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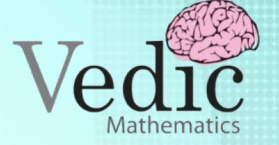
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## Today in History on 07 JAN

➤ **1927: The first trans-Atlantic commercial telephone service began between New York and London.**

On January 7, 1927, people in New York and London made the first official telephone call across the Atlantic Ocean. This conversation was more than 50 years in the making. Some of the earliest experiments in telephone technology date back to the 1860s. Alexander Graham Bell first patented his telephone design in 1876, and the first telephone exchange was established in Hartford, Connecticut, the following year.



➤ **1929: Mother Teresa reached Kolkata and started working among the poor and sick people.**

Mother Teresa left Ireland and reached Kolkata (Calcutta) in January 1929. She took care of the sick and poor people in the city. Mother Teresa received the Bharat Ratna in 1980. She received the Nobel Peace Prize in 1979. She was known as the Saint of the Gutter. She was also the first person to win the Templeton Prize in 1973.



➤ **1986: US President Ronald Reagan announces economic sanctions against Libya.**

January 7, 1986: President Ronald Reagan issues an executive order imposing additional economic sanctions against Libya in response to Tripoli's continued support for international terrorism, including the two attacks on Rome and Vienna airports in December 1985.







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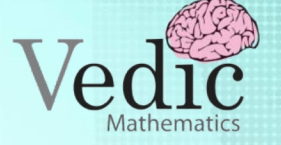
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### ➤ 1953: US President Harry Truman announces the creation of the hydrogen bomb.

In a speech on January 7, 1953, the US President declared that with the completion of US thermonuclear tests in the Marshall Islands, "we have entered another phase in the world-shaking development of atomic energy.

Hydrogen was discovered in 1766 by Henry Cavendish. He obtained it from the reaction of dilute sulfuric acid on iron and named it flammable air. In 1883, Lavoisier named it hydrogen because it burns with oxygen to form water.



### ➤ 2003: Japan announces \$900 million aid to India to help with development work.

Japan announced a \$900 million concessional loan to India for investment in the areas of health, medical science, agriculture and rural development and economic infrastructure development. Addressing a meeting organised by FICCI, Japanese Foreign Minister Yoriko Kawaguchi said: "Japan has decided to extend a new concessional loan amounting to about \$900 million to India."



## Important NEWS on 07 JAN

### ➤ India Gets Its First Glass Bridge at Kanniyakumari

Tamil Nadu Chief Minister MK Stalin, along with several dignitaries, inaugurated India's first-ever glass bridge in Kanniyakumari. The bridge connects







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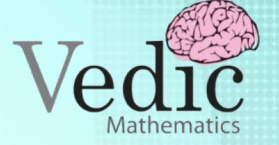
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two iconic landmarks Vivekananda Rock Memorial and the 133-foot Thiruvalluvar Statue enhancing Kanniyakumari's appeal as a premier tourist destination. Built under a Rs 37-crore initiative by the Tamil Nadu government, the glass bridge aims to improve the travel experience for visitors and boost the local tourism sector.



#### ➤ EPFO's Centralized Pension System

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has successfully implemented its Centralized Pension Payments System (CPPS) across all regional offices in India, marking a significant advancement in pension disbursement. This initiative benefits over 68 lakh pensioners, enabling them to access their pensions from any bank branch nationwide.



#### ➤ Mike Johnson Re-Elected as US House Speaker

Mike Johnson, a Republican from Louisiana, was re-elected as the Speaker of the U S House of Representatives in a tense, high-stakes vote on the first day of the new Congress. Despite opposition from hard-right Republicans and the looming challenges of unified GOP control, Johnson secured the position with the support of President-elect Donald Trump. This re-election came with a number of challenges, including a slim majority, internal Republican divisions, and heightened political stakes as the GOP prepares for ambitious policy initiatives under Trump's leadership.



