaccine developed by the University of Oxford and the Serum Institute of India has been recommended for use by the WHO.
- 4. India & United Nations launch global capacity building initiative.**
 - India and the United Nations launched a joint capacity-building initiative called the "India-UN Capacity Building Initiative," designed to foster growth and development in the Global South.
 - The initiative is aimed at building the capacity of countries in the Global South.
 - The goal is to share India's development experiences, best practices, and expertise through capacity-building and training programs.
 - It extends the success of India's G20 Presidency, which prioritised the inclusion of voices from the Global South in the G20 agenda.
 - 5. Armenia's Parliament Votes to Join International Criminal Court Amid Strained Relations with Russia Over Putin's Arrest Warrant.**
 - Armenia's Parliament voted to join the International Criminal Court, a move that further strains the country's ties with its old ally Russia after the court issued an arrest warrant for President Vladimir Putin over events in Ukraine.
 - In Sep 2023, Moscow called Yerevan's effort to join the ICC an "unfriendly step," and the Russian Foreign Ministry summoned Armenia's ambassador.
 - Countries that have signed and ratified the Rome Statute that created the ICC are bound to arrest Mr. Putin, who was indicted for war crimes connected to the deportation of children from Ukraine if he sets foot on their soil.
 - There are a total of 123 states that have signed the Rome Statute.
 - India is not a member of the Rome statute.
 - 6. India to Unveil Largest Statue of B R Ambedkar Outside Maryland in North America.**
 - The tallest statue of B R Ambedkar, named the 'Statue of Equality,' will be unveiled in Accokeek City, Maryland, on October 14, 2023.
 - The statue stands at a height of 19 feet.
 - It is situated on a 13-acre land in Accokeek City, Maryland.
 - The statue of Ambedkar is a significant component of the Ambedkar International Center (AIC).

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7. **Sri Lanka to Assume Chairmanship of Indian Ocean Rim Association at 23rd Council of Ministers' Meeting.**
 - Southeast Asian leaders decided that Myanmar would not chair the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) 2026 meeting due to military seizure of power in the Sri Lanka is set to take over the chairmanship of the Indian Ocean Rim Association (IORA) during the 23rd Council of Ministers' Meeting, which is scheduled for October 11, 2023, in Colombo.
 - Sri Lanka will hold the chairmanship of the IORA for a period of 2 years, from 2023 to 2025.
 - The chairmanship will be ceremoniously handed over by the Foreign Minister of Bangladesh to Sri Lanka's Foreign Minister M.U.M. Ali Sabry.
8. **Bangladesh Receives Russian Uranium Shipment for Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant.**
 - Bangladesh received the first batch of uranium from Russia for its Rooppur Nuclear Power Plant (RNPP).
 - Bangladesh became the 33rd nuclear power-producing country in the world after the commissioning of the Rooppur nuclear plant.
 - The Director General of Rosatom, Aleksey Likhachev, handed over the nuclear fuel during a function presided over by Bangladesh's Science and Technology Minister, Architect Yeafesh Osman.
9. **India and Tanzania Upgrade Relations to a Strategic Partnership with Focus on Expanding Defense Cooperation.**
 - India and Tanzania announced the elevation of their relations to a strategic partnership and agreed on a five-year roadmap to significantly expand defence cooperation.
 - Tanzanian President Samia Suluhu Hassan paid a state visit to India from 8 to 10 October 2023.
 - On October 8, 2023 Israel's Cabinet invoked Article 40 Aleph, officially declaring war against Hamas.
 - This marks the first such declaration since the Yom Kippur War in 1973.

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10. Israel formally declares war against Hamas.

- Israel has officially declared war against Hamas, marking a significant escalation in the ongoing conflict between the two parties.
- In response to the surprise attack by Hamas, the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) initiated "Operation Iron Swords" as a retaliatory measure.
- For the first time since the Economic Freedom of the World Index started in 1970, Hong Kong slipped to second place from the number one spot and its score is about to drop even further.

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ECONOMICS

1. RBI Introduces New Prudential Regulations for All India Financial Institutions.

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has introduced new prudential regulations through the "Reserve Bank of India (Prudential Regulations on Basel III Capital Framework, Exposure Norms, Significant Investments, Classification, Valuation, and Operation of Investment Portfolio Norms and Resource Raising Norms for All India Financial Institutions) Directions, 2023."
- These regulations are designed to govern the operations of 5 prominent All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs).
- The AIFIs covered by these regulations include.
 - a) Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM) Bank.
 - b) National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NABFID).
 - c) National Housing Bank (NHB).
 - d) Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).
 - e) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)

2. HDFC Bank Introduces Three New Digital Payment Products on UPI.

- HDFC Bank has introduced 3 new digital payment products on the Unified Payment Interface (UPI).
- These products are UPI 123Pay: Payment via IVR (Interactive Voice Response), UPI Plug-In Service for Merchant Transactions, AutoPay on QR codes.
- UPI 123Pay enables users to make payments using a phone call, without requiring internet connectivity or a smartphone.
- AutoPay on QR enables recurring payments through UPI QR and aims to transform various use cases, including Over-The-Top (OTT) platforms, audio subscriptions, newsletters, and other digital subscription services.

3. World Bank retains India's FY24 GDP growth at 6.3%.

- The World Bank has decided to maintain India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth projection at 6.3% for the fiscal year 2023-24.
- In its April, 2023 report, the World Bank had reduced India's growth forecast for 2023-24 from the earlier 6.6% to 6.3%.

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- The World Bank's latest report highlights India's remarkable resilience in a challenging global environment.
 - India was one of the fastest-growing major economies in the fiscal year 2022-23, with a growth rate of 7.2%, despite facing significant global challenges.
 - India's economic resilience, as per the World Bank, is supported by several factors, including robust domestic demand, substantial public infrastructure investments, and a strengthening financial sector.
 - The World Bank notes that bank credit growth in India has increased to 15.8% in the first quarter of the fiscal year 2023-24.
4. **IndusInd Bank Launches 'INDIE,' a Customer-Centric Digital Banking App with Several Industry-First Features.**
- IndusInd Bank has launched 'INDIE', a mobile banking app designed for customers seeking a personalised digital banking experience.
 - 'INDIE' utilises analytics to offer tailored financial insights.
 - The app introduces industry-first features, including ultra-flexible products that users can customize to meet their specific requirements.
 - Additionally, the app has a transparent rewards program, allowing customers to select preferred brands from leading e-commerce platforms and earn rewards of up to 3% per ₹100 spent.
5. **Bank for International Settlements and Central Banks of France, Singapore, and Switzerland Complete CBDC Project Mariana.**
- The Bank for International Settlements (BIS) and the central banks of France, Singapore, and Switzerland announced the completion of a CBDC (central bank digital currency) initiative called Project Mariana.
 - The project focused on testing cross-border trading and settlement of wholesale central bank digital currencies (wCBDCs) among financial institutions.
 - It incorporated concepts from Decentralized Finance (DeFi) technology, which utilizes cryptocurrency and blockchain to create an open, transparent, and permissionless financial ecosystem without central authority control.

6. **Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund launches India's first Nifty 500 ETF.**

- Motilal Oswal Mutual Fund has introduced India's first Nifty 500 ETF, an open-ended scheme designed to replicate the performance of the Nifty 500 Total Return Index.
- This new fund offer (NFO) is now open for subscription.
- Afterward, it will reopen for continuous sale and repurchase within 5 business days from the allotment date.
- Primary objective : To deliver returns that, before accounting for expenses, mirror the total returns of the securities represented in the Nifty 500 Total Return Index, while considering tracking error.

7. **YES Bank becomes the 1st lender to offer 'ONDC Network Gift Card'.**

- YES Bank has become the first bank in India to issue the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) Network Gift Card.
- The ONDC Network Gift Card makes use of the RuPay network, which is a domestic payment system in India.
- This card is issued in partnership with the ONDC, which signifies collaboration in the digital commerce space.

8. **PFRDA Selects 11th Fund Manager for the National Pension System (NPS).**

- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA) is in the process of appointing DSP Pension Fund Managers as the 11th fund manager authorised to manage retirement savings within the National Pension System (NPS). PFRDA is exploring collaboration with regional rural banks (RRBs) to expand its outreach and make NPS more accessible to citizens across India.

9. **RBI imposes Rs 5.39 crore penalty on Paytm Payments Bank.**

- The Reserve Bank of India stated it has imposed a penalty of Rs 5.39 crore on Paytm Payments Bank Ltd for non-compliance with certain provisions, including Know Your Customer (KYC) norms.
- The central bank also found non-compliance with certain provisions related to 'RBI Guidelines for Licensing of Payments Banks', 'Cyber security framework in banks' and 'Securing mobile banking applications including UPI ecosystem'.

