

THE OAS GAZETTE

A House Journal of **APTI PLUS**

MAY 2023



APTI PLUS

Academy For Civil Services Pvt. Ltd.
Eastern India's Best IAS Academy since 2006
Creating Civil Servants for the Nation



AMA LIPI



UTKAL DIBAS



**ODISHA'S
1ST METRO
PROJECT**



MANGROVE PITTA

Disclaimer: Copyright infringement not intended.

COMPREHENSIVE COVERAGE OF CURRENT AFFAIRS FOR ODISHA STATE CIVIL SERVICES EXAMS

**CONTENT****ODISHA CURRENT AFFAIRS**

4-14

Economics	4
Polity	7
Geography and Environment	10
History	11
Science & Technology	12
Sports	13

OPSC CURRENT AFFAIRS APRIL 2023

16-26

National	16
International	18
Economics	19
Geography And Environment	20
Science & Technology	21
Defence & Security	21
Sports	22
Awards	23
Appointments	24
Obituaries	25
Important Days	25
Books & Authors	26

OPSC MCQ APRIL

28-34



Odisha Current Affairs

ECONOMICS



Odisha Finance Service Association

News

- Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik recently addressed the 32nd general body meeting of the Odisha Finance Service Association.

Odisha Finance Service Association

- It is a professional body of finance officers working under the Government of Odisha.
- It was formed in 1983 to promote the welfare and interests of its members, as well as to enhance the efficiency and effectiveness of public financial management in the state.
- It organizes various activities such as seminars, workshops, training programs, and publications to disseminate knowledge and best practices in the field of finance.
- It also acts as a forum for interaction and collaboration among its members and other stakeholders in the financial sector.

Economic Situation of Odisha

News

- Addressing the 32nd general body meeting of the Odisha Finance Service Association, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik said Odisha now tops the list of large states in fiscal performance.
- The Chief Minister said that “Our tax revenue collection has increased substantially and our revenue constitutes 60 per cent of our total revenue receipts.”

Odisha State Budget 2023-24

- **Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP):** The GSDP of Odisha for 2023-24 (at current prices) is projected to be Rs 8.65 lakh crore, amounting to a growth of 12.9% over 2022-23.
- **State Expenditure:** Expenditure (excluding debt repayment) in 2023-24 is estimated to be Rs 2,11,214 crore.
 - Odisha has allocated 13.2% of its expenditure towards education in 2023-24.
 - 7.6% of its total expenditure is towards health.
 - 6.2% of its expenditure is towards water supply and sanitation.
 - 7.9% of its total expenditure is towards roads and bridges.
- **Total revenue receipts** for 2023-24 are estimated to be Rs 1,84,500 crore.
 - 57% will be raised by the state through its resources and 43% will come from the centre.
 - Resources from the centre will be in the form of the state’s share in central taxes and grants.
- **Largest tax source:** In 2023-24, State GST is estimated to be the largest source of own tax revenue (42% share).
- **Fiscal Deficit:** The fiscal deficit for 2023-24 is targeted at 3% of GSDP (Rs 25,844 crore). In 2022-23, as per the revised estimates, the fiscal deficit is expected to be 2.9% of GSDP.
- **MSMEs:** A new procurement policy will be formulated to make it mandatory for Odisha government entities to procure from micro and small manufacturing units of Odisha.
- **Tribal Livelihood Promotion:** Mukhyamantri Janajati Jeebika Mission will be launched to mitigate critical infrastructural needs incidental to livelihood promotion. It will cover 14.5 lakh households in Phase-I.
- **AMA Hospital:** A new scheme will be started for the upgradation of public health facilities.
- **Biju Expressway-II:** 4-lane connectivity will be provided from Berhampur to Jeypore.
- **Forest Protection:** The Mukhyamantri Van Surakshya Kendra initiative will be launched to build 10,000 kendras in the areas of Van Suraksha Samiti to promote forest conservation at the grassroots level.
- **Odisha Chip Program:** A new centre of excellence will be set up to create an ecosystem in the field of electronics design and manufacturing.

Anemia Mukta Lakhsya Abhiyan (AMLAN)

News

- Students of all government and government-aided schools in Odisha will get iron and folic acid (IFA) tablets during the summer vacation under the Anemia Mukta Lakhsya Abhiyan (AMLAN).
- According to a notification issued by the School and Mass Education (S&ME) department, the students of Class 1 to 12 will be given IFA tablets from April 19 to June 16, 2023.

About Anaemia Mukta Lakhya Abhiyan (AMLAN)

- The initiative was launched by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on November 24, 2022, to eradicate anaemia from the state.
- Anaemia is a blood disorder that causes low levels of haemoglobin, which carries oxygen to the body's tissues.
 - Anaemia can cause fatigue, weakness, dizziness and shortness of breath, among other symptoms.
- AMLAN aims to benefit about 1.37 crore people, including pregnant women, lactating mothers, women of reproductive age groups, adolescents and children.
- The programme will be rolled out in 55,000 government and government-aided schools and 74,000 Anganwadi Centres across the state.
- The programme will involve various interventions such as strengthening iron and folic acid supplementation, testing for haemoglobin, treatment of anaemic patients, capacity building of service providers and social behaviour change communication.
- It is implemented with the joint efforts of several departments such as Health and Family Welfare, School and Mass Education, and Women and Child Development.

Odisha Electric Vehicle Policy

News

- Odisha government recently hiked incentives for all three categories of electric vehicles (EVs) to make the subsidy more lucrative for vehicle owners.
- Recently, a proposal to amend the Odisha Electric Vehicle Policy-2021 that provisioned the incentives for the policy period up to 2025 was approved by the state cabinet to enhance the subsidy.

Odisha Electric Vehicle Policy-2021

- **New Changes;**
 - Two-wheeler owners replacing their bikes or scooter with EVs can now get a subsidy of Rs 5,000 per kilowatt hour (kwh) up to Rs 20,000.
 - Three-wheelers will get a flat Rs 30,000 subsidy.
 - Four-wheeler owners will get Rs 10,000 per kwh upto Rs 1.5 lakh.
- Earlier, the state government provided a 15% subsidy on the purchase of EVs.
 - For two-wheelers, the subsidy was up to a maximum of Rs 5,000.
 - The cap on three-wheelers was Rs 10,000, and it was upto Rs 50,000 for four-wheelers.
- The EV policy was launched in 2021 with an aim for the adoption of 20% electric vehicles by the end of 2025 as a measure of reduction in vehicular pollution.
- **Status of EVs in Odisha:**
 - 4.48% of EVs have been registered by the end of 2022
 - The state has 26.22 lakh registered vehicles, including 21.45 lakh two-wheelers, 1.84 lakh light motor vehicles and 80,480 three-wheelers.

State's first Metro Project

News

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on April 1 announced the creation of the State's first metro project, connecting the capital city Bhubaneswar with other peripheral urban centres – Cuttack, Puri and Khordha, with its funding.

Metro project

- To boost the urban development and transportation sector of Odisha, Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik announced the first metro trunk route for the State.
- The route will connect the capital city of Bhubaneswar with the industrial hub of Cuttack, covering a distance of 28 km and 22 stations.
- The metro trunk route will be implemented by Odisha Metro Rail Corporation (OMRC), a joint venture between the State government and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs.
- The estimated cost of the project is Rs 8,300 crore, and it is expected to be completed by 2027.
- The metro route will have both elevated and underground sections, with state-of-the-art features such as an automatic fare collection system, platform screen doors, CCTV surveillance, Wi-Fi connectivity and emergency evacuation facilities.

World Bank Loan

News

- The World Bank has announced a loan of \$100 million for Odisha.