#### ➤ Assam's Elephant Population Sees 7-Year Rise

Assam's latest Elephant Population Estimate 2024 reveals an estimated 5,828 elephants, marking a rise of 109 from the previous 2017 count. This synchronised estimation exercise highlights the stability of Assam's elephant population despite challenges such as habitat fragmentation and human-elephant conflicts. Key findings underline the critical role of Elephant Reserves and offer recommendations for improved conservation efforts.







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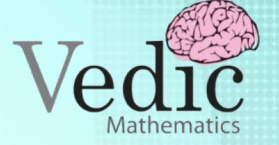
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#### ➤ Chhattisgarh's Green GDP Initiative

Chhattisgarh has become the first Indian state to incorporate the ecological services of its forests into its economic framework by adopting the Green Gross Domestic Product (Green GDP) model. This initiative aims to link environmental contributions—such as clean air, water conservation, and biodiversity—to the state's economic growth, ensuring sustainable development while preserving natural resources for future generations.



#### ➤ Nomura Lowers India's FY25 GDP Growth Forecast to 6.7%

Nomura has adjusted its forecast for India's fiscal year 2025 GDP growth to 6.7%, down from the previous estimate of 6.9%. This revision follows official data indicating a slowdown in the April-June quarter, where GDP growth was 6.7%, below expectations and a decline from the 7.8% growth in the previous quarter.



#### ➤ India Revises GDP Base Year to 2022-23

In a significant move to enhance the accuracy of economic assessments, the Government of India has announced plans to update the base year for calculating Gross Domestic Product (GDP) from 2011-12 to 2022-23. This revision, the first in over a decade, aims to better reflect the current economic landscape and structural changes.

#### Current affairs MCQS on 07 JAN

Q.1. Centralized Pension Payment System (CPPS) is implemented by which organization?

- (a) Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)
- (b) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)





(c) Ministry of Finance

(d) Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances

**Answer: (a) Employees' Provident Fund Organization (EPFO)**

The Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) has fully implemented the Centralised Pension Payment System (CPPS). The CPPS allows 7.85 million pensioners to receive their pension from any bank or branch across the country. It eliminates physical verification and ensures seamless pension disbursement. The new system replaces the decentralised model, which relied on limited agreements with specific banks. Pensioners no longer need to transfer pension payment orders (PPOs) when changing banks or relocating. The pension amount is credited immediately upon release, adding convenience and ease of living.

**Q.2. Recently, in which country, the service of websites has been disrupted due to cyber attack?**

- (a) Australia
- (b) Japan
- (c) Russia
- (d) America

**Answer: (b) Japan**

NTT DoCoMo, Japan's largest mobile service provider, said it was working to restore services after a cyberattack temporarily disrupted operations. The Tokyo-based company said in a statement that its systems were targeted by a distributed denial-of-service (DDoS) attack, which floods the network with junk traffic from multiple sources, making some services unavailable.

**Q.3. Recently, Ajay Kumar Bhalla has been sworn in as the Governor of which state?**

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

**Answer: (d) Manipur**

Former Union Home Secretary Ajay Kumar Bhalla took oath as the 19th Governor of Manipur. The swearing-in ceremony was held at Raj Bhavan in Imphal. Manipur Chief Minister N Biren Singh, his council of ministers and high-ranking government and police officials attended the ceremony. Speaking after the swearing-in ceremony, Manipur CM Biren Singh said that by appointing Balla as the Governor, the Centre has shown its intent to resolve issues in Manipur.

**Q.4. Recently, what percentage of conviction rate has been achieved by the National Investigation Agency in 2024?**

- (a) 50 %
- (b) 100 %
- (c) 70 %
- (d) 30 %

**Answer: (b) 100 %**

The National Investigation Agency (NIA) has achieved 100 per cent conviction rate in 2024. This includes conviction of 68 accused in 25 cases decided by special NIA courts across the country. A total of 210 accused were arrested by the NIA in 2024 in 80 cases registered under major categories of crime - Left Wing Extremism, Northeast Insurgency, Khalistani terrorism, gangster-terrorist-smuggler nexus, etc.