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- Further, RBI stated that the penalty is based on the deficiencies in regulatory compliance and is not intended to pronounce upon the validity of any transaction or agreement entered into by the bank with its customers.
10. **SEBI whole-time member urges AIF industry to self-regulate.**
- The Securities and Exchange Board of India (Sebi) has discovered several instances of circumventing regulations through alternative investment funds (AIFs) and is discussing this with other regulators, stated Ananth Narayan, whole-time member (WTM) of the market regulator.
 - Speaking at an AIF summit organised by the Confederation of Indian Industry, the Sebi official pointed out that while there have been no violations of the letter of the law, several entities have been found to be breaching the spirit of the law by investing in assets through AIFs that are otherwise not permitted.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. NASA Releases Breathtaking Image of Mercury, the Solar System's Smallest Planet.

- The National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) has shared an image of Mercury by MESSENGER (Mercury Surface, Space Environment, Geochemistry and Ranging) spacecraft.
- Mercury is the smallest planet in our solar system, and it holds the distinction of being the closest planet to the Sun, located approximately 36 million miles away from it.
- MESSENGER was launched in 2004, and it entered orbit around Mercury in 2011, after a long journey through space.
- The primary objective of the MESSENGER spacecraft was to conduct an in-depth study of Mercury.

2. Fintech firm CRED launches vehicle management platform 'CRED Garage'.

- Fintech firm CRED launched CRED Garage, a vehicle management platform, which will offer its members concierge service, timely reminders, document management, and insights on spending.
- The feature will be available within the CRED app.
- CRED Garage integrates with DigiLocker, allowing users to access essential documents such as driver's licenses, registration certificates, and insurance papers digitally.
- The app will provide data on maintenance records, performance insights, fuel spends for the vehicles added to the platform.

3. China launches new remote sensing satellite - Yaogan-33 04.

- China sent a new remote sensing satellite named Yaogan-33 04 carried off by a Long March-4C carrier rocket into space from the Jiuquan Satellite Launch Center in northwest China.
- The satellite will be mainly used for scientific experiments, land resource surveys, agricultural product yield estimation and disaster prevention and relief.
- The Long March-4C is a three-stage launch vehicle fueled by liquid propellant.
- This is the 489th flight mission of the Long March rocket series.

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4. **Google Rolls Out Android Earthquake Alerts System in India.**

- Search giant Google in consultation with the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) and the National Seismology Center (NSC) and the Ministry of Earth Sciences has launched its Earthquake Alerts System for Android smartphone users in India.
- The system utilizes the built-in accelerometers in Android smartphones to detect the initial stages of an earthquake.
- When multiple smartphones in a specific area detect seismic activity, the system aggregates this information to estimate the earthquake's epicentre and magnitude.

5. **Denmark museum allows Bluetooth inventors to use Viking king's name for 1,000 Years.**

- King Harald I Blatand, also known as Harald Bluetooth, was a key historical figure in northern Europe.
- To the backdrop of the vast Jelling stones, Denmark granted the inventors of Bluetooth technology permission to use the name and symbol of Harald the Bluetooth for the next 1,000 years.
- Bluetooth stated that it regretted not seeking permission before borrowing the name. (Bluetooth).
- King Harald I Blatand -- Harald Bluetooth -- was a key historical figure in 10th-century northern Europe, famous for his adoption of Christianity, turning his back on the cult of Odin and Thor.

6. **Amazon Launches Its 1st Pair of Prototype Satellites for Internet Network.**

- Amazon's (AMZN.O) first pair of prototype satellites for its planned Kuiper internet network were launched into space on from Florida in low Earth orbit (LEO), the company's first step before it deploys thousands more into orbit to beam internet service globally and compete with SpaceX's Starlink.
- The launch took place at ULA's pad SLC-41 in Cape Canaveral, Florida.
- Aim: To test Amazon's first pieces of technology in space as the e-commerce and web services giant looks to deploy 3,236 more satellites in the next few years and offer broadband internet globally, a feat Elon Musk's SpaceX is targeting with its nearly 5,000 Starlink satellites in orbit.

7. ISRO Initiates Unmanned Test Flights for India's First Manned Space Mission, Gaganyaan.

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) will start unmanned test flights for Gaganyaan, the country's first manned space mission.
- The Gaganyaan project's primary objective is to showcase India's human spaceflight capability.
- It aims to launch a three-member crew into a low Earth orbit at an altitude of 400 km for a duration of 3 days and ensure their safe return with a planned splashdown in the Indian Ocean.
- The Launch Vehicle Mark-3 (LVM3/GSLV Mk3), a reliable heavy-lift launcher developed by ISRO, has been selected as the launch vehicle for the Gaganyaan mission.

8. NASA's Solar Probe Achieves Record as Fastest Man-Made Object.

- National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Parker Solar Probe becomes the fastest man-made object.
- Parker Solar Probe of NASA attained a speed of 635,266 kilometres per hour during a recent solar flyby.
- This speed surpasses its previous record of 586,000 kilometres (364,621 miles) per hour achieved in 2021.
- The Parker Solar Probe was launched in 2018 to collect information about the outer corona of the Sun.

9. ISRO's Second Spaceport for Private Sector Small Satellite Launch Vehicles to Open in 2 Years in Tamil Nadu.

- The 2nd spaceport of Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO), which will be dedicated exclusively for Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLVs) developed by the private sector, will come up in about two years at Kulasekarapattinam in Thoothukudi district of Tamil Nadu (TN).
- On October 10, 2023 Dr. Pawan Goenka, Chairman of the Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACe), announced the development of a full launch center in Thoothukudi for SSLV launches.

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- The SSLV, a 3-stage launch vehicle capable of launching approximately 500 kg satellites in a 500-km planar orbit, will be fully transferred to the private sector for development and operation.
10. **Google India Introduces 'DigiKavach' to Counter Online Financial Fraud.**
- Google India has launched its flagship program called "DigiKavach."
 - This program serves as an early threat detection and warning system designed to identify and analyse emerging financial fraud patterns.
 - The primary aim of DigiKavach is to develop and implement effective countermeasures before emerging threats and fraud patterns lead to widespread harm in the online financial space.
 - Google has partnered with The Fintech Association for Consumer Empowerment (FACE) and onboarded them as a priority flagger to address predatory digital lending apps on the Play Store in India.

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DEFENCE CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. 30th edition of Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise successfully concludes in Singapore.

- The 30th edition of the Singapore-India Maritime Bilateral Exercise (SIMBEX) has successfully concluded in Singapore.
- Indian Naval Ships Ranvijay and Kavaratti, the submarine Sindhukesari, and a long-range Maritime Patrol Aircraft P8I participated in the exercise.
- SIMBEX was first initiated in 1994, making it a three-decade-old annual exercise.
- The exercise began with an opening ceremony held on 21st September 2023.
- The exercise included combined aviation, firefighting, and damage control exercises conducted during the exercise period.
- The sea phase of SIMBEX 23 took place from the 25th to the 28th of September, 2023.

2. Indian Air Force inducts first of six new Dornier Do-228 aircraft manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited.

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) inducted the first of six new Dornier Do-228 aircraft manufactured by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- HAL equipped this new version of the Dornier Do-228 with significant upgrades, including new engines, composite propellers, advanced avionics, and a glass cockpit.
- In March, 2023 the Defense Ministry of India finalized a deal for the purchase of six Dornier-228 aircraft from HAL for the Indian Air Force, with a budget allocation of Rs 667 crore.

3. Indian Army and Bangladesh Army Commence Joint Military Exercise SAMPRITI-XI.

- The 11th edition of the SAMPRITI joint military exercise (SAMPRITI-XI) between the Indian Army and the Bangladesh Army has commenced in Umroi, Meghalaya.
- SAMPRITI-XI is scheduled to last for 14 days.
- It will involve approximately 350 personnel from both sides.
- The Bangladesh contingent consists of 170 personnel and is led by Brigadier General Mohammed Mafizul Islam Rashed.

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- The Indian contingent mainly comprises troops from a battalion of the RAJPUT Regiment.
4. **Indian Defence Minister Rajnath Singh Unveils Swavalamban 2.0: Upgraded Indigenous Program for Indian Navy.**
- India's Defence Minister, Rajnath Singh, launched Swavalamban 2.0, an updated indigenous program of the Indian Navy.
 - He addressed the Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO) seminar called 'Swavlamban' in New Delhi.
 - During the event, the Defence Minister released the 5th Positive Indigenisation list, which comprises 98 items aimed at promoting indigenous production.
 - Rajnath Singh discussed the 'SPRINT' Challenges, which aim to encourage the use of indigenous technology and products in the Navy. Northeast's first defence tech show begins in Guwahati
5. **Northeast's first defence tech show begins in Guwahati.**
- 'East Tech ', the first-ever defence tech show in Northeast India, has commenced in Guwahati, Assam.
 - Aim: To expose manufacturers to the requirements of the armed forces and facilitate direct procurement of their products.
 - The Indian Army and the Assam government have jointly organized this tech event.
 - The event was inaugurated by Lt Gen Rana Pratap Kalita.
6. **Indian Army Gears Up for Tri Shakti Prahar Combat Exercise.**
- The Indian Army is actively preparing for the "Tri Shakti Prahar" combat exercise, which aims to test and validate current cutting-edge weapon systems and technologies.
 - It provides a platform to assess long-range firepower, battle readiness, and force preservation strategies.