Details

- According to the World Bank, Odisha has faced more than 100 natural disasters since 1970, with an average annual loss of 2.5% of the state's gross domestic product (GDP).
- The loan from the World Bank will support two projects in Odisha:
 - Odisha Disaster Recovery Project (ODRP)
 - Odisha Social Protection Program (OSPP).
- The ODRP aims to improve the state's capacity to monitor, forecast and respond to natural hazards, by upgrading its weather observation network, enhancing its early warning systems, strengthening its emergency operations centres and improving its disaster risk management planning.
- The OSPP aims to expand the state's social protection programs for poor and vulnerable households, by using digital platforms to improve their access, delivery and monitoring.
- The project will support the integration of various social protection schemes under a single platform called Odisha One, which will enable beneficiaries to access multiple services through a single window.
- The project will also help improve the design and implementation of social protection schemes such as pensions, scholarships, maternity benefits and food security programs.

Biju Setu Yojana

News

- The Odisha state government approved Rs 3,597 crore to build 866 new bridges on rural roads and expand the Cuttack Ring Road at an estimated cost of Rs 121 crore.
- The 866 bridges will be constructed under the Biju Setu Yojana, as per a proposal cleared by the state cabinet meeting chaired by chief minister Naveen Patnaik. The cabinet approved extending BSY till 2025-26.

Biju Setu Yojana

- The scheme was launched by the Odisha government in 2011-12 to build bridges in rural areas for improving the communication and socio-economic conditions of the people.
- The scheme aims to connect rural areas with urban centres by building bridges over rivers and canals.
- The scheme is named after Biju Patnaik, a former chief minister of Odisha and a prominent leader of the state.
- The scheme has been implemented in phases, with the first phase covering 150 bridges and the second phase covering 300 bridges.
- The scheme has benefited millions of people in Odisha by improving their access to education, health care, markets and employment opportunities.
- The scheme has also enhanced the socio-economic development of the state and reduced the vulnerability of the people to natural disasters such as floods and cyclones.

UNICEF Report praised Odisha

News

- Unicef India in its latest report 'The state of the world's children 2023: For every child, vaccination,' praised the Odisha government's immunization coverage despite the challenge of the Covid-19 pandemic.

Details

- According to a recent report by Unicef India, titled 'The state of the world's children 2023: For every child, vaccination,' more than 90% of children in Odisha are fully immunized, which is significantly higher than the national average of 76.4%.
- The report said, "This has been possible due to unique initiatives by the Odisha government to immunize children in hard-to-reach areas and encouraging the participation of community through Panchayati Raj institutions and self-help groups, especially in low-coverage areas."
- The report praised Odisha for its special immunization campaigns that ensured frontline workers travelled to remote pockets and motivated families to get their children vaccinated.
- The report also highlighted that 20 out of the 30 districts in Odisha have achieved more than 90% of full immunization coverage.

POLITY



Utkala Dibasa

News

- Odisha Day, also known as Utkala Dibasa is celebrated on 1 April every year.

Utkala Dibasa

- Utkala Dibasa marks the anniversary of the formation of the state on 1 April 1936, after a long struggle for linguistic and cultural identity.
- The name Utkala Dibasa means "the day of Utkala", which is an ancient name for Odisha.
- On this day, the people of Odisha commemorate the history, culture, and achievements of their state. They organize various cultural programs, such as dance, music, poetry, and art.
- People pay tribute to the leaders and heroes who fought for the state's autonomy and dignity.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme

News

- The High Court of Odisha hearing a PIL for the effective implementation of the National Leprosy Eradication Programme.

National Leprosy Eradication Programme

- It is an initiative of the Government of India to eliminate leprosy as a public health problem in the country.
- It was launched in 1983 to provide free and accessible diagnosis and treatment services to all leprosy patients through the primary health care system.

Initiatives

- **Early detection and prompt treatment** of leprosy cases with multidrug therapy (MDT), which is a combination of three drugs (rifampicin, dapsone and clofazimine) that kills the bacteria and prevents relapse.
- **Prevention of disability (POD) and rehabilitation** of leprosy-affected persons through regular examination, self-care practices, physiotherapy, surgery and socio-economic support.
- **Surveillance and monitoring** of leprosy trends and quality of services through an **online reporting system (Nikshay)**, periodic surveys and evaluations.
- **Information, education and communication (IEC) activities to raise awareness** about leprosy, its symptoms, treatment and prevention among the general public and health workers.

Vande Bharat Express

News

- The first full trial run of Odisha's first Vande Bharat Express connecting Puri to Howrah in West Bengal was conducted on 28 April.

Vande Bharat Express

- It is India's first semi-high-speed train, which can run at a maximum speed of 180 km/h.
- It is also India's first indigenously designed and manufactured train, which showcases the country's engineering and technological prowess.
- It was launched in February 2019, with its inaugural run from New Delhi to Varanasi, the parliamentary constituency of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- It has 16 air-conditioned coaches, with two executive classes and 14 chair car coaches.
- It has many features that enhance the comfort and safety of the passengers, such as automatic doors, bio-vacuum toilets, GPS-based passenger information systems, CCTV cameras, Wi-Fi connectivity, and LED lighting.

Madhusudan Das

News

- The people of Odisha paid rich tributes to Utkal Gauraba Madhusudan Das on his birth anniversary on 28th April.
- The birthday anniversary is also observed as Lawyers' Day in Odisha.

Madhusudan Das

- He was born on 28 April 1848 in Satyabhamapur village of Cuttack district.
- He was a prominent lawyer, poet, and social reformer in Odisha.
- He is widely regarded as the father of modern Odisha for his role in the formation of the state as a separate province in India.
- He was also the first Odia to join the Indian Civil Service and the first Odia to earn a degree in law from England.
- He founded the Utkal Sammilani (Odisha Union Conference) in 1903 and organized several conferences, petitions, and campaigns to demand statehood for Odisha.
- He established the Utkal Tannery in 1905, which was the first industrial venture by an Indian in British India.
- He also founded the Utkal University in 1943, which was the first university in Odisha.
- He participated in various movements such as the Non-Cooperation Movement, the Civil Disobedience Movement, and the Quit India Movement.
- He supported the widow remarriage movement and encouraged women to pursue education and careers.
- He died on 4 February 1934 at the age of 85.

Operation Kaveri

News

- 6 Odisha natives departed the conflict-hit Sudan and landed at Biju Patnaik International Airport in Bhubaneswar.

Operation Kaveri

- Operation Kaveri is the evacuation operation carried out by the Indian government to bring back its citizens from Sudan, a country that has been engulfed in a violent conflict between the military and a paramilitary force.
- The operation involves the use of Indian Navy and Indian Air Force assets, as well as coordination with other countries and international organizations.
- The Sudan crisis erupted on April 15, 2023, when the Rapid Support Force (RSF), a powerful paramilitary group that was part of the transitional government, clashed with the Sudanese army over a coup attempt.
 - The fighting soon spread to the capital Khartoum and other parts of the country, leaving hundreds of people dead and thousands injured.
 - The situation also triggered a humanitarian crisis, as millions of people faced food shortages, power cuts, and internet blackouts.
- Among those affected by the crisis were around 3,400 Indian nationals, mostly working in the oil and construction sectors, who were stranded in various locations across Sudan.

**WE CREATED HISTORY
ONCE AGAIN!**
RECORD BREAKING RESULTS IN **OAS 2020**



APTI PLUS
Academy for Civil Services Pvt. Ltd.

RANK 1, 2 & 3 IN OAS 2019



ASWINI K. PANDA
RANK 1



ANKUR ABHILASH
RANK 2



RASHMIREKHA PATRA
RANK 3

RANK 1, 2 & 4 IN OAS 2020



TEJASWINI BEHERA
RANK 1



SUBHANKARI S.
RANK 2



DEBABRATA KAR
RANK 4

ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR
IAS/OAS
INTEGRATED FOUNDATION COURSE

JAYDEV VIHAR,
BHUBANESWAR
Call:
99383 86166, 73278 46166

👆 7 STUDENTS IN TOP 10 👆



DEBABRATA M.
RANK 5



ADHISHMITA T.
RANK 6



SUBHASHREE R.
RANK 7



TAPATI R.
RANK 10

THE OAS GAZETTE

MAY 2023

APTI PLUS
Academy for Civil Services Pvt. Ltd.

