

1. International News

Q1. Which country officially became the 102nd member of the International Solar Alliance (ISA) in January 2022? (a) Barbados

- (b) Antigua and Barbuda
- (c) Saint Kitts and Nevis
- (d) Jamaica

Answer: (b) Antigua and Barbuda

Explanation: On January 4–5, 2022, Antigua and Barbuda joined the ISA, an Indian-led global initiative. The agreement was signed in the presence of the Indian High Commissioner. The ISA aims to mobilize efforts against climate change through the deployment of solar energy solutions.

Q2. In early January 2022, a nationwide state of emergency was declared in which Central Asian country following violent anti-government protests?

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

Answer: (c) Kazakhstan

Explanation: Massive protests erupted in Kazakhstan over a sharp increase in liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) prices. This led to the resignation of the government and President Kassym-Jomart Tokayev requesting military assistance from the Collective Security Treaty Organization (CSTO).

2. National News

Q3. PM Narendra Modi inaugurated the New Integrated Terminal Building of Maharaja Bir Bikram (MBB) Airport in which city? (a) Imphal

- (b) Agartala
- (c) Kohima
- (d) Shillong

Answer: (b) Agartala

Explanation: During his visit to Tripura, the PM inaugurated the state-of-the-art terminal at MBB Airport, built at a cost of about ₹450 crore. It is part of the government's effort to make Tripura the "gateway to the Northeast."

Q4. The Union Ministry of Power celebrated the 7th anniversary of which flagship scheme on January 5, 2022? (a) UDAY

- (b) UJALA
- (c) SAUBHAGYA
- (d) PM-KUSUM

Answer: (b) UJALA

Explanation: The Unnat Jyoti by Affordable LEDs for All (UJALA) scheme completed 7 years. It is the world's largest zero-subsidy domestic lighting programme, having distributed over 36.7 crore LED bulbs across India to save energy and reduce CO2 emissions.

3. Economics & Banking

Q5. Which payments bank was recently granted "Scheduled Bank" status by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)? (a) Jio Payments Bank

- (b) Airtel Payments Bank
- (c) NSDL Payments Bank
- (d) Paytm Payments Bank

Answer: (b) Airtel Payments Bank

Explanation: The RBI included Airtel Payments Bank in the Second Schedule to the RBI Act, 1934. This status allows the bank to participate in government-issued Requests for Proposals (RFPs), primary auctions, and access the Marginal Standing Facility (MSF).

Q6. What is the name of India's first cryptocurrency index launched by CryptoWire to monitor the performance of the top 15 most traded crypto coins?

- (a) CRYPTO15
- (b) IC15

- (c) BIT15
(d) INDIA-C

Answer: (b) IC15

Explanation: CryptoWire launched **IC15**, a rule-based broad market index by market capitalization. It tracks 15 widely traded liquid cryptocurrencies listed on leading crypto exchanges globally, providing a benchmark for the Indian crypto market.

4. Appointments

- Q7. Who assumed the command of the "Fire and Fury Corps" (14 Corps) of the Indian Army in January 2022?** (a) Lt Gen Anindya Sengupta
(b) Lt Gen Manoj Pande
(c) Lt Gen Yogesh Kumar Joshi
(d) Lt Gen PGK Menon

Answer: (a) Lt Gen Anindya Sengupta

Explanation: Lt General Anindya Sengupta took over the command of the Leh-based Fire and Fury Corps, which is responsible for guarding the Line of Actual Control (LAC) with China in the Ladakh sector.

- Q8. Who was appointed as the new Secretary in the Ministry of Steel, Government of India?** (a) Sanjay Kumar Singh
(b) V.K. Tripathi
(c) Pankaj Sharma
(d) Amir Subhani

Answer: (a) Sanjay Kumar Singh **Explanation:** Sanjay Kumar Singh, a 1987-batch IAS officer of the Madhya Pradesh cadre, assumed charge as the Secretary of the Ministry of Steel, succeeding P.K. Tripathi.

5. Awards & Honors

- Q9. Which Indian PSU was recently honored with the "ICAI Award for Excellence in Financial Reporting" for 2020-21?** (a) ONGC
(b) RailTel

- (c) BSNL
(d) NTPC

Answer: (b) RailTel **Explanation:** RailTel Corporation of India Ltd won the award in the "Public Sector Entities" category. The award is given by the Institute of Chartered Accountants of India (ICAI) to recognize high-quality financial reporting practices.

6. Defense News

- Q10. The DRDO successfully flight-tested the final deliverable configuration of which missile from the Integrated Test Range, Chandipur, in early Jan 2022?** (a) Pralay
(b) MPATGM
(c) Agni-P
(d) Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile

Answer: (d) Man-Portable Anti-Tank Guided Missile **Explanation:** The indigenously developed MPATGM is a low-weight, fire-and-forget missile. The flight test was intended to prove the consistent performance of the missile's infrared imaging seeker and advanced avionics.

