

# K A R A T

## JUDICIAL TIMES

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January 2024

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**(January 2024)**

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## **NATIONAL NEWS**

### **1. Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh approves capital acquisition proposals worth Rs 2.23 lakh crore to boost Indian Defence Industry**

- Defence Acquisition Council headed by Raksha Mantri Rajnath Singh approved capital acquisition proposals worth 2 lakh 23 thousand crore rupees to enhance the operational capabilities of the Armed Forces
- Defence Ministry, 98 per cent of the total amount will be sourced from domestic industries.
- This will give a substantial boost to the Indian Defence Industry with the aim of achieving the goal of Aatmanirbharta.
- The Council has approved the procurement of two types of Anti-tank Munitions namely, Area Denial Munition (ADM) Type-2 and Type-3, which are capable of neutralising Tanks and Armoured personnel carriers and enemy personnel.

### **2. World's first portable hospital 'Aarogya Maitri Aid Cube' unveiled in Gurugram**

- The World's first portable hospital, 'Aarogya Maitri Aid Cube' was unveiled in Gurugram.
- Designed indigenously under the Project 'BHISHM', the modular trauma management and aid system is made up of 72 detachable mini-cubes, each being a specialized station for emergency response and humanitarian efforts.
- It can handle bullet injuries, burns, head, spinal and chest injuries, minor surgeries, fractures and major bleeding.
- These cubes are light and portable, and can be rapidly deployed anywhere, from airdrops to ground transportation.

### **3. PM launches Green Credit Initiative at COP28 climate conference aimed at reshaping global environmental policies**

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched the 'Green Credit Initiative,' a pathbreaking program aimed at reshaping global environmental policies.
- He also launched the official portal of the Green credit initiative at COP28.

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- The Prime Minister highlighted the limitations of the current carbon credit system, influenced by commercial interests and lacking a sense of social responsibility, paving the way for a new philosophy embodied in the 'Green Credit' concept.
  - Ulf Kristersson, Prime Minister of Sweden, praised the initiative, citing Sweden's success with the Climate Leap, reducing climate emissions by 3.3 million tonnes per year through collective action.
4. **Indian Railways allows MNCs to deploy indigenous Kavach anti train collision system on network**
- India's ability to deploy automatic train collision avoidance systems - Kavach - is expected to get a fillip with global companies getting approvals to install it on the national transporter
  - Germany's Siemens and Japan's Kyosan are the two new approved Kavach deployment companies.
  - Railways Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw Kavach deployment will increase to 5000 kilometers (kms) per annum in the financial year 2025-26, up from 1500 kms annually.
5. **Cabinet approves Terms of Reference for the Sixteenth Finance Commission.**
- The Union Cabinet chaired by the Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi has approved the Terms of Reference for the Sixteenth Finance Commission.
  - The Terms of Reference for the Sixteenth Finance Commission will be notified in due course of time
  - The 16th Finance Commission's recommendations, upon acceptance by the government, would cover the period of five (5) years commencing April 1, 2026.
  - Article 280(1) of the Constitutions lays down that the modalities for setting up of a Finance Commission to make recommendation on the distribution of net proceeds of taxes between the Union and the States, allocation between the States of respective shares of such proceeds; grants- in-aid and the revenues of the States and measures needed to supplement the resources of the Panchayats during the award period.
  - The Fifteenth Finance Commission was constituted on November 27, 2017.

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## 6. Union Minister for Power RK Singh inaugurates National Conference on "Energy Transition in India in Gandhinagar"

- Union Minister for Power and New and Renewable Energy Shri R.K. Singh inaugurated a two-day National Conference on "Energy Transition in India - Road Travelled and Opportunities Ahead" in Gandhinagar.
- Shri Kanubhai Desai, Minister of Energy Petrochemicals and Finance, Government of Gujarat was also present along with other dignitaries on the occasion.
- Organized as a part of the upcoming Vibrant Gujarat Global Summit 2024, the event is being attended by more than 250 Indian and foreign representatives of power and renewable energy sector.

## 7. Unemployment rate dips to 6.6 pc in Sep quarter

- According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey (PLFS), the unemployment rate in urban areas has decreased from 7.2% in July-September, 2022 to 6.6% in July-September 2023.
- The unemployment rate was 6.6% for persons under the age of 15 years
- For persons aged 15 years and above, the worker-population ratio (WPR) in urban areas has increased from 44.5% in July-September, 2022 to 46% in July-September, 2023.
- For the male category, it has increased from 68.6% to 69.4% while it has increased from 19.7% to 21.9% for women during this period.

## 8. India re-elected to International Maritime Organisation with the highest vote tally.

- In elections held at its assembly for the 2024–25 biennium, India was re-elected to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council with the highest tally.
- India's re-election falls under the Category of 10 states with "the largest interest in international seaborne trade", alongside Australia, Brazil, Canada, France, Germany, the Netherlands, Spain, Sweden, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE).
- India has been elected in the category of ten countries with the largest interest in international seaborne trade.
- The term of the Council will be for the biennium 2024-25.

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- India's re-election shows the government's commitment to enhance India's diverse.
- 9. **India will be the largest cotton producer.**
- According to the Union Minister for Textiles Commerce and Industry, India will strive to become the largest cotton producer globally.
- He was inaugurating an annual global meeting - the 81st plenary session of the International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC) - a UN recognised body of cotton producing and consuming nations.
- Cotton is one of the most important commercial crops cultivated in India and accounts for around 25% of the total global cotton production.
- India has the largest area under cotton cultivation and is the second largest producer (after China).

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## INTERNATIONAL NEWS

- 1. Nepal Achieves Milestone as the First South Asian Nation to Legally Recognize Same-Sex Marriage.**
  - Nepal has become the first South Asian country to officially register same-sex marriage.
  - The marriage between 36-year-old Ram Bahadur (Maya) Gurun and Surendra Pandey has been registered in Nepal.
  - The registration of same-sex marriage in Nepal is facilitated by an interim order from the Supreme Court, which supports the legal recognition of marriages between same-sex couples.
- 2. Pakistan Secures Vice Chair Post at UNESCO with a 10-Vote Lead Over India.**
  - Pakistan secured a significant victory over India in the UNESCO executive board election for the post of vice-chair.
  - The Pakistani candidate received 38 votes, while the Indian candidate received only 18.
  - Pakistan's victory of being elected as vice chair of the UNESCO Executive Board for 2023-2025 from the Asia Pacific Group, is being seen as a major setback for Indian diplomats in the UN.
- 3. India-Sweden Industry Transition Partnership, LeadIT 2.0 Launched at COP28 Dubai**
  - India and Sweden launched Leadership Group for Industry Transition (LeadIT) 2.0 during the COP28 World Climate Action Summit, hosted in Dubai for the period 2024-26, at COP-28 in Dubai.
  - LeadIT was initially co-launched by India and Sweden at the UN Climate Action Summit in New York in 2019.
  - LeadIT has grown into a collaborative effort involving 18 countries and 20 industry-leading companies.
  - The LeadIT initiative, initially centred around pivotal sectors such as iron, steel, cement, and aluminium, focused on industry transition and knowledge sharing.

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4. **18 Countries Back New Global Guidelines, Crafted by the US and UK, to Enhance Cybersecurity in Artificial Intelligence (AI).**
  - 18 countries endorsed new global guidelines, developed by the United States (US) and the United Kingdom (UK), to make artificial intelligence (AI) “secure by design” and “raise the AI cybersecurity bar.
  - The Guidelines for Secure AI System Development deal with secure design, development, deployment and operation and maintenance of AI systems.
  - The guidelines were formulated by the UK’s National Cyber Security Centre (NCSC) and the US’s Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA).
  - They aim to “raise the cybersecurity levels of artificial intelligence and help ensure that it is designed, developed, and deployed securely.
  
5. **Pakistan Submits BRICS Membership Application in 2024.**
  - Pakistan has filed an application to join the BRICS group of nations in 2024 and is counting on Russia’s assistance during the membership process.
  - Pakistan’s application came as the grouping of emerging economies was set for its biggest expansion with 6 new members under Russia’s rotating Presidency in 2024.
  - New Members: Argentina, Egypt, Ethiopia, Iran, Saudi Arabia, and the United Arab Emirates (UAE) as new members formally admitted to the BRICS summit-2023 held in South Africa.
  - However, they will formally join during the 2024 summit in Kazan, Russia.
  
6. **The UAE announced a US\$30 billion commitment to the newly launched catalytic climate vehicle, ALTÉRRRA.**
  - With this US\$30 billion commitment, ALTÉRRRA becomes the world’s largest private investment vehicle for climate change action and will aim to mobilize US\$250 billion globally by 2030.
  - It aims to steer private markets towards climate investments and focus on transforming emerging markets and developing economies, where traditional investment has been lacking due to the higher perceived risks across those geographies.

- ALTÉERRA has been established by Lunate, an independent global investment manager, and is domiciled in the Abu Dhabi Global Market.
7. **India to Extend \$250 Million Line of Credit to Kenya for the Modernization of its Agricultural Sector**
- India has committed a \$250 million Line of Credit to Kenya for the modernization of its agricultural sector.
  - The announcement came following talks between Indian Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Kenyan President William Samoei Ruto.
  - Modi and Ruto discussed and agreed to strengthen bilateral ties in various sectors, including defence, trade, energy, digital public infrastructure, and healthcare.
8. **Italy withdraws from China's Belt and Road project**
- Italy has officially pulled out of China's Belt and Road infrastructure initiative, making this move more than four years after initially joining as the sole G7 nation to do so.
  - Italy had initially signed an agreement to join the BRI in 2019.
  - However, after 4 years, the expected benefits did not materialize for Italy.
  - The agreement with China was supposed to be automatically renewed after expiring in March 2024, unless Rome gave at least three months' written warning of pulling out.
  - Chinese FDI in Italy dropped from \$650 million in 2019 to just \$33 million in 2021.
9. **Argentina's Entry into BRICS Postponed; Not Joining Developing Economies Bloc Next Year as Planned.**
- Argentina's entry into the BRICS bloc of developing economies, originally scheduled for January 1, 2024, has been postponed.
  - The decision is seen as a precursor to a significant foreign policy shift in Argentina under the leadership of right-wing populist Mr. Milei, indicating potential changes in diplomatic priorities.