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7. Indian Navy's Advanced Light Helicopter reaches Sri Lanka Air Force base.

- The Indian Navy's Advanced Light Helicopter has arrived at the Sri Lanka Air Force base in Katunayake.
- This state-of-the-art helicopter will be utilized to train pilots of the Sri Lanka Air Force (SLAF) and the Sri Lanka Navy (SLN), thus strengthening the defence cooperation between the two countries.
- Notably, the indigenous ALH was previously deployed in March 2022 in Sri Lanka, which successfully enhanced SLAF pilots' co-piloting skills during deck landings.

8. India and Malaysia Launch Joint Training Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023.

- The joint bilateral training exercise "Exercise Harimau Shakti 2023" between the Indian and Malaysian Armies commenced in Umroi Cantonment, India.
- To enhance the level of defence cooperation between the Indian Army and the Malaysian Army, fostering bilateral relations between the two nations.
- The Malaysian Army contingent comprises troops from the 5th Royal Battalion of the Malaysian Army.
- The Indian contingent is represented by a Battalion of THE RAJPUT REGIMENT.
- The previous edition of the Exercise was conducted in Pulai, Kluang, Malaysia in November 2022.

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SPORTS NEWS

1. Asian Games: Tajinderpal Singh Toor overcomes Saudi challenge to retain shot put gold.

- Indian shot-putter Tajinderpal Singh Toor defended his Asian Games title with an amazing final throw to beat back the challenge from his Saudi Arabian rival in Hangzhou.
- Tajinderpal Singh Toor, the 2018 Jakarta Asian Games gold medallist, came up with a mighty throw of 20.36 metres on his sixth and last attempt to overhaul his Saudi rival Mohamed Daouda Tolo's distance of 20.18 metres. He, however, could not break his own Asian Games record of 20.75m set in 2018 Jakarta.
- The 28-year-old's final throw was way too good for his Saudi rival to overhaul in his final attempt.
- Meanwhile, in the 1500m for women, India's Harmilan Bains won a silver while Ajay Kumar Saroj and Jinson Johnson won silver and bronze respectively in the men's 1500m.

2. Women's Recurve Archery team clinches bronze medal, men's team bag silver.

- At the Hangzhou Asian Games in China, India amassed a total of 92 medals, including 21 gold, 33 silver, and 38 bronze.
- India is currently in fourth place in the medal tally.
- India is swiftly working towards its 100-medal target.
- The Indian recurve women's team in Archery clinched bronze after defeating Vietnam 6-2 in the bronze medal playoff match.

3. Indian Men's Team Wins Gold Medal, Women's Team Clinches Silver Medal in 4x400m Relay.

- The Indian women's 4x400m relay team featuring Vithya Ramraj, Aishwarya Mishra, Prachi and Subha Venkatesan won the silver medal at the 19th Asian Games.
- Despite besting the previous Asian Games record time (3:28.68 in 2014 Incheon), the Indian quartet were outplayed by Bahrain, who secured the gold medal with a new record time of 3:27.65.

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- The Sri Lanka team won a bronze.
- 4. The 19th edition of the Asian Games has successfully concluded in Hangzhou, China.**
 - The closing ceremony of the 19th Asian Games concluded at the Hangzhou Olympics Stadium in China.
 - Hockey player P. R. Sreejesh was the flag bearer for India.
 - The baton for the next Asian Games has been passed on to Nagoya, Japan for 2026.
 - The glittering ceremony saw more than 2000 performers put on a dazzling display, celebrating the love and unity between all the participating countries.
 - Raja Randhir Singh, the interim president of the Olympic Council of Asia or OCA, handed over the first Asian Games flag, the current flag and the torch to the Japanese side, marking the official end of the 19th edition of the Games.
 - 5. World Athletics nominate Neeraj Chopra for Athlete of the Year award for this year.**
 - World Athletics has nominated Neeraj Chopra for the Men's Athlete of the Year award 2023.
 - The global governing body of Athletics issued the statement announcing Neeraj's nomination.
 - Javelin thrower Neeraj is an Indian Olympic and World Championships Gold medalist.
 - This week marks the opening of the voting process for the 2023 World Athletes of the Year ahead of the World Athletics Awards 2023.
 - 6. CM Hemant Soren unveils Mascot and trophy for Asian Women's Hockey Championship in Ranchi.**
 - Chief Minister Hemant Soren unveiled the mascot- Juhi and the trophy of the Asian Women's Hockey Championship 2023 in Ranchi.
 - Around 13 countries will take part in the international hockey championship beginning from October 27 to November 14 in Ranchi.

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7. **International Olympic Committee includes T20 cricket, and four other sports as part of the Los Angeles Olympic Games 2028.**
 - The International Olympic Committee has announced the inclusion of Twenty-20 cricket and four other sports as part of the Olympic Games Los Angeles 2028.
 - The other new entries are flag football, lacrosse, squash and baseball-softball.

8. **Grandmaster Raunak Sadhwani has been crowned the U-20 world junior rapid chess champion.**
 - Raunak Sadhwani has won at the FIDE World Junior Rapid Chess Championship 2023.
 - He is Maharashtra's youngest Grandmaster.
 - He emerged as the U-20 World Junior Rapid Chess champion in Italy
 - The 11-round rapid tournament was organized by the World Chess Federation (FIDE).
 - Raunak became a grandmaster at the age of 13.
 - He is the ninth youngest player in history and the fourth youngest Indian to be awarded the title.

9. **4th Asian Para Games: India bags 17 medals including 6 gold, 6 silver, 5 bronze.**
 - At the 4th Asian Para Games being held in Hangzhou, China, India began its campaign by adding 17 medals including 6 gold, 6 silver and 5 bronze.
 - Aruna Tanwar secured the first ever Medal for India in Para Taekwondo.
 - She clinched Bronze in the Women's K44 -47KG event.
 - Kapil Parmar secured Silver in Men's - 60 Kg J1 in Judo.
 - Athlete Praveen claimed Gold and Unni Renu secured Bronze in the Men's High Jump - T64 event.
 - Kokila won bronze in Judo Women -48 kg J2 event after defeating Taipei's Lee Kai-lin.

10. **The 37th edition of the National Games begins in Goa.**
 - The 37th edition of the National Games will begin in Goa.
 - It will be formally inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.

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- The gold medal in Mixed Doubles Badminton was won by Gouse Shaik and Pooja D of Andhra Pradesh, while the Gold Medal in Men's Singles was bagged by Tharun Manepalli of Telangana.
- The gold medal in Men's doubles was won by Karnataka's players.
- Games of Artistic Gymnastics and Netball are ongoing in the National Games.

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CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQ'S

1. Which state launched a dedicated 'Tourism Policy 2023', and aims to attract ₹20,000-crore investments in 5 years?
 - a) Gujarat
 - b) Tamil Nadu
 - c) Karnataka
 - d) Maharashtra
2. The Minister for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry and Dairying inaugurated the renovated Marine Museum at which city?
 - a) Kochi
 - b) Panjim
 - c) Visakhapatnam
 - d) Mumbai
3. Kongthong, which bagged 'Best Tourism Village (Bronze) Award 2023', is located in which state?
 - a) Assam
 - b) Meghalaya
 - c) Arunachal Pradesh
 - d) Manipur
4. Which Union Ministry prepared the 'Smart Cities Mission, India: Localising SDGs' Report?
 - a) Ministry of Finance
 - b) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs
 - c) Ministry of MSME
 - d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
5. As per recent data, states rejected what percent of land claims submitted by tribals under the Forest Rights Act?
 - a) 10 %
 - b) 20 %
 - c) 30 %

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d) 40 %

6. 'Swavlamban 2.0' is the indigenisation roadmap of which institution?

