

SANGAMAM

Monthly Current Affairs for Competitive Exams

JANUARY - 2024 (English / Tamil)



**KHELO
INDIA**

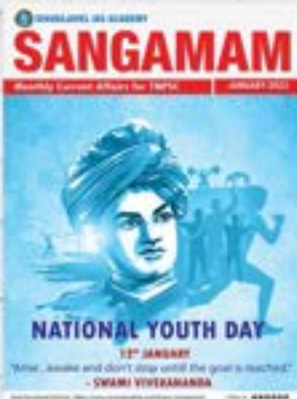
**YOUTH GAMES 2023
TAMIL NADU**

19th Jan to 31st Jan, 2024



BOOKS PREVIOUS VERSION FREE DOWNLOAD

Visit Our Website: www.sivarajavelias.com



JANUARY 2024

SANGAMAM

Monthly Current Affairs for TNPSC

JANUARY

DIRECTOR: SIVARAJAVEL S

EDITORS:

Ranjani R
Elakkiya M

SUB EDITORS:

Archana S
Manivannan S
Venkatesan T

DESIGNERS:

Thomas Kalaivanan S
Kalaiselvi R



Khelo India Youth Games- 2023

Prime Minister inaugurated the Khelo India Youth Games and expressed the government's commitment to hosting the 2029 Youth Olympics and the 2036 Olympic Games in the country.

Tamil Nadu is hosting the sixth edition of the Khelo India Youth Games. This is the first time that Khelo India Youth Games are being held in South India.

The Games will be played across four cities of Tamil Nadu, namely Chennai, Madurai, Trichy and Coimbatore from 19th to 31st January 2024.

This edition of Khelo India Youth Games will see participation from over 5600 athletes with over 275 competitive events across 26 sports disciplines and 1 demo sport.



Visit us at

🌐 : www.sivarajavelias.com

📍 : <https://t.me/dhentele>

HEAD OFFICE

No.97, AF Block, Shanthi Colony, 12th Main Road,
Anna nagar West, Chennai – 600 040

Ph: 9626364444

BRANCH OFFICES

TIRUNELVELI

No.106B, 3rd floor, Gilgal Complex, VOC ground opposite,
Palayamkottai - 627 002.

Ph: 9626252500

TRICHY

No.143, 4th Floor, Lakshmi Complex, Salai Road,
Thillai Nagar, Trichy - 620 018.

Ph: 9751500300 / 9786500300

INDEX

1.	TAMILNADU NEWS.....	5
2.	NATIONAL NEWS.....	6
3.	INTERNATIONAL NEWS	7
4.	SCHEMES	8
5.	ENVIRONMENT NEWS.....	11
6.	SCIENCE AND TECH.....	13
7.	SPORTS NEWS.....	14
8.	AWARDS.....	15
9.	IMPORTANT DAYS.....	19
10.	DEFENCE NEWS	21
11.	ECONOMY NEWS.....	23
12.	TNPSC BITS	24
13.	JANUARY MONTH QUESTIONS	26



Stalin inaugurates jallikattu stadium built at ₹63 cr



- Touted to be the first of its kind, the three-tiered stadium is spread across 65 acres. Built at a cost of ₹63 crore, it has a seating capacity of 5,000. Tamil Nadu chief minister MK Stalin inaugurated a jallikattu stadium in Madurai where the sport is most famous.
- Touted to be the first of its kind, the three-tiered stadium is spread across 65 acres. Built at a cost of ₹63 crore, it has a seating capacity of 5,000. The stadium also has an air-conditioned space that can seat 50 people. A veterinary dispensary and an emergency centre have been set up for treatment of injured bulls and tamers. Ten emergency vehicles will be stationed outside the stadium during the competitions.
- “This is the first such stadium for jallikattu in the world,” Stalin said at the event. Stalin named the stadium at Keelakarai village after his father and five time chief minister Late M Karunanidhi as the Kalaignar Centenary Eru Thazuvuthal Arangam and unveiled his statue.
- In classic Sangam literature, Eru Thazuvuthal means embracing the bull. “For the sport steeped in Tamil culture, Eru Thazuvuthal, the DMK government has built this glorious stadium,” Stalin said. “I’m proud that history will have a space to say that Stalin built this for centuries old-Eru Thazhuvuthal,” he added. The construction of the stadium was announced in 2022 in the state assembly.
- Jallikattu was temporarily banned in Tamil Nadu from 2014 to 2016 following a Supreme

Court order. Following massive protests against the ban in 2017, the state enacted the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Tamil Nadu Amendment) Act of 2017 and the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Conduct of Jallikattu) Rules of 2017 to override the ban. Expelled AIADMK leader, O Panneerselvam, had brought the ordinance when he was the chief minister in 2017.

Senna spectabilis

- The Forest Department of Tamil Nadu has cleared 356.50 hectares of invasive growth of *Senna spectabilis* that posed a threat to biodiversity conservation in Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve (STR).



About

- It is a species of the legume family.
- It is native to South and Central America and is grown as an ornamental plant as it has bright yellow flowers.
- It was introduced as shade trees for coffee and firewood in the country; it soon became a threat to native tree species as its dense foliage prevented the growth of other indigenous trees and grass species.
- It is considered as Least Concern under the IUCN Red List.

Cauvery basin

- The National Green Tribunal (NGT) has served notices to Karnataka, Tamil Nadu and Kerala governments, based on a report by the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) that has highlighted the massive reduction of green cover in the Cauvery basin over the past five decades.



Bhoomi Rashi Portal.

- The Union Minister of Road Transport and Highways recently said 1467 projects of the National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) have been brought under the Bhoomi Rashi Portal.

About

- It is an e-Governance initiative of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- The portal intends to expedite the process of land acquisition for National Highways.
- It acts as a single-point platform for the online processing of land acquisition notifications to accelerate highway infrastructure development projects in India.

Paat-Mitro

- The Ministry of Textiles recently launched the “Paat-Mitro” mobile application to provide important information about MSP and agronomy to jute farmers.

About

- It is a mobile application developed by the Jute Corporation of India Limited (JCI).
- Purpose: To provide important information about Minimum Support Prices (MSP) and agronomy to jute farmers.

Features:

- It is available in six languages.
- All the functionalities are made available to the users free of cost.

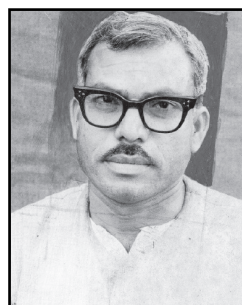
Ayodhya Ram Temple

- The Ram temple in Ayodhya is inaugurated on January 22. The complex is in the Nagara style of temple architecture, designed by 81-year-old Chandrakant Sompura and his 51-year-old son Ashish.



Socialist Icon and Former Bihar CM Karpoori Thakur Posthumously Awarded Bharat Ratna

- Former Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna, which is India’s highest civilian honour, by the president, press secretary to the president Ajay Kumar Singh said on (January 23). Thakur’s birth anniversary falls on January 24..



- As chief minister of Bihar, he announced reservations for socially and economically backward groups, the extremely backward classes, educated women and poor women in 1978.

Backward caste leader

- Thakur (1924-1988) emerged as Bihar’s tallest backward caste leader despite being from the nai (barber) community. He paved the way for the rise of other influential OBC politicians who eventually overtook his mantle. Though his tenures were short, Thakur left an outstanding legacy through his progressive decisions.

Participation in freedom struggle

- A staunch nationalist, Thakur had participated in India’s independence movement and courted imprisonment. Post-1947, he enjoyed a long stint as MLA barring one term and served as education minister before becoming chief minister twice in the 1970s.



Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP)

- The Indian Vice President recently inaugurated the 12th General Assembly of the Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace in New Delhi.

About

- It was founded in 1970 in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, as a voluntary movement of followers of Buddhism with both monastic (monks) and lay members.
- Its aim is to bring together the efforts of Buddhists in support of consolidating universal peace, harmony, and cooperation among people in Asia.
- It is currently headquartered at the Ganden Tegchenling Monastery in Ulaanbaatar, Mongolia, and the Supreme Head of Mongolian Buddhists is the ABCP President.