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- Argentina was one of six countries invited in August to join BRICS, comprising Brazil, Russia, India, China, and South Africa.
  - The move aimed to expand the bloc to an 11-nation alliance.
10. **Garba Dance from Gujarat Recognized as UNESCO's 'Intangible Cultural Heritage'**
- The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) approved the inclusion of garba, Gujarat's most popular folk dance form, in its Representative List of Intangible Cultural Heritage (ICH) of Humanity.
  - A decision to "inscribe" the dance form as "intangible heritage" was taken at the 18th session of UNESCO's Intergovernmental Committee for Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage held in the Republic of Botswana.
  - With this, 15 elements from various parts of India have been inscribed to UNESCO's representative list of ICH.

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## ECONOMICS

### 1. India Records Near 5-Year High Banking Liquidity Deficit

- India's banking system liquidity deficit has widened to the highest in nearly 5 years on monthly goods and services tax payments.
- The liquidity deficit is the amount of funds banks need to borrow from the interbank market or from the central bank.
- Liquidity in the banking system refers to readily available cash that banks need to meet short-term business and financial needs.
- According to the Reserve Bank of India (RBI), the liquidity deficit stood at Rs 1.74 lakh crore (\$20.90 billion). **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.

### 2. SEBI Grants Approval to Jana Small Finance Bank for IPO.

- Jana Small Finance Bank, backed by TPG Capital, has received approval from the Securities & Exchange Board of India (SEBI) for its initial public offering (IPO).
- The IPO comprises a fresh issue of equity shares worth Rs 575 crore with a face value of Rs 10 each
- Additionally, there is an offer for sale of up to 4.05 million shares by existing shareholders and promoters.
- Jana Small Finance Bank, upon successful listing, will become the 7th small finance bank (SFB) to be listed on the stock exchange.

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### 3. **Private general insurers expand market share to 53.58% in H1 FY24.**

- Private general insurers increased their combined market share to 53.58% in gross direct premium underwritten in the first half of the current financial year from 50.81% in the year-ago period.
- As many as 31 insurers from the non-life industry had underwritten gross direct premiums of Rs 1.43 lakh crore in the first half of the current financial year, according to data on segment-wise gross direct premiums up to September 2023 released by Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI).
- Private insurers registered an annual increase of 14.86% in gross direct premiums.
- The non-life industry recorded a gross direct premium (GDP) of Rs 1,25,194 crore in the April-September period of the previous financial year (2022-23).

### 4. **What is the Corporate Debt Market Development Fund (CDMDF)?.**

- CDMDF is an alternative investment fund designed to address the requirements of the corporate debt market in India.
- It will be launched as a close-ended scheme, indicating a fixed tenure for its operation.
- CDMDF serves as a backstop facility specifically for investment-grade corporate debt securities.
- Its primary function is to provide stability and boost investor confidence in the corporate debt market.
- CDMDF provides a backstop facility of Rs 33,000 crore has been established for Mutual Funds.

### 5. **Insurance Ombudsman Resolves 92% of Complaints in FY23.**

- The insurance ombudsman disposed of over 92% of the complaints it received from the insured during 2022-23.
- It received 55,946 complaints during the year across its offices in the country, of which 51,625 were disposed of.
- The Delhi centre disposed of all the 5,257 complaints it got during the year, according to a press statement issued by the Delhi office of the Insurance Ombudsman.

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- The offices of the Insurance Ombudsman are under the administrative control of the Council for Insurance Ombudsman (CIO).
6. **BharatPe Achieves Ebitda Positivity for the First Time in October, Achieves Annual Recurring Revenue (ARR) of Rs 1,500 Crore.**
- Fintech major BharatPe turned Ebitda-positive in October and clocked an annualised revenue of Rs 1,500 crore, up 31% from the year-ago period, on the back of a significant growth in lending and payments business
  - The company also reduced its cash burn, which was averaging Rs 60 crore a month in FY23, to attain a positive Ebitda.
  - EBITDA, or earnings before interest, taxes, depreciation, and amortization, is an alternative measure of a company's overall financial performance.
7. **RBI Monetary Policy : Repo rate kept unchanged at 6.5%, FY24 GDP estimate hiked to 7%**
- The Reserve Bank of India's Monetary Policy Committee (MPC) kept the repo rate unchanged for the fifth time in a row at 6.5%.
  - The real GDP growth projection for the fiscal year 2023-24 has been revised upward to 7% from the previous estimate of 6.5%.
  - The inflation forecast for the fiscal year 2023-24 remains unchanged at 5.4%.
  - The policy repo rate under the liquidity adjustment facility (LAF) has been kept steady at 6.50%.
  - The standing deposit facility (SDF) rate is maintained at 6.25%, and the marginal standing facility (MSF) rate, along with the Bank Rate, remains at 6.75%.
8. **RBI to Develop Regulatory Framework for Oversight of Loan Aggregators**
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) announced that it will soon release a regulatory framework aimed at overseeing web-based loan comparison platforms known as web-aggregators of loan products (WALP).
  - WALP offers the service of aggregating loan offers from multiple lenders on an electronic platform which allows borrowers to easily compare different offers and choose the most suitable loan option available from the participating lenders.

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- Objective of the Framework : The RBI aims to create a structured system for loan aggregation services provided by lending service providers (LSPs).
- The framework aims to enhance transparency in the operations of WALPs or digital lending.
- It focuses on increasing customer centricity and enabling borrowers to make informed choices.

## 9. UPI Transaction Value Hits Record ₹17.4 Lakh Crore in November 2023

- Unified Payments Interface (UPI) transaction value reached a new high level at ₹17.4 lakh crore in November 2023.
- UPI transaction volume declined slightly to 1,124 crore from 1,141 crore in October.
- UPI transaction value was ₹17.16 lakh crore in October.
- UPI transactions fell slightly by 1.5% to 1,124 crore from 1,141 crore in October.

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## SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

### 1. **IndiGo Introduces AI Chatbot 6Eskai for Assistance in Flight Booking, Web Check-in, and Discount Information.**

- In a significant leap forward in the realm of Indian aviation, IndiGo, the country's largest airline, has unveiled a cutting-edge AI chat assistant, 6Eskai, powered by GPT-4 technology.
- This innovative chatbot, developed in collaboration with Microsoft, is poised to reshape the passenger experience by efficiently handling customer queries in 10 different languages.
- To begin with, it will address customer queries in 10 different languages.
- Early results show a 75% reduction in customer service agent workload.

### 2. **Google Delays Launch of Next-Gen AI Model Gemini to 2024**

- Google has quietly pushed back the launch of next-gen AI model Gemini until 2024.
- Gemini is touted as Google's most sophisticated artificial intelligence model.
- Gemini has been stated to strongly outperform OpenAI's GPT-4 as it harnesses vastly more computing power than its competitor.
- Gemini is reported to strongly outperform OpenAI's GPT-4, emphasizing its superior computing capabilities.

### 3. **Saturn's Rings Will Temporarily Disappear From View in 2025**

- In 2025, Saturn's rings will seemingly disappear from Earth's view due to the phenomenon known as the "Saturnian equinox."
- The Saturnian equinox occurs when the Sun crosses Saturn's equator, resulting in approximately equal durations of day and night on the planet.
- Saturn experiences equinoxes roughly every 15 Earth years due to its extended orbital period.

### 4. **China Establishes World's First 'Near-Space Command**

- China has established the world's first near-space command, which is the fifth branch of the People's Liberation Army (PLA), focusing on the development of hypersonic weapons.

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- The near-space command operates in the near-space area, ranging from an altitude of 20 km to the lower boundary of space at 100km.
  - Equipped with hypersonic missiles, the near-space command is designed to target critical military assets and conduct high-altitude surveillance globally using automated drones and spy balloons
  - Hypersonic weapons possess speeds of at least Mach 5, making them highly maneuverable and capable of changing course during flight.
  - The term "Mach" is a unit of measurement representing the speed of a moving object relative to the speed of sound.
  - 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.
5. **Denmark museum allows Bluetooth inventors to use Viking king's name for 1,000 NASA Unveils Initiative to Send ISRO-Selected Indian Astronaut to International Space Station by 2024.**
- US space agency National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) plans to train an Indian astronaut for a mission to the International Space Station (ISS) by the end of 2024.
  - Bill Nelson, the administrator of NASA, made this announcement during his visit to Delhi, India.
  - A major collaboration between India and the United States is the NISAR satellite, set to be launched in the first quarter of 2024.
6. **Voice Over 5G Or Vo5G Is Gradually Replacing VoLTE Across The Globe.**
- Vo5G/VoNR is the future standard for voice calling that operates over 5G networks, providing improved speed, capacity, and responsiveness compared to 4G networks
  - It leverages the capabilities of 5G networks, aiming to enhance voice calling experiences through higher quality, reduced latency, and better reliability.
  - VoNR aims to provide superior voice quality, clearer audio, and reduced latency compared to previous voice technologies like VoLTE.