Ama Lipi

News

- Odisha government creates its own 'Ama Lipi' Odia typing tool.

Ama Lipi

- Ama Lipi: Odisha government's own Odia typing tool in English
- It is a Unicode phonetic software that allows users to type Odia characters, matras, phalas and conjuncts easily and quickly.
- It also suggests probable words as you type and has a character map for selecting Odia numerals and symbols.
- It was created by the Institute of Odia Studies and Research, a city-based organisation that works on promoting and preserving the Odia language and culture.
- The software has received IT clearance from the government and is currently being tested by different departments.

State Commission for Women

News

- The Odisha Government recently appointed six new members of the State Commission for Women.

State Commission for Women

- It is a statutory body established in 1993 under the Odisha State Commission for Women Act, 1993.
- It is mandated to safeguard the rights and interests of women in the state of Odisha.
- It works for the empowerment of women and the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against them.
- It has a chairperson and six members appointed by the state government.
- The chairperson and the members are eminent women from various fields such as law, education, social work, health, media, etc.
- It also has a secretary who is an officer of the state government.

Members of State Commission for Women		
Sl No	Name	Address
1	Ms. Swarnalata Samal	At/Po- Sasanda, PS- Binjharpur
2	Smt. Sujata Digal	At - Bandhabahal, PS - Banaharpali, Brajarajnagar
3	Bijaya Barwa	Talasara, Sundergarh
4	Smt. Swagatika Mohanty	At - Jagannath Nagar, Lane -1, Jharapada, PS- Laxmisagar
5	Smt. Babita Swain	At - Osakana, PS - Balikuda, Jagatsinghpur
6	Smt. Bithica Swain Official Member	Additional Secretary to Govt. W & CD Department

Odisha CM tour of Japan

News

- Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on April 4 started his business tour of Japan.

Details

- The tour was part of his efforts to attract more foreign direct investment (FDI) and create more jobs in Odisha, especially in the sectors of manufacturing, infrastructure, tourism and renewable energy.
- He participated in various events and meetings in Tokyo and Osaka, the two major economic hubs of Japan.
- He said that he seeks Japan's support and collaboration in implementing some of the flagship initiatives of his government such as Mo Sarkar (My Government), 5T (Teamwork, Technology, Transparency, Transformation and Time) and Vision 2030.

Chhenapoda Dibas

News

- Odisha celebrated Chhenapoda Dibas on April 11.

Chhenapoda Dibas

- Chhenapoda means "burnt cheese" in Odia, and it is a baked delicacy made from fresh cottage cheese, sugar, cardamom, and caramelized sugar.
 - It has a crispy brown crust and a soft and creamy interior, and it melts in



your mouth with a rich and sweet flavour.

- The festival features various events and activities related to chhenapoda, such as cooking competitions, tasting sessions, cultural programs, and exhibitions.

Odisha State Commission for Backward Classes

News

- The Odisha state cabinet cleared an ordinance to amend the Odisha State Commission for Backward Classes (OSCBC) Act, 1993, to include 22 backward communities in the state's list of socially and educationally backward classes (SEBC).
- These communities are already part of the Centre's OBC list but were not in the state's SEBC list.

Odisha State Commission for Backward Classes (OSCBC) Act, 1993

- The Acts empowers the state government to constitute a body known as the Odisha State Commission for Backward Classes, which consists of a chairperson, who is a judge of the high court.
- It lays down the term of office, conditions of service, powers and functions, procedure and finances of the commission.
- The commission is entrusted with the task of conducting surveys, studies and research on the social and educational conditions of the backward classes in Odisha and making recommendations to the state government on various issues concerning them.
- The commission also advises the state government on matters relating to the reservation of seats in educational institutions and public services for backward classes.
- The Act has been amended by the Odisha State Commission for Backward Classes (Amendment) Act, 2020, which enables the state government to include such backward classes in the state list of socially and educationally backward classes (SEBCs) as may be decided by it from time to time.

Zero Fatality Week

News

- The State of Odisha launched the first 'zero fatality week' campaign.

Zero fatality week

- The state of Odisha launched a 'zero fatality week' campaign from April 1 to 7, 2023, to reduce road accidents and deaths in the state.
- However, the campaign failed to achieve its target as 70 people lost their lives in 125 road accidents during the week.
 - The data revealed that most of the accidents and deaths were caused by over-speeding, rash and negligent driving, and collision of vehicles from the side and back.
- The zero fatality week was observed as per the direction of the Supreme Court Committee on Road Safety, which had expressed concern over the rising trend of road accidents and deaths in Odisha.

GEOGRAPHY & ENVIRONMENT



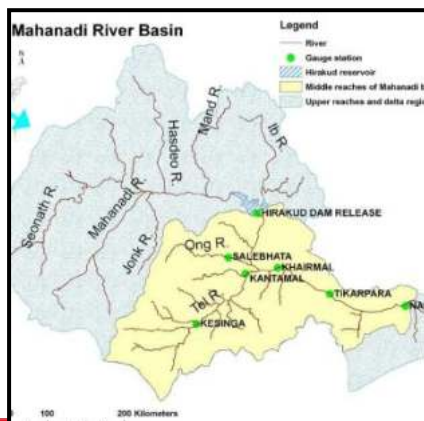
Mahanadi River

News

- Controversy erupted in Odisha over Chhattisgarh's release of Mahanadi water into the lower catchment of the river system.

Mahanadi River

- The Mahanadi River is one of the major rivers in east central India, flowing through the states of Chhattisgarh and Odisha.



- It originates in the hills of southeastern Chhattisgarh and covers a total distance of 887 kilometres (551 miles) before joining the Bay of Bengal.
- The Mahanadi has a large drainage area of about 141,600 square kilometres (54,700 square miles) and carries a huge amount of silt during the monsoon season.
- The river is also known for the Hirakud Dam, which is the largest earthen dam in the world and creates a reservoir of 743 square kilometres (287 square miles).
- The dam provides irrigation, flood control, and hydroelectric power to the region.
- The Mahanadi is a vital source of water and livelihood for millions of people living along its banks.

Mangrove Pitta Birds

News

- In a first-ever census of mangrove pitta birds carried out in two coastal districts of Odisha, 179 such birds were sighted.
- This is the first-ever systematic survey of this species in India, and it covered an area of 1,000 hectares of mangrove forests in Bhitarkanika National Park and Mahanadi Wildlife Sanctuary.
- The census was mainly focused on the mangrove patches all along the coasts of the Kendrapara and Jagatsingpur districts.

Mangrove pitta birds

- They are a colourful and elusive bird that lives in the coastal mangrove forests of eastern India and Southeast Asia.
- It has a black head with a brown crown, a white throat, greenish upperparts, buff underparts and a reddish vent area.
- It has a large and powerful bill that it uses to crack open crabs, molluscs and other prey that it finds in the mud.
- They are considered to be near threatened by the IUCN due to habitat loss, degradation and fragmentation.
- They are vulnerable to hunting, trapping and predation by feral cats and dogs.



Blackbuck

News

- Blackbuck found dead in the Digapahandi forest range in Odisha's Ganjam district

Blackbuck

- Blackbuck is a species of antelope native to the Indian subcontinent.
- It is one of the fastest land animals in the world, capable of reaching speeds of up to 80 km/h.
- It has a distinctive black and white coat, with long spiral horns in males.
- It is also a culturally and religiously important animal in India.
- Blackbuck is facing a serious threat of extinction due to habitat loss, poaching, and overgrazing.
- According to the IUCN Red List, blackbuck is classified as Near Threatened, with an estimated population of less than 50,000 individuals in the wild.



HISTORY



Ratna Bhandar of Shree Jagannath Temple

News

- Orissa High Court asked the state government to submit the report of Justice Raghubir Dash commission on the missing keys of Ratna Bhandar of Shree Jagannath Temple.

