

1) Who has been appointed as the CEO & MD of Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (IIFL)?

- A. Sanjiv Aggarwal
- B. P Santhosh
- C. Dinesh Tripathi
- D. Shashi Singh

- Government-backed National Investment and Infrastructure Fund Limited (IIFL) has appointed Sanjiv Aggarwal as its chief executive officer (CEO) and managing director (MD).
- Aggarwal succeeds Rajiv Dhar, who served as interim CEO and MD from May 2023.
- The National Infrastructure and Investment Fund (NIIF) is India's first-ever sovereign wealth fund (SWF). The state-owned fund was set up by the Indian Government in the year 2015.

Ans-A

2) Who has been appointed as India's Ambassador to World Trade Organization (WTO)?

- A. Ashwani Gupta
- B. Raghuram Iyer
- C. Senthil Pandian
- D. Vikas Sheel

- Senthil Pandian C, an IAS officer of the Uttar Pradesh cadre from the 2002 batch, has been appointed as India's ambassador to the World Trade Organisation (WTO) in Geneva.
- His appointment was approved by the Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC) on January 5, 2024, and is set for a tenure of three years from the date of assumption of charge.
- This appointment follows the end of Brajendra Navnit's tenure as India's ambassador to the WTO.

Ans-C

3) “Pravasi Bhartiya Divas” is observed every year on

- A. 7th January
- B. 8th January
- C. 9th January
- D. 10th January

- The Non-Resident Indian Day or also known as the Pravasi Bhartiya Divas is celebrated every year on 9th January every year.
- Aim: to strengthen the engagement of the overseas Indian community with the Government of India and reconnect them with their roots.
- Theme 2024: “Contributing to Aatmanirbhar Bharat”
- This day holds special significance as it marks Mahatma Gandhi’s return to India from South Africa in 1915, where he played a crucial role in India’s fight for freedom.

Ans-C

4) Which animal become the National Symbol of Kyrgyzstan?

- A. Harpy Eagle
- B. Snow Leopard
- C. White Deer
- D. Komodo Dragon

- Kyrgyzstan officially declared the Snow Leopard its national symbol, demonstrating its commitment to conservation and ecological balance.
- The snow leopard is historically significant in Kyrgyz culture, appearing in the story of the Kyrgyz folk hero Manas, revered as a symbol of greatness, courage and resilience.
- Scientific name of Snow Leopard: *Panthera uncia*
- It is called the 'ghost of the mountains'.

Ans-B

5) Who has penned his autobiography titled "Four Stars of Destiny"?

- A. VK Singh
- B. MM Naravane
- C. Pushkar Dhami
- D. Vivek Agnihotri

- General Manoj Mukund Naravane (MM Naravane), former Chief of Army Staff (CoAS) has penned his autobiography titled "Four Stars of Destiny: An Autobiography".
- The book is set to be published in January 2024 by Penguin Veer, an imprint of Penguin Random House India.
- MM Naravane served as the 28th Chief of Army Staff of Indian Army from December 2019 to April 2022.
- He has received several national and international awards which includes Param Vishisht Seva Medal in 2019 and the Distinguished Public Service Award 2022.

Ans-B

6) Who has won Bangladesh's general election in 2024?

- A. Khaleda Zia
- B. Shah Alam
- C. Sheikh Hasina
- D. Serajul Alam Khan

- Bangladesh Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina won the general elections for the fourth consecutive time. Sheikh Hasina will take oath as the Prime Minister of Bangladesh for the fifth time.
- Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina's party, Awami League, won the Bangladesh elections for the fifth time.
- Hasina's party, Awami League, has secured 223 seats in the 300-seat Parliament. Elections were held on 299 seats due to the death of one candidate.
- Sporadic violence and the boycott of the elections by the main opposition, the Bangladesh Nationalist Party (BNP), and its allies made the path to victory easier for Hasina's party, the Awami League.

Ans-C

7) How many Indian cities were nominated for the International Wetland City tag?

- A. 2 cities
- B. 3 cities
- C. 4 cities
- D. 5 cities

- India has submitted 3 nominations for recognition as international wetland cities beneath the Ramsar Convention on Wetlands: Indore, Bhopal and Udaipur.
- These are the primary 3 Indian cities for which nominations have been submitted for Wetland City reputation.
- Sirpur Wetland (Ramsar site in Indore), Yashwant Sagar (Ramsar website close to Indore), Bhoj Wetland (Ramsar site in Bhopal), and many wetlands (lakes) are the lifeline for these towns.

Ans-B

8) Who has been appointed as the Executive Director of SEBI?

