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JUDICIAL TIMES

OCTOBER 2023

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(OCTOBER 2023)

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NATIONAL NEWS

- 1. Shri Jyotiraditya M Scindia inaugurates Utkela Airport, and direct flight between Utkela and Bhubaneshwar**
 - In this month, in Mann Ki Baat radio broadcast, PM Modi announced the launching of “Meri Mati Mera Desh” campaign to honor the bravehearts and programmes will be organised across the country in memory of those who laid down their lives for the country.
 - During the campaign of “Meri Mati Mera Desh”, an Amrit Kalash Yatra will also be taken out. This ‘Amrit Kalash Yatra’ will reach Delhi, carrying the soil in 7,500 Kalash from villages and various corners of the country.
- 2. President Draupadi Murmu launches “Year of Positive Change” in Raipur**
 - President Draupadi Murmu launched the state-level program of “Year of Positive Change” at Prajapita Brahmakumari Ishwariya Vishwavidyalaya in Raipur, Chhattisgarh.
 - Chhattisgarh Governor Biswabhusan Harichandan and Chief Minister Bhupesh Baghel were also present on the occasion.
- 3. India will host the 1st edition of ‘Global IndiaAI 2023’ in October 2023**
 - The Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY) will be organizing the Global IndiaAI 2023, scheduled for October 2023.
 - Union Minister of State for Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Electronics & IT, Shri Rajeev Chandrasekhar chairs the conference’s steering committee which is entrusted with the task of shaping the contours of the Global IndiaAI 2023.
 - It draws members from MeitY’s Digital Economy Advisory group and other prominent leaders in the field of AI.
- 4. BRICS+6 to control 30% of global GDP, 46% population - SBI Report**
 - The addition of 6 new members to the BRICS grouping will see it controlling 46% of the world's population and 30% of its economic output.

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- At the latest BRICS summit in Johannesburg, the present members -- Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa decided to add Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia and the United Arab Emirates as new members of the grouping.
- The new members will become part of BRICS effective January 1, 2024
- The acronym BRICS was originally coined in 2001 by Goldman Sachs economists led by Jim O'Neill.

5. Sixth Rashtriya Poshan Maah begins

- The Sixth Rashtriya Poshan Maah begins and the Government is celebrating it throughout September this year
- The flagship initiative of the Central government, POSHAN Abhiyaan has been instrumental in The flagship initiative of the Central government, POSHAN Abhiyaan has been instrumental in

6. ASI to launch "Adopt a Heritage 2.0 programme" Indian Heritage app and e-permission portal on 4th September 2023

- The Archeological Survey of India (ASI) has 3696 monuments under protection, which are spread throughout the country.
- These monuments not only exhibit the rich cultural heritage of India but also play a significant role in fostering economic growth.
- To this end and to further enhance the experience of visitors, ASI will be launching the "Adopt a Heritage 2.0" programme at Samvet Auditorium, IGNC, New Delhi.
- The programme is a revamped version of the earlier scheme launched in 2017 and clearly defines the amenities sought for different monuments as per AMASR Act 1958.

7. The combined Index of Eight Core Industries increased by 8.0% (provisional) in July 2023 as compared to the Index of July 2022

- The combined Index of Eight Core Industries (ICI) increased by 8.0 per cent (provisional) in July 2023 as compared to the Index of July 2022.

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- The production of Coal, Steel, Natural Gas, Cement, Electricity, Refinery Products, Fertilizers and Crude Oil increased in July 2023 over the corresponding month of last year.
 - ICI measures combined and individual performance of production of eight core industries viz. Coal, Crude Oil, Natural Gas, Refinery Products, Fertilizers, Steel, Cement and Electricity.
 - The Eight Core Industries comprise 40.27 percent of the weight of items included in the Index of Industrial Production (IIP).
8. **Agri and financial sectors buoy GDP growth to 7.8% in April-June quarter**
- Good performance of agriculture and financial sectors helped the Indian economy to grow by 7.8 per cent in the April-June quarter of fiscal year 2023-24 (Q1FY24), Statistics office reported.
 - Though the government is optimistic about momentum, experts do not agree.
 - Economic growth based on GDP (Gross Domestic Product) growth rate was 13.1 per cent during April-June quarter 2022-23 and 6.1 per cent during January-March quarter of previous fiscal (FY23).
 - India's agriculture sector recorded growth of 3.5% in three months, up from 2.4% in the April- June quarter last year, according to the data released by the government-run National Statistical Office.
9. **G20 Technical Workshop on Climate Resilient Agriculture begins at Hyderabad in Telangana**
- The three-day G20 technical workshop on Climate Resilient Agriculture was inaugurated by the union Minister of State for Agriculture and Farmers Welfare Ms Shoba Karandlaje at Shamshad in Hyderabad.
 - The event is being attended by over 100 delegates including from India and abroad from G20 countries and invited countries
 - The Minister said several initiatives were launched by the country in climate change like the Network Project on Climate Change (NPCC), National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC) with long-term and integrated strategies for achieving key goals in the context of climate change.

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10. MoS for Culture Meenakshi Lekhi launches Adopt a Heritage 2.0 programme in New Delhi

- Minister of State for Culture Meenakshi Lekhi launched Adopt a Heritage 2.0 programme in New Delhi to enhance the visitor experience at the Heritage Site.
- The programme is envisioned by the Archaeological Survey of India to collaborate with the private sector companies, trusts and NGOs.
- It aims to engage corporate stakeholders in enhancing the amenities at three thousand 697 protected monuments spread across the country, showcasing India's rich cultural legacy.

11. Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launches 3-year partnership with Meta, Education to Entrepreneurship: Empowering a generation of students, educators and entrepreneurs

- Union Minister for Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship Shri Dharmendra Pradhan launched a 3-year partnership “Education to Entrepreneurship: Empowering a Generation of Students, Educators and Entrepreneurs” between the Ministry of Education, Ministry Skill Development & Entrepreneurship and Meta in New Delhi.
- 3 Letters of Intent (LoI) were exchanged between Meta and NIESBUD, AICTE and CBSE.

12. NCERT gets deemed university status, announces Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan

- The government has granted deemed university status to the National Council of Educational Research and Training (NCERT).
- This announcement was made by Education Minister Dharmendra Pradhan while attending the 63rd Foundation Day Celebration Programme of NCERT in New Delhi.
- 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.

13. PM Narendra Modi to embark on a two-day visit to Indonesia

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will be on a two-day visit to Indonesia to attend the 20th ASEAN- India Summit and 18th East Asia Summit.
- The two Summits will be hosted in Jakarta by Indonesia, the current Chair of ASEAN.

14. World's tallest Nataraja statue installed at G20 summit venue

- The world's tallest Nataraja statue has been installed at Bharat Mandapam, the venue of the G20 summit in Delhi
- The 28-foot-tall statue weighing 20 tonnes was made in a record time of seven months by sculptor Radhakrishnan Sthapathy and his team at Swamimalai in Thanjavur District of Tamil Nadu.
- The statue was built in Ashtadhatu (8 metals) using the traditional casting method

15. NTPC Limited to Inaugurate India's 1st Green Hydrogen Fueling Station in One Month

- NTPC Limited, a state-owned power producer, is set to commission India's 1st inaugural Green Hydrogen fueling station in Ladakh within the coming month.
- Green Hydrogen Production and Usage : The project is designed to generate 80 kilograms per day of exceptionally pure Hydrogen, measuring at 99.97% purity.
- This Hydrogen will undergo compression, storage, and dispensation for various applications, including fueling.
- Hydrogen Fuel Cell Buses in Ladakh : NTPC intends to introduce 5 Hydrogen fuel cell buses in the Ladakh region

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

1. Kathmandu-Kalinga Literary Festival concludes in Lalitpur, Nepal

- The Kathmandu-Kalinga Literary Festival, spanning 3 days, concluded in Lalitpur, Nepal. It signifies a strong ability to repay debts and reflects the economic and financial health of the borrower.
- Participating Countries: Literature from several South Asian countries was showcased during the festival, including India, Nepal, Bhutan, Bangladesh, and Sri Lanka.
- The festival showcased literature, music, dance, poetry and other art forms.

2. Memorandum of Understanding Signed for India-Middle East-Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC) at G20 Summit

- During the G20 Summit in New Delhi, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed among the governments of India, the United States (US), Saudi Arabia, the European Union (EU), the United Arab Emirates (UAE), France, Germany, and Italy to establish the India - Middle East - Europe Economic Corridor (IMEC).
- The IMEC project is part of the PGII (Partnership for Global Infrastructure Investment), which is a Western-led initiative aimed at funding infrastructure projects worldwide.
- It is considered a response to China's Belt and Road Initiative (BRI).

3. G20 Leaders Approve Goa Roadmap and "Travel for LiFE" Program for Significant Boost to Tourism Sector

- Group of Twenty (G20) leaders have unanimously endorsed the "Goa Roadmap for Tourism" as a significant step toward achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).
- The "Goa Roadmap" is an outcome of India's G20 Tourism Track and serves as a blueprint for promoting sustainable global tourism.
- This roadmap aligns with the theme of India's G20 Presidency and emphasises the role of tourism in society, the economy, and environmental sustainability.