Ratna Bhandar

- Ratna Bhandar is the name of the treasure vault located inside the Puri Jagannath Temple in Odisha.
- It is said to contain a vast amount of gold, silver, jewels, and other precious items that have been offered to the temple deity over centuries.
- The vault has two chambers: the inner chamber and the outer chamber. The inner chamber is believed to be more ancient and secretive than the outer one.
- The history of Ratna Bhandar dates back to the 12th century CE when King Anantavarman Chodaganga Deva built the present temple complex. He also donated a large amount of wealth to the temple, which was stored in Ratna Bhandar.
 - Over time, many other kings, rulers, and devotees added to the temple treasury, making it one of the richest religious institutions in India.
 - Some notable donors include Emperor Ashoka, King Harshavardhana, Emperor Akbar, Maharaja Ranjit Singh, and Queen Victoria.
- A team of British officials inspected the outer chamber in 1931 under the supervision of the temple authorities. They reportedly found a huge collection of gold and silver ornaments, coins, utensils, weapons, and other valuables.
 - However, they did not enter the inner chamber, which was sealed with iron doors and guarded by cobras.
- According to legend, anyone who tries to open the inner chamber will face divine wrath and calamity.

Pietra Dura

News

- INTACH team recently conducted a detailed survey of Killa Aul Palace Room, which has one of the most significant, captivating and impressive Mughal Art of Pietra Dura in Odisha.

Pietra Dura

- Pietra dura is a term for the inlay technique of using cut and fitted, highly polished coloured stones to create images.
- The origins of pietra dura can be traced back to ancient Rome. It was later introduced in India by the Mughals.
- It was used to decorate the walls, floors, ceilings, and furniture of many Mughal monuments, such as the Taj Mahal, the Agra Fort, and the Red Fort.
- It involves expertly cutting, fitting, and polishing semi-precious stones like agate, jasper, lapis lazuli, and jade. The stones are then glued to a marble base, forming intricate patterns or scenes. The stones are sometimes heated to give them a shaded colour effect.

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY



Leprosy

News

- The Odisha state government in the High Court has claimed that the progress of reconstructive surgery (RCS) under rehabilitation programmes for cured leprosy patients has been hampered to some extent due to the unwillingness expressed by a sizeable number of patients.
- The surgery is performed to restore the normal appearance of body parts by correcting deformities and thereby rehabilitating patients of leprosy into performing occupational and social duties.

Leprosy

- Leprosy is a chronic infectious disease caused by the bacterium *Mycobacterium leprae*.
- It affects mainly the skin and peripheral nerves, but can also involve other organs such as the eyes, nose, and bones.
- Leprosy can cause nerve damage, leading to loss of sensation, muscle weakness, deformities, and disability.
- India has the highest number of leprosy cases in the world, accounting for more than half of the global burden.
- According to the World Health Organization (WHO), there were 114,451 new cases of leprosy reported in India in 2019, out of a total of 202,185 worldwide.
- Leprosy is a curable disease that can be prevented and treated.

Reconstructive Surgery

News

- The Odisha state government in the High Court has stated that the government is implementing reconstructive surgery (RCS) to restore the normal appearance of body parts by correcting deformities and thereby rehabilitating patients of leprosy into performing occupational and social duties.

Reconstructive Surgery (RCS)

- It is a type of surgery that aims to restore the function and appearance of body parts that have been damaged by disease, injury, or congenital defects.
- It can improve the quality of life and self-esteem of people who have physical deformities or disabilities due to various causes, such as cancer, trauma, infection, or birth defects.
- One of the most common applications of RCS is leprosy, a chronic infectious disease that affects the skin and nerves.
 - Leprosy can lead to deformities and disabilities of the eyes, nose, hands, and feet. For example, leprosy can cause lagophthalmos (inability to close the eyelids), claw hand (flexion of the fingers and thumb), foot drop (inability to lift the foot), and nasal collapse.
- RCS for leprosy patients involves transferring healthy tissue from one part of the body to another, such as bone grafts, skin grafts, tendon transfers, or nerve grafts.
- RCS is not a cure for leprosy and does not replace other aspects of leprosy management, such as multidrug therapy (MDT), prevention of disability (POD), self-care education, and social support.



SPORTS



Super Cup

News

- Odisha FC clinched their maiden trophy after defeating Bengaluru FC 2-1 in the final of the Super Cup.
- It was the first-ever final for Odisha, it was the third of the season for Bengaluru.

Details

- The 2023 Super Cup was the 3rd edition of the Super Cup and the 41st season of the national knockout football competition in India.
- The competition was sponsored by Hero MotoCorp and is known as the Hero Super Cup for sponsorship purposes.
- The tournament was being organised after a gap of four years due to various scheduling issues, with the latest edition being played in 2019.
- This was the first time the Super Cup champions had a spot allotted in the AFC competitions.
- The 2023 edition of the Super Cup was played across two cities of Kerala, Kozhikode and Manjeri.
- **Top goal scorer:** Wilmar Jordán (7 goals)
- **Best player:** Diego Mauricio

Indian Hockey

News

- The Odisha government decided to further extend its sponsorship for both the Men and Women's Indian Hockey Teams (senior and junior) for another ten years from 2023 to 2033.

Odisha Support to Hockey

- In 2018, the Odisha government became the official sponsor of the Indian national hockey teams, both men and women, senior and junior, for a period of five years.
- The Odisha Mining Corporation (OMC), a state-owned enterprise, signed a sponsorship deal with Hockey India worth Rs 150 crore (about \$20 million) for this purpose.

- The sponsorship agreement was a significant step towards the growth and development of hockey in India, as it provided financial stability and security to the players and coaches.
- It also enabled Hockey India to invest in infrastructure, training facilities, equipment and exposure trips for the teams.
- The Odisha government's sponsorship proved to be a game-changer for Indian hockey, as the teams achieved remarkable results in the international arena.
 - The men's team won the bronze medal at the 2021 Tokyo Olympics, ending a 41-year drought for an Olympic medal in hockey.
 - The women's team also made history by reaching the semifinals for the first time at the Olympics.



APTI PLUS

Academy for Civil Services Pvt. Ltd.

ADMISSIONS OPEN FOR

IAS/OAS

INTEGRATED FOUNDATION COURSE

300+
SELECTIONS IN
OAS 2020

45+
SELECTIONS IN
IAS 2021

- Best Faculty Members from Delhi
- Personalized Mentorship Programme
- Hostel facility for outside candidates

**OUR OAS 2020
TOPPERS**

**OUR IAS TOP
TOPPERS**

 <p>TEJASWINI B. RANK 1</p>	 <p>SOMALIN S. AIR 478, 2018</p>	 <p>SANJITA MOHAPATRA AIR 10, 2019</p>
 <p>SUBHANKARI S. RANK 2</p>	 <p>JUBIN MOHAPATRA AIR 46, 2020</p>	 <p>SHUBHAM SHUKLA AIR 43, 2021</p>
 <p>DEBABRATA K. RANK 4</p>	 <p>ABHIJIT RAY AIR 50, 2021</p>	 <p>ANUP GARG AIR 269, 2021</p>

JAYDEV VIHAR, BHUBANESWAR **Call: 99383 86166, 73278 46166, 82606 77707**



OPSC Current Affairs
April 2023



NATIONAL

India's first water metro

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated India's first water metro in Kochi, Kerala.
- It aims to reduce traffic congestion and improve the connectivity of the city while promoting eco-friendly means of transportation.
- The Kochi Water Metro project has been implemented by Kochi Metro Rail Corporation Limited (KMRL) along with the assistance of Kreditanstalt für Wiederaufbau, a German funding agency.

Report on Promoting Millet in Diets

- NITI Aayog has released a report titled "Promoting Millets in Diets: Best Practices across States and Union Territories of India".
- The report highlights the importance of millets for food and nutrition security, especially in the context of climate change and non-communicable diseases.
- The report also showcases the good and innovative practices adopted by various states and organizations in promoting millets across the value chain, from production to consumption.

SWAGAT

- On April 27, Prime Minister attended a programme commemorating the 20th anniversary of the SWAGAT initiative in Gujarat.
- SWAGAT (State Wide Attention on Grievances through Application of Technology) is a tech-based grievance redressal programme.
- It acts as a bridge between the citizens and the government using technology by solving their day-to-day grievances in a quick, efficient and time-bound manner.