Snow Leopards

- Kyrgyzstan has officially designated the snow leopard as its national symbol, showcasing a strong dedication to conservation and maintaining ecological harmony.



Argentina Rejects BRICS Membership

- President Javier Milei has formally declined Argentina's membership in BRICS, citing it as

inappropriate at this time. In letters to BRICS leaders, he emphasized a departure.

Governing Council of UNIDROIT

- Ms. Uma Sekhar secured 45 out of 59 votes in the initial round of elections for the Governing Council of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (UNIDROIT) held in Rome, Italy.

Non-Aligned Movement (NAM)

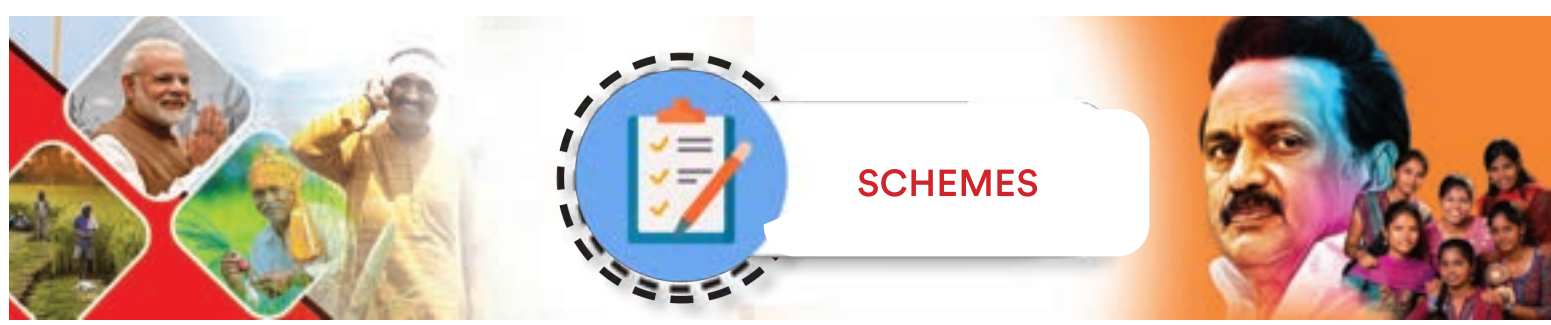
- The 19th Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) summit was held in Kampala, the capital of Uganda on 19 and 20 January

About

- The 19th NAM Summit was held under Uganda's leadership in Kampala. Uganda has taken over as chair from Azerbaijan, to run until 2027.
- Theme: 'Deepening Cooperation for Shared Global Affluence.'
- The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is an alliance of developing nations that refuses to identify with any major superpower.
- It was established in 1961 at the height of the Cold War. Whereas it started with the Bandung Conference held in Indonesia in 1955.

Current members:

- 120 countries: 53 from Africa, 39 from Asia, 26 from Latin America and the Caribbean and two from Europe.
- It also includes the non-UN member state of Palestine, 17 other observer countries, and 10 observer organizations.
- India is one of the founding members.



SCHEMES

RAMP Programme

- The Union Minister for Micro, Small & Medium Enterprises (MSME) launched three sub-schemes under the aegis of the RAMP programme.

About

- The Raising & Accelerating MSME Performance (RAMP) programme is assisted by the World Bank.
- It aims to improve the performance of micro, small, and medium enterprises (MSMEs) in India.
- It was launched in 2022.

Objectives:

- Improving access to market and credit for MSMEs
- Strengthening institutions and governance at the central and state levels
- Enhance centre-state linkages and partnerships
- Addressing issues of delayed payments
- Promote the greening of MSMEs

PM-AJAY Scheme

- The Minister of State for Social Justice and Empowerment informed the Rajya Sabha about the PM-AJAY scheme.



About

- Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday

Yojana (PM- AJAY) is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme.

- It is a merged scheme of three Centrally Sponsored Schemes, namely Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY), Special Central Assistance to Scheduled Castes Sub Plan (SCA to SCSP), and Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana (BJRCY).

Objectives:

- The main objective of the scheme is to increase the income of the target population by way of various income generating schemes, skill development and infrastructure development.
- Reduce poverty among the target population and elevate them above the poverty line

Project PRAYAS

- Recently, the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) launched Project PRAYAS to help Indian workers and students migrate in a secure, orderly, and regular manner.

About

- Promoting Regular Assisted Migration for Youth and Skilled Professionals (PRAYAS) was launched in partnership with the Ministry of External Affairs (MEA).
- It is one of the first attempts to consolidate all the state-level initiatives for safe, orderly, and well-managed international migration.
- Goal: To facilitate safe, orderly, and regular migration for aspiring Indian migrant workers and students through policy recommendations in collaboration with the MEA and state governments, thus strengthening international migration governance.
- Undertake a study, capturing the key migration trends, the needs and aspirations of migrants, and the major international migration and mobility initiatives taken by the union, as well as the state governments sharing the analysis with the ministry.

National Programme on Anganwadi-cum-Creches

- The Union Minister of Women and Child Development inaugurated the National Programme on Anganwadi-cum-Creches in New Delhi.

About

- The Anganwadi-Cum-Creche initiative under the Palna Scheme underwent revisions and was included as part of the Samarthya sub-component of Mission Shakti, starting from April 2022.
- The central aim of Anganwadi-cum- Creches is to meet the demand for quality childcare facilities and enable women to actively participate in the workforce.
- The Government of India aims to set up 17,000 creches across the country.

About Palna Scheme:

- The erstwhile National Creche Scheme has been reorganised and renamed as Palna Scheme under the sub scheme ‘Samarthya’ of ‘Mission Shakti’.

Objectives

- Provide day-care facilities for children (6 months to 6 years) of working mothers in the community.
- Improve nutrition and health status of children.
- Promote physical, cognitive, social and emotional development (Holistic Development) of children.
- Educate and empower parents /caregivers for better childcare.

MedTech Mitra portal

- The Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare launched the MedTech Mitra portal.

About

- It is an online portal that aims to assist medtech innovators in clinical evaluation, regulatory facilitation, and uptake of new products.
- The portal will be coordinated collaboratively by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), under the

guidance of NITI Aayog’s Atal Innovation Mission.

Mission Karmayogi

- News- On the occasion of Good Governance Day the Union Minister of Personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions launched the Extended Version of Mission Karmayogi, at a function in New Delhi.

About

- National Programme for Civil Services Capacity Building (NPCSCB) aims to prepare Civil Servants for the future by making them more creative, constructive & innovative through transparency and technology.
- This unique programme will help to lay the foundation for civil servants in the country.
- There will be more focus on ‘on-site learning’ in complementing “off-site learning”.

Zero Defect Zero Effect (ZED) Scheme

- Zero Defect Zero Effect (ZED) scheme by the MSME Ministry has achieved the 1 lakh certification milestone.

About

- Launched in October 2016 and revamped in April 2022, the ZED scheme offers certification for environmentally conscious manufacturing under three certification levels (gold, silver, and bronze) classified according to 20 performance-based parameters such as quality management, timely delivery, process control, waste management, etc.

The major objectives of the ZED Scheme are:

- To create proper awareness in MSMEs about ZED manufacturing and motivate them for the assessment of their enterprise for a ZED rating.
- To drive manufacturing with the adoption of Zero-Defect production processes without impacting the environment (Zero Effect).
- To encourage MSMEs to constantly upgrade their quality standards in products and processes.
- To support the “Make in India” campaign.

Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas (SHRESHTA)

- The Central Board of Secondary Education (CBSE) recently issued instructions for Residential Private Schools interested in joining SHRESHTA Scheme.