4. Italy Reportedly Considering Withdrawal from China's Belt and Road Initiative

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- Italian Prime Minister Mr Giorgia Meloni reportedly discussed Italy's intention to withdraw from the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI) with the Chinese Premier during a private meeting at the G20 Summit in 2023.
 - Italy is the sole G7 country that joined the BRI in 2019, setting it apart from other major Western economies.
 - China's Belt and Road Initiative (also known as One Belt, One Road (OBOR)) envisages the construction of a maze of road, rail and port projects through a number of countries.
 - The BRI is often referred to as the "21st Century Silk Road" due to its aim of enhancing connectivity and trade routes.
5. **India and the UK Conduct the 12th Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) Meeting in New Delhi**
- The 12th Round of Ministerial India-United Kingdom (UK) Economic and Financial Dialogue took place in New Delhi.
 - The Indian delegation was led by Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman, Union Minister for Finance and Corporate Affairs, and the UK delegation was led by Rt. Hon. Mr. Jeremy Hunt, MP, Chancellor of the Exchequer, U.K.
 - The 11th India-United Kingdom Economic and Financial Dialogue (EFD) was held on September 02, 2021 virtually chaired by Indian Union Minister for Finance & Corporate Affairs Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman and the United Kingdom Treasury Chancellor Mr. Rishi Sunak.
6. **African Union Granted Permanent Membership in G20**
- The African Union has officially become a member of the G20 group, and this inclusion was made at the invitation of Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, who was hosting the G20 Summit.
 - A Leaders Declaration is expected to be adopted at the conclusion of the 18th G20 Summit, which is being held at the state-of-the-art Bharat Mandapam Convention Centre in Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
 - The theme of India's G20 presidency is "Vasudhaiva Kutumbakam - One Earth, One Family, One Future."

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7. **Myanmar not allowed to Chair 2026 Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) meet.**
 - 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 country.
 - ASEAN Summit is the highest policy-making body in ASEAN comprising the Heads of State of ASEAN Member States.
 - ASEAN Summit meetings are held twice annually, determined by the Chair of the ASEAN Summit in consultation with other member States.

8. **UNESCO Releases Inaugural Guidance on the Application of Artificial Intelligence (GenAI) in Education**
 - The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) has published its 1st guidance on the use of Generative AI (GenAI) in education, emphasising the importance of regulating this technology.
 - UNESCO calls on governmental agencies to regulate the use of GenAI in education.
 - The guidance highlights the emergence of GenAI chatbots like ChatGPT, launched by Microsoft- backed OpenAI in November.

9. **Pakistan's General Elections to be Held in January 2024**
 - Pakistan's election commission announced that the general elections in the country will take place in the last week of January 2024.
 - General elections are scheduled to be held in Pakistan within 90 days after the dissolution of the National Assembly, which was prematurely dissolved on August 9, 2023.

10. **Singapore is now the world's freest economy.**
 - Singapore has dethroned Hong Kong to become the world's freest economy, according to a report released by Canadian think tank Fraser Institute.
 - 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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11. Foreign ministers of Quad nations meet on sidelines of UN General Assembly.

- The foreign ministers of Quad group -- which includes India, Australia, Japan and the United States – met on the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) session in New York.
- The meeting was attended by External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar, US Secretary of State Antony Blinken, Australian Foreign Minister Penny Wong, and Japan's new Foreign Minister Yoko Kamikawa.

12. Indian Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi invites US President Joe Biden as Chief Guest for Republic Day 2024.

- Indian Prime Minister (PM) Shri Narendra Modi has extended an invitation to United States (US) President Joe Biden to be the Chief Guest for India's Republic Day celebrations on January 26, 2024.
- The first US President to attend this event was Barack Obama in 2015.
- In the 2022 Republic Day celebrations, the Chief Guest was Egyptian President Abdel Fattah El- Sisi.

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ECONOMICS

1. **Bad Bank chairman Karnam Sekar resigns over disagreements in merger with IDRCL**

- Karnam Sekar, the chairman of the National Asset Reconstruction Company of India (NARCL), commonly referred to as the Bad Bank, has resigned due to differences in the structure and functioning of the institution
- National Asset Reconstruction Company of India (NARCL) Chairman Sekar resigned soon after a proposal for merging the public sector NARCL with India Debt Resolution Company Limited (IDRCL) was suggested.
- A bad bank is a financial entity set up to buy Non-Performing Assets (NPAs), or Bad Loans, from banks.

2. **PhonePe enters stock broking business with launch of Share Market app.**

- Walmart-backed payments giant PhonePe has introduced its stock broking platform, named Share(dot)Market, as part of its efforts to diversify its financial services.
- The new mobile app will allow users to trade and invest in stocks, mutual funds, and ETFs (exchange-traded funds).
- The Share(dot)Market app elevates discount broking by providing market intelligence and quantitative research-based WealthBaskets, a scalable technology platform.

3. **RBI Permits Scheduled Commercial Banks to Offer Credit Lines via UPI**

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has allowed scheduled commercial banks (SCBs) (excluding Payment Banks, Small Finance Banks, and Regional Rural Banks) are now allowed to facilitate payments using pre-sanctioned credit lines for individuals with their prior consent through the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) system.
- UPI currently supports linkage with savings accounts, overdraft accounts, prepaid wallets, and credit cards.
- Banks can establish terms and conditions for the use of these credit lines, including aspects such as credit limits, credit duration, interest rates, and more.

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- At present, UPI handles 75% of the retail digital payments volume in India.
 - UPI achieved a significant milestone by surpassing 10 billion transactions in the month of August, 2023.
4. **RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das Receives 'A+' Rating in Global Finance Central Banker Report 2023.**
- According to Global Finance, Das has been ranked at the top position in the list of 3 central bank governors worldwide.
 - The A+ category in the report also includes 2 other central bank governors: Thomas J. Jordan of Switzerland and Nguyen Thi Hong of Vietnam.
 - The grades in the report are based on a scale from 'A' to 'F' and evaluate central bank governors' performance in areas such as inflation control, economic growth goals, currency stability, and interest rate management.
5. **RBI Expected to Commence Digital Rupee Pilot in Call Money Market by October 2023.**
- Reserve Bank of India's (RBI) Executive Director Ajay Kumar Choudhary announced that the RBI is likely to launch the pilot of Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC) for transactions in the interbank borrowing or call money market by October 2023.
 - Participating Banks: Nine banks were selected by RBI for the wholesale CBDC pilot project, including State Bank of India, Bank of Baroda, Union Bank of India, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, YES Bank, IDFC First Bank, and HSBC.
6. **Reserve Bank's Frictionless Credit Initiative Leads to 70% Reduction in Lender Customer Acquisition Costs and 6% Savings for Borrowers.**
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) is piloting a "Frictionless Credit Initiative" that has resulted in a substantial 70% reduction in customer acquisition costs for lenders, on the other hand, borrowers are saving 6% of the loan amount.
 - The pilot started with an all-digital KCC (kisan credit card) lending, developed by the RBI Innovation Hub on the public tech platform, in Tamil Nadu (TN) and Madhya Pradesh (MP) this April, 2023.

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- The pilot program has been extended to 4 additional states: Maharashtra, Uttar Pradesh, Karnataka, and Gujarat (for dairy farmers) from August 17, 2023.
7. **ADB moderates India's GDP growth hopes this year (2023) to 6.3%.**
- The Asian Development Bank (ADB) pared its growth forecast for India's economy to 6.3% for this year, from 6.4% estimated earlier, citing the impact of falling exports and erratic rainfall patterns that could hit farm output.
 - The Bank's economists also raised their inflation forecast for the year to 5.5% from 5% estimated in April and retained their real GDP growth projection for 2024-25 at 6.7%, influenced by expectations that private investment and industrial output will rise.
 - Additionally, ADB revised its inflation projection for India for FY24 to 5.5 per cent, up from the previous 5 per cent.
8. **Finance Ministry is comfortable with 6.5% baseline GDP growth estimate for FY24.**
- Terming India's economic outlook for the current fiscal remains "bright", the finance ministry stated the baseline estimate for GDP growth in FY24 is 6.5%.
 - The Indian economy grew by 7.2 percent last fiscal but growth is expected to slow down in the current fiscal due to the global slowdown.
 - The economy however, grew at a higher than anticipated rate of 7.8% in the first quarter of 2023- 24, raising growth projections by private agencies for the fiscal.
9. **RBI Reports ₹16.39 Crore Worth of E-Rupees in Circulation as of March 2023.**
- As of March 2023, data from the Reserve Bank of India's Handbook of Statistics on the Indian Economy for FY23 indicates that the Central Bank Digital Currency (CBDC), also known as the e-rupee, was in circulation with a total worth of Rs 16.39 crore.
 - Out of the total e-rupee circulation, Rs 10.69 crore constituted wholesale CBDC, while Rs 5.70 crore comprised retail CBDC.
10. **RBI Sets Ways and Means Advances (WMA) Limit at ₹50,000 Crore for Government for H2 of FY 2023- 24.**

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- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has set the limit for Ways and Means Advances (WMA) for the government for the second half (Oct-Mar) of the financial year 2023-24 at ₹50,000 crore.
- The RBI initiates the issuance of market loans when the government utilises 75% of the WMA limit.
- For overdrafts beyond the WMA limit, an interest rate of 2% above the repo rate is applied.