- a) IRDAI
- b) Indian Navy
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) RBI

7. What is the rank of India in the 'Global Innovation Index 2023'?

- a) 60
- b) 50
- c) 40
- d) 30

8. What is the theme of 'World Heart Day 2023'?

- a) Use Heart, Know Heart
- b) Prevent Heart Diseases
- c) Exercise Daily
- d) Healthy Food Habits

9. Which institution organised the conference on 'Millets for Military Ration & Specific Nutritional Requirements'?

- a) DRDO
- b) HAL
- c) NABARD
- d) FAO

10. Sycamore Gap Tree is a famous tree situated in which country?

- a) USA
- b) Japan
- c) Australia
- d) UK

11. The first documented case of a human affected from "Blackleg" Disease, is recorded in which country?

- a) Australia

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- b) USA
- c) India
- d) France

12. Which city is the host of 'IEA Critical Minerals and Clean Energy Summit in 2023'?

- a) London
- b) Paris
- c) Rome
- d) Vienna

13. 'Shri Mahakal Mahalok' corridor is situated in which state/UT?

- a) Gujarat
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Bihar
- d) Uttarakhand

14. Which institution released the report titled 'Children Displaced in a Changing Climate'?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) UNICEF
- c) CRY
- d) Oxfam International

15. Phlegraean Fields, which were seen in the news, is situated in which country?

- a) UK
- b) Italy
- c) Argentina
- d) Canada

16. Sudan has reached an agreement to restore its ties with which country, after 7 years?

- a) Saudi Arabia
- b) Iran
- c) Israel
- d) China

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17. Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework, which was seen in the news, is associated with which institution?
- RBI
 - SEBI
 - NITI Aayog
 - Election Commission of India
18. 'Parker Solar Probe' is associated with which country?
- USA
 - India
 - Israel
 - Russia
19. What is the name of the National Cyber Security Exercise, organised by the National Security Council Secretariat (NSCS)?
- Bachao 2023
 - Bharat NCX 2023
 - Caution NCX 2023
 - Aware NCX 2023
20. Which Indian state/UT launched 'Orunodoi 2.0', a poverty alleviation scheme?
- Odisha
 - Assam
 - West Bengal
 - Jharkhand
21. What is the place of India in the Asian Games 2023 medal-table?
- First
 - Third
 - Fourth
 - Sixth
22. Jivitputrika festival', which was seen in the news, is celebrated in which state?
- Uttar Pradesh
 - Rajasthan
 - Bihar

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d) Jharkhand

23. 'Status Holder' certificates, which is seen in the news, is associated with which Ministry?

- a) Ministry of External Affairs
- b) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- c) Ministry of Power
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs

24. Prompt Corrective Action (PCA) framework, which was seen in the news, is associated with which institution?

- a) RBI
- b) SEBI
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) Election Commission of India

25. 'V2X technology', which was seen in the news, is related to_:

- a) Computer Graphics
- b) Automobile
- c) Printing Currency notes
- d) Electronic Gadgets

26. 'Jericho Missile Programme' is associated with which country?

- a) North Korea
- b) China
- c) Israel
- d) Russia

27. Kuanchuanpu geological formation, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?

- a) China
- b) Greece
- c) South Korea
- d) Indonesia

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28. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised India's growth forecast in the fiscal year 2023-24 to_:
- a) 6.5 %
 - b) 6.3 %
 - c) 6.0 %
 - d) 5.8 %
29. Kulasekarapattinam, associated with ISRO's second spaceport, is located in which state?
- a) Kerala
 - b) Tamil Nadu
 - c) Andhra Pradesh
 - d) Karnataka
30. The 'Global Health Innovation Fellowship' which was recently launched in India, is supported by_?
- a) WHO
 - b) WIPO
 - c) UNICEF
 - d) World Bank
31. Which institution issues the 'Central Banker Report Cards'?
- a) IMF
 - b) World Bank
 - c) Global Finance
 - d) BIS
32. 'Amrit Kaal Vision 2047', which was recently unveiled, is associated with which field?
- a) Coal Industry
 - b) Maritime Industry
 - c) Electronics Manufacturing
 - d) Artificial Intelligence
33. The Union Defence Ministry partnered with which ship building company for construction of a training ship for the Indian Coast Guard (ICG)?

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- a) Cochin Shipbuilders
 - b) Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders
 - c) Garden Reach Shipbuilders
 - d) Bharat Dynamics Limited
34. Ratna Bhandar (Treasure Room), which was seen in the news, is in which famous temple?
- a) Padmanabhaswamy Temple
 - b) Puri Jagannath Temple
 - c) Yamunotri Temple
 - d) Laxmi Narayan Temple
35. Pink bollworm is a pest affecting which crop?
- a) Jute
 - b) Cotton
 - c) Rubber
 - d) Coffee
36. Which state/UT inaugurated 'Mission Mahila Sarathi'?
- a) Bihar
 - b) Uttar Pradesh
 - c) Kerala
 - d) Karnataka
37. Which state/UT launched 'Gyan Sahayak Scheme'?
- a) Odisha
 - b) Gujarat
 - c) Andhra Pradesh
 - d) Assam
38. Which countries jointly conducted a joint anti-submarine exercise called 'Silent Shark'?
- a) Japan and South Korea
 - b) USA and South Korea
 - c) China and Russia
 - d) Egypt and Israel

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39. China recently signed "Cooperation Agreement" with which country?
- Nepal
 - Bangladesh
 - Bhutan
 - Russia
40. Which city is the host of 'Arab Health 2024' Event?
- Muscat
 - Dubai
 - Abu Dhabi
 - Riyadh
41. Which bloc's panel on MDBs suggests shift from project-based approach to country platforms?
- ASEAN
 - SAARC
 - G-20
 - G-7
42. Which company has signed MoUs with entities engaged with the Ministry of Electronics and IT (MeitY) on Quantum, AI & Semiconductor?
- Samsung
 - IBM
 - Google
 - Microsoft
43. 'Church of Saint Porphyrius', which was seen in the news, is an orthodox church located in which city?
- Gaza
 - Jerusalem
 - Rome
 - Vatican City
44. NCEL is the newly established export body under which Union Ministry?
- Ministry of Commerce
 - Ministry of MSME

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- c) Ministry of Cooperation
- d) Ministry of Finance

45. What is the special attribute of 'Chroococcidiopsis cubana' bacteria?

- a) Cleans Pollutants
- b) Produces Oxygen
- c) Enhances Tree Growth
- d) Used in Solar Panels

46. Long Valley Caldera, one of the Earth's largest calderas, is situated in which country?

- a) USA
- b) Indonesia
- c) Australia
- d) Japan

47. Which institution released the 'State of the Energy Union report'?

- a) NITI Aayog
- b) European Commission
- c) IEA
- d) UNCTAD

48. Eight former Indian Navy personnel have been sentenced to death by a court in which country?

- a) UAE
- b) Qatar
- c) Saudi Arabia
- d) Iran

49. Which compound is used in the recent Cloud seeding experiment conducted in Maharashtra?

- a) Sodium Chloride
- b) Calcium chloride
- c) Potassium Chloride
- d) Magnesium Chloride

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50. Which element, rarer than Platinum, has been discovered using NASA's James Webb Space Telescope (JWST)?
- a) Tellurium
 - b) Cerium
 - c) Yttrium
 - d) Europium
51. Cabinet declared which day as 'National Space Day' in India?
- a) August 20
 - b) August 23
 - c) August 25
 - d) August 27
52. The DFL (Deutsche Fußball Liga) has entered into a collaboration with which Indian state?
- a) Kerala
 - b) Maharashtra
 - c) Odisha
 - d) Goa
53. As per Youth Affairs and Sports Ministry, how many Khelo India Centres will be established within a year?
- a) 100
 - b) 500
 - c) 1000
 - d) 2000
54. Asian Development Bank (ADB) has sanctioned 3.32 crore grant for safe public transport travel in which city?
- a) Chennai
 - b) Hyderabad
 - c) Pune
 - d) Mysuru
55. What is India's Gross Domestic Product (GDP) percent in the April-June quarter of the current fiscal (2023-2024)?

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- a) 5.8 per cent
- b) 6.8 per cent
- c) 7.8 per cent
- d) 8.8 per cent

56. Which Union Ministry launched the 'Mera Bill-Mera Adhikar Scheme'?

- a) Ministry of Finance
- b) Ministry of Corporate Affairs
- c) Ministry of MSME
- d) Ministry of Home Affairs

57. Utkela Airport has been inaugurated in which state/UT?

- a) Odisha
- b) West Bengal
- c) Assam
- d) Arunachal Pradesh

58. Tharman Shanmugaratnam has been elected as President of which country?

- a) Singapore
- b) Malaysia
- c) Maldives
- d) Mauritius

59. Which city is the host of 'International Aerospace Conference'?

- a) Pune
- b) Gwalior
- c) Bengaluru
- d) Hyderabad

60. 'Kinzhal Missile', that was recently making news, is developed by which country?