Baisakhi Mahotsav

- To commemorate the rich and diverse Dogra culture and heritage, the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu is organising a three-day 'Baisakhi Mahotsav 2023' in Jammu and Kashmir from April 13 to 15 2023.
- The event aims to promote tourism and cultural exchange in the region and to celebrate the spirit of Baisakhi, which marks the harvest season and the beginning of a new year.

Aam Aadmi Party (AAP)

- AAP emerged from an anti-corruption movement and has become the latest party to be recognized as a national party by the Election Commission of India.
 - At present, a total of 6 political parties have the status of National Party.
- It has fulfilled the criteria of securing at least 6% of the valid votes polled in four or more states in a general election or assembly election.
- The AAP is headed by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

Food Conclave

- Hyderabad, Telangana hosted the Food Conclave-2023 on April 28 and 29.
- The event brings together 100 experts from the agri-food industry to discuss and exchange ideas on various topics related to food production, processing, and innovation.
- The event was organized by the Government of Telangana, with the support of several knowledge partners such as the World Economic Forum-India, etc.

National Apprenticeship Mela

- The Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) organized the Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela, PMNAM at ITI College in Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir.

Gond Painting

- In April 2023, the Gond painting received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Government of India.

- Gond painting is a form of tribal art that originated in Madhya Pradesh and is associated with the Gond community.
- The Gond painting was traditionally done on the mud walls and floors of the houses, using natural colours made from charcoal, cow dung, leaves, and flowers.

“Stay Safe” Campaign

- WhatsApp launched a new campaign called “Stay Safe with WhatsApp” in April 2023 to educate users on online safety and how to use the app’s features to protect themselves from scams and fraud.
- The campaign will focus on simple ways to enable WhatsApp’s safety features that offer layers of protection to users as they spend more time online

Medical Device Parks

- National Medical Devices Policy 2023 was approved by the Union Cabinet on April 26, 2023,
- Under the policy, the government plans to support the setting up of **4 medical device parks** in Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.
- These parks will provide infrastructure and facilities for the domestic production of medical devices and reduce the import dependence in this sector.

Tamil Nadu

- The state government of Tamil Nadu has recently passed a bill to ban online gambling and regulate online games in the state.
- The bill aims to prohibit online games that involve money or other stakes, such as rummy and poker, citing concerns over addiction and public order.

Bhoroxa’ (Trust) App

- The President Draupadi Murmu has launched a mobile application called 'Bhoroxa' (Trust).
- The app, developed by the Assam State Commission for Women (ASCW), allows women to send distress signals to the nearest police station and their emergency contacts in case of any threat or danger.
- The app also provides information on various laws, schemes and helplines related to women's rights and welfare.

Himachal Pradesh

- Himachal Pradesh has become the "first state" to create a DNA database of unidentified bodies.
- The official said that the database would help in identifying the bodies and providing relief to the families looking for their missing relatives.
- The database would also assist in solving crimes, identifying disaster victims and tracking repeat offenders.

Karnataka

- Karnataka has bagged the national award for the best implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for the year 2022-23.
- Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana was launched in 2016, to protect farmers from various natural risks that affect their crops.
- The scheme covers all stages of the crop cycle, from pre-sowing to post-harvest, and provides compensation for yield losses, prevented sowing, post-harvest losses and localized calamities.

3D-printed post office

- The first 3D-printed post office in India is being constructed in Bangalore, Karnataka.
- It was constructed by Larsen & Toubro Ltd (L&T), a leading engineering and construction company.

Madhya Pradesh

- The Madhya Pradesh government has recently added the transgender community to the Other Backward Classes (OBC) list of the state.
- The government has also announced plans to set up a Transgender Welfare Board to address the issues and grievances of the community.

Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras

- IIT Madras has announced that it will establish its first international campus in Zanzibar, Tanzania in October 2023.
- This will be the first time that an IIT will have a presence outside India, and it will offer undergraduate and postgraduate courses in engineering, science, management and humanities.

One Panchayat, One Playground

- The 'One Panchayat, One Playground' project is an initiative by the Kerala government to promote sports and physical activities among the people of the State.
- The project aims to provide quality playgrounds in every panchayat, where children and adults can play various games and sports.
- It is expected to improve the health and well-being of the people of Kerala, as well as to foster a sense of community and social harmony.

Global Buddhist Summit

- Prime Minister hosted the first Global Buddhist Summit in New Delhi on April 20, 2023.
- Theme "Responses to Contemporary Challenges: Philosophy to Praxis".
- This two-day summit was hosted by the Ministry of Culture.

Assam

- North-East's first All India Institute of Medical Science (AIIMS) was inaugurated by Prime Minister in Guwahati, Assam,
- It has a total bed capacity of 750, including 30 AYUSH beds, and an annual admission capacity of 100 MBBS students.

Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR) Report

- Andhra Pradesh's CM Jagan Mohan Reddy has the highest assets, totalling Rs 510 crore, followed by Arunachal Pradesh's Pema Khandu (over Rs 163 crore) and Odisha's Naveen Patnaik (over Rs 63 crore), according to the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR).
- West Bengal Chief Minister Mamta Banerjee has the lowest total assets of around Rs 15 lakh.
- 29 of the 30 CMs studied are crorepatris, with an average asset value of Rs 33.96 crore for each.

India Justice Report

- Karnataka ranked first among the 18 major and mid-sized states with a population of over one crore in the India Justice Report (IJR) 2022, a project of Tata Trusts.
- Sikkim is at the top small state (population less than one million).
- Police, prisons, the judiciary, and legal aid are the four main pillars of the judicial system.



INTERNATIONAL

Y 20 Summit

- The Ministry of Youth and Sports Affairs hosted the Y 20 Summit Meeting under G20 in Leh from 26th to 28th April 2023.
- The meeting brings together more than 100 youth leaders from over 30 countries to discuss and formulate plans on various topics such as climate change, health, peacebuilding and innovation.

Tulsi Ghat Restoration Project

- The External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated the 'Tulsi Ghat Restoration Project' in Uganda, as part of India's development partnership with the African nation.

Most Criminal Country

- According to a report by the World of Statistics, Venezuela has been ranked as the most criminal country in the world.

- The ranking is based on the crime index, which measures the level of crime and safety in a country.
- The report also highlighted the factors that contribute to the high crime rates in these countries, such as poverty, inequality, corruption, violence and social unrest.

Best Public Transport System

- According to Time Out, a London-based media outlet that focuses on the hospitality industry and urban life, **Berlin in Germany has the best public transport system in the world.**
- The city's public transport network consists of underground and light-rail trains, buses, trams, and ferries that cover all areas of the sprawling metropolis.
- Travellers can easily, comfortably, and safely reach any destination in Berlin and beyond by using public transport.

Germany

- In April 2023, Germany switched off its three remaining nuclear power plants as part of a long-planned transition toward renewable energy.
- Germany is now the first major industrialized nation to abandon nuclear power completely and aims to generate 80% of its electricity from renewable sources by 2050.

El Salvador

- Central American country "El Salvador" has started an initiative to license crypto firms that want to operate in the country as digital asset service providers.
- The first crypto firm to receive this license was Bitfinex Securities, a subsidiary of iFinex Group that also owns Bitfinex and Tether.

Finland

- Finland has become the 31st member of NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a military alliance that provides collective security for its members.
- Finland's decision to join NATO was motivated by several factors, including the changing security environment in Europe, the increased assertiveness of Russia, and the desire to deepen its cooperation with other Nordic countries.

Zimbabwe

- Zimbabwe is facing a severe economic crisis, to address this situation, the Reserve Bank of Zimbabwe (RBZ) has announced **to launch of a gold-backed digital currency.**
- The digital currency, called e-gold tokens, will be backed by physical gold reserves held by the RBZ and will be used as a medium of exchange and a store of value.