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SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

1. ISRO released a graph of temperature variation on lunar surface measured by Chandrayaan-3's payload

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) released a graph of the temperature variation between the moon's surface and a point around 8 cm below as measured by an instrument named ChaSTE probe.
- This crucial data release follows just 4 days after the Vikram lander and Pragyaan rover at the location referred to as the 'Shiv Shakti' point, a name bestowed by PM Shri Narendra Modi.
- The Chandra's Surface Thermophysical Experiment (ChaSTE) stands as a temperature probe

2. BHEL manufactures 1st Indigenous SCR Catalysts for Yadadri Power Station to Reduce NOx Emissions.

- A government engineering firm, Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL) manufactured India's 1st set of Catalysts for Selective Catalyst Reactors (SCR) for limiting Oxides of Nitrogen (NOx) emissions from thermal power plants.
- The first set of indigenously manufactured SCR catalysts for the 5x800 MW Yadadri Thermal Power Station in Telangana, were flagged off by Renuka Gera, Director (Industrial Systems & Products), BHEL, from the company's Solar Business Division (SBD) unit in Bengaluru, Karnataka.
- It is under the ownership of the Government of India and administrative control of the Ministry of Heavy Industries.

3. India's 1st Solar Mission, Aditya L1, Successfully Launched from Sriharikota for Sun Study

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the Aditya-L1 (Lagrange Point 1) orbiter, India's first solar mission, using the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle (PSLV-C57) rocket from the Second Launch Pad (SLP) of the Satish Dhawan Space Centre (SDSC) in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh (AP).
- Aditya L-1 has begun its 125-day journey into space.
- Aditya-L1 is the 25th mission using the PSLV-XL configuration.

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4. **ISRO successfully launched 7 Singaporean satellites on board PSLV-C56 Rocket from Sriharikota**
 - The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)'s PSLV-C56 rocket successfully launched Singapore's DS-SAR satellite and 6 co-passenger payloads from the first launch-pad (FLP) of Satish Dhawan Space Centre in Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh (AP).
 - This mission, PSLV-C56 / DS-SAR, is a dedicated commercial mission conducted by NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) for ST Engineering, Singapore.
 - This is the 58th flight of PSLV and 17th flight of PSLV in Core Alone configuration.

5. **Hyderabad Firm Grene Robotics Introduces India's First AI-Powered Anti-Drone System 'Indrajaal'**
 - Hyderabad-based company Grene Robotics has initiated the demonstration of its weapons platform 'Indrajaal,'the world's only autonomous wide area anti-drone, Counter-Unmanned Aircraft System (C-UAS), in Hyderabad.
 - The demonstration of Indrajaal is a significant milestone in Indian defense technology.
 - This anti-drone system is capable of safeguarding against various drone classifications, including micro, mini, small, large, and extra-large drones, enhancing security measures for the future.

6. **ISRO-developed device for fishers' safety successfully tested at Neendakara**
 - 'Nabhmitra', a device developed by Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)-Space Applications Centre (Ahmedabad, Gujarat) for the safety of fishermen, was successfully tested at Neendakara,a coastal area in Kollam city, Kerala.
 - It enables two-way messaging services from and to sea for the safety of fishermen.
 - The device is designed to communicate weather and cyclone warnings to fishermen in their local language, enhancing their understanding and safety.

7. **China to Launch Wide Field Survey Telescope for Detecting Faint Space Signals**

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- China is set to launch the Wide Field Survey Telescope (WFST), the largest time-domain survey facility in the Northern Hemisphere, in September, 2023.
 - The WFST, characterised by a 2.5-meter primary mirror and a prime-focus camera with a large field of view, is currently undergoing engineering debugging and pilot observation processes.
8. **NASA's Lucy Spacecraft Records Its Inaugural Images of Asteroid Dinkinesh.**
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration's (NASA) Lucy spacecraft has captured its first images of the main belt asteroid Dinkinesh, marking the beginning of a 12-year voyage.
 - The Dinkinesh asteroid was first discovered in 1999 as part of the LINEAR survey.
 - It is classified as a slow rotator with a moderately large light-curve amplitude.
 - The images of Dinkinesh were captured using Lucy's high-resolution camera, known as the Lucy Long Range Reconnaissance Imager (L'LORRI instrument).
 - Dinkinesh is categorised as an S-type asteroid, indicating a composition primarily composed of silicates and some metal.
9. **Marine Scientists Unveil Genetic Secrets of Indian Oil Sardine through Genome Decoding.**
- Scientists at the Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR)-Central Marine Fisheries Research Institute (CMFRI) have achieved a significant breakthrough by decoding the entire genome of the Indian oil sardine (*Sardinella longiceps*), a popular food fish in India.
 - This marks the first time that the genome of a marine fish species from the Indian subcontinent has been decoded.
 - Indian oil sardine belongs to the genus *Sardinella* and is a ray-finned fish species.
 - It is a crucial fisheries resource in the Indian subcontinent and contributes significantly, approximately 10%, to India's total marine fisheries industry.
10. **NASA capsule carrying first asteroid samples lands on Earth.**

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- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) successfully retrieved its first asteroid samples from deep space, with the capsule parachuting into the Utah desert.
- The asteroid hunting spacecraft OSIRIS-REx was responsible for collecting and delivering the pristine asteroid material.
- The sample capsule was released during a flyby of Earth from a distance of 100,000 km and landed in a remote area of military land approximately 4 hours later.
- OSIRIS-REx stands for Origins, Spectral Interpretation, Resource Identification, Security, Regolith Explorer.

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DEFENCE CURRENT AFFAIRS

1. Indian Navy's Mahendragiri Warship Successfully Launched in Mumbai.

- The Vice-President of India, Jagdeep Dhankhar along with his wife Dr. Sudesh Dhankhar, launched the warship 'Mahendragiri' built at M/s Mazagon Dock Shipbuilders Limited (MDL) in Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- 'Mahendragiri' is the 7th stealth frigate under Project 17A of the Indian Navy, and the 4th constructed by MDL.
- It is named after a mountain peak in Eastern Ghats located in the state of Orissa.
- The ship was named by Dr Sudesh Dhankhar, wife of Vice President Shri Jagdeep Dhankhar who was the chief guest on the occasion.
- A total of 7 ships were built under Project 17-A these are Indian Naval Ship (INS) Nilgiri, INS Hingiri, INS Udaygiri, INS Dunagiri, INS Taragiri, INS Vindhyagiri, INS Mahendragiri.

2. Indian Navy's Mahendragiri Warship Successfully Launched in Mumbai.

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) is conducting a training exercise named "Trishul" to test its combat readiness.
- The exercise will involve fighter planes, transport aircraft, helicopters, and other assets in the country's northern and western sectors.
- The exercise will be conducted by the air force's Western Air Command (WAC) from September 4 to 14, 2023.

3. 21st Edition of India-France Bilateral Naval Exercise 'VARUNA' 2023 conducted in Arabian Sea.

- The 2nd phase of the Indian-French bilateral naval exercise, Varuna 2023, took place in the Arabian Sea.
- The exercise witnessed the participation of guided missile frigates, tankers, Maritime Patrol Aircraft and integral helicopters from the two sides.
- The 1st phase of the Varuna exercise occurred off India's Western Seaboard from January 16 to January 20, 2023.
- This exercise also commemorates the 25th year of the India-France strategic partnership.

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4. **Indian Navy and Uber Collaborate for Private Travel of Naval Personnel and Their Families Nationwide in India**
 - The Indian Navy has joined hands with a cab aggregator service with an aim to provide reliable, convenient, safe and economical mobility solutions for personal travel and commute of naval personnel and families across India.
 - The Navy signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with Uber in the presence of Navy Chief Admiral R Hari Kumar and senior officials of the company.
5. **Thal Sena Bhawan of the Indian Army to Adhere to GRIHA-IV Green Standards**
 - The Indian Army's upcoming Thal Sena Bhawan (TSB) is being constructed in adherence to GRIHA- IV (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment) norms.
 - It has been designed for a building life of about 100 years, and is earthquake-resistant, according to C.P. Kukreja Architects, who have been awarded the project.
 - The building will be ready by May-June 2025.
 - GRIHA (Green Rating for Integrated Habitat Assessment), derives its name from the Sanskrit word meaning 'Abode.'
6. **Border Roads Organisation to Build World's Highest Fighter Airfield in Ladakh.**
 - The Border Roads Organisation (BRO) is set to construct the world's highest fighter airfield in the Nyoma region of Ladakh.
 - The airfield will be situated at an elevation of 13,700 feet, making it one of the highest airfields globally for fighter jets.
 - The foundation stone for this project was scheduled to be laid by Defence Minister Rajnath Singh on September 12, 2023, at the Devak Bridge.
 - India is actively working on infrastructure development along the 3,488 km stretch of the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China.
7. **Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) Approves Proposals Worth Rs 45,000 Crore, Including Purchase of 12 Su-30MKIs for Indian Air Force (IAF).**

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- The Defence Acquisition Council (DAC) chaired by Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh, approved a total of 9 acquisition proposals totalling Rs 45,000 crore for the Indian Armed forces, including procurement of 12 Su-30MKIs for the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- These acquisitions are intended to strengthen the capabilities of the Indian Armed Forces.
- 12 Su-30MKIs for the Indian Air Force (IAF) would be manufactured in India by Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL).
- Su-30MKIs will be equipped with more than 60% indigenous content.