7. Sports

- Q11. Which legendary cricket player was appointed as the Brand Ambassador for "Legends League Cricket" (LLC) to promote women's empowerment in sports?** (a) Mithali Raj
(b) Jhulan Goswami
(c) Smriti Mandhana
(d) Harmanpreet Kaur

Answer: (b) Jhulan Goswami **Explanation:** Veteran Indian pacer Jhulan Goswami was named the ambassador for LLC's All Women Match Official Team to promote diversity and encourage female participation in cricket.

8. Books & Authors

Q12. Who is the author of the recently released book titled "Mamata: Beyond 2021"? (a) Jayanta Ghosal

- (b) Arundhati Roy
- (c) Sagarika Ghose
- (d) Sanjaya Baru

Answer: (a) Jayanta Ghosal **Explanation:** Political journalist Jayanta Ghosal authored the book, which was translated by Arunava Sinha. The book explores the political journey of Mamata Banerjee and the 2021 West Bengal Assembly elections.

9. MOUs & Partnerships

Q13. Which organization signed an MoU with the World Food Programme (WFP) in India to enhance the effectiveness of the PM POSHAN scheme? (a) NITI Aayog

- (b) The Akshaya Patra Foundation
- (c) Food Corporation of India
- (d) Ministry of Education

Answer: (b) The Akshaya Patra Foundation **Explanation:** The partnership aims to enhance food safety, hygiene, and nutritional quality in the school meal program (formerly Mid-Day Meal) and to share global best practices in food distribution.

10. Government Schemes

Q14. The "Mukhyamantri Tripura Gram Samridhhi Yojana" launched in January 2022 aims to achieve which of the following? (a) Electrification of every household

- (b) Saturation of core central and state schemes at the village level
- (c) Free health insurance for all farmers
- (d) Digitization of land records

Answer: (b) Saturation of core central and state schemes at the village level

Explanation: Launched by PM Modi in Agartala, the scheme focuses on ensuring that every eligible household in rural Tripura receives the benefits of essential schemes like PMAY, Ayushman Bharat, and Ujjwala.

Q15. The "Automatic Generation Control" (AGC) project, dedicated to the nation by the Power Ministry, is operated through which agency? (a) National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC)

- (b) Power Grid Corporation
- (c) Central Electricity Authority
- (d) NTPC

Answer: (a) National Load Despatch Centre (NLDC) **Explanation:** AGC is a tool that allows the NLDC to send signals to power plants to automatically adjust their output to maintain grid frequency, enhancing the resilience of the Indian power system.

11. Mixed Categories

Q16. "World Day of War Orphans" is observed annually on which date to raise awareness about the challenges faced by children orphaned by conflict?

- (a) January 4
- (b) January 5
- (c) January 6
- (d) January 7

Answer: (c) January 6

Explanation: The day was initiated by the French organization SOS Enfants en Detresse to address the physical and psychological trauma faced by war orphans worldwide.

Q17. Which Indian state announced "special casual leave" for government employees on January 6 and 7, 2022, specifically to spend time with their parents or in-laws? (a) Meghalaya

- (b) Assam
- (c) Odisha
- (d) Punjab

Answer: (b) Assam

Explanation: The Assam government, led by CM Himanta Biswa Sarma, introduced this unique initiative to promote family values and ensure employees can care for their elders.

Q18. Which body is responsible for the "Mera Gaon, Meri Dharohar" initiative which involves a cultural survey of villages? (a) Ministry of Rural Development

(b) Ministry of Culture & Common Services Centres (CSC)

(c) NITI Aayog

(d) Archaeological Survey of India

Answer: (b) Ministry of Culture & Common Services Centres (CSC)

Explanation: This is the first-of-its-kind cultural survey of India's villages, documented via a mobile app to create a national database of traditional art, heritage, and customs.

Q19. Who was the senior-most 1971 war veteran and former Eastern Fleet Commander who passed away in January 2022? (a) Vice Admiral S.H. Sarma

(b) General Bipin Rawat

(c) Admiral Karambir Singh

(d) Lt Gen JFR Jacob

Answer: (a) Vice Admiral S.H. Sarma

Explanation: Vice Admiral Sarma played a crucial role in the naval operations during the 1971 Indo-Pak war. He passed away in Bhubaneswar at the age of 100.

Q20. The "NEAT 3.0" platform, launched by the Ministry of Education, is a partnership with which type of entities? (a) Foreign Universities

(b) Ed-Tech Companies

(c) Skill Development Centers

(d) State Boards

Answer: (b) Ed-Tech Companies

Explanation: NEAT (National Educational Alliance for Technology) 3.0 acts as a single platform for the best-developed Ed-Tech solutions, particularly to help students from economically weaker sections gain access to digital learning.

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