About

- The scheme aims to provide access to the best private residential schools for meritorious students from Scheduled Caste (SC) communities.
- It will provide scholarships to meritorious students from SC communities to study in private and NGO-run residential schools for Classes 9-12.
- The scheme is expected to provide admissions to around 3,000 students in Classes 9 and 11 each year.
- The core objectives of the scheme are to enhance the reach of the development initiatives of the government and fill in the gap in service-deprived SC dominant areas in the education sector.
- The scheme will collaborate with voluntary organisations to provide an environment that can help create conditions for socio-economic upliftment and the overall development of the SC communities.

e-SAKSHI Mobile Application

- The Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation (MoSPI) launched the MPLADS e-SAKSHI Mobile Application

About

- It was launched for revised fund flow procedure under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLAD) Scheme.
- It will bring forth a myriad of benefits, revolutionising the way Members of Parliament engage with and manage development projects in their constituencies.

- It offers convenience and accessibility, allowing MPs to propose, track, and oversee the projects at their fingertips.
- This real-time access enhances decision-making processes, enabling swift responses to emerging needs or issues.

One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative

- The National Highways Authority of India (NHAI) has launched the 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative.

About

- The National Highways Authority of India suggested tagging users to complete the Know Your Customer (KYC) process by the end of January 31 to avoid deactivation.
- The move aims to enhance the efficiency of the Electronic Toll Collection system and provide seamless movement at the Toll Plazas.
- The new arrangement Of 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' has also been introduced to discourage user behaviour of using single FASTag for multiple vehicles or linking multiple FASTags to a particular vehicle.
- The initiative had been taken after the recent reports of multiple FASTags being issued for a particular vehicle and FASTags being issued without KYC in violation of RBI's mandate.

PM-eBus Sewa Scheme

- The Union Housing and Urban Affairs Minister recently said that the Ministry has floated tenders for procuring buses under the PM-eBus Sewa scheme.

About

- Under the PM-eBus Sewa Scheme, 10,000 e-buses will be deployed across cities in the country.
- The scheme was introduced to give a push to the slow adoption of e-buses in public transport.



ENVIRONMENT NEWS



Ennore Creek

- Experts from the Wildlife Trust of India (WTI) and the Besant Memorial Animal Dispensary (BMAD) are planning to establish feeding stations for birds at the Ennore creek.

About

- Ennore creek is a backwater located in Thiruvallur District, Tamil Nadu.
- It is an arm of the Kosathalaiyar River.
- The Creek meets the Bay of Bengal at Mugathwara Kuppam, while the northern channel of the creek connects to the Pulicat Lake, the second largest brackish water lake in the country.
- For decades, this creek sustained the livelihoods of the residents in the surrounding villages and has been demarcated as CRZ IV (Water Body) in the coastal zone management plan by the Tamil Nadu State Coastal Zone Management Authority.
- The Ennore Creek, along with the Buckingham Canal and the rest of the Pulicat water system has vast importance for the local fisher folk.
- It nurtures a healthy aquatic ecosystem that was once famous for its rich biodiversity.

Afraflacilla Kerala

- A team of researchers from Kerala and Tamil Nadu have discovered two new species of jumping spiders that belong to the genus *Afraflacilla*.

About

- Specimens of *Afraflacilla Kerala* were spotted in Irinjalakuda and Kuttanad while *Afraflacilla adavathurensis* was discovered from Adavathur in Tiruchirappalli.
- Only three species belonging to the *Afraflacilla* genus had been hitherto discovered in the country.

Non-invasive formaldehyde sensor

- the Nanomaterials and Nanoelectronics Laboratory, Department of Physics, Guwahati University, Assam has developed a cost-effective formalin sensor that can effectively detect the presence of formalin in adulterated fishes.

About- Formaldehyde

- It is a colourless, pungent gas that is used in a variety of industrial processes, including as a preservative in some foods, commonly found in fish in developing countries.

Caddisfly

- Researchers at Baba Ghulam Shah Badshah University recently discovered a novel species of Caddisfly, named *Rhyacophila masudi* sp. nov., in Jammu and Kashmir.
- Caddisflies are moth-like insects that are attracted to lights at night and live near lakes or rivers.
- Distribution: They are found worldwide, usually in freshwater habitats but sometimes in brackish and tidal waters.

Features:

- Adult caddisflies are commonly 3 to 15 millimetres in length.
- Generally dull brownish, adult caddisflies resemble moths, with hairy wings and long antennae, but caddisflies do not have the long syphoning mouthparts that butterflies and moths have.
- Caddisflies hold their wings tent-like over their bodies when they are not flying.
- Like stoneflies, mayflies, and dobsonflies, immature caddisflies are aquatic, living in streams and lakes.
- Caddisfly larvae look similar to the larvae of

mayflies, aquatic beetles, and other aquatic insects, but can usually be distinguished by the presence of a “case.”

- They feed primarily on plant juices and flower nectar, though a few are predaceous.



Paramyrothecium indicum

- Scientists recently discovered a new species of fungus in Kerala, named ‘Paramyrothecium indicum’.

About

- It is a new species of phytopathogenic fungus.
- Phytopathogens are parasites surviving on a plant host.
- Most of Paramyrothecium are phytopathogens.
- They are responsible for “serious plant diseases which might negatively affect crop productivity.
- Paramyrothecium leaf spots are a type of fungal disease that can affect a variety of plants.
- Some species of Paramyrothecium produce secondary metabolites with bio-herbicidal potentials and, therefore, may find application in controlling weeds.

New Coral Snake Species

- Researchers from Mizoram University’s zoology department have discovered a new species of coral snake in Mizoram.

About

- It has been named *Sinomicrurus gorei* after British Indian doctor Gore.

- The reptile is locally known as ‘Ruļḩihna’ due to its striking resemblance to a Mizo traditional amber necklace called ‘Ṭihna’.
- There are a total of nine species of *Sinomicrurus* coral snakes that have been discovered worldwide, and out of these, only one species called *Sinomicrurus maclellandi* is found in Northeast India.
- It has unique patterns and different scales, hemipenis, DNA, and skull.

Himalayan Wolf

- Himalayan Wolf has been assessed for the first time in the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN)’s Red List and categorised as ‘Vulnerable’.

About

- The Himalayan Wolf (*Canis lupus chanco*), a prominent lupine predator found across the Himalayas.
- Also known as Tibetan wolves, these wolves live at altitudes of more than 4,000 meters and are genetically distinct from grey wolves..
- Living at such high altitudes, these wolves have genetically adapted themselves to live in low oxygen (hypoxic) conditions.

Conservation status

- IUCN: Vulnerable
- CITES: Appendix I
- Wildlife Protection Act, 1972: Schedule I

India’s First Dark Sky Park

- The Pench Tiger Reserve in Maharashtra has been designated as India’s first Dark Sky Park and the fifth in Asia, protecting the night sky and preventing light pollution.

About

- The Pench Tiger Reserve (PTR) in Maharashtra is India’s first Dark Sky Park within a tiger reserve for earmarking areas around the park that restrict light pollution for stargazers to access pristine dark skies



SCIENCE AND TECH

X- ray bursts

- India's first multi-wavelength space-based observatory AstroSat has detected bright sub-second X-ray bursts from a new and unique neutron star with an ultrahigh magnetic field (magnetar).

About

- These bursts occur in low-mass X-ray binary systems where a neutron star and low-mass main sequence star are in orbit around one another.
- Due to their close proximity and the extreme gravity of the neutron star, the companion star overflows its roche-lobe and hydrogen is drawn into an accretion disk around the neutron star.
- The missile is being developed in multiple variants to meet specific requirements.
- The ASTRA Mk-I Weapon System, integrated with SU-30 Mk-I aircraft, is being inducted into the Indian Air Force (IAF).

New Generation Akash missile

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight-test of the New Generation AKASH (AKASH-NG) missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast

of Odisha.



About

- It is surface-to-air new generation missile.
- The missile intercepted the high-speed unmanned aerial vehicle at a very low altitude.
- The test has validated the functioning of the complete weapon system consisting of a missile with an indigenously developed radio frequency seeker, launcher, multi-function radar and command, control and communication system.
- This was the first trial of the missile against a live target, which was successfully intercepted and destroyed.