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SPORTS NEWS

1. England pacer Stuart Broad has announced his retirement from cricket. He will call it quits from the game after the ongoing Ashes series. Broad announced the decision at the end of the third day of the fifth Ashes Test at the Oval. The 37-year-old has played 167 Test matches, picking 602 wickets. He has also featured in 121 ODIs and 56 T20Is.
2. Iga Swiatek achieved a significant achievement by securing her fourth WTA title of the year and her very first on home soil. The Polish tennis player showcased her dominance in the final, defeating Germany's Laura Siegemund with an incredible 6-0, 6-1 scoreline in just 68 minutes, denying her opponent any break points throughout the match.
3. The Indian women's hockey team wins the title of Torneo del Centenario 2023 by defeating hosts Spain 3-0 in Terrassa, Barcelona on 30th July.
4. Defending Formula One champion Max Verstappen emphatically won the Belgian Grand Prix for an eighth straight win and 10th overall of a crushingly dominant season. He finished 22.3 seconds ahead of teammate Sergio Perez to give Red Bull an easy 1-2. It moved Verstappen ominously closer to a third straight world title and his own F1 record of 15 wins from last year.
5. The 17-year-old chess prodigy, D. Gukesh, has dethroned Grandmaster Viswanathan Anand as India's top-ranked chess player in the live world rankings. Gukesh achieved this feat by defeating Mistradin Iskandarov in the second round of the FIDE World Cup, reaching a live rating of 2755.9 and climbing to the 9th position in the classic open category.
6. Alex Hales has announced his retirement from international cricket with immediate effect, at the age of 34. He signs off from his England career as a T20 World Cup winner, having played his last game in their five-wicket win over Pakistan at the MCG in November last year.

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7. The Indian women's compound archery team etched their names in history by clinching a gold medal at the World Archery Championships held in Berlin, Germany. This victory marked India's first-ever gold at the archery world championships in any category. It was India's first-ever gold at the archery world championships in any category

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CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQ'S

1. Which state/UT inaugurated India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) school?
 - a) Telangana
 - b) Kerala
 - c) Karnataka
 - d) Punjab
2. The world's first hundred percent Ethanol fuelled Car has been developed by which company?
 - a) Maruti Suzuki
 - b) Toyota
 - c) Mahindra and Mahindra
 - d) Tata Motors
3. Which country hosted the 19th African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN)?
 - a) Kenya
 - b) Ethiopia
 - c) Nigeria
 - d) Gabon
4. Which country is set to hold a referendum to recognize the country's Indigenous people in its constitution?
 - a) Greece
 - b) Australia
 - c) Sri Lanka
 - d) China
5. 'GREAT' Grant, which was seen un the news, is associated with which Union Ministry?
 - a) Ministry of Textiles
 - b) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - c) Ministry of MSME
 - d) Ministry of Rural Development
6. Tharman Shanmugaratnam has been elected as President of which country?
 - a) Singapore
 - b) Malaysia

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- c) Maldives
d) Mauritius
7. Which scheme has been granted National Award for e-Governance 2023 (Gold) for Application of Emerging Technologies?
a) PM KISAN
b) SVAMITVA
c) Atmanirbhar Bharat Abhiyan
d) Mission Karmayogi
8. MQ-9B Predator Drone, that was in news recently, was developed by which country?
a) Israel
b) Russia
c) United States
d) Germany
9. What does the Language Diversity Index (LDI) measure?
a) The total number of languages spoken in a country
b) The decline in the number of mother-tongue speakers worldwide
c) The probability that two people chosen at random have the same mother tongue
d) The linguistic diversity of a country's population
10. The Cabinet granted approval for allocation of Rs. 1164 crore for the Industrial Development Scheme (IDS) 2017 in which states?
a) Himachal Pradesh and Uttarakhand
b) Punjab and Rajasthan
c) Kerala and Tamil Nadu
d) West Bengal and Odisha
11. 'Operation Muskaan', which was seen in the news, was implemented in which city?
a) Indore
b) Mumbai
c) Ahmedabad
d) Guwahati
12. Cauvery Water Regulation Committee (CWRC) directed which state to release Cauvery water?
a) Kerala
b) Tamil Nadu

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- c) Karnataka
d) Andhra Pradesh
13. The Asian Development Bank (ADB) is set to construct 25-mw solar power plant in which state?
a) Gujarat
b) Rajasthan
c) Tamil Nadu
d) West Bengal
14. Which country is set to hold a referendum to recognize the country's Indigenous people in its constitution?
a) Greece
b) Australia
c) Sri Lanka
d) China
15. Which country/countries are the hosts of Asia Cup 2023 tournament?
a) Sri Lanka and Pakistan
b) India and Bangladesh
c) Nepal and Bangladesh
d) Pakistan and Afghanistan
16. Who has been chosen as the chair of groups of ministers (GoMs) on GST System Reforms?
a) P Chidambaram
b) Subramaniam Swamy
c) Ajit Pawar
d) Adhir Ranjan Chowdhary
17. 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
18. When is the 'National Small Industry Day' observed in India?
a) August 25
b) August 30

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- c) September 1
d) September 3
19. Who is the first woman to head the Railway Board of India?
a) Jaya Verma Sinha
b) Soma Mondal
c) Madhabi Puri Buch
d) Rekha Sharma
20. Nilachal Flyover, which was seen in the news, is located in which state?
a) Assam
b) Sikkim
c) Arunachal Pradesh
d) West Bengal
21. Tharman Shanmugaratnam has been elected as President of which country?
a) Singapore
b) Malaysia
c) Maldives
d) Mauritius
22. Which city is the host of 'International Aerospace Conference'?
a) Pune
b) Gwalior
c) Bengaluru
d) Hyderabad
23. Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) is located in which state/UT?
a) Maharashtra
b) Gujarat
c) Karnataka
d) Rajasthan
24. The 12 feet high statue of Mahatma Gandhi was inaugurated recently along with 'Gandhi Vatika' in which city?
a) New Delhi
b) Surat
c) Mumbai
d) Kolkata

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25. MQ-9B Predator Drone, that was in news recently, was developed by which country?
- Israel
 - Russia
 - United States
 - Germany
26. What is the primary purpose of the National Carbon Registry launched by the UNDP in August 2023?
- To facilitate carbon credit trading between countries
 - To track emissions and invest in emission-reducing projects
 - To provide customizable software for carbon management
 - To promote digital public infrastructure for climate challenges
27. COVID-19 Technology Access Pool (C-TAP), is an initiative of which organization?
- World Health Organization (WHO)
 - Gavi, the Vaccine Alliance
 - Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
 - Johns Hopkins University
28. "Banglar Mati, Banglar Jol" is a patriotic song written by?
- Nazrul Islam
 - Rabindranath Tagore
 - Jibanananda Das
 - Sukanta Bhattachary
29. India has decided to settle WTO Poultry Dispute with which country?
- Japan
 - USA
 - China
 - Pakistan
30. Which state has approved Rs 256.46 Crore for Chambal River Bridge and Road Construction Projects?
- Rajasthan
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Maharashtra
31. Which state raised the OBC quota to 27% in local bodies?

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- a) Gujarat
 - b) Assam
 - c) Jharkhand
 - d) Madhya Pradesh
32. The ancient city of Kalhu is located in which present-day country?
- a) Greece
 - b) China
 - c) Iraq
 - d) USA
33. 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
34. Which state has decided to create a fact-checking unit to curb fake news on social media?
- a) Karnataka
 - b) Kerala
 - c) Tamil Nadu
 - d) West Bengal
35. In the August, the number of UPI transactions performed which milestone?
- a) 5 billion
 - b) 10 billion
 - c) 15 billion
 - d) 20 billion
36. 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
37. 'International Literacy Day' is observed on which day?
- a) July 8
 - b) August 8

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- c) September 8
d) October 8
38. Kakrapar Atomic Power Project (KAPP) is located in which state/UT?
a) Maharashtra
b) Gujarat
c) Karnataka
d) Rajasthan
39. The 12 feet high statue of Mahatma Gandhi was inaugurated recently along with 'Gandhi Vatika' in which city?
a) New Delhi
b) Surat
c) Mumbai
d) Kolkata
40. Tharosaurus indicus, dinosaur fossils from the Middle Jurassic period, was recently discovered in which region?
a) Deccan Plateau, India
b) Thar Desert, India
c) Gobi Desert, China
d) Indus Valley, Pakistan
41. Who are the main beneficiaries of 'Project Naman' launched by the Indian Army?
a) Active-duty soldiers
b) Foreign nationals
c) Veterans and families of deceased personnel
d) High-ranking military officials
42. Hero Kim Kun Ok, which was recently in the news, is which type of defense equipment?
a) Fighter Jet
b) Submarine
c) Tank
d) Missile
43. Which state has extended Social Security to Transgender Community through Universal Pension Scheme?
a) Tamil Nadu
b) Jharkhand

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- c) Kerala
 - d) Goa
44. Which country has announced plans to finalize the route for the 'Power of Siberia 2' pipeline?
- a) Russia
 - b) Japan
 - c) Ukraine
 - d) Belarus
45. Which company is the official sponsor of Indian contingent at Hangzhou Asian Games?
- a) Byju's
 - b) Amul
 - c) Odisha state
 - d) Tata
46. Which institution released the 'Draft Guidelines for Prevention and Regulation of Dark Patterns'?
- a) Ministry of Home Affairs
 - b) Ministry of Consumer Affairs
 - c) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
 - d) Ministry of MSME
47. Scientists of which country has recently grown human kidneys inside pig embryos?
- a) USA
 - b) Russia
 - c) China
 - d) Japan
48. Indian Airforce has received First C-295 Transport Plane from which company?
- a) Airbus
 - b) Boeing
 - c) Dassault Aviation
 - d) HAL
49. Which organisation has announced plans to build World's Highest Fighter Airfield, at Ladakh?
- a) Indian Airforce
 - b) Airports Authority of India