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- VoNR operates using the 5G Core (5GC) network architecture, which provides a more flexible and scalable framework for delivering voice services.
  - It supports modern codecs like EVS (Enhanced Voice Service) and AMR-WB (Adaptive Multi-Rate Wideband), enabling high-definition voice calling.
7. **Indian Immunologicals Launches Measles and Rubella Vaccine Catering to Children.**
- The measles and rubella vaccine "Mabella" was launched by Vaccine maker Indian Immunologicals (IIL) for children.
  - The live-attenuated MR vaccine, Mabella, was developed through an exclusive partnership with the Polyvac Institute of Vietnam.
  - Mabella was launched as part of the 25th celebrations of the IIL division Human Biologicals Institute (HBI) in Udthagamandalam (Ooty), Tamil Nadu (TN).
  - The vaccine has been proven to be safe and effective through extensive human clinical trials.
8. **NASA's Solar Probe Achieves Record as Fastest Man-Made Iran Reveals Upgraded Karrar Drones Equipped with Air-to-Air Missiles.**
- Iran unveiled advanced Karrar combat drones armed with air-to-air missiles, enhancing its air defence capabilities.
  - It is an Unmanned Combat Air Vehicle (UCAV) developed by Iran.
  - It is the first long-endurance, combat-capable Iranian drone.
  - The Karrar drone, which was first introduced in 2010, has an operational range of up to 1,000 kilometres (620 miles).
  - It has a maximum speed granted by its turbojet installation of 560 miles per hour.
  - It reportedly boasts a service ceiling altitude of 47,000 feet.
9. **ISRO to launch Chandrayaan-4 to bring back samples from Moon in 4 yrs: - Chairman Somanath.**
- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has planned to launch Chandrayaan-4 to bring back samples from the Moon in 4 years stated its chairperson S Somanath while elaborating on the space agency's Vision 2047.

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- The first module of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station - India's planned space station, that will be capable of conducting experiments with the help of robots will be launched by 2028.
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi had previously called on the space agency to set up a space station by 2035 and send a man to the Moon by 2040.
- Bharatiya Antariksh Station is India's planned space station.
- The SPADEX experiment will demonstrate autonomous docking capability
- In the process known as docking, two spacecraft are aligned in a precise orbit and joined together.
- ISRO has shown how to use leftover fuel from the propulsion module to return a spacecraft from the Moon to Earth orbit.
- The Next Generation Launch Vehicle (NGVL), being designed by ISRO, will be able to transport 16 to 25 T into low Earth orbit.

#### **10. Meta Collaborates with ONDC to Bolster Small Businesses in India.**

- Meta, a prominent technology company, has entered into a collaboration with the governmentbacked ecommerce network Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
- To provide support and upskilling opportunities for small businesses in India, leveraging Meta's business and technical solution providers.
- Enhanced Buyer-Seller Experiences: Meta's involvement includes the deployment of its business and technical solution providers to enhance conversational experiences between buyers and sellers on WhatsApp, a Meta-owned platform.
- ONDC's Role in Business Transformation: ONDC will play a crucial role in assisting businesses to become seller apps and facilitating their onboarding onto the network, contributing to the digitization and transformation of these enterprises.
- Meta Small Business Academy: The Meta Small Business Academy is introduced as part of the initiative, offering certification programs for entrepreneurs and marketers. These programs focus on imparting digital marketing skills essential for growth on Meta's platforms, including WhatsApp, Facebook, and Instagram.

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## DEFENCE

### 1. Ministry of Defence inks deal with Agnit Semiconductors.

- The Ministry of Defence (MoD) has signed a contract with Agnit Semiconductors Private Limited for design and development of advanced Gallium Nitride (GaN) semiconductors essential for the next generation of wireless transmitters in defence applications ranging from radars to electronics warfare jammers.
- This contract marks the 300th agreement under the Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX) initiative of the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO).
- The iDEX-DIO aims to eliminate imports in Gallium Nitride (GaN) components, classified as sensitive and cutting-edge technology with controlled and restricted exports by many countries.

### 2. Simultaneous Launch of First Three Ships (MAHE, MALVAN, and MANGROL) under ASW SWC (CSL) Project at CSL, Kochi.

- Mahe, Malvan and Mangrol, the first three ships of 08 x ASW Shallow Water Craft (CSL) project being built by CSL, Kochi for the Indian Navy, were launched CSL, Kochi.
- Mahe was launched by Mrs Anjali Bahl in the presence of VAdm Puneet Bahl, Commandant INA, Malvan was launched by Mrs Kangana Berry in the presence of VAdm Suraj Berry, C-in-C, and Mangrol was launched by Mrs Zarine Lord Singh.
- The ships were launched to the invocation from Atharva Veda.
- The Mahe class ASW Shallow Water Crafts have been named after ports of strategic importance along the coast of India, and will look to carry forward the glorious legacy of the erstwhile minesweepers which were their namesake.
- The contract for building 8 ASW SWC ships was signed between the Ministry of Defence and Cochin Shipyard Limited on 30 Apr 19.

### 3. Defence Minister Shri Rajnath Singh Reveals Crest of Project 15B Stealth Guided Missile Destroyer Yard 12706 (Imphal).

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- The crest of Yard 12706 (Imphal), the third amongst the four Project 15B stealth guided missile destroyers, was unveiled by Raksha Mantri Shri Rajnath Singh, in the presence of Manipur Chief Minister Shri N Biren Singh, in New Delhi.
  - The unveiling of Imphal's crest, adorned with the Kangla Palace and 'Kangla-Sa' is a befitting tribute to the sacrifice made by the people of Manipur towards India's independence, sovereignty and security.
  - The crest design depicts the Kangla Palace on the left and 'Kangla-Sa' on the right.
  - The Kangla Palace is an important historical and archaeological site of Manipur, and was the traditional seat of the past kingdom.
4. **Ministry of Defence Signs Contract with Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited for ₹2956.89 Cr to Acquire 16 Upgraded Super Rapid Gun Mounts and Accessories for Indian Navy.**
- The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with M/s Bharat Heavy Electricals Limited (BHEL), Haridwar for procurement of 16 Upgraded Super Rapid Gun Mount (SRGM) along with associated equipment/ accessories for Indian Navy under Buy (Indian) category at a total cost of ₹2956.89 Cr.
  - The upgraded SRGM will be manufactured by BHEL at its Haridwar Plant.
  - The upgraded SRGM is described as a medium-caliber anti-missile/anti-aircraft point defense weapon system.
5. **14th edition of India-United States of America Joint Military Exercise 'Vajra Prahar'.**
- The 14th Edition of the Indo-US Joint Special Forces exercise, "VAJRA PRAHAR 2023," has commenced at the Joint Training Node in Umroi, Meghalaya spanning from 21st November to 11th December 2023.
  - The US contingent comprises personnel from the 1st Special Forces Group (SFG) of the US Special Forces, while the Indian Army contingent is led by Special Forces personnel.
6. **Indian Coast Guard Conducts 9th National Level Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREX-IX) off Vadinar, Gujarat.**
- Indian Coast Guard conducted the 9th National Level Pollution Response Exercise (NATPOLREXIX) near Vadinar, Gujarat.

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- DG Rakesh Pal, Director General Indian Coast Guard, and the Chairman NOSDCP reviewed the preparedness of all agencies during the exercise.
  - Various ministries and departments of central and coastal state governments, ports, oil handling agencies, and other stakeholders participated in the exercise.
  - The NATPOLREX-IX accomplished its objective of testing the level of preparedness and coordination between various resource agencies to respond to a marine oil spill invoking provisions of the National Oil Spill Disaster Contingency Plan or NOSDCP.
  - Pollution Response Vessels (PRVs), Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs), Advanced Light Helicopter Mk-III, and Dornier Aircraft participated in the exercise.
7. **IndiGo receives IFSC Gift City approval to set up an aircraft leasing shop.**
- Interglobe Aviation, the parent company of India's largest airline, IndiGo, has received approval from IFSC Gift City to establish an aircraft leasing venture.
  - Over the next 5 years, the company aims to invest approximately ₹11,500 crore in the IFSC aircraft leasing segment.
  - The funds will come from promoter investments, according to the company's application to the IFSC.
  - IndiGo plans to operate under the name 'Interglobe Aviation Financial Services IFSC Private Limited,' focusing on operating leasing, financial leasing, and other related services for aircraft.
8. **Ministry of Defence Signs Rs 588.68 Crore Contract with Telecommunications Consultants India Limited for Digital Coast Guard Project.**
- In alignment with the Government of India's strategic vision for Digital Armed Forces, the Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with Telecommunications Consultants India Limited (TCIL), at a total cost of Rs 588.68 crore, for the acquisition of Digital Coast Guard (DCG) project, under the Buy (Indian) category.