TNPSC GROUP-I MAINS BOOKS

FREE DOWNLOAD

Visit Our Website: www.sivarajavelias.com

FREE DOWNLOADS

Visit our website : www.sivarajavelias.com



SPORTS NEWS



Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa

- News- Rameshbabu Praggnanandhaa continued to script records as the chess prodigy became the No. 1-ranked Indian player for the first time in his career.
- Praggnanandhaa achieved the feat at the Tata Steel Masters in Wijk aan Zee, Netherlands, after defeating reigning world champion Ding Liren.



Rohit Sharma

- News- Rohit Sharma Becomes The First Men's Player To Play 150 T20Is.



Puberty Athlete Of The Year

- News- Indian cricketer Virat Kohli just won the Puberty Athlete of the Year award, beating famous football player Lionel Messi. Even though Messi won another award recently, this time Kohli was the favourite.

TNPSC

GROUP I/II /IIA /IV & VAO

WHERE TO STUDY

BOOKLET

FREE DOWNLOAD



AWARDS



Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award



- Chirag Shetty and Satwik Sai Raj Rankireddy won the Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award announced by the Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports recently.
- The award will consist of the following:
 - A cash amount of ₹25,00,000, exempt from income tax and wealth tax.
 - A Certificate of Honour for each sportsperson.
 - A medal for each sportsperson.

Sahitya Akademi Award

- Recently, Tamil author Rajasekaran (Devibharathi), Telugu writer T. Patanjali Sastry and Malayalam litterateur E.V. Ramakrishnan were among those named for the Sahitya Akademi Awards for the year 2023.

About

- It is awarded for the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages recognised by the Akademi.
- It was formally inaugurated by the Government of India on 12 March 1954.
- Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of Letters, is the central institution for literary dialogue, publication and promotion in the country and the only institution that undertakes literary activities in 24 Indian languages, including English.
- Though set up by the Government, the Akademi

functions as an autonomous organisation.

- It was registered as a society under the Societies Registration Act, 1860.

UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation

- Three heritage projects from Punjab and Haryana have secured prestigious spots among the UNESCO Asia-Pacific Awards for Cultural Heritage Conservation 2023.

Award winning sites from India are as follows

- The Rambagh Gate in Amritsar received the "Award of Excellence," the highest recognition among all categories.
- Pipal Haveli, a heritage rural homestay from Punjab was honoured for its sustainable development.
- The Karnikara Mandapam at Kunnamangalam Bhagawati Temple in Kerala earned the Award of Distinction.
- Epiphany in Haryana, David Sassoon Library and Reading Room in Mumbai and Bikaner House in New Delhi received the Award of Merit.

UNESCO's 2023 Prix Versailles.

- It is announced each year at UNESCO since 2015.
- The Prix Versailles awards celebrate outstanding achievements in architecture and design on a global scale.
- It focuses on intelligent sustainability as a cultural driver, acknowledging innovation, and creativity, reflection of local heritage, ecological efficiency, and values of social interaction.
- The Terminal 2 (T2) secured recognition as one of the 'World's most beautiful airports' and was awarded the coveted 'World special prize for an interior 2023.'

ANUBHAV Awards

- The submission deadline for ANUBHAV Awards Scheme 2024 is March 31, 2024.

About

- It recognizes the contribution made by Retired Officials to Nation building while working in Government and to document the administrative history of India by written narratives.
- The ANUBHAV Portal, established in March 2015, serves as an online platform for retiring and retired government employees to share their experiences.
- The portal was launched by the Government of India, Ministry of personnel, Public Grievances & Pensions, Department of Pension & Pensioners' welfare.

Objectives

- It aims to create a database of significant suggestions and work experiences.
- It channels the human resource of retiring employees for nation building.
- Enable Ministries/ Departments to take crucial steps while considering useful and replicable suggestions.

National Sports and Adventure Awards 2023

- The President of India presented the National Sports and Adventure Awards 2023 at a function in Rashtrapati Bhavan.

About

Categories of National Sports Award

- Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award: Considered India's highest sporting honour, the Khel Ratna was established in 1991-92. Named after the Indian hockey legend, Major Dhyan Chand.
- The award is given for outstanding performances in sports spanning over a period of four years. Khel Ratna winners receive a medallion, certificate and a cash prize.
- Arjuna Award: Awarded for consistent good performance over a period of four years. Winners of the Arjuna Award receive a statuette of Arjuna, a certificate and a cash prize.
- Dronacharya Award: Instituted in 1985, it

is India's highest sports honour for coaches. Awarded to individuals for producing medal winners at prestigious international events, awardees receive a bronze statue of Dronacharya, a certificate and a cash prize.

Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2024

- The President of India to confer Pradhan Mantri Rashtriya Bal Puraskar 2024 to 19 children for their exceptional achievement in six categories.

About

- The awards are bestowed upon children in the age group 5 – 18 years for their excellence in seven categories for Bravery, Art & Culture, Environment, Innovation, Science & Technology, Social Service and Sports.
- Objective: To encourage children who have shown exceptional achievement in any field including academics, arts, culture and sports.

Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023

- Surat in Gujarat and Indore in Madhya Pradesh were jointly declared cleanest cities of the country at the annual clean city awards 2023 of the Union Urban Affairs Ministry.
- This was for the seventh year in a row that Indore has been ranked as the cleanest city in India.

Socialist Icon and Former Bihar CM Karpoori Thakur Posthumously Awarded Bharat Ratna



- Former Bihar chief minister Karpoori Thakur was posthumously awarded the Bharat Ratna, which is India's highest civilian honour, by the president, press secretary to the president Ajay Kumar Singh said on (January 23). Thakur's birth anniversary falls on January 24..
- As chief minister of Bihar, he announced reservations for socially and economically backward groups, the extremely backward classes, educated women and poor women in 1978.

Backward caste leader

- Thakur (1924-1988) emerged as Bihar's tallest backward caste leader despite being from the nai (barber) community. He paved the way for the rise of other influential OBC politicians who eventually overtook his mantle. Though his tenures were short, Thakur left an outstanding legacy through his progressive decisions.

Participation in freedom struggle

- A staunch nationalist, Thakur had participated in India's independence movement and courted imprisonment. Post-1947, he enjoyed a long stint as MLA barring one term and served as education minister before becoming chief minister twice in the 1970s.

Padma Vibhushan:

Ms. Vyjayantimala Bali: Art | Tamil Nadu



1. Vyjayantimala (born 13 August 1933) is an Indian actress, dancer and parliamentarian. Regarded as one of Indian cinema's finest actresses and dancers, she is the recipient of

several accolades, including five Filmfare Awards and two BFJA Awards. She made her screen debut at the age of 16 with the Tamil film Vaazhkai (1949), and followed this with a role in the Telugu film Jeevitham (1950). Her first work in Hindi cinema was the social guidance film Bahar (1951), which she headlined, and achieved her breakthrough with the romance Nagin (1954).

- 2. **Shri Konidela Chiranjeevi: Art | Andhra Pradesh**
- 3. **Shri M Venkaiah Naidu: Public Affairs | Andhra Pradesh**
- 4. **Shri Bindeshwar Pathak (Posthumous): Social Work | Bihar**
- 5. **Ms. Padma Subrahmanyam : Art | Tamil Nadu**
- Padma Subrahmanyam (born 4 February 1943, in Madras), is an Indian classical Bharata



Natyam dancer. She is also a research scholar, choreographer, teacher, Indologist and author. She is famous in India as well as abroad; several films and documentaries have been made in her honor by

countries such as Japan, Australia and Russia. She is well known as the developer and founder of the dance form Bharata Nrithyam

Padma Bhushan:



Shri Vijaykanth (Posthumous): Art | Tamil Nadu

- Tamil superstar-turned-politician and head of Desiya Murpokku Dravida Kazhagam (DMDK) Vijayakanth, who died recently, has been conferred with the Padma Bhushan (posthumously).
- Born as Narayanan Vijayaraj Alagaraswami on 25 August 1952, he was popularly known by his screen name Vijayakanth. He passed away on December 28, 2023.
- Vijayakanth was the leader of the opposition in the Tamil Nadu Assembly during May 2011 to February 2016.
- He has acted in more than 150 movies and has been conferred with Kalaimamani award in 2001, which is the highest civilian award of Tamil Nadu.
- Vijayakanth was also known as 'Karuppu MGR' or 'Black MGR' for his helping nature. He was also remembered for his fight for equality in food at film sets.