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- c) National Highways Authority of India
d) Border Roads Organisation
50. Which department launched 'Recognition Scheme for ISPs Promoting Rural FTTH Broadband'?
- a) Department of Telecommunications
b) Department of Post
c) Department of Electronics
d) Department of Expenditure
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)?
- a) 5.8 per cent

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- 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. 'Kinzhall Missile', that was recently making news, is developed by which country?
- a) USA
 - b) France
 - c) Russia
 - d) Israel
61. A new global data platform 'Marine Sand Watch' has been developed under which institution?
- a) World Bank
 - b) UNEP
 - c) UNFCCC

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- d) 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
 - September 10
 - September 15
67. India has decided to settle WTO Poultry Dispute with which country?
- Japan
 - USA
 - China
 - Pakistan

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68. 'Medal of the City of Paris' has been revoked from whom?
- Mahmoud Abbas
 - Michael Jackson
 - Rafael Nadal
 - Hocine Ziani
69. Which state has approved Rs 256.46 Crore for Chambal River Bridge and Road Construction Projects?
- Rajasthan
 - Madhya Pradesh
 - Uttar Pradesh
 - Maharashtra
70. 'Air Quality and Climate Bulletin' is released by which organisation?
- WMO
 - IMF
 - UNFCCC
 - IMO
71. What is the main objective of extending the Digital India project with a substantial outlay of ₹14,903 crore?
- To provide financial support to rural communities
 - To promote traditional industries and crafts
 - To enhance India's technological capabilities and digital transformation
 - To improve agricultural productivity
72. How many IT professionals are targeted for reskilling and upskilling under the extended Digital India project?
- 1 lakh IT professionals
 - 2.5 lakh IT professionals
 - 5.25 lakh IT professionals
 - 10 lakh IT professionals
73. What is the estimated total cost of the PM-eBus Sewa scheme?
- Rs 10,000 crore
 - Rs 30,000 crore
 - Rs 50,000 crore
 - Rs 57,613 crore

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74. How much is the estimated investment in the seven ambitious railway projects approved by the Union Cabinet?
- ₹20,000 crore
 - ₹25,000 crore
 - ₹32,500 crore
 - ₹50,000 crore
75. What is the primary goal of the multi-tracking projects under the Engineering, Procurement, and Construction (EPC) model?
- Expansion of luxury train services
 - Boosting employment in urban areas
 - Elevating operational efficiency and reducing congestion in the rail network
 - Promoting tourism along railway routes
76. Which ministry oversees the functioning of the Employees Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)?
- Ministry of Finance
 - Ministry of Labour and Employment
 - Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
 - Ministry of Home Affairs
77. In which Russian port has India's contribution to cargo handling been significant?
- Vladivostok
 - Saint Petersburg
 - Kaliningrad
 - Murmansk
78. What percentage of the cargo handled at Murmansk port did India account for in the first seven months of 2023?
- 15%
 - 25%
 - 35%
 - 45%
79. Adille Sumariwalla recently secured a prominent position in the global track and field governing body. What is the position he has been elected to?
- President of World Athletics
 - Secretary-General of World Athletics
 - Treasurer of World Athletics

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- d) Vice President of World Athletics
80. What is the main objective of the Gruha Lakshmi Yojana launched by the Karnataka Government?
- To provide financial assistance to men heads of households.
 - To provide financial assistance to women heads of households.
 - To promote women's entrepreneurship in the state.
 - To support women's education and skill development.
81. What is the main reason for the Dutch economy entering a recession in the second quarter of the year?
- Decrease in government spending
 - Decline in interest rates
 - Increase in consumer spending
 - Drop in consumer spending and exports
82. What is ICRA Ratings' forecast for India's GDP growth in the first quarter (Q1) of fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24)?
- 7.2%
 - 8.5%
 - 9.0%
 - 6.8%
83. Which Greek leader extended an invitation to Prime Minister Modi for the historic visit?
- Kyriakos Mitsotakis
 - Katerina Sakellariopoulou
 - Alexis Tsipras
 - George Papandreou
84. During the visit, what areas of cooperation are expected to be discussed between the Indian and Greek leaders?
- Agricultural development
 - Space exploration
 - Cultural exchanges
 - Maritime transport, defense, trade, and investments
85. What factors contribute to the positive growth observed in the services sector during Q1 FY24?
- Reduced investment activity

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- b) Decline in demand
 - c) Increased capital expenditure
 - d) Catch-up in services demand and improved investment activity
86. What was the percentage of microfinance loans held by standalone MFIs in FY23?
- a) 30%
 - b) 35%
 - c) 40%
 - d) 45%
87. Which state is the Yadadri Thermal Power Station located in?
- a) Maharashtra
 - b) Telangana
 - c) West Bengal
 - d) Karnataka
88. Sunil Bharti Mittal referred to Africa as:
- a) A technological hub
 - b) A cultural epicenter
 - c) A global superpower
 - d) The last continent of hope
89. Which state led the microfinance sector in terms of Assets Under Management (AUM)?
- a) Maharashtra
 - b) Bihar
 - c) Kerala
 - d) Gujarat
90. What is the name of the co-branded hotel credit card launched by HDFC Bank and Marriott Bonvoy?
- a) HDFC Bonvoy Card
 - b) Marriott HDFC Travel Card
 - c) Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card
 - d) HDFC Marriott Rewards Card
91. What is the primary pollutant that SCR Catalysts aim to reduce?
- a) Carbon monoxide (CO)
 - b) Sulfur dioxide (SO₂)
 - c) Particulate matter (PM)

- d) Nitrogen oxide (NO_x)
92. Which network's platform is the Marriott Bonvoy HDFC Bank Credit Card part of?
- Mastercard
 - Visa
 - American Express
 - Discover Global Network
93. What is the name of YES BANK's newly introduced mobile banking app?
- YES Mobile
 - YES Banking Pro
 - IRIS by YES BANK
 - YES Finance Connect
94. Which bank has introduced the UPI interoperable digital rupee mobile application?
- HDFC Bank
 - Axis Bank
 - ICICI Bank
 - Canara Bank
95. Who is the current Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?
- Raghuram Rajan
 - Urjit Patel
 - Shaktikant Das
 - Nirmala Sitharaman
96. Who signed the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) for exchange of White Shipping Information on 23 August 2023?
- Chief of the Air Force
 - Chief of the Army Staff
 - Chief of the Naval Staff and Commandant of Philippine Coast Guard
 - Chief of the Coast Guard
97. Which technological initiative of RBI Innovation Hub powers the newly introduced lending products by Axis Bank?
- Digital Agricultural Platform
 - Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSME) Portal
 - Public Tech Platform for Frictionless Credit (PTPFC)
 - Innovative Credit Card System

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98. In which Indian state will the Kisan Credit Card (KCC) pilot project be initially rolled out by Axis Bank?
- a) Maharashtra
 - b) Uttar Pradesh
 - c) Madhya Pradesh
 - d) Rajasthan
99. What does the UDGAM acronym stand for in the context of the RBI's portal?
- a) Unclaimed Deposits Global Asset Management
 - b) User Data Generation and Analysis Module
 - c) Unclaimed Deposits Gateway to Access Information
 - d) Universal Database for General Account Management
100. Which organizations collaborated with RBI to develop the UDGAM portal?
- a) United Nations and World Bank
 - b) International Monetary Fund (IMF) and World Trade Organization (WTO)
 - c) Reserve Bank Information Technology Pvt Ltd (ReBIT), Indian Financial Technology & Allied Services (IFTAS), and select banks
 - d) International Red Cross and Doctors Without Borders

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ANSWER KEY

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

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TRANSLATIONS: HINDI

1. कानून का शासन" मर्दानगी का सर्वोच्च कानून है। अन्य सभी कानून विषय के अधीन हैं और "कानून के शासन" से इनकार नहीं किया जा सकता है। यह सत्यापित करने वाले सभी कानूनों में सबसे प्राथमिक है- मानव जाति की अधिकतम तर्कसंगत उपलब्धि। "कानून का शासन" एक निःस्वार्थ वास्तविकता है जो दुनिया के सबसे विश्वासघाती लुटेरे को मैत्री और समझौते में संगठित रहने, साझा अहंकार और विकास के लिए सहयोग करने के लिए सहमत करती है।
2. कानून का शासन एक प्रागैतिहासिक धारणा है, और लगभग 350 ईसा पूर्व प्लेटो और अरस्तू जैसे प्राचीन यूनानी सत्य-शोधकों द्वारा इस पर विचार किया गया था। तब तक कानून के शासन की धारणा को कई लेखकों, दार्शनिकों और अन्य लोगों ने आत्मसात कर लिया था। बाद में, 1885 में, विक्टोरियन युग के प्रोफेसर ए.
3. कानून वे मूल्य हैं जो यह सुनिश्चित करते हैं कि लोग जीवन में सभी अच्छी चीजों की सराहना कर सकें। कानून कुछ अपरिहार्य उद्देश्यों की पूर्ति करता है। कानून न केवल व्यवस्था कायम रखता है, बल्कि यह व्यवस्था को बोधगम्य बनाता है। कानून एक लोकतांत्रिक कट्टरपंथी व्यवस्था के पोषण और संरक्षण में प्रमुख बुनियादी बातों में सहायता करता है। कानून पक्षपातपूर्ण प्रबंधन द्वारा प्रभाव के कार्यान्वयन पर एक बड़ा प्रतिबंध लगाता है और तानाशाही के खिलाफ किलेबंदी का मुख्य रूप है।
4. डाइसी के दृढ़ता से व्यक्त विचारों में, सैद्धांतिक रूप से, मंत्रियों, पुलिस अधिकारियों, या अन्य कार्यकारी अधिकारियों को नागरिकों के अधिकारों और स्वतंत्रता में हस्तक्षेप करने के लिए व्यापक शक्तियां प्रदान करने वाले कानून बनाने से संसद को रोकने के लिए कुछ भी नहीं है। इसलिए, डाइसी के अनुसार, एक मंत्री को अक्सर किसी मुद्दे को निर्धारित करने या विशेषाधिकार देने की शक्ति दी जाएगी, इस शक्ति का प्रयोग 'यदि मंत्री उचित समझे' तो किया जाएगा, अब यहां चुनौती यह है कि, वास्तव में यह कैसे निर्धारित किया जाए विशेषाधिकार प्राप्त शक्ति का मंत्री दुरुपयोग नहीं करेगा, क्योंकि वह किसी को जवाब देने के लिए बाध्य नहीं है। मंत्रीगण बिल्कुल यही करते थे। बांग्लादेश में मंत्रियों द्वारा किसी भी नियम को संसद द्वारा मंजूरी देना आम बात है। जहां भी उन्हें लगा कि विवेक है, वहां मनमानी की गुंजाइश है।