Miguel Diaz-Canel

- Miguel Mario Díaz-Canel Bermúdez, the current President of Cuba is re-elected as the President.
- He is the secretary-general of the Communist Party of Cuba.



ECONOMICS

Neobank

- Jupiter, a neo-banking platform has obtained a non-banking financial company (NBFC) license from the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- Neobanking is a term that refers to the provision of banking services through online platforms or mobile applications, without the need for physical branches or infrastructure.
- Jupiter offers features such as zero-balance accounts, cashback rewards, instant transfers, bill payments, and budgeting tools.

eShram Portal

- Recently, the Union Minister for Labour & Employment Shri Bhupender Yadav launched new features in the eShram portal.
- It is a national database of unorganised workers including migrant workers, construction workers, gig and platform workers, etc.
- It aims to provide social security benefits, skill development opportunities, employment opportunities and other welfare schemes to the unorganised workers, who constitute about 90% of the total workforce in the country.

Logistic Performance Index

- Logistics Performance Index 2023 published by the World Bank.
- The Index ranks India at 38th position among 139 countries, up from 44th in 2018.
- It is a comprehensive indicator that measures the quality of logistics services, infrastructure, customs clearance, tracking and tracing, timeliness, and international shipments.

SATHI Portal and Mobile App

- The Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare has launched a new portal and mobile app called SATHI, which stands for Seed Authentication Traceability and Holistic Inventory.
- It offers various services such as seed certification, seed traceability through QR codes, seed licensing, seed catalogue, dealer farmer sales, farmer registration and direct subsidies to farmers' bank accounts through DBT.
- It is developed by the National Informatics Centre in collaboration with the Ministry on the theme of 'Uttam Beej - Samridh Kisan'.

'Sangathan se Samridhhi' scheme

- The Union Minister for Rural Development has started the 'Sangathan Se Samridhhi' campaign, which aims to empower marginalised rural households by enrolling all eligible rural women in Self Help Groups (SHGs).
- The government intends to enrol 10 million women in SHGs, up from the current nine million.

State Energy Efficiency Index

- Andhra Pradesh, Karnataka, Kerala, Rajasthan, and Telangana are the top performers in the State Energy Efficiency Index (SEEI) report 2021-22.
- Assam, Haryana, Maharashtra, and Punjab are in the Achiever category (scores between 50 and 60).
- States have been categorised into four groups based on their efforts and achievements: frontrunner, achiever, contender, and aspirant.

'Mircha' rice

- West Champaran in Bihar received the GI designation for its 'Mircha' rice.
- Mircha or Marcha Rice gets its name from the size and form of the grain, which resembles black pepper.
- The GI tag is valid for ten years after which it can be renewed.

RBI Bimonthly Monetary Policy

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) issued its bimonthly monetary policy, maintaining the repo rate at 6.50%.
- In the current fiscal year, GDP is predicted to increase by 6.5%.



GEOGRAPHY and ENVIRONMENT

Asian King Vulture

- The World's first Conservation and breeding of the Asian king vulture was inaugurated in the Maharajganj district of Uttar Pradesh.
- The Asian king vulture, also known as the red-headed vulture or the Indian black vulture, is a critically endangered species of Old-World vulture. It is mainly found in the Indian subcontinent, with some small populations in Southeast Asia.

Gandhisagar Sanctuary

- Madhya Pradesh, also known as the "Cheetah State" of India, has announced its plans to develop Gandhisagar Sanctuary as a second habitat for cheetahs.
- The decision was taken by Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan after experts suggested that Kuno National Park (KNP), where 18 cheetahs were translocated from Africa last year, does not have enough space for these felines.



SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

Malaria Vaccine

- Ghana has become the first country in the world to approve a new malaria vaccine from Oxford University.
- The vaccine, called R21/Matrix-M, has shown an efficacy of 77% in clinical trials and could prevent millions of deaths from the disease.

ISRO's PSLV-C55

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully launched the Polar Satellite Launch Vehicle C55 (PSLV-C55) mission carrying two Singaporean satellites from Satish Dhawan Space Centre at Sriharikota, Andhra Pradesh.
- The primary payload of the mission was Singapore's TeLEOS-2 satellite, a high-resolution earth observation satellite weighing about 400 kg.

JUICE mission

- On April 14, 2023, the European Space Agency (ESA) launched its flagship JUICE (Jupiter ICy moons Explorer) mission.
- An Ariane 5 rocket was launched from Europe's Spaceport in Kourou, French Guiana. It will take an eight-year journey to reach Jupiter.
- The goal is to determine whether there are livable conditions among the frozen moons and around Jupiter.



DEFENCE & SECURITY

Exercise "Cope India 2023"

- In Paschim Medinipur district of West Bengal, a joint exercise between the air forces of India and America took place.
- The exercise, named "Cope India 2023", aimed to enhance interoperability and cooperation between the two countries.

Operation Kaveri

- Operation Kaveri is the evacuation operation carried out by the Indian government to bring back its citizens from Sudan, a country that has been engulfed in a violent conflict between the military and a paramilitary force.
- The operation involves the use of Indian Navy and Indian Air Force assets, as well as coordination with other countries and international organizations.
- The Sudan crisis erupted on April 15, 2023, when the Rapid Support Force (RSF), a powerful paramilitary group that was part of the transitional government, clashed with the Sudanese army over a coup attempt.

World Military Expenditure

- A report on Trends in World Military Expenditure in 2022, published by the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI)
- India was the world's fourth-largest military spender in 2022.
- India's military spending rose mainly due to its arms imports, which increased by 33 per cent between 2018-22 and 2013-17.
- India was the second largest arms importer in the world after Saudi Arabia in 2018-22, receiving 9.5 per cent of the global arms transfers.
- The main suppliers of arms to India were Russia (49%), France (18%) and Israel (13%)



Nagastra

- Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAV) 'Nagastra' can perform reconnaissance, surveillance and attack missions.
- It is India's first indigenous loitering munition which can strike enemy targets with precision.

Exercise INIOCHOS-23

- It is a multinational air exercise that takes place at the Andravida Air Base in Greece from April 24 to May 4.
- The Indian Air Force (IAF) participated in this exercise, along with other countries such as France, Israel, Spain, and the United States.
- The exercise aims to enhance interoperability and cooperation among the participating air forces, as well as to improve their readiness and combat skills.

Exercise Orion

- The Indian Air Force participated part in the multinational international Exercise Orion, which was held at Mont-de-Marsan in France from April 17 to May 5, 2023.
- The IAF Contingent participated in the exercise with four Rafale, two C-17, two Il-78 aircraft, and 165 air warriors.

Exercise 'Ex KAVACH'

- The Army, Navy, Air Force, and Coast Guard participated in the large-scale Joint Military Exercise 'Ex KAVACH' led by the Andaman and Nicobar Command (ANC).
- The KAVACH exercise began on February 23, 2023, and ended on April 7, 2023.
- To improve interoperability and operational synergy among the forces by fine-tuning joint combat capabilities and SOPs.



SPORTS

Sachin Tendulkar

- Sachin Tendulkar has been honoured with a special gesture by the Sharjah cricket stadium in the UAE.
- The West Stand of the stadium, where Tendulkar scored many of his runs, has been renamed after him on his 50th birthday.

David Warner

- David Warner, the captain of Delhi Capitals became the fastest batsman to reach the 6000-run mark in the IPL during a match against Rajasthan Royals at the Barsapara Stadium in Guwahati.
- He achieved this feat in just 165 innings, which is faster than Virat Kohli and Shikhar Dhawan, who are the only other players to have scored 6000 runs in the IPL.

Nisha Dahiya

- The silver medal in the women's 68kg category at the Asian wrestling championships 2023 held in Astana, Kazakhstan was won by India's Nisha Dahiya.
- She defeated Delgermaa Enkhsaikhan of Mongolia and Feng Zhou of China in the quarter-finals and semi-finals respectively, before losing to Japan's Ami Ishi in the final.

Harmanpreet Kaur

- Harmanpreet Kaur is the first Indian woman cricketer to be named Wisden Cricketers of the Year.
- She is the captain of the Indian women's team and a prolific batter.