Padma Shri:

Badrappan M (87): Art (Dance - Folk - Kummi)



Guru' M. Badrappan, who is exponent of Tamil Nadu's ancient 'Valli Oyil Kummi' dance, has been named for the Padma Shri award.

- The 87-year-old is an expert in the ancient Tamil folk dance form Valli Oyil

Kummi which is a mixed form of dance and song depicting the stories of Lord Murugan and Valli Amma. This art form also takes up social issues through the art.

- This art form was traditionally male-dominated and it was Badrappan who trained women to become Valli Oyil Kummi artists.

Ms. G Nachiyar Medicine Tamil Nadu



Dr.G.Nachiyar, one of the founding members of world renowned Aravind Eye Hospital in Madurai, was conferred the Padma Shri Award for her distinguished contributions and service in the field of medicine.

- The list of Padma Awards 2024 was announced by the Union Government on January 25th 2024 on the eve of Republic Day. She had played a significant role as a visionary ophthalmologist for more than five decades and gave transformational leadership at Aravind Eye Care System in Madurai.

Shri Seshampatti T Sivalingam Art Tamil Nadu



Seshampatti T. Sivalingam is one of the top artists of the Nadhaswaram in the field of Carnatic music with an illustrious career spanning more than half a

century. He has been a great ambassador of South Indian Classical Music and has preserved the auspicious tradition of Nadhaswaram in Carnatic classical music and has passed on the art form through his disciples.

- The 2019 Margazhi festival closed with a magnificent recital by the great Nagaswaram vidwan Seshampatti Sivalingam and his ensemble at the Tamil Isai Sangam (started in 1943).

Ms. Joshna Chinappa Sports Tamil Nadu



The 37-year-old squash player was ranked world number 10 in professional squash circuit.

- She was the first Indian to win the British Junior Squash Championship in 2005 in the Under 19 category.

- Chinnappa has won the national squash championship for a record 18 times, which is the highest by an Indian player.
- In the 2014 Commonwealth Games, she partnered with Deepika Pallikal to win the gold medal in Squash doubles.

Shri Joe D Cruz Literature & Education Tamil Nadu



R. N. Joe D'Cruz is a Tamil writer, novelist and documentary film director from Tamil Nadu, India. He won the Sahitya Akademi award in 2013 in the Tamil language category for his novel Korkai. He is the Tamil Nadu state president of Samskrita Bharati.

- Joe D'Cruz has also been a managerial-executive in the shipping industry for a long time and is currently a member of the National Shipping Board of the Ministry of Shipping, Government of India.



IMPORTANT DAYS



DATE	DAY	THEME AND OBJECTIVES
January 01	Global Family Day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is celebrated as a day of peace and sharing. Its aim is to unite and spread a message of peace by considering and promoting the idea that Earth is one Global Family so as to make the world a better place to live for everyone.
January 04	World Braille day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In remembrance of the birth of Louis Braille, the inventor of Braille, January 4 is marked as World Braille Day. The day also recognizes that people with visual impairments should have the same access to human rights as everyone else.
January 05	National Birds day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On January 5, National Bird Day is celebrated to raise awareness of the value of tiny tweets in the ecosystem. The Avian Welfare Coalition, which works hard to promote awareness for birds that are captured or produced in captivity for either financial gain or for human amusement, is behind this initiative.
January 09	NRI (Non-Resident Indian) Day or Pravasi Bharatiya Divas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> NRI or Pravasi Bharatiya Divas is observed every year on 9 January to mark the contribution of the overseas Indian community towards the development of India. This day also commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to Mumbai on 9 January 1915.
January 10	World Hindi day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Vishwa Hindi Diwas is an annual event observed on January 10. World Hindi Day was created to mark the occasion when Hindi was first spoken at the UNGA in 1949. With nearly 600 million speakers worldwide, Hindi is the third most widely spoken language in the world after Mandarin Chinese and English
January 11	National Human trafficking awareness day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> It is observed on 11 January to spread awareness about the persistent issue of human trafficking. This day aims to raise awareness about the plight of human trafficking victims, as well as to promote and protect their rights.
January 12	National Youth day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda also called Swami Vivekananda Jayanti is celebrated every year on 12 January. He was born on 12 January 1863. The government had decided to observe it as Rashtriya Yuva Diwas because the philosophy of Swamiji and the ideals for which he lived and worked could be a great source of inspiration for the Indian Youth. He had given a speech at the Parliament of the World's Religions in Chicago and glorified India's name.

January 15	Indian Army day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every year 15 January is observed as Indian Army Day because on this day in 1949 field Marshal Kodandera M Cariappa took over as the first Commander-in-Chief of the Indian Army from General Sir Francis Butcher, the last British Commander-in-Chief.
January 16	National start-up day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared January 16 as National Startup Day in the year 2021. Since then various programs and events are organized by government and non-government organizations to applaud and promote the Indian startup ecosystem.
January 24	National Girl child day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On 24 January every year, National Girl Child Day is celebrated to highlight the inequalities faced by a majority of the girls in India, the importance of education, nutrition, legal rights, medical care and safety of girl children, etc.
January 24	International day of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> International Day of Education is observed on 24 January every year to support transformative actions for inclusive, equitable, and quality education for all.
January 25	National voters day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every year on 25 January National Voter's Day or Rashtriya Matdata Diwas is celebrated to encourage young voters to participate in the political process. In 2011 the first time this day was celebrated to mark Election Commission's Foundation Day.
January 25	National Tourism day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Every year on 25 January National Tourism Day is celebrated in India to raise awareness and educate people about the importance of tourism and the role it plays in the Indian economy.
January 30	World Leprosy day	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> World Leprosy Day is observed on the last Sunday of January to focus on the target of zero cases of leprosy-related disabilities in children. As we know disabilities do not occur overnight but happen after a prolonged period of undiagnosed disease



SAMAR Air Defence Missile System

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) has successfully test fired the ‘SAMAR’ air defence missile system recently.

About

- Surface to Air Missile for Assured Retaliation (SAMAR) is a short-range air-defence system.
- It has been developed by a unit under the IAF’s Maintenance Command.
- The system is credited with a maximum range of 10–12 km and is used against low-flying aerial targets.
- It can engage aerial threats with missiles operating at a speed range of 2 to 2.5 Mach.
- The SAMAR-1 system uses the IAF’s existing inventory of shelf-life-expired Russian Vympel R-73E infrared-guided air-to-air missiles (AAMs) for the surface-to-air role.



New Generation Akash missile

- Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) conducted a successful flight-test of the New Generation AKASH (AKASH-NG) missile from the Integrated Test Range (ITR), Chandipur off the coast of Odisha.

About

- It is a surface-to-air new generation missile.
- The missile intercepted the high-speed

unmanned aerial vehicle at a very low altitude.

- The test has validated the functioning of the complete weapon system consisting of a missile with an indigenously developed radio frequency seeker, launcher, multi-function radar and command, control and communication system.
- This was the first trial of the missile against a live target, which was successfully intercepted and destroyed.

Sea Dragon-24

- Indian Navy’s P8I aircraft landed at Guam, a US island territory in Western Pacific, to participate in Exercise Sea Dragon – 24.



About

- It is an elite multinational maritime exercise that encourages professional exchanges and teamwork among participating navies.
- Participating countries: India, Japan, South Korea, Australia, and the US.

Ugram

- The Defence Research and Development Organisation recently launched an indigenous assault rifle named ‘Ugram’.

About

- ‘Ugram’ is a state-of-the-art indigenous assault rifle.
- Developed by the Armament Research and

Development Establishment (ARDE), a unit of DRDO, in collaboration with a private industry partner.

- Developed in less than 100 days.
- Developed in consideration of the General Staff Qualitative Requirements (GSQR) of the army.

Exercise Ayutthaya

- The maiden Bilateral Maritime Exercise -Ayutthaya' between the Indian Navy (IN) and Royal Thai Navy (RTN) was conducted.