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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. The “RULE OF LAW” is the uppermost law of manhood. All other laws are under subject and cannot deny with the “rule of law.” This is the most elementary of all laws verifying- the maximum rational accomplishment of mankind. The “rule of law” is an unselfish reality which agrees the most treacherous marauder on the world to live organized in amity and agreement, collaborating for shared egotism and evolution.
2. The rule of law is a prehistoric notion, and was deliberated by Ancient Greek truth-seekers such as Plato and Aristotle around 350 BC. Till then the perception of the rule of law has been absorbed by a number of writers, philosophers and others. Later on, in 1885, Victorian era Professor A. V. Dicey, in his graft ‘THE LAW of the Constitution’ proposition is attributed for propagating the rule of law and till now his propositions are deliberated as basic rule of the lawful.
3. Law is the values which safeguard that people can appreciate all the good things in life. Law accomplishes some indispensable purposes. Law does not only uphold order, it marks order conceivable. Law aids the key rudiments in the nurturing and conservation of a democratic radical system. Law delivers a major restriction on the implementation of influence by the partisan management and is the chief form of fortification against dictatorship.
4. Dicey’s strongly expressed views there is nothing, in theory, to stop Parliament enacting legislation providing ministers, police officers, or other executive officers with wide powers to interfere with the rights and liberties of citizens . So, according to Dicey, a minister will often be given the power to determine an issue or grant a privilege, the power to be exercised ‘if the minister sees fit’, now here is the challenge that, in reality how to determine having the privileged power, the minister will not misuse it, as he is not bound to give answer to anybody. That is exactly what ministers used to do. In Bangladesh, it is common practice for the Ministers to grant any rule by Parliament. Wherever they felt that there is discretion, there is room for arbitrariness.

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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 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 BOOKS AND AUTHORS

Name of the Book	Author
Two Year Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Night	Salman Rushdie
The Red Sari	Javier Moro
Freedom in Exile	Dalai Lama
My Favourite Nature Stories	Ruskin Bond
Neither a hawk nor a dove	Khurshid M Kasuari
Faces and Places Professor	Deepak Nayyar
Indian Parliamentary Diplomacy	Meira Kumar
Farishta	Kapil Isapuari
Super Economies	Raghav Bahal
China: Confucius in the Shadow	Poonam Surie
My country My Life	L.K.Advani
Joseph Anton	Sulman Rushdie (Autobiography)
The Sahara Testaments	Tade Ipadeola
Narendra Modi: A Political Biography	Andy Marino
My Unforgettable Memories	Mamata Banerjee
Rationalized Roman for Kashmiri	Dr. R L Bhat
Strictly Personal, Manmohan and Gursharan	Daman Singh
The Wrong Enemy: America in Afghanistan, 2001- 2014	Carlotta Gall
Lal Bahadur Shastri: Lessons in Leadership	Pavan Choudary

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Walking with Giants	G. Ramachandran (former Finance Secretary)
Crusader or Conspirator? Coalgate and Other Truths	PC Parakh
The Accidental Prime Minister: the making and Unmaking of Manmohan Singh	Sanjaya Baru
God of Antarctica	Master Yashvardhan Shukla (At the age of 13)
My Years with Rajiv and Sonia	R.D.Pradhan
Khushwantnama -The Lessons of My Life	Khushwant Singh
Syntheism - Creating God in The Internet Age	Alexander Bard
One Life is Not Enough	Natwar Singh
The Lives of Others	Neel Mukherjee
My Music My Life	Pt Ravi Shankar
I am Malala	Malala Yousufzai and Christina Lamb
A Man and A Motorcycle, How Hamid Karzai Came to Power	Bette Dam
True Colours	Adam Gilchrist
Assassination of Rajiv Gandhi: An Inside Job?	Faraz Ahmad
The God of Small Things	Arundhati Roy
Interpreter of Maladies	Jhumpa Lahiri
And then One Day: A Memoir	Nasiruddin Shah (Autobiography)
Unaccustomed Earth	Jhumpa Lahiri
Lowland	Jhumpa Lahiri
Truth Always Prevails	Sadruddin Hashwani

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Playing It My Way	Sachin Tendulkar and Boria Mazumder
Unbreakable (Autobiography of Mary Kom)	Mary Kom
Enoch, I am a British Indian	Sarinder Joshua
Duroch ModiNomics	Sameer Kochar
Public Issues Before Parliament	Vijay Darda
Water, Peace, and War - Confronting the Global Water Crisis	Brahma Chellaney Ambedkar
Awakening India's Social Conscience	Dr. Narendra Jadhav
Munger through the Ages	Late DP Yadav
Akbar - The Aesthete	Dr. Indu Anand
Runs in Ruins	Sunil Gavaskar
India at Risk	Jaswant Singh
The Narrow Road to the Deep North	Richard Flanagan (Australian)(Man Booker)
Untold Story of the Indian Public Sector	Dr. UD Choubey
Final Test: Exit Sachin Tendulkar	Dilip D'Souza
Worthy Fights: A Memoir of Leadership in War and Peace	Leon Panetta and Jim Newton
Not Just an Accountant	former CAG Vinod Rai
Grandmaster Repertoire - 1.e4 vs The French, Caro-Kann, and Philidor	Parimarjan Negi
A Bend in the River	V.S. Naipaul
Dark Star: The Loneliness of Being Rajesh Khanna	Gautam Chintamani
Half Girlfriend	Chetan Bhagat
Iqbal: The Life of a Poet, Philosopher and Politician	Biography of Allama Muhammad Iqbal (Spiritual Father of Pakistan)

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50 years of man in space	Garik Israelien, Brian May and David J Eicher
Black Tornado: The Three Sieges of Mumbai 26/11	Sandeep Unnithan
Dramatic Decade: The Indira Gandhi Years - Pranab Mukherjee 2014: The Election That Changed India	Rajdeep Sardesai
Your Dreams Are Mine Now: She Showed him What Love	Ravinder Singh
Born Again on the Mountain	Arunima Sinha
Flood of Fire	Amitav Ghosh
30 Women in Power: Their Voices, Their Stories	Naina Lal Kidwai
The Courage to Act - A Memoir of a Crisis and Its Aftermath	Ben S. Bernanke
To the Brink and Back: India's 1991 Story	Jairam Ramesh
Globalization, Democratization, and Distributive Justice	Dr. Mool Chand Sharma
Ramcharitmanas (105-year-old Urdu copy)	Shiv Brat Lal
Mrs Funnybones	Twinkle Khanna
Making India Awesome	Chetan Bhagat
An Autobiography	Jawahar Lal Nehru
The Kumbh Mela: Mapping the Ephemeral Megacity	Tarun Khanna
R.D. Burman: The Prince of Music	Khagesh Dev Burman
Ghosts of Calcutta	Sebastian Ortiz
Green Signals: Ecology, Growth, and Democracy in India	Jairam Ramesh
Transcendence: My Spiritual Experiences with Pramukh Swamiji	Abdul Kalam
Beyond Doubt: A Dossier on Gandhi's Assassination	Teesta Setalvad

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Flood of Fire	Amitav Ghosh
Super Economies	Raghav Bahl
Complete Story of Indian Reforms: 2G, Power & Private Enterprise	Pradeep Baijal
Unbelievable - Delhi to Islamabad	Prof Bhim Singh
Food for All	Uma Lele
Family Life	Akhil Sharma (winner of the Folio Prize 2015)
Faces and Places	Prof. Deepak Nayyar
Indian Parliamentary Diplomacy-Speaker's Perspective	Meira Kumar
Editor Unplugged: Media, Magnates, Netas, and Me	Vinod Mehta
Fragile Frontiers: The Secret History of Mumbai Terror Attacks	SK Rath
Why I Assassinated Gandhi	Nathuram Godse and Gopal Godse
Life on My Terms: From the Grassroots to the Corridors of Power	Sharad Pawar (Autobiography)
What Happened to Netaji	Anuj Dhar (Former Journalist)
'Rebooting India: Realizing a Billion Aspirations	Nandan Nilekani and Viral Shah
'Interlinking of Indian Rivers	Radha Kant Bharati
Dreaming Big: My Journey to Connect India	Sam Pitroda
Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights	Salman Rushdie