Aman Sehrawat

- Aman Sehrawat, a freestyle wrestler, won India's first gold medal in the Asian Wrestling Championship 2023.
- He defeated Ahmet Duman of Turkey 12-4 in the final of the 57kg category, becoming the first Indian wrestler to win gold.

Jyothi Surekha Vennam

- Indian archery Jyothi Surekha Vennam won two gold medals at the Archery World Cup Stage 1 in Antalya, Turkey.
- She became the first Indian woman to win an individual gold medal in compound archery at the World Cup.



AWARDS

Ispat Rajbhasha Samman

- Rashtriya Ispat Nigam (RINL) has bagged Steel Ministry's "Ispat Rajbhasha Samman" for the year 2021-22.
- Rashtriya Ispat Nigam Limited (RINL), also known as Vizag Steel, is a public sector enterprise under the Ministry of Steel, Government of India.
- It operates India's first shore-based integrated steel plant in Visakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh.

68th Filmfare Awards 2023

- The awards ceremony was hosted by Shah Rukh Khan and Deepika Padukone.
- The film "Gangubai Kathiawadi" won six awards including Best Film and Best Actress for Alia Bhatt.
- The film "Sooryavanshi" won five awards including Best Director for Rohit Shetty and Best Actor for Akshay Kumar.
- Ayushmann Khurrana won the Best Actor (Critics) for Anek
- Taapsee Pannu won Best Actress (Critics) for Rashmi Rocket

HUDCO Award

- The Swachh Bharat Mission (Urban) Uttar Pradesh (SBM-U UP) has been awarded the HUDCO Award for 2022-2023.
- The SBM-U UP has been honoured in the category of "Best Practices to Improve the Living Environment".
- The award was given by the Housing and Urban Development Corporation Limited (HUDCO), a public sector undertaking under the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs, Government of India.

Global Gold Award

- Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd (PGCIL) has been awarded the Global Gold Award 2023 in the category of Energy Efficiency.
- PGCIL is the largest electric power transmission utility in India, responsible for planning, coordinating, supervising and controlling the inter-state transmission system.
- The Global Gold Awards recognize the outstanding achievements of organizations and individuals in various fields of sustainability and environmental management.

International Prize in Statistics

- The International Prize in Statistics 2023, which is statistics' equivalent of the Nobel Prize, has been awarded to Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, a prominent Indian-American mathematician and statistician.
- Rao is recognized for his pioneering work in 1945 that laid the foundation for the modern field of statistics and provided powerful tools for scientific data analysis.
- Rao has made significant contributions to various areas of statistics, such as multivariate analysis, differential geometry, and linear models.

Dalai Lama

- Dalai Lama received the 1959 Ramon Magsaysay Award from members of the award foundation personally after 64 years.
- The 1959 Ramon Magsaysay Award for Community Leadership was conferred to the Dalai Lama in recognition of his efforts to preserve the spiritual and cultural heritage of the Tibetan people. However, due to the political turmoil in Tibet at that time, he was unable to receive the award in person.

Ratan Tata

- Ratan Tata has been awarded Australia's highest civilian honour, the Order of Australia.

- He was recognised for his significant contributions to the Australia-India relationship, especially in the fields of trade, investment, education and philanthropy.

Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration

- The Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration 2022 was conferred to the National COVID-19 Vaccination Programme of the Union Health Ministry.
- This award recognizes the innovative and effective measures taken by the programme to ensure the timely and equitable distribution of vaccines across the country.

Angela Merkel

- German President Frank-Walter Steinmeier awarded former Chancellor Angela Merkel with the highest Order of Merit of Germany for her outstanding service to the nation.
- Merkel stepped down as chancellor in 2021 after 16 years in office and expressed her gratitude and humility for receiving the prestigious honour.

Malcolm Adiseshiah Award

- Utsa Patnaik, a nationally and internationally famous economist, has been chosen for the Malcolm Adiseshiah Award 2023.
- It is given in recognition of excellent contributions to Development Studies.

Nandini Gupta

- Nandini Gupta (19) of Rajasthan has been crowned the 59th edition of the Femina Miss India World 2023 beauty pageant.
- Meanwhile, the first and second runners-up were announced as Shreya Poonja from Delhi and Thounaojam Strela Luwang from Manipur, respectively.
- She is from Kota, Rajasthan, and has a degree in Business Management.

Kiran Nadar

- Kiran Nadar received the honour of "Chevalier de la Légion d'Honneur" (Knight of the Legion of Honour).
- In recognition of her contributions to the world of art, her dedication to increasing access to culture on a national and international scale, and her leadership role in strengthening Indo-French cultural links.



APPOINTMENTS

Rajesh Kumar Singh

- Rajesh Kumar Singh has assumed the charge of Secretary, Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT), Ministry of Commerce and Industry.
- He is an IAS officer of the 1989 batch and has a rich experience in industrial policy, trade facilitation, infrastructure development, and public administration.

Shahabuddin Chuppu

- Shahabuddin Chuppu, a former judge and freedom fighter, has become the 22nd president of Bangladesh.
- He succeeds Abdul Hamid, who served two consecutive terms as president.

Oliver Dowden

- Oliver Dowden has been named the new deputy prime minister of the United Kingdom.
- He replaces Dominic Raab, who resigned recently over a report that found him guilty of bullying and harassment.



OBITUARIES

Mamukkoya passes away

- The Malayalam film actor-comedian Mamukkoya passed away at the age of 76 due to cardiac arrest.
- He acted in more than 400 films.

Parkash Singh Badal passes away

- The former chief minister of Punjab and the patron of Shiromani Akali Dal (SAD), Parkash Singh Badal, passed away on Tuesday at the age of 95.
- Badal was a veteran politician who served as the chief minister of Punjab five times.

Tarek Fatah passes away

- Tarek Fatah, a renowned journalist, author, and activist died at the age of 72, after a long battle with cancer.
- He was born in Pakistan and moved to Canada, where he became a prominent voice for secularism, democracy, and human rights.

Dr N. Gopalakrishnan passed away

- Dr N. Gopalakrishnan, a renowned scientist and academician, has passed away at the age of 76.
- He was the founder of the Indian Institute of Scientific Heritage, an organization dedicated to promoting the scientific and cultural heritage of India.
- He was associated with the field of materials science and engineering and made significant contributions to the development of nanomaterials, biomaterials, and smart materials.

Jalabala Vaidya passes away

- Jalabala Vaidya, a legendary theatre actor and co-founder of Akshara Theatre, died at the age of 86 in New Delhi.
- She was the daughter of Suresh Vaidya, an Indian author and freedom fighter, and Madge Franckeiss, an English classical singer.



IMPORTANT DAYS

World Health Day

- Every year on April 7, World Health Day is observed to raise awareness about health-related issues that affect people all over the world.
- The World Health Organisation (WHO) was created on this day in 1948, and this year celebrates the 75th anniversary of its inception.
- The theme for World Health Day 2023 is 'Health for All'.

World Heritage Day

- On April 18, World Heritage Day (or International Day for Monuments and Sites) is observed to raise awareness about the importance of cultural heritage and the need to protect it for future generations.
- "Heritage Changes" is the theme for 2023.
- The International Council on Monuments and Sites (ICOMOS) established it, and the 22nd UNESCO General Conference adopted it in 1983.
- India's UNESCO World Heritage Sites - 40

National Civil Services Day

- On April 21, India celebrates National Civil Services Day to recognize the achievements and dedication of the officers who serve the nation in various public service sectors.
- This day marks the occasion when Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Home Minister of independent India, addressed the newly appointed Administrative Services Officers in 1947.



Earth Day

- Earth Day is celebrated on April 22 every year.
- The first Earth Day was held in 1970 in the United States, in response to growing concerns about pollution, biodiversity loss, and other ecological problems.
- The theme for Earth Day 2023 is "Invest in Our Planet", which calls for businesses to shift towards sustainable practices.