- a) USA
- b) France
- c) Russia
- d) Israel

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61. A new global data platform 'Marine Sand Watch' has been developed under which institution?
- World Bank
 - UNEP
 - UNFCCC
 - WWF
62. Which country's Supreme Court has decriminalized abortion across the country?
- Qatar
 - Mexico
 - Chile
 - Italy
63. Which country has launched 'Deccan High-Level Principles on Food Security and Nutrition'?
- Sri Lanka
 - India
 - Bangladesh
 - Nepal
64. Which institution organised the '2023 Regional Cooperation and Integration Conference'?
- WEF
 - IMF
 - ADB
 - NITI Aayog
65. Which institution has developed the 'Military Combat Parachute System' of India?
- HAL
 - BHEL
 - DRDO
 - ISRO
66. When is World Physiotherapy Day observed every year?
- September 5
 - September 8

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- c) September 10
- d) September 15

67. India has decided to settle WTO Poultry Dispute with which country?

- a) Japan
- b) USA
- c) China
- d) Pakistan

68. 'Medal of the City of Paris' has been revoked from whom?

- a) Mahmoud Abbas
- b) Michael Jackson
- c) Rafael Nadal
- d) Hocine Ziani

69. Which state has approved Rs 256.46 Crore for Chambal River Bridge and Road Construction Projects?

- a) Rajasthan
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Maharashtra

70. 'Air Quality and Climate Bulletin' is released by which organization?

- a) WMO
- b) IMF
- c) UNFCCC
- d) IMO

71. Which institution has raised more than ₹1000 crore via social bonds?

- a) NHB
- b) NABARD
- c) RBI
- d) SIDBI

72. Which is the first cricket team to score more than 300 runs in a T20I?

- a) Nepal

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- b) Bangladesh
- c) South Africa
- d) India

73. Neha Thakur, who secured a silver medal for India at Asian Games, plays which sports?

- a) Shooting
- b) Squash
- c) Sailing
- d) Boxing

74. Sudipti Hajela, Divyakriti Singh, Hriday Cheda and Anush Agarwalla, are associated with which sports?

- a) Wrestling
- b) Squash
- c) Chess
- d) Equestrian

75. The RoDTEP support scheme, initially set to expire on September 30, 2023, has been extended till which date?

- a) December 31, 2023
- b) March 31, 2023
- c) June 30, 2024
- d) September 30, 2024

76. As per a new report, made along with NITI Aayog, which state had the highest electricity demand in the country in July 2023?

- a) Karnataka
- b) Tamil Nadu
- c) Uttar Pradesh
- d) Gujarat

77. Warehousing Development Regulatory Authority (WDRA) has entered into a MoU with which bank for Loans Against e-NWRs?

- a) Bank of India
- b) Canara Bank

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- c) Punjab National Bank
d) Axis Bank
78. Who has been nominated as the Ambassador for 'War Against Waste' in Jammu & Kashmir?
- a) Sachin Tendulkar
b) Vidya Balan
c) Captain Bana Singh
d) Viswanathan Anand
79. Which Ministry introduced Quality Control Orders (QCOs) for medical-textile products?
- a) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
b) Ministry of MSME
c) Ministry of Textiles
d) Ministry of Finance
80. Who is the first Indian Table Tennis singles player to reach quarterfinals of the Asian Games?
- a) Manika Batra
b) Sharath Kamal
c) G Sathiyam
d) Diya Chitale
81. Nobel Prize in Medicine 2023 was awarded to Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman for their work in
- a) Hepatitis C virus
b) mRNA Vaccines
c) Human evolution
d) Receptors for temperature
82. Which country released a discussion paper, titled "Ripple Effect Water Scarcity"?
- a) India
b) UAE
c) Israel
d) Sri Lanka

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83. The Union Cabinet has approved setting up of Central Tribal University in which state?
- Telangana
 - Tripura
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Jharkhand
84. Dandeli forest, which was seen in the news, is situated in which state?
- Karnataka
 - Kerala
 - Sikkim
 - Goa
85. Which country launched Europe's first fully private rocket 'Miura-1'?
- Italy
 - Spain
 - UK
 - Norway
86. When is the 'National Current Good Manufacturing Practice Day (cGMP Day)' celebrated?
- 10 October
 - 12 October
 - 14 October
 - 15 October
87. 'Puja Special Tram', which was seen in the news, is associated with which state/UT?
- Maharashtra
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Gujarat
 - West Bengal
88. 'Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Yojana' is associated with which state/UT?
- West Bengal
 - Maharashtra
 - Assam

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K A R A T JUDICIAL TIMES

d) Karnataka

89. Which country launched the 'Protocol for Identification and Management of Malnutrition in Children'?

- a) India
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Bangladesh
- d) Nepal

90. 'Mohamed Muizzu' was elected as the President of which country?

- a) Mauritius
- b) South Africa
- c) Maldives
- d) Malaysia

91. Which countries partnered to develop the 'Durra gas field'?

- a) Kuwait and Saudi Arabia
- b) Kuwait and China
- c) Kuwait and USA
- d) Iran and China

92. 'Puja Special Tram', which was seen in the news, is associated with which state/UT?

- a) Maharashtra
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Gujarat
- d) West Bengal

93. Which city is the host of 'Ninth P-20 summit' in India?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Chennai
- c) New Delhi
- d) Kolkata

94. Which institution released the report titled 'Mental Health of Refugees and Migrants'?

- a) UNICEF

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- b) WHO
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) Amnesty International

95. As per Wildlife Trust of India, which is the most endangered amphibian genus in India?

- a) Dancing Frog
- b) True Frog
- c) Tree Frog
- d) Cascade Frog

96. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) raised India's growth forecast in the fiscal year 2023-24 to_:

- a) 6.5 %
- b) 6.3 %
- c) 6.0 %
- d) 5.8 %

97. 'Krish, Trish and Baltiboy (KTB)' Animated Series, which was recently launched, is associated with_:

- a) Financial Literacy
- b) Internet Security
- c) Freedom Fighters
- d) Sports

98. Energy Efficiency Services Limited (EESL) is a public sector undertaking (PSU) under which Union Ministry?

- a) Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- b) Ministry of Power
- c) Ministry of Science and Technology
- d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry

99. When is the 'World Food Day' celebrated?

- a) October 2
- b) October 5
- c) October 12

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K A R A T **JUDICIAL TIMES**

d) October 16

100. Christopher Luxon has been elected as the Prime Minister of which country?

- a) Australia
- b) New Zealand
- c) Papua New Guinea
- d) Indonesia

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ANSWER KEY

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

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TRANSLATIONS: HINDI

1. सभी शादियां खुशनुमा नहीं होतीं और सभी तलाक दुखी करने वाले नहीं होते। जो लोग खटास भरी शादी से बाहर निकलना चाहते हैं, उनके लिए सोमवार को तलाक पर आया सुप्रीम कोर्ट का फैसला, एक अच्छा कदम है। किसी भी “कारण या मामले” में “पूर्ण न्याय” करने के लिए संविधान के अनुच्छेद 142 (1) की “दिशा दिखाने वाली भावना” पर भरोसा करते हुए, एक संवैधानिक खंडपीठ ने कहा कि वह इस असाधारण विवेकाधीन शक्ति का इस्तेमाल, ऐसे फंसे हुए जोड़ों को आपसी सहमति से तलाक देने के लिए कर सकती है, जिनके विवाह में कड़वाहट आ गई हो। इसका उद्देश्य शादीशुदा जोड़ों को हिंदू विवाह अधिनियम 1955 की धारा 13 बी के तहत निर्धारित, किसी स्थानीय अदालत में छह से 18 महीने तक इंतजार करने की “पीड़ा और दुख” से बचाना है।
2. वैवाहिक मामलों में अनुच्छेद 142 को लागू करने से पहले, सुप्रीम कोर्ट कई बातों पर विचार करेगी। इनमें विवाह की अवधि, मुकदमे की अवधि, जोड़े के अलग रहने की अवधि, लंबित मामलों की प्रकृति और सुलह की कोशिशें शामिल हैं। अदालत को यह सुनिश्चित करना होगा कि तलाक आपसी सहमति से हुआ है और इसमें किसी के साथ किसी भी तरह की जोर-जबरदस्ती नहीं की गई है। भारत में पिछले दो दशकों में तलाक की संख्या दोगुनी हो गई है, लेकिन फिर भी तलाक के मामले अभी 1.1 फीसदी ही है। इनमें शहरी क्षेत्रों की हिस्सेदारी बहुत बड़ी है।
3. दिवाली स्वयं के अंदर के अंधकार को मिटा कर समूचे संसार को प्रकाशमय बनाने का त्योहार है। बच्चे इस दिन अपनी इच्छानुसार बम, फुलझड़ियाँ तथा अन्य पटाखे खरीदते हैं और आतिशबाजी का आनंद उठाते हैं। हमें इस बात को समझना होगा कि दीपावली के त्योहार का अर्थ दीप, प्रेम तथा सुख-समृद्धि से है। ऐसे में पटाखों का इस्तेमाल सावधानी पूर्वक और अपने बड़ों के सामने रहकर करना चाहिए। दिवाली का त्योहार हमें हमेशा आगे बढ़ने की प्रेरणा देता है। दीपावली का त्योहार सांस्कृतिक और सामाजिक सद्भाव का प्रतीक है।
4. हिन्दू विधि के स्त्रोत के रूप में साम्य, न्याय एवं शुद्ध अन्तःकरण का सिद्धान्त उतना ही प्राचीन है जितना की श्रुति, स्मृति, भाष्य एवं टीकायें हैं। यह सिद्धान्त: ‘न्याय एवं युक्ति’ के सिद्धान्त के समान है। कई बार न्यायालय के सामने कुछ ऐसे प्रश्न या विषय या वाद आ जाते हैं जिनके बारे में हिन्दू विधि में उनका कोई स्पष्ट प्रावधान नहीं मिलता है अथवा न्यायालय के सामने ऐसा विषय आ जाता है जिसके ऊपर न्यायालय का पूर्व निर्णयन ना हो, उस स्थिति में न्यायालय साम्य, न्याय एवं शुद्ध अन्तःकरण सिद्धान्त के आधार पर निर्णय देते हैं।