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## SPORTS NEWS

- 1. Vaishali Rameshbabu makes history by becoming India's third Female Grandmaster.**
  - In a historic achievement for Indian chess, Vaishali Rameshbabu secured her grandmaster title by crossing 2,500 International Chess Federation (FIDE) ranking points during the IV El Llobregat Open in Spain.
  - Vaishali has defeated Turkish Tamer Tarik Selbes (2238) in the second round to surpass rating and has started the tournament with two consecutive wins.
  - She has now become the third Indian female player to achieve this prestigious title, joining the elite company of Koneru Humpy and Harika Dronavalli.
- 2. India to take on hosts South Africa in their first T20 International in Durban.**
  - India will take on hosts South Africa in their first T20 International in Durban.
  - Suryakumar Yadav-led young squad has many new names as the senior brass of the team comes in during the Test format of the tour.
  - Aiden Markram is leading the South African squad and they have also included many emerging players who will show their potential in the great team.
- 3. Indian Army's Captain Geetika Koul becomes first woman medical officer to be deployed at Siachen.**
  - Captain Geetika Koul from the Snow Leopard Brigade has become the first woman medical officer in the Indian Army to be deployed at Siachen, the world's highest battlefield, the Fire and Fury Corps.
  - This achievement follows her successful completion of rigorous induction training at the esteemed Siachen Battle School, which includes high-altitude acclimatisation, survival techniques, and specialised medical procedures.
  - The Fire and Fury Corps of the Indian Army announced this milestone on social media, highlighting the significance of Captain Koul's deployment in promoting gender inclusion within the military.
- 4. Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur formally inaugurates first-ever Khelo India Para Games in New Delhi.**

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- Union Minister of Youth Affairs and Sports Anurag Singh Thakur formally inaugurated the first-ever Khelo India Para Games (KIPGs) in New Delhi.
  - Mr Thakur said that the event is not just the celebration of our spirit of sportsmanship but it is a light that will bring inclusivity and empowerment in India.
  - He further pointed out that KIPGs will further reiterate the PM's vision of "Kheloge to Khiloge"
  - More than 1,400 participants from across 32 states and Union Territories including Services Sports Control Board are participating in the 8-day event.
  - The Para athletes will compete for honours in 7 disciplines including para athletics, para shooting, para archery, para football, para badminton, para table tennis and para weight lifting.
5. **India's Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto win women's doubles title at Guwahati Masters badminton tournament.**
- India's Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto won the women's doubles title at the Guwahati Masters 2023 badminton tournament.
  - Ashwini Ponnappa and Tanisha Crasto, the second seeds at the BWF Super 100 tournament, beat Taipei's Sung Shuo Yun and Yu Chien Hui 21-13, 21-19 to win what was their second title as a pair.
  - Results at the Guwahati Masters 2023 badminton tournament will count towards players' qualifying rankings for the Paris 2024 Olympics.
6. **Khelo India Games to be held in Tamil Nadu in January 2024.**
- Khelo India Games will be held in Tamil Nadu in January 2024.
  - The State Government said that the games will be held in Chennai, Coimbatore, Madurai and Trichy from 19th to 31st January, 2024.
  - More than 5,500 sports persons and over 1,600 coaches are expected to participate in the event. More than 1000 referees and 1200 volunteers will be part of the sporting event in which 27 types of sport will be played.
  - For the first time, squash will be included in Khelo India games.

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7. **Khelo India and Svayam collaborated to improve support for Para Athletes at Khelo India Para Games 2023.**
- Khelo India, the flagship program of the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports, and Svayam, India's pioneering accessibility organisation, joined hands to ensure transportation and infrastructure are accessible in New Delhi during the Khelo India Para Games.
  - Accessible transportation services were provided for more than 1400 para-athletes.
  - At the Khelo India Para Games 2023, more than 500 wheelchair-using players participated.
8. **National Sports Awards 2023 Announced; Chirag C Shetty and Satwik Sai Raj Rankireddy to Receive Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award .**
- The Government announced the National Sports Awards 2023. Badminton players Chirag C Shetty and Satwik Sai Raj Rankireddy will be honoured with the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award.
  - Twenty-six sportspersons will receive the Arjuna Awards.
  - Wrestling coach Lalit Kumar, Chess coach R. B. Ramesh, Para Athletics coach Mahaveer Prasad Saini, Hockey coach Shivendra Singh and Mallakhamb coach Ganesh Prabhakar Devrukhkar will be honoured with the Dronacharya Award in the regular category.
  - Golf coach Jaskirat Singh Grewal, Kabaddi coach Bhaskaran E and Table Tennis player Jayanta Kumar Pushilal will be honoured with the Dronacharya Award in the lifetime category.
  - Dhyan Chand Award for Lifetime Achievement in Sports and Games, will be given to Manjusha Kanwar for Badminton, Vineet Kumar Sharma for Hockey and Kavitha Selvaraj for Kabaddi
  - Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2023 will be presented to Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar as the overall winning university, Lovely Professional University, Punjab is the 1st runner up University and Kurukshetra University, Haryana is the 2nd runner up University.
  - The awardees will receive their awards from President Droupadi Murmu in a function at Rashtrapati Bhavan on the 9th of next month.

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## 9. Under-19 Asia Cup: Bangladesh crushes UAE to lift trophy.

- Bangladesh won the Under-19 Asia Cup by defeating UAE in the finals.
- Bangladesh clinched the Under-19 Asia Cup title by defeating UAE by 195 runs.
- Ashiqur is declared as both player of the match and series. Ashiqur scored 378 runs in five innings.
- The 2023 ACC Under-19 Asia Cup was played between 8 to 17 December 2023.
- Afghanistan, Bangladesh, India, Nepal, United Arab Emirates Japan, Pakistan and Sri Lanka took part in the tournament.
- It was held in the United Arab Emirates.

## 10. Sakshi Malik: India's Olympic medal winner quits wrestling.

- Olympic bronze medalist Sakshi Malik announced her retirement from wrestling in New Delhi.
- Sakshi Malik last participated in the Commonwealth Games in 2022 in Birmingham.
- The Indian wrestler won the gold medal in the women's 62 kg category but has not participated in international events since then.
- Sakshi was born on 3 September 1992 in the Rohtak district of Haryana.
- She emerged from the shadows of Geeta Phogat to qualify for the Rio 2016 Olympics and clinched the bronze medal on her Games' debut. It was India's first Olympic medal won by a female wrestler.

## 11. Coca-Cola extends global partnership with ICC.

- Beverage major Coca-Cola has renewed its partnership with the International Cricket Council (ICC), securing an eight-year commitment that stretches through 2031, encompassing all major ICC world events in various cricket formats.
- This move solidifies one of ICC's longest-ever associations with a single brand, continuing a partnership that began in 2019.
- Coca-Cola's association with major sports events is a long-standing tradition, highlighted by its eightdecade-long relationship with the Olympics and over forty years with FIFA and the T20 World Cup.

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## BIHAR JUDICIARY SELECTIONS, 2022



Manish Kumar



Chitra kundan



Uma Kant Kumar



Ruby Singh



Aishwarya Deep



Shalabh Sharma



Richa Bhardwaj



Atul Ratna



Kusum Sharma



Saloni Kumari



Fasiha Naaz Fatma



Ambuj Kumar Dubey



Neha Nayak



Ananya Sinha



Piyush Chawl



Divyanshu Gupta



Priya Kumari



Rhaghav



Navneet Kuma



Hari Priya



Mrinal Aryan



Aanchal Dahiya



Diksha



Om Prakash



Anushka Raj



Anurag



Tulsi Shankar



Anant Kumar



Vikash Gaurav



Sakshi Prakhar



**CONGRATULATIONS**



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## TRANSLATION- ENGLISH

1. We are concerned in this appeal only with the conviction of the appellant under section 324 read with section 123-B of the IPC. The case of Prosecution as against the appellant, in short, is that PW-4 had purchased the said auto rickshaw from Jaina Automobiles on 11-7- 1997. he had entered into a hire purchase agreement (M.O. 4) with City Auto Finance of which the appellant is the Managing Partner. There was default in the payment of instalments, and this had infuriated the appellant. Therefore according to the Prosecution on 25-3-1999 at about 12 noon in Moovattupuzha, the appellant had entered into a criminal conspiracy with A1 to A3, who were engaged in the profession or vehicle seizure, to repossess the said auto rickshaw by hook or by crook irrespective of the consequences that may follow and, in pursuance of the said criminal conspiracy, on 31-3-1999, A1 to A3 under the pretext of going for a trip, hired the said auto rickshaw and at about 10.30 p.m., murdered Binay, the driver and took away the said auto rickshaw.
2. The aforesaid cheques, which had been given by Munish Jain as Director of M/s. A.T. Overseas Ltd. had not been honored and due to dishonour of the said cheques, the complainant namely. Anil Sachar, as a partner of M/s. Rati Woolen Mills had issued notice as required under the provisions of section 138 of the Negotiable Instruments Act (have matter referred to as the act) In spite of the said notice, the complainant was not paid the amount covered under the aforesaid cheques and, therefore, complaints had been filed against the present respondents.
3. Extra-Judicial confession made by A-1 Pratham is the main plank of the prosecution case. It is true that an extra judicial confession can be used against its maker, but as a matter caution, courts look for corroboration to the same from other evidence on record. In Gopal Shah Vs. State of Bihar, (2008) 17 SCC 128, this court while dealing with an extra-judicial confession is on the face of it a weak evidence and the courts are reluctant in the absence of chain of cogent

# K A R A T JUDICIAL TIMES

circumstances to rely on it for the purpose of recording a confession. We must therefore first ascertain whether extra-judicial confession of A-1. Pratham inspires confidence and then find out whether there are other cogent circumstances on record to support it.

4. On notices being issued Respondent No. 1 and 2 driver and owner of the truck respectively remained absent despite due service. Thus they were proceeded ex-parte. Written statement was filed only by Respondent No. 3, the Insurance Company. But the respondents did not lead any evidence in rebuttal to the evidence led by the Appellant. Even the driver of the truck did not enter the Witness Box to deny the Factum of the accident.
5. It is well settled that delay in lodging FIR cannot be grounded to doubt the claimants case. Knowing the Indian condition as they are, we cannot expect a common man to first rush to the police station immediately after an accident. Human nature and family responsibilities occupy the mind of kith and kin to such an extent that they give more importance to get the victim treated rather than to rush to the Police Station. Under such circumstances, they are not expected to mechanically with Promptitude in lodging the FIR with the police. Delay in lodging the FIR thus, cannot be the ground to deny justice to the victim. In cases of delay, the courts are required to examine the evidence with a closer scrutiny and in doing so the contents of the FIR should also be scrutinized more carefully. If court finds that there is no indication of Fabrication or it has not been concocted or engineered to implicate innocent persons then even if there is a delay in lodging the FIR the claim case cannot be dismissed merely on that ground.