**Q.5. Recently, the forest department of which state has developed a park based on Mahabharata?**

- (a) Madhya Pradesh
- (b) Uttarakhand
- (c) Bihar
- (d) Haryana

**Answer: (b) Uttarakhand**

The Mahabharat Vatika, developed by the Uttarakhand Forest Department in Haldwani, houses 37 plant species mentioned in the epic. It is spread over one acre and aims to highlight ecological knowledge from the Mahabharat, particularly emphasising the interdependence of nature and wildlife. The garden underlines the importance of





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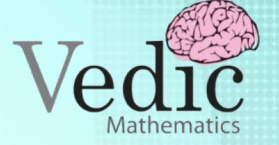
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forests mentioned in the epic and serves as a bridge between historical, cultural and environmental conservation efforts.

**Q.6. Recently Pierre-Sylvain Filliozet has passed away. Who was he recently?**

- (a) Sanskrit scholar
- (b) Singer
- (c) Writer
- (d) Director

**Answer: (a) Sanskrit scholar**

French-Indian Sanskrit scholar and Padma Shri awardee Dr Pierre-Sylvain Filliozat (89) died after a brief illness in Paris. Dr Pierre-Sylvain Filliozat was admitted to a private hospital in the city last week and was airlifted to Paris for advanced treatment, where he passed away, sources said.

**Q.7. Recently who has been appointed as the Chief Home Secretary of Uttar Pradesh?**

- (a) Vitul Kumar
- (b) Bhuvnesh Kumar
- (c) Sanjay Prasad
- (d) Arun Singh

**Answer: (c) Sanjay Prasad**

The Uttar Pradesh government has made major changes at the governance level. In this, the work area of 46 IAS officers has been changed. After this change, changes have also been seen in the work area of many Principal Secretaries. These changes are expected to infuse new energy in the administrative structure of the state. Under this change, the UP government has entrusted an important responsibility to Sanjay Prasad. Prasad has been appointed to the post of Principal Secretary Home. He is currently working as Principal Secretary in the Chief Minister's Office. Now he will also take charge of the Home Department.

**Q.8. According to the recently released report, what percentage of greenhouse gas emissions have decreased in India?**

- (a) 8.2%

- (b) 9.3%
- (c) 1.5%
- (d) 7.93%

**Answer: (d) 7.93%**

India submitted its fourth biennial update report to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. According to the report, India's greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions decreased by 7.93 percent in 2020 compared to 2019. Union Minister for Forest, Environment and Climate Change Bhupendra Yadav shared this information in Xpost. Yadav said that India is setting an example in sustainable development. These achievements reflect Prime Minister Narendra Modi's commitment to combine economic progress with meaningful climate action.

**Q.9. In which state has the Banded Royal butterfly been seen recently?**

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

**Answer: (c) Tripura**

Tripura recorded the Banded Royal butterfly (Rachna jalindra indra) for the first time in Sipahijala Wildlife Sanctuary. It is a lycaenid butterfly found in South and South-East Asia, including forests of Northeast India. Three subspecies are found in India: macantia (south-west India to Goa), tarpeena (Andamans), and indra (Orissa to West Bengal, Assam, Meghalaya, Jharkhand). The male has a deep purple sheen; the female is brown with white markings. The underside of the wings is light brown with white streaks, giving it a "banded" look.

**Q.10. Recently, India has completed the work of erecting a fence of more than nine kilometers on the border with which country?**

- (a) Myanmar
- (b) Bangladesh
- (c) China







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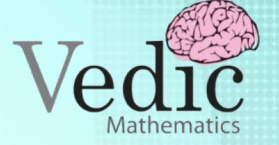
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(d) Pakistan

**Answer: (a) Myanmar**

India has completed the 9.214 km long border fencing project at Moreh in Manipur along the Indo-Myanmar border and the construction of a road parallel to the fence is in progress. A Home Ministry report said the project aims to enhance security and curb illegal cross-border activities, as well as improve access to the area and strengthen patrolling.