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5. अधिकारों के विधेयक की कोई आवश्यकता नहीं है क्योंकि घटकों के व्यापक दर्शन निजी व्यक्ति के विशेषाधिकारों को निर्धारित करने वाले न्यायिक निर्णयों का परिणाम हैं। पुराना दृष्टिकोण यह था कि, नागरिक जो कुछ भी करना चाहते हैं वह करने के लिए स्वतंत्र हैं, सिवाय इसके कि वे कानून का उल्लंघन न करें। लेकिन यह स्पष्ट रूप से उल्लेख नहीं किया गया था कि कहां बाध्य होना है और किस कार्य के कारण कानून टूट सकता है। इसलिए, उदाहरण के लिए, यह जानने के लिए कि भाषण की स्वतंत्रता के लिए क्या आवश्यक है, नागरिकों को अभिव्यक्ति की स्वतंत्रता पर सभी कानूनी सीमाओं को समझना चाहिए - सरकार के खिलाफ घृणास्पद भाषण देने से संबंधित कानून।

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TRANSLATIONS: ENGLISH

1. Not all marriages are happy and not all divorces are unhappy. For those who want to get out of a sour marriage, the Supreme Court's decision on divorce on Monday is a good step. Relying on the "guided spirit" of Article 142(1) of the Constitution to do "complete justice" in any "cause or matter", a constitutional bench said it would use this extraordinary discretionary power, in such cases It can be used to divorce couples whose marriage has turned sour by mutual consent.
2. Before invoking Article 142 in matrimonial matters, the Supreme Court will consider several things. These include the duration of the marriage, duration of the trial, length of separation of the couple, nature of pending cases and efforts at reconciliation. The court will have to ensure that the divorce has taken place with mutual consent and there has been no coercion of any kind. The number of divorces in India has doubled in the last two decades, but divorce cases are still only 1.1 percent. Among these, the share of urban areas is very large.
3. Diwali is a festival of eradicating the darkness within oneself and making the whole world bright. On this day, children buy bombs, sparklers and other firecrackers as per their wish and enjoy the fireworks. We have to understand that the festival of Diwali means lights, love and happiness and prosperity. In such a situation, firecrackers should be used with caution and in the presence of elders. The festival of Diwali always inspires us to move forward. The festival of Diwali is a symbol of cultural and social harmony.
4. The principles of equality, justice and pure conscience as sources of Hindu law are as ancient as Shrutis, Smritis, Bhashyas and commentaries. This principle is similar to the principle of 'justice and reason'. Many times, some such questions or subjects or issues come before the court about which there is no clear provision in Hindu law or such a subject comes before the court on which there is no prior decision of the court, in that situation the court Based on the principles of equity, justice and pure conscience
5. There is no need for a bill of rights because the wide-ranging philosophies of the constituents are the consequence of jurisdictional decisions determining the privileges of the private person. Outmoded view was that, citizens are free to do whatever they like

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to do except they do not breach the law. But it was not mentioned clearly where to bound and what deed may cause to break the law. So, In order to know, for example, what liberty of speech necessitates, citizens must comprehend all the legal limitations on freedom of expression – the law relating to remonstrance, to race abhorrence speech against the government.

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LIST OF NATIONAL PARKS

Corbett National Park	Uttarakhand
Kanha National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Tadoba National Park	Maharashtra
Madhav National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Bandhavgarh National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Kaziranga National Park	Assam
Bandipur National Park	Karnataka
Bannerghatta National Park	Karnataka
Gir National Park	Gujarat
Gugamal National Park	Maharashtra
Navegaon National Park	Maharashtra
Pench National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Blackbuck National Park	Gujarat
Guindy National Park	Tamil Nadu
Keibul-Lamjao National Park	Manipur
Khangchendzonga National Park	Sikkim
Dudhwa National Park	Uttar Pradesh

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Eravikulam National Park	Kerala
Vansda National Park	Gujarat
Van Vihar National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Simlipal National Park	Odisha
Ranthambore National Park	Rajasthan
Gulf of Mannar Marine National Park	Tamil Nadu
Guru Ghasidas (Sanjay) National Park	Chhattisgarh
Dachigam National Park	Jammu & Kashmir
Hemis National Park	Jammu & Kashmir
Kishtwar National Park	Jammu & Kashmir
Panna National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Sanjay National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Satpura National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Keoladeo Ghana National Park	Rajasthan
Indravati National Park	Chhattisgarh
Kanger Valley National Park	Chhattisgarh
Marine National Park	Gujarat
Periyar National Park	Kerala
Nanda Devi National Park	Uttarakhand

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Valley of Flowers National Park	Uttarakhand
Mahatma Gandhi Marine National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Namdapha National Park	Arunachal Pradesh
Fossil National Park	Madhya Pradesh
Sanjay Gandhi National Park	Maharashtra
Rajaji National Park	Uttarakhand
Great Himalayan National Park	Himachal Pradesh
Silent Valley National Park	Kerala
Sunderban National Park	West Bengal
Balpakram National Park	Meghalaya
Mouling National Park	Arunachal Pradesh
Betla National Park	Jharkhand
Nokrek Ridge National Park	Meghalaya
Neora Valley National Park	West Bengal
Singalila National Park	West Bengal
Middle Button Island National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Mount Harriet National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands

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North Button Island National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Saddle Peak National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
South Button Island National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Pin Valley National Park	Himachal Pradesh
Anshi National Park	Karnataka
Kudremukh National Park	Karnataka
Nagarahole (Rajiv Gandhi) National Park	Karnataka
Bhitarkanika National Park	Odisha
Sri Venkateswara National Park	Andhra Pradesh
Valmiki National Park	Bihar
Sultan National Park	Haryana
Indira Gandhi (Annamalai) National Park	Tamil Nadu
Gangotri National Park	Uttarakhand
Manas National Park	Assam
Mudumalai National Park	Tamil Nadu
Mukurthi National Park	Tamil Nadu
Govind National Park	Uttarakhand

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Murlen National Park	Mizoram
Campbell Bay National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Galathea Bay National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Mollem National Park	Goa
City Forest (Salim Ali) National Park	Jammu & Kashmir
Phawngpui Blue Mountain National Park	Mizoram
Desert National Park	Rajasthan
Sariska National Park	Rajasthan
Buxa National Park	West Bengal
Gorumara National Park	West Bengal
Intanki National Park	Nagaland
Kasu Brahmananda Reddy National Park	Telangana
Mahaveer Harina Vanasthali National Park	Telangana
Mrugavani National Park	Telangana
Rani Jhansi Marine National Park	Andaman & Nicobar Islands
Nameri National Park	Assam
Dibru-Saikhowa National Park	Assam

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Rajiv Gandhi Orang National Park	Assam
Kalesar National Park	Haryana
Anamudi Shola National Park	Kerala
Mathikettan Shola National Park	Kerala
Pampadum Shola National Park	Kerala
Chandoli National Park	Maharashtra
Rajiv Gandhi (Rameswaram) National Park	Andhra Pradesh
Mukundra Hills National Park	Rajasthan
Clouded Leopard National Park	Tripura
Bison National Park	Tripura
Papikonda National Park	Andhra Pradesh
Inderkilla National Park	Himachal Pradesh
Khirganga National Park	Himachal Pradesh
Simbalbara National Park	Himachal Pradesh
Jaldapara National Park	West Bengal

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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE MCQ'S