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## TRANSLATION - HINDI

1. हम इस अपील में केवल भा.द.सं. की धारा 324 सपठित धारा 120- ख के तहत अपीलार्थी की दोषसिद्धि से सम्बन्धित है । अभियोजन का प्रकरण तथा अपीलार्थी के विरुद्ध संक्षिप्त में है कि अ.सा. 4 ने उक्त ऑटो रिक्शा जैना ऑटोमोबाइल्स से दि. 11-7- 1997 को क्रय की थी । उसे सिटी ऑटो फायनेंस के साथ भाड़ा क्रय अनुबंध (एम.ओ. 4) किया, जिसका अपीलार्थी प्रबन्ध भागीदार है । किस्तों के संदाय में व्यतिक्रम था एवं इसने अपीलार्थी को क्रोधित किया । इसलिए अभियोजन के अनुसार दिनांक 25-3-1999 को लगभग 12 बजे दोपहर में मुवाटुपुझा में अपीलार्थी ने ए-1 से ए-3 के साथ आपराधिक षडयंत्र रचा, जो यान जब्ती के पेशे में संलग्न थे । उक्त ऑटो रिक्शा को किसी भी रीति से किसी भी परिणाम में पुनः कब्जा करने के लिए और उक्त आपराधिक षडयंत्र के अनुसरण में दिनांक 31-3-1999 को ए-1 से ए-3 ने एक यात्रा पर जाने के बहाने पर उक्त ऑटो रिक्शा भाड़े पर ली एवं लगभग 10.30 अपराह्न बजे बिनाय, चालक की हत्या कर दी एवं उक्त ऑटो रिक्शा ले गये ।
2. उक्त कथित चैक, जो मुनिष जैन द्वारा मे. ए. टी. ओवरसीज लि. के निदेशक के निदेशक के रूप में दिये गये थे, आवरित नहीं हुए थे एवं उक्त चैकों के अबादरण के कारण परिवाद अर्थात् अनिल सचर, मे. राटी वूलन मिल्स के भागीदार के रूप में, ने सूचना पत्र जारी किया था, यथा परक्राम्य लिखत अधिनियम (एतस्मिन् पश्चात् अधि. के रूप में निर्दिष्ट) की धारा 138 के उपबन्धों के तहत आवश्यक है । उक्त सूचना पत्र के बावजूद, परिवादी ने उक्त कथित चैकों के तहत आवरित राशि संदत्त नहीं की थी एवं इसलिए परिवादें वर्तमान प्रत्यर्थागण के विरुद्ध दाखिल की गई थीं ।
3. ए-1 प्रथम द्वारा की गई न्यायिकेत्तर संस्वीकृति अभियोजन प्रकरण अभियोजन प्रकरण का मुख्य तख्ता है । यह सत्य है कि न्यायिकेत्तर संस्वीकृति इसके करने वाले के विरुद्ध उपयोग नहीं की जा सकती है, परन्तु सावधानी के मामले के रूप में न्यायालयों को इसकी अभिलेख पर अन्य साक्ष्य से अभिपुष्टि देखनी चाहिए । गोपाल साह बनाम बिहार राज्य, (2008) 17 एस.सी.सी. 128 में इस न्यायालय ने न्यायिकेत्तर संस्वीकृति व्यवहृत करते हुए ठहराया कि न्यायिकेत्तर संस्वीकृति व्यवहृत करते हुए ठहराया कि न्यायिकेत्तर संस्वीकृति इसके मुख पर कमजोर साक्ष्य होती है एवं न्यायालयों को तर्कपूर्ण परिस्थितियों की कड़ी के अभाव में इस पर दोषसिद्धि अभिलिखित करने के प्रयोजन से अवलम्ब लेने में अरुचि रखती है । हमें इसलिए पहले यह अभिनिश्चित करना चाहिए कि क्या ए-

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- 1 प्रथम की न्यायिकेत्तर संस्वीकृति विश्वास प्रोद्भूत करती है और तब यह पता करना चाहिए कि क्या अभिलेख पर अन्य तर्कपूर्ण परिस्थितियाँ इसे समर्थित करने के लिए हैं ।
4. सूचना पत्र जारी किये जाने पर प्रत्यर्थागण क्रमांक 1 और 2 क्रमशः ट्रक के चालक एवं स्वामी सम्यक् तामीली के बावजूद अनुपस्थित रहे । इस प्रकार एक पक्षीय कार्यवाही की गई थी । लिखित कथन प्रत्यर्था क्र. 3 बीमा कम्पनी द्वारा दाखिल किया गया था, परन्तु प्रत्यर्थागण ने कोई साक्ष्य अपीलार्थी द्वारा दाखिल साक्ष्य के खण्डन में प्रस्तुत नहीं किया । यहाँ तक कि ट्रक के चालक ने भी दुर्घटना के तथ्य इनकार करने के लिए साक्षी कटघरे में प्रवेश नहीं किया ।
5. यह सुस्थापित है कि एफ.आई.आर. दर्ज करने में विलम्ब दावेदार के प्रकरण को शंका करने का आधार नहीं हो सकता । भारतीय स्थिति को जानते हुए, यथा वे हैं, हम किसीसामान्य व्यक्ति से दुर्घटना के पश्चात् पहले पुलिस थाना भागने की अपेक्षा नहीं कर सकते । मानवीय प्रवृत्ति एवं कौटुम्बिक उत्तरदायित्व बंधु बांधत्व का भाव मस्तिष्क में इस सीमा तक रखते हैं कि उन्हें पीड़ित का इलाज करवाना पुलिस थाने जाने से पहले अधिक महत्वपूर्ण लगता है । ऐसी परिस्थितियों के तहत, उनसे एफ.आई.आर. दर्ज कराने में तत्परता के साथ यांत्रिकीय रूप से कार्य की अपेक्षा नहीं की जाती है । एफ.आई.आर. दर्ज कराने में विलम्ब पीड़ित को न्याय इनकार का आधार नहीं बन सकता । विलम्ब के प्रकरणों में न्यायालयों को साक्ष्य की सूक्ष्मता से जांच करने की आवश्यकता है और ऐसा करने में एफ. आई. आर. की अन्तर्वस्तुओं की अधिक सूक्ष्मतापूर्वक जांच की जानी चाहिए । यदि न्यायालय पाता है कि कूटरचना का कोई उपदर्शन नहीं है या यह मनगढ़ंत नहीं है या निर्दोष व्यक्तियों को बांधने के लिए नहीं है, तब दावा प्रकरण मात्र इस आधार पर खारिज नहीं किया जा सकता ।

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## CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQ'S

1. ASEAN India Grassroots Innovation Forum (AIGIF) was launched in which country?
  - a) Thailand
  - b) Malaysia
  - c) India
  - d) Cambodia
2. Hambantota port, which was seen in the news, is in which country?
  - a) Israel
  - b) Ukraine
  - c) Sri Lanka
  - d) Afghanistan
3. Asa di vaar, ardas, Nagar kirtan, Akhand Paath Sahib and langar are associated with which religion?
  - a) Buddhism
  - b) Jainism
  - c) Sikhism
  - d) Islam
4. Mahe, Malvan and Mangrol are the names of which products recently launched?
  - a) Anti Submarine Warships
  - b) Unmanned Aerial Vehicles
  - c) Submarines
  - d) Intercontinental Missiles
5. Which institution constituted a taskforce to examine the impact of Digital Personal Data Protection Act on Insurance sector?
  - a) Ministry of Electronics and IT

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- b) IRDAI
  - c) RBI
  - d) SEBI
6. Which state collaborated with Meta to raise awareness among students and educators about online safety and digital citizenship?
- a) Odisha
  - b) Karnataka
  - c) Kerala
  - d) Jharkhand
7. Which country is recently re-elected to the International Maritime Organisation (IMO) Council with the highest tally?
- a) India
  - b) Russia
  - c) USA
  - d) Japan
8. Which institution releases 'Composite Water Management Index' in India?
- a) Jal Shakti Ministry
  - b) NITI Aayog
  - c) WAPCOS
  - d) DPIIT
9. Sijimali Bauxite Mines, which was seen in the news, is in which state/UT?
- a) Andhra Pradesh
  - b) Jharkhand
  - c) Odisha
  - d) West Bengal
10. 'Gajraj System', which was seen in the news, is a\_?
- a) AI-based system to diagnose elephant illness
  - b) AI-based surveillance system to prevent elephant deaths
  - c) AI-based system to train elephants

- d) AI-based system to treat respiratory diseases in elephants.
11. Which institution enabled two-factor authentication for all e-waybill and e-invoice systems?
- RBI
  - SEBI
  - CBIC
  - CBDT
12. 'SCORES' is the online platform of which institution?
- RBI
  - National Stock Exchange
  - SEBI
  - NPCI
13. 'Gajraj System', which was seen in the news, is a\_?
- AI-based system to diagnose elephant illness
  - AI-based surveillance system to prevent elephant deaths
  - AI-based system to train elephants
  - AI-based system to treat respiratory diseases in elephants
14. The world's first portable disaster hospital has been unveiled in which country?
- China
  - India
  - Ukraine
  - Israel
15. India announced a USD 250 million line of credit to which country for modernisation of its agricultural sector?
- Kenya
  - South Africa
  - Congo
  - Papua New Guinea