About

- The India-Thailand Bilateral Exercise is being named as 'Ex-Ayutthaya', which literally translates to 'The Invincible One' or 'Undefeatable'.
- It symbolises the significance of two of the oldest cities Ayodhya in India and Ayutthaya in Thailand, the historic legacies, rich cultural ties and shared historical narratives dating back to several centuries.
- Indigenously built Indian Naval ships Kulish

and IN LCU 56 participated in the inaugural edition of the exercise.

Astra Missile

- The Minister of State for Defence recently flagged off the indigenously developed Astra Missiles for supply to the Indian Air Force (IAF) at Bharat Dynamics in Hyderabad.

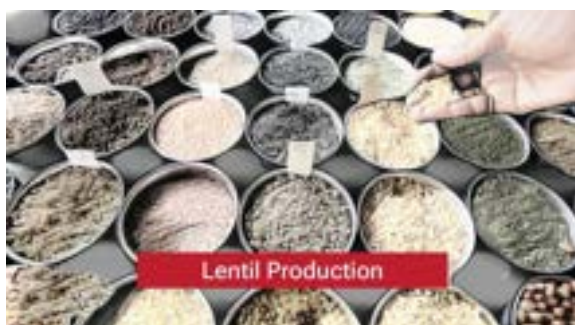


About

- Astra is a beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missile designed to be mounted on fighter aircraft.
- Indigenously developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL) for the Indian Air Force (IAF).
- The missile is designed to engage and destroy highly manoeuvring supersonic aircraft.
- It is considered the best in its class of weapon systems in the world in the category of air-to-air missiles.

Lentil Production

- India is set to become the world's largest producer of lentil (masoor) during the 2023-24 crop years on account of higher acreage.



About Lentils

- Lentils are rich in carbohydrates, protein, fat, fiber, folate, thiamine, vitamins, minerals, potassium, copper, zinc, iron, and other essential nutrients and used widely in the processing sector (unhusked seeds, split cotyledon dahl, savouries etc.).
- Lentil is the principal legume crop in the rice fallow belts of eastern India and also taken by farmers of central India. As per fourth advanced estimate from DES, MoAF&W, Govt. of India, 2022- Uttar Pradesh is the leading lentil producing state in India (0.47 million tonnes from 0.49 ha. acreage, 36.43 % of national production), followed by Madhya Pradesh (0.44 million tonnes from 0.49 million ha. acreage, 34.55% of national production), West Bengal (10.53%), Bihar (8.84%) and Jharkhand (4.50%) depending on their contribution in the national production of lentils.

India Tops Hong Kong as World's Fourth-Largest Stock Market



- India's stock market has surpassed Hong Kong's for the first time with the total value of shares listed on Indian exchanges reaching \$4.33 trillion as of Monday's close, exceeding Hong Kong's \$4.29 trillion, according to Bloomberg data. This makes India the world's fourth-largest equity market.
- The stock market capitalisation surpassed \$4 trillion on December 5, with about half of that coming in the past four years, the report added.
- 'Stable political environment and a consumption-driven economy'
- Indian equities are surging, fuelled by a growing base of retail investors and robust corporate earnings. India presents itself as a viable alternative to China, attracting global capital and companies due to its stable political environment and a consumption-driven economy among the fastest-growing globally, according to the report.
- Ashish Gupta, CIO at Axis Mutual Fund in Mumbai, expressed optimism, saying, "India has all the right ingredients in place to set the growth momentum further."



Leprosy

- The Odisha government recently declared leprosy a reportable disease in the state.

About

- Leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, is a chronic infectious disease caused by a type of bacteria, *Mycobacterium leprae*.
- The disease predominantly affects the skin, the peripheral nerves, the mucosal surfaces of the upper respiratory tract, and the eyes.
- Left untreated, the disease may cause progressive and permanent disabilities.
- It is more common in tropical and subtropical areas.
- It is a neglected tropical disease (NTD) that still occurs in more than 120 countries.
- It is known to occur at all ages, ranging from early childhood to old age.

Classical Language

- The West Bengal Chief Minister urged the central government to include 'Bengali' as a classical language.

About

- Criteria evolved by Government of India to determine declaration of a language as a Classical language is as under: -
- High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years;
- A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers;
- The literary tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community;
- The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a

discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.

- Currently, six languages enjoy the 'Classical' status: Tamil (declared in 2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014).

Pravasi Bharatiya Diwas

- It is also known as Non-Resident Indian (NRI) Day, is celebrated on January 9 to mark the contribution and achievements of the overseas Indian community to the development of India.
- It is the flagship event of the Ministry of External Affairs.
- The day also commemorates the return of Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, from South Africa to India in 1915, who led India's freedom struggle and changed the lives of Indians forever.
- It was first celebrated in 2003. It was an annual event earlier, but in 2015, the government revised its format to celebrate PBD once every two years.

Japan's Moon Mission - SLIM

- Japan recently landed a spacecraft called SLIM (Smart Lander for Investigating Moon) on the lunar surface, becoming the 5th country after the Soviet Union, the US, China and India to achieve a soft landing on the moon.

About

- SLIM was launched by the Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA) in September 2023 aboard the H-IIA rocket from the Tanegashima spaceport.
- It aims to demonstrate precision landing within 100 metres through new technologies.

Future Moon Missions

- ISRO (India): LUPEX with JAXA, Chandrayaan-4
- NASA (USA): Lunar Trailblazer Mission, Viper Rover, Artemis 2-6 (Manned mission).
- ROSCOSMOS (Russia): LUNA 26-28, ORYOL
- CNSA (China): Chang'e 6-8
- JAXA (Japan): Destiny+

2800 years Human skeleton remains

- The remains of a 2,800-year-old human settlement have been recently discovered in Gujarat's Vadnagar.

About

- Vadnagar is a town and municipality in the Mehsana district of North Gujarat.
- As a historical city, it was known by various names, such as Vridhanagar, Anandapur, Anartapur, and Nagar.
- The town represents a continuously evolving historic urban landscape/area that played a major role in the hinterland trade network of Western India.
- It is mentioned often in the Puranas and even in the travelogue of the great Chinese traveller, Hieu-en-Tsang (7th century), as a rich and flourishing town.

Farsi(Persian)

- The External Affairs Minister recently announced that the Government of India has decided to include Farsi (Persian) as one of the classical languages in India under the New Education Policy.

About

- Farsi, also known as Persian Language, is the most widely spoken member of the Iranian branch of the Indo-Iranian languages, a

subfamily of the Indo-European languages.

- It is the official language of Iran, and two varieties of Persian known as Dari and Tajik are official languages in Afghanistan and Tajikistan, respectively.

Key Facts about Classical Languages in India:

- Criteria evolved by Government of India to determine declaration of a language as a Classical language is as under: -
- High antiquity of its early texts/recorded history over a period of 1500-2000 years;
- A body of ancient literature/texts, which is considered a valuable heritage by generations of speakers;
- The literary tradition be original and not borrowed from another speech community;
- The classical language and literature being distinct from modern, there may also be a discontinuity between the classical language and its later forms or its offshoots.
- Currently, six languages enjoy the 'Classical' status: Tamil (declared in 2004), Sanskrit (2005), Kannada (2008), Telugu (2008), Malayalam (2013), and Odia (2014).

World Health Organization

- The World Health Organization (WHO) has certified Cabo Verde (also known as Cape Verde) as a malaria-free country.

About

- Cabo Verde has become the third country to acquire the status in the global health organisation's African region. The country has now joined Mauritius and Algeria, who were certified in 1973 and 2019, respectively.