1. Which country's President, Nguyen Xuan Phuc, has announced his resignation following corruption scandals?
 - a) Venezuela
 - b) Vietnam
 - c) Vanuatu
 - d) Zimbabwe
2. Which Indian Union Territory has completely shifted to an e-Governance mode?
 - a) Tamil Nadu
 - b) West Bengal
 - c) Nagaland
 - d) Jammu & Kashmir
3. In which state is the Korwa Ordnance factory located, where the production of Kalashnikov AK-203 assault rifles began?
 - a) Uttar Pradesh
 - b) Madhya Pradesh
 - c) Arunachal Pradesh
 - d) Himachal Pradesh
4. Which country's Prime Minister, Jacinda Ardern, is stepping down next month?
 - a) New Zealand
 - b) Nigeria
 - c) North Korea
 - d) Niger
5. Which state government and the Centre have decided not to convert the Jain site of Sammed Shikharji into a tourism hub?
 - a) Mizoram
 - b) Jharkhand
 - c) Goa

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- d) Uttarakhand
6. Which film will be screened at the SCO Film Festival 2023?
- a) Gandhi Godse: Ek Yudh
 - b) Pathaan
 - c) Toolsidas Junior
 - d) Mission Majnu
7. Where is the first G20 Health Working Group meeting under India's G20 presidency taking place?
- a) Kozhikode, Kerala
 - b) Nedumangad, Kerala
 - c) Kayamkulam, Kerala
 - d) Thiruvananthapuram, Kerala
8. In which country did PM Jacinda Ardern announce her resignation?
- a) Netherlands
 - b) Namibia
 - c) Nepal
 - d) New Zealand
9. Which two cities is the Indian Air Force launching Kargil Courier Services between?
- a) Kargil and Pahalgam
 - b) Kargil and Pulwama
 - c) Kargil and Jammu
 - d) Kargil and Kishtwar
10. To which profession did Nilmani Phukan belong before passing away?
- a) Poet
 - b) Writer
 - c) Singer
 - d) Musician
11. In which country did Google pilot 'Soundpod by Google Pay' for UPI payments?

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- a) India
- b) Greece
- c) Oman
- d) Denmark

12. In which month will the India-Bangladesh Friendship pipeline start supplying diesel to Bangladesh?

- a) August
- b) June
- c) July
- d) March

13. On what date is the 18th National Disaster Response Force Day celebrated in 2023?

- a) January 16
- b) January 10
- c) January 19
- d) January 20

14. Who is the fifth Indian and youngest ever to score ODI 200?

- a) Ishan Kishan
- b) Rohit Sharma
- c) Shubman Gill
- d) Suryakumar Yadav

15. In which month of 2023 is the Tourism Ministry planning to organize the 1st Global Tourism Investors Summit?

- a) April
- b) January
- c) September
- d) November

16. In which city is Bharti Airtel investing Rs 2,000 Crore to set up a Hyperscale Data Centre?

- a) Jaipur

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- b) Hyderabad
- c) Nagpur
- d) Visakhapatnam

17. Which country announced a donation of 100 million Maldivian Rufiyaa for community development projects?

- a) India
- b) Sri Lanka
- c) China
- d) USA

18. In which city is the Think 20' meeting of G20 being held?

- a) Indore
- b) Bhopal
- c) Pune
- d) Lucknow

19. In which state did Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurate the second phase of Saansad Khel Mahakumbh?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Himachal Pradesh
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Uttar Pradesh

20. Growing more than one crop on a piece of land during the year is known as ____:

- a) Triple cropping
- b) Double cropping
- c) Uni cropping
- d) Multiple cropping

21. Blood pressure may be increased by the excessive secretion of ____:

- a) Thyroxine
- b) Estrol
- c) Estradiol

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- d) Testosterone
22. National Viral Hepatitis Control Program (NVHCP) aims to achieve country wide elimination of Hepatitis C by ____:
- a) 2022
 - b) 2025
 - c) 2028
 - d) 2030
23. Haemoglobin is an important component of ____:
- a) WBC
 - b) Plasma
 - c) Red blood cells
 - d) All of the above
24. The latex of which plant is used commercially?
- a) Rubber plant
 - b) Papaya plant
 - c) Sial kanta plant
 - d) Banyan tree
25. The rate at which RBI purchases or rediscounts bills of exchange of commercial banks is called?
- a) Repo rate
 - b) Reverse repo rate
 - c) Bank rate
 - d) Base rate
26. Where do the Commercial Banks keep the liquid assets under the Statutory Liquidity Ratio?
- a) With RBI
 - b) With other banks
 - c) In the Market
 - d) With Themselves

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27. In an inflationary trend, the pricing of the bank products are:
- At increasing trend
 - At decreasing trend
 - No relevance of Inflation
 - Constant
28. When a loan provided by a group of lenders and is structured, arranged, and administered by one or several commercial or investment banks, it is called as ___?
- Loan shark
 - Loan Syndication
 - Loan covenant
 - Package loan
29. Which among the following is a correct definition of fiscal deficit?
- The gap between projected or estimated GDP and actual GDP
 - The total value of currency notes issued and currency actual in circulation
 - The gap between actual borrowings of government of India and expected expenditures as per budget provisions
 - Excess of Govt.'s disbursement comprising current and capital expenditures over its current receipts.
30. Plasma membrane is made up of which organic molecules?
- Vitamin
 - Lipids and protein
 - Carbohydrates
 - Roughage
31. In which of the following organs of human body are carbohydrates stored as glycogen?
- Stomach
 - Small intestine
 - Liver
 - Large intestine

32. Which type of epithelial tissue allows transportation of substances through a selective permeable surface in the lining of food vessels or lung alveoli?
- Simple squamous epithelium
 - Stratified squamous epithelium
 - Ciliated columnar epithelium
 - Cuboidal epithelium
33. Transpiration through leaves is called as ____:
- Cuticular transpiration
 - Lenticular transpiration
 - Cauline transpiration
 - Foliar transpiration
34. Companion cells of phloem are found in ____:
- Gymnosperms
 - Bryophyta
 - Pteridophyta
 - Angiosperms
35. Which of the following Constitution Amendment Act grants citizens a fundamental right to form cooperative societies?
- 95th
 - 96th
 - 97th
 - 98th
36. Which among the following correctly differentiates the Union Legislature and Parliament of India?
- Union Legislature consists of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha, Parliament consists of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and President
 - Union Legislature consists of Lok Sabha only, Parliament Consists of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha
 - Union Legislature consists of Lok Sabha, Rajya Sabha and President, Parliament consists of Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha

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- d) There is no difference between the two
37. The provision for establishment of Supreme Court of Calcutta was made in which act?
- Regulating Act of 1773
 - Indian Council Act, 1861
 - Charter Act of 1813
 - Pitt's India Act, 1784
38. A Gold Ring which is 50% pure. Its purity can be alternatively shown as ___:
- 18 Carat
 - 18 Karat
 - 12 Carat
 - 12 Karat
39. Hemoglobin in humans has the highest affinity for which of the following gases?
- Methane
 - Carbon Monoxide
 - Nitrous oxide
 - Carbon dioxide
40. Which among the following plays a role in production of alcohol in beer?
- Bacteria
 - Protozoan
 - Virus
 - Yeast
41. Kwashiorkor disease is caused by the deficiency of which of the following ?
- Vitamins
 - Proteins
 - Fats
 - Minerals
42. Consumption of a high amount of which of the following may cause cirrhosis?
- Alcohol

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- b) Tobacco
- c) Caffeine
- d) Soft drinks

43. Which Bangladesh film won Prasad Di Award in the 16th film Bazaar at IIFI in Goa?

- a) Baby
- b) Agantuk
- c) Airlift
- d) Drishyam

44. Which organisation has changed the name of monkeypox to mpox?

- a) UNESCO
- b) UNICEF
- c) WTO
- d) WHO

45. Seventh edition of the Global Technology Summit to be held in New Delhi from which date?

- a) November 29
- b) November 27
- c) November 24
- d) November 25

46. Which country's first startup-operated launchpad and mission control centre was inaugurated?

- a) Germany
- b) London
- c) Italy
- d) India

47. Which country is hosting the Asia Pacific Broadcasting Union General Assembly 2022?

- a) Bangladesh
- b) India
- c) Belgium

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d) Brazil

48. First science documentary made in Sanskrit 'Yanam' screened at which IFFI?

- a) 52nd
- b) 54th
- c) 57th
- d) 53rd

49. Gaslighting became the word of which year?

- a) 2023
- b) 2024
- c) 2022
- d) 2021

50. Khadi and Village Industries Commission inaugurated the ReHab project in which city?

- a) Nainital
- b) Pune
- c) Delhi
- d) Jaipur

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ANSWER KEY

Q.	Ans.	Q.	Ans.
1.	B	26.	D
2.	D	27.	A
3.	A	28.	B
4.	A	29.	D
5.	B	30.	B
6.	A	31.	C
7.	D	32.	A
8.	D	33.	D
9.	C	34.	D
10.	A	35.	C
11.	A	36.	D
12.	B	37.	A
13.	C	38.	D
14.	C	39.	C
15.	A	40.	D
16.	B	41.	B
17.	A	42.	A
18.	B	43.	B
19.	D	44.	D
20.	D	45.	A
21.	A	46.	D
22.	D	47.	B
23.	C	48.	C
24.	A	49.	C
25.	C	50.	A

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CASE STUDY

1. **Balvir Singh v. State of Uttarakhand 2023 LiveLaw (SC) 861**

Facts: The tragic story revolved around Sudha(deceased) whose marriage took place on 12th December 1997 with Balvir Singh(appellant). It was alleged that soon after their marriage, the appellant along with his mother, Maheshwari Devi, began subjecting Sudha to various forms of harassment and relentlessly demanded a dowry of one lakh rupees in cash.