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16. What is the expansion of PDI, launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj?
- Panchayat Development Index
  - Panchayat Distribution Index
  - Panchayat Direction Index
  - People Development Index
17. Around 1,000 migrating birds died in which country after colliding with illuminated buildings?
- Australia
  - USA
  - Indonesia
  - Philippines
18. 'JT-60SA', the world's largest and most advanced nuclear fusion reactor, is a joint initiative between the European Union and which country?
- India
  - Japan
  - USA
  - Australia
19. Which European country approved a bill to ban disposable electronic cigarettes?
- France
  - Germany
  - Italy
  - Romania
20. As per National Crime Records Bureau (NCRB) data, which state recorded the highest number of custodial deaths in 2022?
- Gujarat
  - Karnataka
  - Andhra Pradesh
  - Uttar Pradesh

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21. Which Asian country has recently launched its own Forest and Wood Certification Scheme?
- a) Sri Lanka
  - b) India
  - c) Bangladesh
  - d) Japan
22. "VINBAX-23" is a military exercise between the armies of India and which country?
- a) Malaysia
  - b) Vietnam
  - c) Sri Lanka
  - d) Iran
23. Which country has unveiled Karrar combat drone equipped with air-to-air missiles?
- a) Iran
  - b) Israel
  - c) North Korea
  - d) UAE
24. Climate finance for agrifood systems in sharp downward trend' report was released by?
- a) UNEP
  - b) FAO
  - c) World Bank
  - d) NITI Aayog
25. Which country has recently devalued its currency Peso against dollar significantly recently?
- a) Chile
  - b) Argentina
  - c) Bolivia

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- d) Paraguay
26. Scientists from the Department of Atomic Energy (DAE) and Bengaluru-based IDRS Labs have collaborated to develop Aktocyte tablets for the treatment of which disease?
- a) HIV
  - b) Covid
  - c) Cancer
  - d) Diabetes
27. Recently, which middle east country has decided to cancel visa requirements for visitors from India?
- a) Iran
  - b) Iraq
  - c) Syria
  - d) Lebanon
28. The GIFT City is located on the outskirts of \_\_\_?
- a) Mumbai
  - b) Ahmedabad
  - c) Hyderabad
  - d) Bengaluru
29. Vijay Diwas, celebrated on December 16th every year, commemorates the victory of the Indian armed forces over Pakistan during the 1971 war. Who signed the instrument of surrender from Pakistan side on this day?
- a) General Tikka Khan
  - b) General Ayub Khan
  - c) General Yahya Khan
  - d) General Amir Abdullah Khan Niazi
30. Which country recently hosted Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence?
- a) Japan
  - b) India

# K A R A T JUDICIAL TIMES

- c) France
- d) China

31. What is the name of the antiviral medication that Zydus Lifesciences recently got USFDA approval for?

- a) Darunavir
- b) Tenofovir
- c) Raltegravir
- d) Dolutegravir

32. Which country has recently launched world's first 4th Generation nuclear reactor?

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

33. What is AIRAWAT that is recently making news?

- a) Submarine
- b) AI supercomputer
- c) 5G-enabled drone
- d) Recently discovered exoplanet

34. Who is currently (December, 2023) India's Permanent Representative to the United Nations?

- a) Arindam Bagchi
- b) Indra Mani Pandey
- c) K Nandini Singla
- d) Ruchira Kamboj

35. Which city houses the world's largest diamond bourse inaugurated by PM Modi recently?

- a) Mumbai
- b) Surat

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- c) Baroda  
d) Pune
36. Recently, which state launched “Mukhyamantri Pashuseva Yojana”, a 24×7 animal ambulance scheme to provide timely and accessible veterinary care for livestock?
- a) Rajasthan  
b) Madhya Pradesh  
c) Goa  
d) Maharashtra
37. What is the name of the scheme under which Indian scientific expeditions to the Arctic and Antarctic regions are conducted?
- a) PACER  
b) POLARIS  
c) ICECAP  
d) ARCTICA
38. Which ministry has recently initiated the ‘Dare to Dream’ scheme in honor of the late former President Dr. APJ Abdul Kalam?
- a) Ministry of Education  
b) Ministry of Defence  
c) Ministry of External Affairs  
d) Ministry of Sports
39. LEADS 2023 report has been released by which ministry?
- a) Ministry of Education  
b) NITI Aayog  
c) Ministry of Defence  
d) Ministry of Commerce and Industry
40. Which country’s Armed Forces have recently been honored with the coveted ‘Golden Owl’ award for their outstanding performance?
- a) China

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- b) Sri Lanka
- c) Singapore
- d) India

41. As of 2023, which country is the top source of steel making coking coal for India?

- a) Russia
- b) China
- c) Australia
- d) Germany

42. Basukinath Jha, winner of Sahitya Akademi Award-2023, is a writer in which language?

- a) Hindi
- b) Maithili
- c) Bhojpuri
- d) Gujarati

43. Who has been awarded the 6th Rabindranath Tagore Literary Prize?

- a) Siddhartha Talya
- b) Twinkle Khanna
- c) Sukrita Paul
- d) Ashok Nanda

44. Who has become the first Indian to be inducted as a governing board member of the International Table Tennis Federation?

- a) Manika Batra
- b) Vita Dani
- c) Mouma Das
- d) Achanta Sharath Kamal

45. Andriamanelo Cave, where Prehistoric rock art was recently discovered is located in which country?

- a) Madagascar

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

46. Notre Dame Cathedral, that was recently in news, is located in which city?

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

47. Coral reefs occupy what percentage of the ocean floor?

- a) Less than 0.1%
- b) Around 1%
- c) Around 1.5%
- d) Around 2.5%

48. "6X6X6 strategy", which is often seen in news is related to\_\_:

- a) To make better use of daylight
- b) To reduce the prevalence of anaemia
- c) To provide free and compulsory education
- d) None of the above

49. For which country's upcoming general elections, Dr Saveera Parkash has filed her nomination recently?

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

50. Which institute is collaborating with Reliance Jio for the launch of the 'Bharat GPT' program?

- a) IIT Delhi
- b) IIT Madras
- c) IIT Mumbai

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d) IISc Bangalore

51. Kangla Palace is a historical and archaeological site of which state?

- a) Assam
- b) Odisha
- c) Manipur
- d) Meghalaya

52. Which country reached an agreement with India and the Paris Club group of creditors on a debt treatment plan?

- a) Afghanistan
- b) Israel
- c) Sri Lanka
- d) Syria

53. What name has been given to the moon of asteroid named Dinkinesh discovered recently by NASA's Lucy spacecraft?

- a) Amani
- b) Mwanga
- c) Kesho
- d) Selam

54. At present (2023), Hydropower makes up around what fraction of India's energy mix?

- a) 5%
- b) 11%
- c) 17%
- d) 21%

55. Why did India not sign the global renewable energy pledge at the COP28 summit recently?

- a) Development concerns
- b) Lack of resources
- c) Political disagreement

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d) Technological limitations

56. What is the name of the largest survey vessel built in India, which was recently delivered by GRSE?

- a) INS Sandhayak
- b) INS Sahayak
- c) INS Sweekar
- d) INS Sandesh

57. Sijimali Bauxite Mines, which was seen in the news, is in which state/UT?

- a) Andhra Pradesh
- b) Jharkhand
- c) Odisha
- d) West Bengal

58. What is the expansion of PDI, launched by the Ministry of Panchayati Raj?

- a) Panchayat Development Index
- b) Panchayat Distribution Index
- c) Panchayat Direction Index
- d) People Development Index

59. Which European country approved a bill to ban disposable electronic cigarettes?

- a) France
- b) Germany
- c) Italy
- d) Romania

60. Which technology company introduced a new AI model named 'Gemini'?

- a) Microsoft
- b) Google
- c) Samsung
- d) Apple

# K A R A T JUDICIAL TIMES

61. Which country reported over 12000 suspected mpox cases in 2023?
- a) Kenya
  - b) Ethiopia
  - c) Congo
  - d) Indonesia
62. The world's first portable disaster hospital has been unveiled in which country?
- a) China
  - b) India
  - c) Ukraine
  - d) Israel
63. Which institution has been publishing the 'India Infrastructure Report' series since 2001?
- a) NSSO
  - b) NITI Aayog
  - c) IDFC Foundation
  - d) Larsen and Toubro
64. Which European country approved a bill to ban disposable electronic cigarettes?
- a) France
  - b) Germany
  - c) Italy
  - d) Romania
65. Which technology company introduced a new AI model named 'Gemini'?
- a) Microsoft
  - b) Google
  - c) Samsung
  - d) Apple
66. 'Santiniketan' is a university town situated in which state/UT?