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The Courage to Act - A Memoir of a Crisis and Its Aftermath	Ben S. Bernanke
Dreaming Big: My Journey to Connect India	Sam Pitroda, David Chanoff, an American author
Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights	Salman Rushdie
To the Brink and Back: India's 1991 Story	Former Union Environment & Forest Minister (Independent Charge) Jairam Ramesh
Making India Awesome	Chetan Bhagat
Green Signals: Ecology, Growth, Democracy in India	Jairam Ramesh
Uniki	CH Vidyasagar Rao, Governor of Maharashtra
Sourav Ganguly: Cricket, Captaincy and Controversy	Saptarshi Sarkar
Flood of fire	Amitav Ghosh
"India Central Asia Relations": The Economic Dimension	Amiya Chandra
Kashmir: The Vajpayee Years	AS Dulat and Aditya Sinha
37 Bridges and Other Stories	Aamer Hussein
Who Moved My Interest Rate	Duvvuri Subbarao, the former Governor of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
The Unseen Indira Gandhi	Dr. KP Mathur
A Life in Diplomacy	Maharajakrishna Rasgotra
Courage & Commitment	Margaret Alva
MS: A life in Music	T.J.S. George
One Part Woman	Perumal Murugan
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Ringside with Vijender	Rudraneil Sengupta
The making of India	Kartar Lalvani
Blood on my Hands: Confessions of Staged Encounter	Kishlay Bhattacharjee
Shashi Kapoor	Aseem Chhabra
The Kiss of Life	Emraan Hashmi
Anything But Khamosh: The Shatrughan Sinha Biography	Bharathi S Pradhan
A State in Denial	BG Verghese
No Time to Pause	Pavithra Ramesh
Param Vir: A War Diary	Manju Lodha
Hindutva or Hind Swaraj	U.R. Ananthamurthy
Flying in High Winds: A Memoir	K. Mishra
Alphabet Soup for Lovers	Anita Nair
The Life and Death of Adolf Hitler	James Cross Giblin
The Story of Kashmir through the Ages	Arjan Nath Chaku
Framed As a Terrorist: My 14-Year Old Struggle to Prove My Innocence	Mohammad Aamir Khan
Standing Guard – A year in Opposition	P Chidambaram
Gandhi: An Illustrated Biography	Pramod Kapoor
That Long Silence	Shashi Deshpande
Fixed! Cash and Corruption in Cricket	Shantanu Guha Ray
Standing on An Apple Box	Aishwarya Dhanush

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The Z Factor	Subhash Chandra
The Ministry of Utmost Happiness	Arundhati Roy
The Birds of Banni Grassland - Gujarat Institute of Desert Ecology	Hon'ble PM Narendra Modi
Age of Anger: A history of the Present	Pankaj Mishra
Son of Thundercloud	Easterine Kire
Lincoln in the Bardo	George Saunders
Inside Parliament: Views from the front row	Derek O'Brien
The Sellout	Paul Beatty
A brief history of Seven killings	Marlon James
A horse walks into a bar	David Grossman
The Ibis Trilogy	Amitav Ghosh
Selection day	Aravind Adiga
Death under the Deodars	Ruskin Bond
An Era of Darkness: The British Empire in India	Shashi Tharoor
India Shastra: Reflections of the Nation in our time	Shashi Tharoor
The Great Derangement: Climate Change and The Unthinkable	Amitav Ghosh
Democrats and Dissenters	Ramachandra Guha
I Do What I Do	Raghuram Rajan
The Dramatic Decade: The Indira Gandhi Decade	Pranab Mukherjee
The Turbulent Years: 1980 - 1996	Pranab Mukherjee

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Thoughts and Reflections	Pranab Mukherjee
Indira: India's most powerful Prime Minister	Sagarika Ghose
Why Growth Matters	Jagadish Bhagawati
India's Tryst with Destiny	Jagadish Bhagawati
An Uncertain Glory: India and its contradictions	Amartya Sen and Jean Dreze
The Country of First Boys	Amartya Sen
Gandhi before India	Ramachandra Guha
Scion of Ikshvaku	Amish
Sita: Warrior of Mithila	Amish
Two Years Eight Months and Twenty-Eight Nights	Salman Rushdie
A Manifesto for Change	Dr A.P.J Abdul Kalam
Advantage India: From Challenge to Opportunity	Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam
Beyond 2020: A Vision for Tomorrow's India	Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam
Pathways to Greatness	Dr. A.P.J Abdul Kalam
The Mother I Never Knew	Sudha Murthy
Serpent's Revenge	Sudha Murthy
Percy Jackson and the Olympians Series	Rick Riordan
The Girl on the Train	Paula Hawkins
Diary of a Wimpy Kid	Jeff Kinney
Fifty Shades Series	E.L. James
And the Mountains Echoed	Khaled Hosseini

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GENERAL KNOWLEDGE MCQ'S

1. Which of the following statements are correct regrading Invertebrates?
 1. They do not have backbones.
 2. They don't have an internal skeleton made of bones.
 3. They have a fluid-filled, hydrostatic skeleton.Select the correct option from the codes given below:
 - a) Only 1 & 2
 - b) Only 2 & 3
 - c) Only 1 & 3
 - d) 1, 2 & 3

2. The Insu Resilience Global Partnership for Climate and Disaster Risk Finance and Insurance Solutions was launched at which of the following?
 - a) COP21 in Paris
 - b) COP22 in Marrakesh
 - c) COP23 in Bonn
 - d) COP24 in Katowice

3. Which of the following statements are correct regarding Biofuels?
 - 1) Biofuels are non-renewable sources of energy
 - 2) Biofuels may be solid, liquid or gaseous in natureSelect the correct option from the codes given below:
 - a) Only 1
 - b) Only 2
 - c) Both 1 & 2
 - d) Neither 1 & 2

4. In which of the following year did Bhopal Gas Tragedy took place?
 - a) 1982
 - b) 1984
 - c) 1986
 - d) 1988

5. In India, Dugong (sea cow) is found in the bioserve site of ____:
 - a) Nokrek
 - b) Manas
 - c) Sundarban

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- d) Gulf of Mannar
6. Reduce, Reuse and ____ are the three R's to save the environment:
- Revise
 - Restore
 - Recycle
 - Recall
7. Which of the following weeds has been found useful to check water pollution caused by industrial affluent?
- Water hyacinth
 - Elephant grass
 - Parthenium
 - Both [A] and[B]
8. Which one of the following is correctly matched?
- Secondary consumer - Grass
 - Decomposer - Bacteria
 - Producer - Deer
 - Primary consumer - Leopard
9. What is the bubble like region in the interstellar medium known as?
- Chromosphere
 - Heliosphere
 - Photosphere
 - Corona
10. What is the body's closest approach to the sun called ?
- Aphelion
 - Perihelion
 - Ellipse
 - Prograde
11. Which planet is named after the Roman God of Sea?
- Uranus
 - Neptune
 - Saturn
 - Jupiter

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12. Who proposed the Planetesimal Hypothesis?
- a) Chamberlin-Moulten
 - b) Kant-Laplace
 - c) Hubble-Hoyle
 - d) Jeans-Jeffrey
13. Which layer contains almost 67% of the Earth's mass?
- a) Crust
 - b) Mantle
 - c) Core
 - d) Outer crust
14. Which among the following is not a mechanically formed sedimentary rock?
- a) Conglomerate
 - b) Sandstone
 - c) Shale
 - d) Coal
15. Which among the following is not a Major plate?
- a) Australian plate
 - b) African plate
 - c) Carribbean plate
 - d) South American plate
16. Which among the following is not a landform of second order?
- a) River valley
 - b) Continental shelf
 - c) Plateaus
 - d) Mountains
17. Who among the following argued that Fjords are tectonic in origin?
- a) Jens Esmark
 - b) Alexander Boldt
 - c) John Walter Gregory
 - d) Henry Hess
18. Which among the following is the largest Tepui?
- a) Auyantepui
 - b) Matawi Tepui

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- c) Autana Tepui
- d) Roraima Tepui

19. Which of the following is an example of Piedmont plateau?

- a) Tibetan Plateau
- b) Bolivian Plateau
- c) Malwa Plateau
- d) Ladakh plateau

20. Polavaram Project is located in which state?

- a) Madhya Pradesh
- b) Gujarat
- c) Andhra Pradesh
- d) Karnataka

21. What is the approximate ratio of parts of Indian Coast belonging to Peninsular India to that belonging to Andaman, Nicobar, and Lakshadweep Islands?

- a) 2:1
- b) 2.5:1
- c) 3:1
- d) 3.5:1

22. Sirhind Canal is located on which river?

- a) Sutlej
- b) Ravi
- c) Beas
- d) None of the above

23. Which among the following is major source of Salt in India?

- a) Salt Pan
- b) Salt Lake
- c) Salt Rocks
- d) None of them

24. Through which of the following north east states in India , the tropic of cancer passes?

- a) Tripura & Nagaland
- b) Tripura & Mizoram
- c) Meghalaya & Mizoram

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- d) Assam & Tripura
25. What was the first route of the super fast Rajdhani Express which was introduced in 1969?
- New Delhi to Mumbai Central
 - New Delhi to Howrah
 - New Delhi to Chennai Central
 - New Delhi to Bangalore
26. Tropic of Cancer passes through which of the following group of Indian States:
- Gujarat, MP, Chattisgarh, Manipur
 - Rajasthan, Jharkhand, West Bengal, Mizoram
 - UP, MP, Bihar, Jharkhand
 - Maharashtra, Chattisgarh, Orissa, Andhra Pradesh
27. Which among the following statements is/ are correct about our country India:
- India has an area of about 3.28 million sq. km.
 - India is located in the south-eastern hemisphere.
 - The latitudinal extent of India is $8^{\circ}4'N$ and $37^{\circ} 6'N$ latitudes.
 - The longitudinal extent of India is $68^{\circ}7'E$ and $97^{\circ} 25' E$ longitudes.
- Choose the correct option from the codes given below:
- 1 only
 - 1 & 2
 - 3 & 4
 - 1, 3 & 4
28. Arrange the following cities of India from west to east
- Bilaspur
 - Ranchi
 - Bhopal
 - Jodhpur
- Choose the correct option from the codes given below :
- 4, 1, 2, 3
 - 4, 3, 1, 2
 - 3, 1, 2, 4
 - 3, 4, 1, 2
29. Which institution has urged stock exchanges to set up Investor Risk Reduction Access (IRRA) platform?