- A. Govindayapalli Ram Mohan Rao
- B. Ashwani Gupta
- C. Raghuram Iyer
- D. Vikas Sheel

- Govindayapalli Ram Mohan Rao has been appointed as Executive Director, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI), on January 3.
- His appointment is for three years and he will be handling the Investigation Department and Internal Inspection Department.
- With over 25 years of experience at SEBI, Rao brings a wealth of expertise to his new role.
- Earlier, Rao was the regional director of the eastern regional office of SEBI.
- Rao is a certified fraud examiner from the Association of Certified Fraud Examiners (ACFE).

Ans-A

9) Where has the 10th-century Kadamba inscription been discovered?

- A. Goa
- B. Karnataka
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Gujarat

- An inscription from the Kadamba period, dated to the 10th century AD, has been discovered in the Mahadeva temple at Kakoda in South Goa.
- It is written in Kannada and Sanskrit.
- The paragraph on this inscription begins with a wonderful sentence, 'Be well', i.e. 'Swasthi Shri'.
- The Kadambas of Goa are descendants of Mayurasharma (founder of the Kadamba Kingdom of Banavasi, 345-365 AD).
- The Kadambas of Goa were subordinate to the Chalukyas of Kalyana I.

Ans-A

10) Who has taken over as the Secretary General of BIMSTEC?

- A. Rashmi Shukla
- B. Indra Mani Pandey
- C. Sanjiv Aggarwal
- D. G Ram Mohan Rao

- Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey, a senior diplomat of India, assumed the position of secretary general (SG) of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC).
- He is the 4th SG of BIMSTEC and will remain its SG for a period of three years.
- He has succeeded Tenzin Lekphell of Bhutan.

Ans-B

11) Who was awarded the Best Director Award at the Golden Globe Awards 2024?

- A. David Fincher
- B. Ridley Scott
- C. Wes Anderson
- D. Christopher Nolan

- The 81st Golden Globe Awards was held on January 7 in Beverly Hills, California, a western US state.
- The Golden Globe Awards 2024 is hosted by stand-up comedian and actor Joe Koy.
- In the Golden Globe Awards 2024, the film Barbie was nominated in the maximum categories in 9 categories and Oppenheimer in 8.

Ans-D

12) Ministry of Education has started the 'Prerna' program, which was prepared by

- A. IIT Roorkee
- B. IIT Guwahati
- C. IIT Gandhinagar
- D. IIT Ropar

- In January 2024, the Union Ministry of Education has started the 'Prerna' program.
- It aims to provide a meaningful, unique and inspiring experience to all participants.
- This initiative of the Government of India will empower them with leadership qualities.
- This program is for students from classes 9 to 12.
- Every week, a batch of 20 selected students, 10 boys and 10 girls, from different parts of the country will participate in the program.
- Prerna program has been started from a school located in Vadnagar, Gujarat.
- This program has been prepared by IIT Gandhinagar.

Ans-C

13) Who has become the first woman Director General of Police (DGP) in Maharashtra?

- A. Rashmi Shukla
- B. Subhashini Sankaran
- C. Sangeeta Kalia
- D. Meera Borwankar

- Rashmi Shukla, a distinguished 1988 batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer, has been appointed as the Director General of Police (DGP) in Maharashtra.
- With this, Shukla becomes the first woman to hold this prestigious position in the state.
- She takes over the reins from Rajnish Seth, her batchmate from the 1988 IPS cadre, who recently retired and moved on to become the chairman of the Maharashtra Public Service Commission (MPSC).
- Prior to her current appointment, Ms. Shukla led the Sashastra Seema Bal (SSB) and served as the Additional Director-General of the Central Reserve Police Force (CRPF).

Ans-A

14) Which district has been awarded the 'One District One Product' award for banana processing?

- A. Charkhari
- B. Ajaygarh
- C. Panna
- D. Burhanpur

- Burhanpur is a district located in Madhya Pradesh.
- Recently Burhanpur district has been awarded the 'One District One Product' award for banana processing.
- This award was presented at the 'Atmanirbhar Bharat Utsav 2024' in New Delhi.
- Burhanpur has been given this award for increasing banana production, trade and work in the processing sector.
- Banana chips, banana powder, rakhis, decorative items, household items, mats, purses, baskets, doormats and other products are manufactured in Burhanpur district.

Ans-D

15) Who has successfully tested a fuel cell to generate electricity in Space?

- A. NASA
- B. CNSA
- C. DRDO
- D. ISRO

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) has achieved a successful test of a newly designed Polymer Electrolyte Membrane (PEM) Fuel Cell intended for powering India's proposed space station, anticipated for a launch in 2035.
- It was launched on PSLV-C58.
- This fuel cell has been designed by Vikram Sarabhai Space Center (VSSC).
- The fuel cell successfully provided energy to a payload of POEM-3 as a battery.

Ans-D