2023 JANUARY MONTH QUESTIONS

1. Youth Olympic will be held in India in the year ____

- a. 2038
- b. 2039
- c. 2040
- d. 2041

2. Olympic games will be conducted by India in the year ____

- A. 2035
- B. 2036
- C. 2037
- D. 2038

3. Tamil Nadu is hosting the ____ edition of the Khelo India Youth Games

- A. Fourth
- B. Fifth
- C. sixth
- D. Seventh

4. Sathyamangalam Tiger Reserve is located on the banks of the river ____

- A. Periyar
- B. Bhavani
- C. Krishna
- D. Palar

5. Which of the following is the west flowing river?

- A. Cauvery
- B. Godavari
- C. Krishna
- D. Narmada

6. Consider the following statements

- 1. Bhoomi Rashi Portal is an e-Governance initiative of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways.
- 2. The portal intends to expedite the process of land acquisition for National Highways.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

7. Paat-Mitro” mobile application aims

- A. To provide important information about MSP and agronomy to jute farmers.
- B. To provide important information about MSP and agronomy to cotton farmers.
- C. To provide important information about MSP and agronomy to horticulture farmers.
- D. None of the above

8. Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP) was held at

- A. Mumbai
- B. Nepal
- C. New Delhi
- D. Bangladesh

9. Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace (ABCP) was founded in the year ____

- A. 1960
- B. 1970
- C. 1980
- D. 1985

10. Asian Buddhist Conference for Peace was founded at ____

- A. China
- B. India
- C. Mongolia
- D. Nepal

11. Which of the following country recognised Snow leopards as a national symbol?

- A. Kyrgyzstan
- B. Nepal
- C. Bangladesh
- D. China

12. International Institute for the Unification of Private Law was held at _____

- A. Italy
- B. Spain
- C. Portugal
- D. Belgium

13. With reference to the Non Aligned Movement Consider the following statements

1. The Non-Aligned Movement (NAM) is an alliance of developing nations
2. The 19th NAM Summit was held under Uganda's leadership in Kampala.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

14. Non Aligned Movement was established in the year _____

- A. 1960
- B. 1961
- C. 1962
- D. 1963

15. Which of the following state is the leading producer of lentils?

- A. Madhya Pradesh
- B. Uttar Pradesh
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Tamilnadu

16. Chirag Shetty and Satwik Sai Raj Rankireddy was awarded with _____

- A. Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award
- B. Sahithya award
- C. Pulitzer prize
- D. Dronacharya award

17. Who among the following Tamil Author won the Sahitya Akademi award for the year 2023?

- A. Jayakanthan
- B. T. Patanjali Sastry
- C. Devi Bharathi
- D. Ramakrishnan

18. Sahitya akademi was inaugurated in the year _____

- A. 1954
- B. 1960
- C. 1961
- D. 1970

19. Consider the following statements with reference to the Sahitya akademi award

1. It is awarded for the most outstanding books of literary merit published in any of the major Indian languages recognised by the Akademi.
2. Sahitya Akademi, India's National Academy of Letters, is the central institution for literary dialogue, publication and promotion in the country and the only institution that undertakes literary activities in 24 Indian languages, including English.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

20. Identify the correct pair

1. Rambagh Gate- Punjab
2. Karnikara Mandapam- Kerala
3. Epiphany- Haryana

How many pairs are correctly matched?

- A. 1 pair only
- B. 2 pair only
- C. All three pairs
- D. None of them are correct

21. Prix Versailles awards is awarded for the outstanding achievements in _____

- a. Art
- b. Architecture
- c. Sports
- d. Coach

22. The ANUBHAV Portal, established in the year _____

- A. 2005
- B. 2010
- C. 2015
- D. 2020

23. Which of the following statements is correct with reference to ANUBHAV portal?

1. It aims to create a database of significant suggestions and work experiences.
2. It channels the human resource of retiring employees for nation building.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

24. Which of the following city is awarded with Swachh Survekshan Awards 2023?

- A. Chennai
- B. Surat
- C. Kolkata
- D. Mumbai

25. Ennore creek located on the arms of the river_____

- A. Cauvery
- B. Kosasthalai
- C. Palar
- D. Pennar

26. Afraflacilla is a kind of _____

- A. Spider
- B. Butterfly
- C. Tiger
- D. Fungus

27. With reference to the Formaldehyde which of the following statements is correct?

- A. It is colourless in nature
- B. It is a pungent gas that is used in a variety of industrial processes

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

28. Which of the following statements about caddisflies is/are correct?

1. Caddisflies are moth-like insects attracted to lights at night and often found near lakes or rivers.
2. They are found worldwide, mainly in freshwater habitats.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

29. 'Paramyothecium indicum' is a kind of

- A. Bacteria
- B. Fungi
- C. Algae
- D. Virus

30. 'Rulthihna' is a kind of

- A. Amphibians
- B. Reptiles
- C. Mammals
- D. Virus

31. Himalayan Wolf is listed as a _____ species in IUCN red list

- A. Vulnerable
- B. Extremely rare
- C. Extinct
- D. Least concern

32. Wildlife protection act was enacted in the year_____

- A. 1950
- B. 1956
- C. 1972
- D. 1986

33. With reference to the Himalayan wolf consider the following statements

1. The Himalayan Wolf (*Canis lupus chanco*), a prominent lupine predator found across the Himalayas.

2. It is also called as Tibetan wolves, which live at more than 4,000 metres altitudes are genetically distinct from grey wolves.

choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

34. Pench Tiger Reserve is located in

- A. Gujarat
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Tamil Nadu
- D. Andhra Pradesh

35. India's first Dark Sky Park is located in _____

- A. Jammu and Kashmir
- B. Maharashtra
- C. Rajasthan
- D. New Delhi

36. RAMP programme is implemented by _____

- A. Ministry of Railways
- B. Ministry of education
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. None of the above

37. Consider the following statements

1. RAMP programme is assisted by the World Bank.
2. It aims to improve the performance of education in India

Which of the statements given above is are. Correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

38. RAMP Programme was launched in the year _____

- A. 2020
- B. 2021
- C. 2022
- D. 2023

39. Consider the following statements

1. Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM- AJAY) is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme.
2. It is a merged scheme of three Centrally Sponsored Schemes

Which of the statements given above is / are Correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

40. PM-AJAY scheme is implemented by

- A. Ministry of social justice
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of commerce
- D. Ministry of Textiles

41. A new species of coral snake was discovered in _____

- A. Manipur
- B. Mizoram
- C. Arunachal Pradesh
- D. Assam

42. With reference to the PM AJAY Scheme consider the following statements

1. The main objective of the scheme is to increase the income of the target population by way of various income generating schemes, skill development and infrastructure development.
2. It aims to reduce the poverty among the target population and bring them above the poverty lines.

Which of the above statements given above is /are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

43. Project PRAYAS was launched by _____

- A. International Organisations for migration
- B. World Bank
- C. IMF
- D. World Economic Forum

44. Promoting Regular Assisted Migration for Youth and Skilled Professionals (PRAYAS) was launched in partnership with _____

- A. Ministry of External Affairs
- B. Ministry of Finance
- C. Ministry of Home affairs
- D. Ministry of education

45. National Programme on Anganwadi-cum-Creches is launched by _____

- A. Ministry of women and Child development
- B. Ministry of Social justice
- C. Ministry of education
- D. Ministry of Finance

46. With reference to the National Programme on Anganwadi- cum- Creches consider the following statements

1. The Anganwadi-Cum-Creche initiative under the Palna Scheme underwent revisions and was included as part of the Samarthyaa sub-component of Mission Shakti, starting from April 2022.
2. The central aim of Anganwadi-cum- Creches is to meet the demand for quality child-care facilities and enable women to actively participate in the workforce.