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- a) Puducherry
  - b) West Bengal
  - c) Goa
  - d) Odisha
67. Defence Ministry signed a contract with which company for acquisition of Digital Coast Guard (DCG) project?
- a) L&T
  - b) TCIL
  - c) EIL
  - d) BEL
68. Anumula Revanth has been sworn in as the Chief Minister of which state?
- a) Telangana
  - b) Chhattisgarh
  - c) Madhya Pradesh
  - d) Mizoram
69. Mefenamic acid tablet, which was seen in the news, is used as a/an?
- a) Antibiotic
  - b) Pain-killer
  - c) Antiseptic
  - d) Immunosuppressant
70. Tshering Tashi, who was seen in the news, is associated with which profession?
- a) Artist
  - b) Author
  - c) Sports person
  - d) Politician
71. Where are the headquarters of Defence Cyber Agency (DCyA)?
- a) New Delhi
  - b) Hyderabad
  - c) Bengaluru

d) Mumbai

72. Who is the new chairman appointed to head the Maharashtra State Backward Class Commission?

- a) Justice Sunil Shukre
- b) Justice Firdosh P Pooniwalla
- c) Justice AS Chandurkar
- d) Justice Anil L Pansare

73. DRDO Aeronautical Test Range, that makes news frequently, is located near which city?

- a) Secunderabad
- b) Chitradurga
- c) Bhubaneswar
- d) Jodhpur

74. Which country recently hosted Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence?

- a) Japan
- b) India
- c) France
- d) China

75. Where was the first Indian Art, Architecture & Design Biennale 2023 held at?

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

76. Kashi Tamil Sangamam, that was recently inaugurated, is an initiative of which ministry?

- a) Ministry of Culture
- b) Ministry of Cooperation
- c) Ministry of Education
- d) Ministry of Tourism

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77. Recently, Goa Liberation Day was observed on December 19th. For how many years, Goa remained a territory of Portugal?
- a) 298 years
  - b) 325 Years
  - c) 395 Years
  - d) 461 Years
78. Which of the following government organizations is one of the organizers of Smart India Hackathon?
- a) DPIIT
  - b) ISRO
  - c) DRDO
  - d) AICTE
79. What is the objective of the recently established "Operation Prosperity Guardian" initiative?
- a) Strengthen economic ties between neighboring countries in Europe
  - b) Combat illegal fishing and environmental hazards in the Indian Ocean
  - c) Curb maritime security problems by Houthi rebels in the Red Sea region
  - d) Promote commercial shipping and trade routes in the Mediterranean Sea
80. UN Arabic Language Day is celebrated on which date?
- a) December 16
  - b) December 18
  - c) December 20
  - d) December 19
81. Which country is not a member of Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC)?
- a) Congo
  - b) Gabon
  - c) Nigeria
  - d) Qatar

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82. INS Imphal, which is India's first naval asset named after a city in North East India, is a\_\_?
- a) Aircraft Carrier
  - b) Destroyer
  - c) Submarine
  - d) Frigate
83. Notre Dame Cathedral, that was recently in news, is located in which city?
- a) Rome
  - b) Paris
  - c) London
  - d) Frankfurt
84. Which bank has recently launched India's first corporate credit card allowing UPI integration, eSvarna?
- a) Bank of Baroda
  - b) IndusInd Bank
  - c) Axis Bank
  - d) Karnataka Bank
85. Which Indian ministry is responsible for administering the FAME India Scheme?
- a) Ministry of Finance
  - b) Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology
  - c) Ministry of AYUSH
  - d) Ministry of Heavy Industries
86. Union government is planning to revive tax remission benefits on export of which item, that was placed in the 'restricted' category in mid-2022?
- a) Sugar
  - b) Rice
  - c) Milk products
  - d) None of these

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87. Which player recently clinched the Chennai Grand Masters 2023 title?
- a) Dommaraju Gukesh
  - b) Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa
  - c) Vidit Santosh Gujrathi
  - d) Sandipan Chanda
88. Veer Bal Diwas is observed on 26th December every year to commemorate the martyrdom of the four sons of which Sikh Guru?
- a) Guru Teg Bahadur
  - b) Guru Ram Das
  - c) Guru Gobind Singh
  - d) Guru Arjan
89. Who was the first Indian Prime Minister to visit Israel?
- a) Narendra Modi
  - b) Jawahar Lal Nehru
  - c) Atal Bihari Vajpayee
  - d) Manmohan Singh
90. Which institute is collaborating with Reliance Jio for the launch of the 'Bharat GPT' program?
- a) IIT Delhi
  - b) IIT Madras
  - c) IIT Mumbai
  - d) IISc Bangalor
91. iCET or International Cooperation and Education on Technology is administered by which ministry?
- a) Ministry of Science and Technology
  - b) Ministry of Education
  - c) Ministry of External Affairs
  - d) Ministry of Commerce

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92. Recently, the Anand Marriage Act has been implemented in Jammu & Kashmir. This act gives statutory recognition to\_\_:
- Intercaste Marriage
  - Interfaith Marriage
  - Sikh Marriage and Wedding rituals
  - Hindu Marriage and Rituals
93. Who is the treasurer of Shri Ram Janmabhoomi Teerth Trust overseeing Ram temple preparations?
- Mahant Nrityagopal Das
  - Govind Devagiri
  - Champat Rai
  - Nripendra Mishra
94. Recently, which middle east country has decided to cancel visa requirements for visitors from India?
- Iran
  - Iraq
  - Syria
  - Lebanon
95. The GIFT City is located on the outskirts of \_\_?
- Mumbai
  - Ahmedabad
  - Hyderabad
  - Bengaluru
96. The term "Barracuda" that was recently in news denotes \_\_:
- High-speed underwater drone
  - Advanced cybersecurity software
  - Eco-friendly urban transportation project
  - Solar-electric boat
97. The EKAMRA project, which was in news, is in which state?

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- a) West Bengal
- b) Madhya Pradesh
- c) Odisha
- d) Karnataka

98. Which bank has recently launched the Nari Shakti Savings Account?

- a) ICICI
- b) HDFC
- c) SBI
- d) Bank of India

99. Which disease, recently in news, is characterized by the buildup of glycogen in the lysosomes of the body's cells?

- a) Type 1 Diabetes
- b) Type 2 Diabetes
- c) Pompe Disease
- d) Anthrax

100. The term "middle-technology trap" was making news in context with which country recently?

- a) United States
- b) India
- c) Russia
- d) China

# K A R A T JUDICIAL TIMES

## ANSWER KEY

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

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## CASE ANALYSIS

### 1. Mohit Singhal v. State of Uttarakhand 2023 LiveLaw (SC) 1035

**Facts:** The case revolved around the suicide of the deceased, Ashok Kumar, allegedly due to threats, assault, and a financial dispute between him and the first appellant, the son of a money lender, Sandeep Bansal. In this case, the widow of the deceased had borrowed a sum of Rs.40,000 from Sandeep Bansal and later another sum of Rs.60,000. The deceased was allegedly under tension due to a legal notice issued by Sandeep regarding dishonored cheques. The deceased, distressed by the events, purportedly committed suicide on July 4, 2017. The prosecution relied on a suicide note written by the deceased on June 30, 2017. The High Court, rejected the plea to quash the offence, allowing the case to proceed.

**Question Involved:** The question before the court was whether the appellants instigated the deceased to commit suicide?

**Law Applied:** The Court scrutinized Sections 306 and 107 IPC, emphasizing that for abetment, there must be a specific act of instigation with mens rea, pushing the deceased to a point where suicide becomes the only option.

**Analysis :** In the present case, taking the complaint of the third respondent and the contents of the suicide note as correct, it is impossible to conclude that the appellants instigated the deceased to commit suicide by demanding the payment of the amount borrowed by the third respondent from her husband by using abusive language and by assaulting him by a belt for that purpose."

The Court opined "The said incident allegedly happened more than two weeks before the date of suicide. There is no allegation that any act was done by the appellants in close proximity to the date of suicide. By no stretch of the imagination, the alleged acts of the appellants can amount to instigation to commit suicide."



Held: Therefore, it concluded that the acts of the accused, as described, did not amount to instigation under Section 306. The Court allowed the appeal and quashed the summoning order, observing that the continuation of the prosecution will be "nothing but an abuse of the process of law."

## 2. **In Re Article 370 of the Constitution of India 2023 LiveLaw (SC) 1050**

### **Facts:**

The validity of the J&K Reorganisation Act 2019, which bifurcated the State of J&K into Union Territories of J&K and Ladakh, was one of the issues before the Court. However, the Court did not rule on this issue in view of the submission of the Solicitor General of India that the statehood of J&K will be restored as soon as possible.

**Issue raised:** whether an entire State could be turned into a Union Territory as per Article 3 was left open.

**Held:** The court also directed that steps shall be taken by the Election Commission of India to conduct elections to the J&K assembly by September 30, 2024. Further, it stated that the restoration of statehood shall take place as soon as possible.

Court upheld the creation of Ladakh UT as valid, holding that Article 3 of the Constitution gave the power to the Parliament to carve out a Union Territory from a State.