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- a) RBI
- b) SEBI
- c) NITI Aayog
- d) Supreme Court

30. Which state's women's U-18 team won the Khelo India Youth Games 2022?

- a) Kerala
- b) Haryana
- c) Telangana
- d) Punjab

31. Common Mormon, which was seen in the news recently, belongs to which species?

- a) Snake
- b) Butterfly
- c) Spider
- d) Turtle

32. Which sportsperson won both the World Rapid and World Blitz chess titles?

- a) R Praggnananda
- b) Magnus Carlsen
- c) Koneru Humpy
- d) Harika Dronavalli

33. Which Union Ministry launched a five-pronged energy efficiency plan to become carbon-neutral by 2030?

- a) Ministry of Coal
- b) Ministry of Railways
- c) Ministry of Steel
- d) Ministry of Tourism

34. Which state announced that no rhinos were poached in 2022, the first time since 2000?

- a) West Bengal
- b) Assam
- c) Bihar
- d) Odisha

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35. Which country has banned most foreigners from buying homes, to tackle housing crunch faced by locals?

- a) USA
- b) China
- c) Canada
- d) Germany

36. Which High Court has directed the city government to ensure free food and medical treatment to HIV-positive persons?

- a) Delhi High Court
- b) Bombay High Court
- c) Chennai High Court
- d) Allahabad High Court

37. India signed USD 1.2 billion loan agreements for infrastructure projects with which institution?

- a) World Bank
- b) Asian Development Bank
- c) AIIB
- d) IMF

38. Which institution commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project?

- a) ONGC
- b) NTPC
- c) PFC
- d) GAIL

39. As per the 'India Mobile Gaming Report 2022' which state is the top destination for mobile gamers?

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

40. The central banking functions in India are performed by the

1. Central Bank of India
2. Reserve Bank of India
3. State Bank of India

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4. Punjab National Bank
- a) I, II
 - b) II
 - c) I
 - d) II, III
41. Development expenditure of the Central government does not include
- a) defence expenditure
 - b) expenditure on economic services
 - c) expenditure on social and community services
 - d) grant to states
42. ICICI is the name of a
- a) chemical industry
 - b) bureau
 - c) corporation
 - d) financial institution
43. Gilt-edged market means
- a) bullion market
 - b) market of government securities
 - c) market of guns
 - d) market of pure metals
44. In the last one decade, which one among the following sectors has attracted the highest foreign direct investment inflows into India?
- a) Chemicals other than fertilizers
 - b) Services sector
 - c) Food processing
 - d) Telecommunication
45. The currency convertibility concept in its original form originated in
- a) Wells Agreement
 - b) Bretton Woods Agreement

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- c) Taylors Agreement
- d) None of the above

46. In the state of India, the State Financial Corporation have given assistance mainly to develop

- a) agricultural farms
- b) cottage industry
- c) large-scale industries
- d) medium and small-scale industries

47. The central co-operative banks are in direct touch with

- a) Farmers
- b) state co-operative banks
- c) land development banks
- d) central government

48. The first wholly Indian Bank was set up in

- a) 1794
- b) 1894
- c) 1896
- d) 1902

49. States earn maximum revenue through

- a) land revenue
- b) custom revenue
- c) commercial taxes
- d) excise duties on intoxicants

50. Excise duty is a tax levied on the

- a) import of goods
- b) export of goods
- c) production of goods
- d) sale of goods

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ANSWER KEY

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

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CASE STUDY

1. M. Hemalatha Devi & Ors V. B. Udayasri 2023 LiveLaw (SC) 902

Facts: The matter under consideration of the Apex Court pertained to a consumer complaint filed by a home buyer against a builder. The builder (Appellant before the Apex Court) had challenged two orders of the Telangana High Court refusing to appoint an arbitrator. The High Court had rejected the application filed by the builder for appointment of an arbitrator under Section 11 of the Arbitration & Conciliation Act, 1996 on the ground that the dispute was pending before the District Consumer Disputes Redressal Forum. The builder had also moved an application under Section 8 of the Arbitration Act for referring the dispute to arbitration. The District Consumer Forum dismissed the application on the ground that the dispute was non-arbitrable. The builder challenged this in the High Court in a review application, which was also subsequently dismissed.

Analysis: The Court observed that the legislative intent behind amending S8 and S11 of the Arbitration Act was confined to limiting judicial intervention. Once the Court finds that there is a valid arbitration agreement, it has to refer the matter for arbitration. However this does not mean that where the matter itself is non-arbitrable, or is covered by a special legislation such as the Consumer Protection Act, it still has to be referred for arbitration, the Court observed.

The Apex Court also referred to the case of Emaar MGF Land Ltd. v. Aftab Singh, (2019) 12 SCC 751 where the Court had examined the scope of sub-section (1) to Section 8 (Power to refer parties to arbitration where there is an arbitration agreement.) the reasoning given in the above judgment would be equally applicable to Section 11 application before the High Court. Both the provisions incorporated in Section 8 and Section 11 of the Arbitration Act, 1996 [i.e., sub-section (1) and sub-section 6A respectively], seemingly restrict the scope of the examination by the concerned courts, in their reference to arbitration, or appointment of arbitrator, as the case might be, and the language being common

Held: The Supreme Court recently held that consumer disputes are non arbitrable disputes and a party cannot be compelled into arbitration just because they are a signatory to an arbitration agreement.

A bench of Justice Sanjay Kishan Kaul and Justice Sudhanshu Dhulia observed that the Consumer Protection Act is a piece of welfare legislation with the primary purpose of protecting the interest of a consumer.

2. Sunil Kumar Soni v. State of Rajasthan, 2023 (SC) 271

Facts: The award debtor raised objections to the enforcement of the foreign seated arbitration award on the ground of non-stamping of the arbitration agreement. It contended that the underlying arbitration agreement, being unstamped, is not considered "valid" under Indian law, which governs the agreement. It relied upon the recent judgment of the Constitution bench of the Supreme Court in N.N. Global, wherein the Court held that an unstamped arbitration agreement is deemed "unenforceable," "invalid," "bereft of life," "non-est," and cannot be "acted upon" by a Court at the stage of referring disputes under Section 11 of the Arbitration Act,[1] to contend that the findings regarding the invalidity of an unstamped agreement should also apply to proceedings for the enforcement of foreign awards under Part - II of the Arbitration Act.

Law applied: Constitution of India - Article 14- Doctrine of equality- there cannot be equality in the matter of illegality - can't claim benefit of illegal orders passed in the cases of other persons- denies relief to school teacher who secured bachelor's degree through distance education

Held: No Equality In Matter Of Illegality' : Supreme Court Denies Relief To School Teacher Dismissed For Degree Through Distance Education

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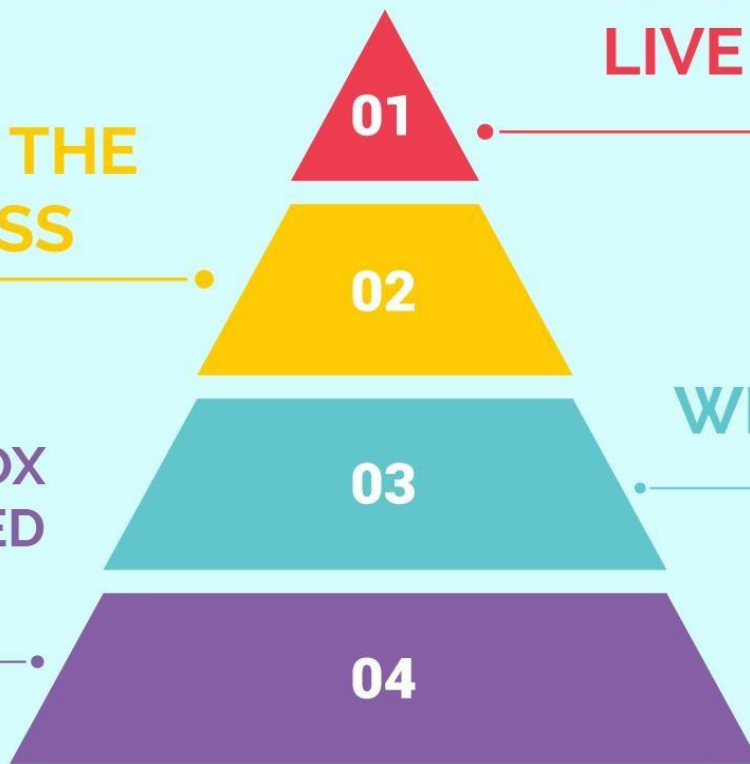
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