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

47. With reference to the Palna scheme consider the following statements

1. The erstwhile National Creche Scheme has been reorganised and renamed as Palna Scheme under the sub scheme 'Samarthyaa' of 'Mission Shakti'
2. It aims to provide day-care facilities for children (6 months to 6 years) of working mothers in the community.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

48. With reference to the MedTech Mitra portal consider the following statements

1. It is an online portal that aims to assist medtech innovators in clinical evaluation, regulatory facilitation, and uptake of new products.
2. The portal will be coordinated collaboratively by the Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR) and the Central Drugs Standard Control Organisation (CDSCO), under the guidance of NITI Aayog's Atal Innovation Mission.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

49. Mission Karmayogi aims to

- A. Promote good governance
- B. Promote women empowerment
- C. Promote education
- D. Promote Universal health

50. Zero Defect Zero Effect (ZED) scheme is implemented by _____

- A. Ministry of Micro , Small and Medium enterprises
- B. Ministry of education
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Ministry of External affairs

51. With reference to the SHRESHTA Scheme consider the following statements

1. The scheme aims to provide access to the best private residential schools for meritorious students from Scheduled Caste (SC) communities.
2. It will provide scholarships to meritorious students from SC communities to study in private and NGO-run residential schools for Classes 9-12.

choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

52. With reference to the MPLADS e-SAKSHI Mobile Application consider the following statements

1. It was launched for revised fund flow procedure under Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme (MPLAD) Scheme.
2. It will bring forth a myriad of benefits, revolutionising the way Members of Parliament engage with and manage development projects in their constituencies.

choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

53. 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' initiative was launched by _____

- A. Ministry of Electronic and communication
- B. National Highway Authority of India
- C. State Highway Authority of India
- D. None of the above

54. With reference to One Vehicle One FASTag consider the following statements

1. The new arrangement Of 'One Vehicle, One FASTag' has also been introduced to discourage user behaviour of using a single FASTag for multiple vehicles or linking multiple FASTags to a particular vehicle.
2. The initiative had been taken after the recent reports of multiple FASTags being issued for a particular vehicle and FASTags being issued without KYC in violation of RBI's mandate.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

55. With reference to the PM-eBus Sewa Scheme consider the following statements

1. Under the PM-eBus Sewa Scheme, 10,000 e-buses will be deployed across cities in the country.
2. The scheme was introduced to give a push to the slow adoption of e-buses in public transport.

Which of the statements given above is /are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

56. AstroSat is a space based observatory developed by _____

- A. NASA
- B. ISRO
- C. European space agency
- D. Russian Space Agency

57. With reference to the SAMAR consider the following statements

1. Surface to Air Missile for Assured Retaliation is a short-range air-defence system.
2. It has been developed by a unit under the IAF's Maintenance Command

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

58. With reference to the AKASH Missile consider the following statements

1. It is a surface-to-air new generation missile.
2. The missile intercepted the high-speed unmanned aerial vehicle at a very low altitude.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

59. Guam is an island territory owned by ____

- A. China
- B. Japan
- C. Russia
- D. US

60. Which among the following country is not participating in Sea Dragon -24 exercise?

- A. India
- B. China
- C. South Korea
- D. Japan

61. 'Ugram' is an indigenous assault developed by _____

- A. Defence Research and Development Organisation
- B. ISRO
- C. NASA
- D. RUSSIA

62. Exercise -Ayutthaya is an exercise between India and ____

- a. China
- b. Thailand
- c. Indonesia
- d. Japan

63. Ayutthaya is a prehistoric city found in _____

- A. Indonesia
- B. Russia
- C. Thailand
- D. Japan

64. With reference to the Astra missile which of the statements is /are correct?

1. Astra is a beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missile designed to be mounted on fighter aircraft.
2. It is indigenously developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) and manufactured by Bharat Dynamics Ltd. (BDL) for the Indian Air Force (IAF).

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

65. With reference to AKASH missile consider the following statements

1. It is a surface-to-air new generation missile.
2. The missile intercepted the high-speed unmanned aerial vehicle at a very low altitude.

Which of the statements given above is/are correct?

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

66. The ____ government recently declared leprosy a reportable disease in the state

- A. Jharkhand
- B. Haryana
- C. Odisha
- D. Karnataka

67. Leprosy is a _____ disease.

- A. Bacteria
- B. Fungi
- C. Virus
- D. Protozoa

68. Which of the following statements related to Astra missile is correct?

1. Astra is a beyond-visual-range (BVR) air-to-air missile designed to be mounted on fighter aircraft.
2. It is indigenously developed by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)

Choose the correct answer

- A. 1 only
- B. 2 only
- C. Both 1 and 2 are correct
- D. Neither 1 nor 2 are correct

69. Tamil was declared as the classical language in the year _____

- A. 2002
- B. 2003
- C. 2004
- D. 2005

70. Which of the following is not included in the classical languages?

- A. Tamil
- B. Bengali
- C. Odia
- D. Malayalam

71. Which of the following languages is included in the Classical language list?

- A. Kannada
- B. Hindi
- C. Marathi
- D. Assamese

72. Non-Resident Indian day is celebrated to commemorate the arrival of

- A. Mahatma Gandhi
- B. Bal Gangadhar Tilak
- C. Subash Chandra Bose
- D. Rabindranath Tagore

73. Pravasi Bharathiya divas is celebrated on _____

- A. January 08
- B. January 09
- C. January 10
- D. January 11

74. Mahatma Gandhi, the greatest Pravasi, from South Africa to India in the year _____

- A. 1915
- B. 1916
- C. 1917
- D. 1918

75. Pravasi Bharathiya divas is first celebrated in the year _____

- A. 2001
- B. 2002
- C. 2003
- D. 2004

76. Pravasi Bharathiya divas is celebrated once in _____

- A. Two years
- B. Three years
- C. Four years
- D. Five years

77. SLIM (Smart Lander for Investigating Moon) spacecraft is landed by _____

- A. Japan
- B. US
- C. India
- D. Russia

78. Which of the following nations achieved a soft landing on the moon?

- A. Japan
- B. Europe
- C. Italy
- D. Saudi Arabia

79. Which of the following country send human to moon?

- a. Soviet union
- b. United States
- c. India
- d. Japan

80. LUPEX is a mission to _____

- A. Moon
- B. Mars
- C. Venus
- D. Sun

81. Destiny+ is a moon mission by _____

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

82. The remains of a 2,800-year-old human settlement have been recently discovered in _____

- A. Mumbai
- B. Surat
- C. Vadnagar
- D. Ahmedabad

83. Which of the following country is not declared as the malaria free country?

- A. India
- B. Mauritius
- C. Algeria
- D. Cabo verde

84. Which was the first country declared as the Malaria free country?

- A. Mauritius
- B. Japan
- C. Argentina
- D. India

85. Global Family Day is celebrated on _____

- A. January 01
- B. January 02
- C. January 03
- D. January 04

86. World Braille day is celebrated on _____

- A. January 01
- B. January 02
- C. January 03
- D. January 04

87. Hindi was first spoken at the UNGA in the year _____

- A. 1949
- B. 1950
- C. 1951
- D. 1952

88. National Human trafficking awareness day is celebrated on _____

- A. June 10
- B. June 11
- C. June 12
- D. June 13

89. National youth day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of _____

- A. Jawaharlal Nehru
- B. Netaji subashchandra bose
- C. Swami Vivekananda
- D. Mahatma Gandhi

90. National youth day is observed on _____

- A. January 11
- B. January 12
- C. January 13
- D. January 14

91. Indian Army day is observed on _____

- A. January 13
- B. January 14
- C. January 15
- D. January 16

92. National startup day is observed on _____

- A. January 15
- B. January 16
- C. January 17
- D. January 18

93. National Girl child day is observed on _____

- A. January 20
- B. January 22
- C. January 24
- D. January 26

94. National voters day is observed on _____

- A. January 23
- B. January 24
- C. January 25
- D. January 26

95. National Tourism day is observed on _____

- A. January 23
- B. January 24
- C. January 25
- D. January 26

96. World Leprosy day is observed on _____

- A. January 27
- B. January 28
- C. January 29
- D. January 30

97. Who among the following is awarded with Bharat Ratna award ?

- A. Vijayakanth
- B. Karpoori Thakur
- C. Lata mangeskar
- D. Narendra Modi

98. Who among the following is not awarded with padma vibhushan award?

- A. Vyjayanthimala
- B. Shri Konidela Chiranjeevi
- C. Shri M Venkaiah Naidu
- D. Vijaykanth

99. M. Badrappan is associated with _____

- A. Bharatanatyam
- B. Odissi
- C. Kuchipudi
- D. Kummi

100. National voter's day is first time celebrated in the year _____

- A. 2010
- B. 2011
- C. 2012
- D. 2013

Answers:

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