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## GENERAL KNOWLEDGE MCQ'S

1. The celebrated Novel 'The Godfather' was authored by
  - a) John Milton
  - b) Victor Hugo
  - c) Mario Puzo
  - d) Harold Robbins
2. Name the Continents that form a mirror image of each other\_\_\_\_
  - a) North America and South America
  - b) Asia and Africa
  - c) Africa and South America
  - d) Europe and Asia
3. The concept of Judicial Review in ourr constitution has been taken from the Constitution of
  - a) England
  - b) USA
  - c) Canada
  - d) Australia
4. The energy released by 1 gram of glucose is
  - a) 6 kcal
  - b) 4 kcal
  - c) 5 kcal
  - d) 3kcal
5. At which place will you find maximum sunlight in December?
  - a) Kanya Kumari
  - b) Pune
  - c) Kolkata
  - d) Leh

# K A R A T JUDICIAL TIMES

6. Which places is said to be the cathedral city of India?
- a) Benaras
  - b) Kancheepuram
  - c) Madurai
  - d) Bhubaneswar
7. FFC stands for
- a) Foreign Finance Corporation
  - b) Film Finance Corporation
  - c) Federation of Football Council
  - d) None
8. Pulitzer prize is awarded for outstanding work in the field of
- a) Science and Technology
  - b) Literature and Journalism
  - c) International Understanding
  - d) Environmental Studies
9. Who first imposed Jizya Tax in India?
- a) Allaudin khilji
  - b) Aurangzeb
  - c) Mohammad Bin Qasim
  - d) Qutb-ud-din Aibak
10. Who founded in Pataliputra
- a) Udayin
  - b) Ashoka
  - c) Bimbisar
  - d) Mahapadmananda
11. The busiest sea route is
- a) The Mediterranean Red-Sea Route
  - b) The South Atlantic Route

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- c) The North Atlantic Route
- d) The Pacific Route

12. Which one of the following cities will never get the vertical rays of the sun?

- a) Srinagar
- b) Thiruvananthapuram
- c) Kolkata
- d) Mumbai

13. At which particular place on earth are days and nights of equal length always?

- a) Prime Meridian
- b) Poles
- c) Equator
- d) No where

14. Bone deformities occur due to the excess intake of

- a) Phosphorus
- b) Potassium
- c) Fatty acid
- d) Fluorine

15. Sikkim was made an integral part of India under the

- a) 36th Amendment
- b) 39th Amendment
- c) 40th Amendment
- d) 42 Amendment

16. Among the following Union Territories of India, which one has the largest size

- a) Puducherry
- b) Lakshadweep
- c) Daman and diu
- d) Chandigarh

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17. Out of the following remains excavated in indus valley, which one indicates the commercial and economic development
- a) Pottery
  - b) Seals
  - c) Boats
  - d) Houses
18. The Indus Valley Civilization specialized in
- a) Town Planning
  - b) Architecture
  - c) Craftsmanship
  - d) All of these
19. Which is the largest fishing ground in the world?
- a) Japan sea
  - b) North sea
  - c) North-East-Pacific
  - d) Newfoundland water
20. Which commission made the recommendations which formed the basis for the Punjab Reorganisation Act which created the states Punjab and Haryana
- a) Dhar Commission
  - b) Dass Commission
  - c) Shah Commission
  - d) Mahajan Commission
21. The highest average salinity amongst the following seas is reported from
- a) Dead Sea
  - b) Red Sea
  - c) Black Sea
  - d) Migration Sea

# K A R A T JUDICIAL TIMES

22. Who said, "Inflation is unjust but deflation is inexpedient. Of the two, deflation is worse"?
- J.M Keynes
  - Amartya Sen
  - J.G Gurley
  - J.N Bhagwati
23. Where was electricity supply first introduced in India
- Kolkata
  - Mumbai
  - Darjeeling
  - Chennai
24. The most important small scale industry in india is the
- Textile Industry
  - Paper Industry
  - Handloom Industry
  - Jute industry
25. Who is known as the ' Saint of the gutters '
- B.R.Ambedkar
  - Mother Teresa
  - Mahatma Gandhi
  - Baba Amte
26. The famous Rock Garden is located in which city?
- Jaipur
  - Shimla
  - Lucknow
  - Chandigarh
27. When formaldehyde and potassium hydroxide are heated, we get
- Acetylene
  - Methyl alcohol

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- c) Methane
- d) Ethyl formate

28. Madhubani', a style of folk paintings, is popular in which of the following states in India?

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

29. Between which of the following was the ancient town of Takshasila located

- a) Indus and Jhelum
- b) Jhelum and Chenab
- c) Chenab and Ravi
- d) Ravi and Beas

30. Cobalt - 60 is commonly used in radiation therapy because it emits

- a) alpha - rays
- b) beta rays
- c) gamma rays
- d) X - rays

31. The Ajanta painting belongs to which period ?

- a) Harappan period
- b) Gupta period
- c) Buddhist period
- d) Mauryan period

32. What does airbag, used for safety of car driver, contain?

- a) Sodium bicarbonate
- b) Sodium azide
- c) Sodium nitrite
- d) Sodium peroxide

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33. Name the blood cells in which nucleus is absent
- a) Lymphocytes
  - b) Blood Platelets
  - c) Monocytes
  - d) Eosinophils
34. Which of the following is used in pencils?
- a) Silicon
  - b) Phosphorous
  - c) Graphite
  - d) Charcoal
35. Tansen Samman has been instituted by the Government of
- a) Uttar Pradesh
  - b) Gujarat
  - c) Maharashtra
  - d) Madhya Pradesh
36. The biggest public sector undertaking in the country is
- a) Iron and steel Plants
  - b) Roadways
  - c) Railways
  - d) Airways
37. Which of the following places is famous for Chikankari work, which is a traditional art of embroidery?
- a) Hyderabad
  - b) Lucknow
  - c) Mysore
  - d) Jaipur
38. Who among the following is not a recipient of Bharat Ratna
- a) Dr. S. Radhakrishnan
  - b) Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel

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- c) Mrs. Indira Gandhi
- d) Lal Bahadur Shastri

39. The smallest unit in a digital system is a.....

- a) Bit
- b) Byte
- c) Character
- d) Kilobyte

40. Who is known as Man of Blood and Iron ?

- a) Napoleon
- b) Bismarck
- c) Ho Chi Minh
- d) Sir Walter Scott

41. The first Census in India during the British period was held during the tenure of

- a) Lord Dufferin
- b) Lord Lytton
- c) Lord Mayo
- d) Lord Ripon

42. Which of the following parts of the sun is easily visible only during a total solar eclipse?

- a) core
- b) photosphere
- c) sunspots
- d) corona

43. The smallest Union Territory of India is

- a) Lakshadweep
- b) Pondicherry
- c) Daman and Diu
- d) Dadar and Nagar Haveli

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44. The title Sparrow is given to

- a) Sardar Vallabhai patel
- b) Rajinder Singh
- c) Nelson Mandela
- d) Porus

45. Which of the following official documents is related with India

- a) White paper
- b) Green Paper
- c) Yellow Book
- d) Blue Book

46. The enzyme that converts glucose to ethyl alcohol is

- a) Maltase
- b) Zymase
- c) Diastase
- d) Invertase

47. Where did Lord Buddha breathe his last

- a) Rajgir
- b) Bodh Gaya
- c) Sarnath
- d) Kushinagar

48. The book 'India of our Dreams' was written by \_\_\_\_ ?

- a) Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- b) M.V. Kamath
- c) Dr. C. Subramanian
- d) Dr. S. Radhakrishnan

49. G-15 is an economic grouping of

- a) First World Nations
- b) Second World Nations
- c) Third World Nations

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d) Fourth World Nations

50. The climate of India is mainly tropical because

- a) of the location of the Himalayas in the north
- b) major part of India lies within the tropics
- c) of the overpowering influence of India Ocean
- d) of the seasonal influence of jet streams

KARAT JUDICIAL TIMES

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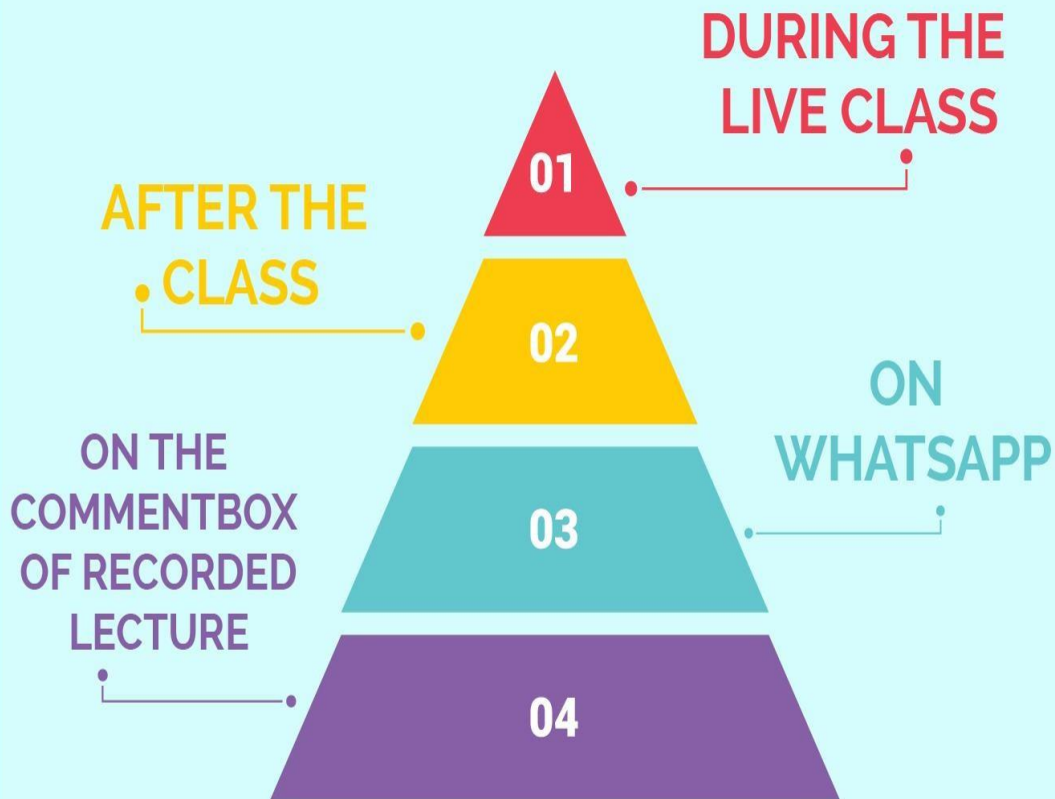
## ANSWER KEY

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

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