She bravely communicated her plight to her father through letters, detailing the ongoing harassment and dowry demands. As per the prosecution, the matter took a terrifying turn on 9th May 2007 when the appellant took her from Kotdwar to Mangolpuri, Delhi, against her will. Unfortunately, on 13 May 2007, Sudha died and there were reddish marks around her neck.

Law applied: Faced with the sudden loss of his daughter under suspicious circumstances, his father moved an application before Judicial Magistrate First Class urging the police to register an FIR (First Information Report). Subsequently, an FIR was registered under Sections 302 (murder), 498-A (cruelty towards a married woman), read with Section 34 of the Indian Penal Code (IPC), and Sections 3 and 4 of the Dowry Prohibition Act, 1961. The trial court and the High Court affirmed the conviction of the husband under section 302 and section 498-A IPC and his mother under section 498-A IPC.

Held: The Supreme Court recently upheld the conviction of a husband in a case related to the murder of his wife and domestic cruelty against her. It reiterated the crucial role that courts play in ensuring justice, especially in cases involving crimes against women. The Court issued a reminder for courts to adopt a practical perspective when evaluating evidence. It underscored the importance of sensitivity in such cases to ensure that justice prevails and wrongdoers are held accountable.

2. **Adarsh C.B. v. Aswathy Sidharthan, 2023 LiveLaw (SC) 847**

Facts: In the matter at hand, a tender was floated by the Airports Authority of India for supply of Airfield Crash Fire Tenders at airports across the country. The appellant in this case, a Germany-based manufacturer of fire safety equipment,

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had applied for the same. However its bid was rejected and the tender was awarded to a company named Rosenbauer International. The appellant then complained to different authorities including the Minister of Civil Aviation, the Chairman of AAI etc that there were irregularities in the tender process indicating favoritism.

Based on these letters, the complainant, the Indian associate of Rosenbauer International, lodged a complaint before the Trial Court alleging criminal defamation. The Trial Court was of the opinion that a prima facie case was made out against the Appellant and issued summons. This summoning order was challenged by the Appellant under Section 482 CrPC before the High Court, which was dismissed.

Issues:

1. **Whether, while considering a private complaint alleging defamation, the Magistrate before summoning the accused must confine himself to the allegations forming part of the petition only or he may, applying his judicial mind to the exceptions to section 499, IPC, dismiss the complaint holding that the facts alleged do not make out a case of defamation?**

Analysis:

The Apex Court observed that at the stage of issuing process, the Magistrate must form his opinion based on the allegations in the complaint and other material (obtained through the process referred to in section 200/section 202) as to whether 'sufficient ground for proceeding' exists, which is distinct from 'sufficient ground for conviction'. The latter is for determination at the time trial and not at the stage when process is issued.

The Apex Court observed that ordinarily it would be difficult to form an opinion that an exception under Section 499 is attracted at the time of issuing notice since neither a complaint for defamation is likely to be drafted with contents, nor are statements likely to be made on oath and evidence adduced.

However, the Court added that there is nothing that expressly mandates the Magistrate to consider whether any of the Exceptions to section 499, IPC is attracted at this juncture nor is there a bar against it.

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2. Is it open to the High Courts to exercise its inherent power under section 482, Cr. PC to quash proceedings for defamation by setting aside the summoning order by extending the benefit of any of the Exceptions to section 499, IPC?

Analysis:

In this regard the Apex Court said that under Section 482 CrPC, the High Courts cannot enlarge the scope of inquiry if the accused relies on materials which were not there before the Magistrate.

in a case where the offence of defamation is claimed by the accused to have not been committed based on any of the Exceptions and a prayer for quashing is made, law seems to be well settled that the High Courts can go no further and enlarge the scope of inquiry if the accused seeks to rely on materials which were not there before the Magistrate. This is based on the simple proposition that what the Magistrate could not do, the High Courts may not do," the Apex Court said.

However, the Apex Court clarified that this does not undermine the High Courts' powers under section 482, Cr. PC and that its inherent power is always available to render real and substantial justice.

Held: The Supreme Court on Thursday (05.10.2023) held that a Magistrate can dismiss a defamation complaint by applying the exceptions under section 499 of the Indian Penal Code, 1860 even before even summoning the accused

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1



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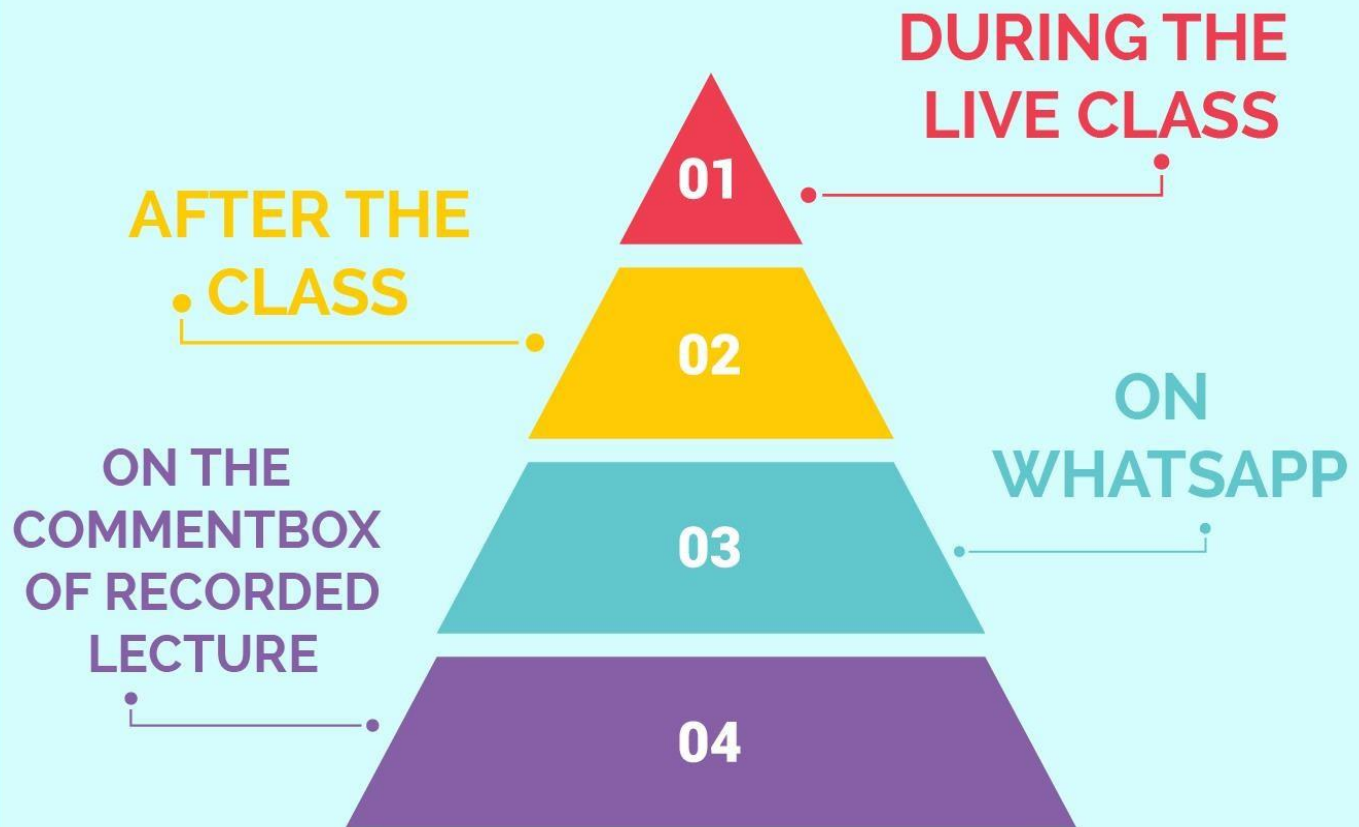
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