**Q.11. Recently 'Arun Roy' has passed away. Who was he?**

- (a) Director
- (b) Actor
- (c) Singer
- (d) Journalist

**Answer: (a) Director**

Famous Bengali director Arun Roy died at the age of 56 due to severe lung infection. Roy was battling cancer for a year. RG Kar Medical College and Hospital, Kolkata confirmed his death. Arun Roy is known for his excellent direction in Bengali cinema. He made a big mark through his first film 'Hiralal', in which Kinjal Nanda was seen in an important role. After the success of this film, Arun achieved a special position in the world of cinema. Arun Roy got a lot of fame from his first film Hiralal. Apart from this, in the year 2023, the film 'Bagha Jatin' was made based on the life of revolutionary Jatindranath Mukherjee, whose character was played by Dev. The film was highly appreciated by critics and audiences.

**Q.12. Recently, scientists of which place have prepared sugarcane juice powder?**

- (a) Coimbatore
- (b) Pune
- (c) Bengaluru
- (d) Jaipur

**Answer: (a) Coimbatore**

Scientists at the Coimbatore-based Sugarcane Breeding Institute have prepared sugarcane juice powder, making it possible to enjoy sugarcane juice

in every season. Scientists claim that this sugarcane juice powder will be rich in nutrients. The sugarcane juice powder will be packed and its validity will be six months from the manufacturing date. This juice powder will not only be natural but will also be available in lemon flavor. Fresh sugarcane juice can be prepared by mixing it in 200 ml of water.

**Q.13. Recently, the country's first 'Census of Coastal and Wader Birds' was conducted at which place?**

- (a) Hyderabad
- (b) Jaipur
- (c) Jamnagar
- (d) Surat

**Answer: (c) Jamnagar**

The first coastal and wader bird census will be held in Gujarat's Marine National Park and Sanctuary, covering 170 km of coastline from Okha to Navlakhi. The three-day event will include expert talks, bird count activities and knowledge-sharing sessions, involving bird enthusiasts, experts and researchers from across the country.

**Q.14. Recently, where has the toxic waste been taken after 40 years of Bhopal gas tragedy?**

- (a) Gwalior
- (b) Indore
- (c) Dhar
- (d) Shivpuri

**Answer: (c) Dhar**

Senior officials visited to inspect the unit at Pithampur in Madhya Pradesh's Dhar district, where 337 tonnes of toxic waste linked to the Bhopal gas tragedy is to be incinerated, after rumours spread on social media that one of the containers carrying the waste had gone missing. Sub divisional magistrate (SDM) Pramod Singh Gurjar said information was being spread through WhatsApp groups that one of the containers carrying waste from the premises had gone missing, following which a group of residents and elected representatives visited the site and confirmed that all the containers had been traced.







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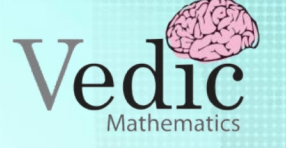
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Q.15. Recently the Finance Ministry has imposed anti-dumping duty on digital plates of how many countries?

- (a) 05
- (b) 02
- (c) 04
- (d) 03

**Answer: (a) 05**

The Finance Ministry has imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty for a period of five years on Digital Offset Printing Plates (DOPP) - commonly known as digital plates - originating from China, South Korea, Japan, Taiwan and Vietnam. Based on the recommendations made by the Directorate General of Trade Remedies (DGTR) in its final findings on the sunset review petition, the revenue department has now imposed a definitive anti-dumping duty that ranges from \$0.13/SQM to 0.77/SQM depending on the country of origin and export.