World Book Day

- World Book Day is a global celebration of books and reading that takes place every year on April 23.
- It is also known as World Book and Copyright Day or International Day of the Book.
- The theme for World Book Day 2023 is 'Indigenous Languages'.
- The World Book Capital for 2023 is Accra, the capital of Ghana.

National Panchayati Raj Day

- The National Panchayati Raj Day is observed on April 24 every year, as it marks the date when the first Panchayat elections were held in India.
- The day aims to highlight the importance of grassroots democracy and decentralization of power in India.

World Malaria Day

- World Malaria Day is observed every year on April 25 to commemorate the recognition of global efforts to control malaria.
- The theme of World Malaria Day 2023 is "Time to deliver zero malaria: invest, innovate, implement".
- The main way that malaria spreads is through the bite of a female Anopheles mosquito that carries the parasite.

World Intellectual Property Day

- World Intellectual Property Day is celebrated on the 26th of April to raise awareness of the importance of intellectual property rights and their protection.
- The theme for the 2023 World Intellectual Property Day is "Women and IP: Accelerating Innovation and Creativity".

World Veterinary Day

- The World Veterinary Day 2023 is celebrated on 29th April 2023. This day is observed to honour and recognise the contributions of veterinarians to animal health, welfare and public health.
- The theme of World Veterinary Day 2023 is 'Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness in the Veterinary Profession'.



BOOKS & AUTHOR

Book titled 'A Resurgent Northeast: Narratives of Change'

- "A Resurgent Northeast: Narratives of Change" is a new authored by an IAS officer and senior bureaucrat Ashish Kundra.
- The book is a personal tribute to the northeast and its people, based on Kundra's experiences as a policymaker and administrator in Mizoram and Arunachal Pradesh.

Book 'In Pursuit of Peace'

- Nina Lambah released the late Satinder Kumar Lambah's memoir, 'In Pursuit of Peace: India-Pakistan Relations under Six Prime Ministers'.
- Satinder Kumar Lambah was the Chairman of the National Security Advisory Board and served as Deputy Chief of Mission and High Commissioner in Pakistan for two terms.
- He also served as Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee's Special Representative for Afghanistan.



OPSC MCQ April

1. *The first-ever census of Mangrove Pitta Birds was carried out in which Indian State?*
 - (A) Gujarat
 - (B) West Bengal
 - (C) Odisha
 - (D) Andhra Pradesh
2. *Recently, the Union government has approved the installation of how many nuclear reactors in the country?*
 - (A) 6
 - (B) 8
 - (C) 10
 - (D) 12
3. *Which of the following state/UTs government has organized 'Baisakhi Mahotsav 2023' from April 13 to 15, 2023?*
 - (A) Punjab
 - (B) Haryana
 - (C) Himachal Pradesh
 - (D) Jammu and Kashmir
4. *Which of the following political party recently get the status of a National Party By the Election Commission of India?*
 - (A) Trinamool Congress
 - (B) National People's Party
 - (C) Aam Aadmi Party
 - (D) Bahujan Samaj Party
5. *Which of the following state government has launched Anaemia Mukta Lakhya Abhiyan (AMLAN)?*
 - (A) Gujarat
 - (B) Rajasthan
 - (C) Odisha
 - (D) West Bengal
6. *Which of the following is not a common cause of anaemia?*
 - (A) Iron deficiency
 - (B) Vitamin B12 deficiency
 - (C) Folic acid deficiency
 - (D) Calcium deficiency
7. *What is the amount of the loan recently announced by the World Bank for Odisha to strengthen Disaster risk management planning?*
 - (A) \$80 million
 - (B) \$100 million
 - (C) \$120 million
 - (D) \$150 million
8. *The world's first conservation and breeding centre for the critically endangered Asian king culture is all set to open in which Indian State?*
 - (A) Gujarat
 - (B) Rajasthan
 - (C) Uttar Pradesh
 - (D) Madhya Pradesh
9. *Which of the following city hosted the Food Conclave-2023 on April 28 and 29?*
 - (A) New Delhi
 - (B) Ahmedabad
 - (C) Hyderabad
 - (D) Kolkata
10. *According to the Odisha State Budget 2023-24, the GSDP of Odisha for 2023-24 is projected to be;*
 - (A) Rs 6.75 lakh crore
 - (B) Rs 7.85 lakh crore
 - (C) Rs 8.65 lakh crore
 - (D) Rs 9.45 lakh crore
11. *Which of the following city organized the National Apprenticeship Mela under Skill India Mission?*
 - (A) New Delhi
 - (B) Lucknow
 - (C) Bangalore
 - (D) Udhampur
12. *The Gond painting has recently received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag. The painting is the painting of which Indian state?*
 - (A) Telangana
 - (B) Chhattisgarh
 - (C) Madhya Pradesh
 - (D) Jharkhand
13. *The External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar has launched the 'Tulsi Ghat Restoration Project' in which Country?*
 - (A) Saudi Arabia
 - (B) Israel
 - (C) South Africa
 - (D) Uganda
14. *Which of the following social media platform has launched a new campaign called "Stay Safe" in April 2023?*
 - (A) Facebook
 - (B) WhatsApp
 - (C) Instagram
 - (D) Twitter

15. In which year Biju Setu Yojana Was launched?

- (A) 2009
- (B) 2011
- (C) 2013
- (D) 2015

16. According to the World of Statistics ranking, which of the following is the most criminal country in the world?

- (A) Pakistan
- (B) Afghanistan
- (C) Venezuela
- (D) Sudan

17. Who has been awarded the International Prize 2023 in Statistics, often referred to as the Nobel Prize of Statistics?

- (A) M. Venkatesh Reddy
- (B) C. Radhakrishna Rao
- (C) K. Somnath Misra
- (D) P. Somya Jain

18. Who has become the fastest batsman to reach the 6000-run mark in the Indian Premier League (IPL)?

- (A) Rohit Sharma
- (B) MS Dhoni
- (C) Virat Kohli
- (D) David Warner

19. According to a survey published by London-based 'Time Out' which city was ranked as the city with the best public transport system globally?

- (A) London, United Kingdom
- (B) New York, United States of America
- (C) Berlin, Germany
- (D) Paris, France

20. Recently a report titled "The state of the world's children 2023: For every child, vaccination" has praised the Odisha government's immunization coverage despite the challenge of the Covid-19 pandemic. Which of the following organization has released this report?

- (A) World Bank
- (B) WHO
- (C) UNICEF
- (D) International Monetary Organization

21. Who won the silver medal in the women's 68kg category at the Asian wrestling championships 2023 held in Astana, Kazakhstan?

- (A) Sakshi Malik
- (B) Geeta Phogat
- (C) Nisha Dahiya
- (D) Babita Phogat

22. Which country recently become the first country in the world to approve a new malaria vaccine from Oxford University?

- (A) Bangladesh
- (B) Vietnam
- (C) Ghana
- (D) Brazil

23. According to poll affidavits analyzed by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR). Which state CM has the lowest total assets?

- (A) New Delhi
- (B) Gujarat
- (C) Rajasthan
- (D) West Bengal

24. The World Veterinary Day 2023 is celebrated on;

- (A) 20 April
- (B) 23 April
- (C) 26 April
- (D) 29 April

25. On 28th April, the first full trial run of Odisha's first Vande Bharat Express connecting which city of Odisha to Howrah in West Bengal was conducted.

- (A) Bhubaneswar
- (B) Cuttack
- (C) Puri
- (D) Rourkela

26. Who was honoured with the Best Actress Award at the Filmfare Awards 2023?

- (A) Kangana Ranaut
- (B) Alia Bhatt
- (C) Sonakshi Sinha
- (D) Katrina Kaif

27. N. Gopalakrishnan passed away in April 2023, he was a ____.

- (A) Politician
- (B) Actor
- (C) Scientist
- (D) Classical singer

28. India's first water metro service was recently inaugurated in which state?

- (A) Gujarat
- (B) Kerala
- (C) West Bengal
- (D) Karnataka

29. Recently the Union Cabinet has decided to set up ____ medical device parks under the National Medical Device Policy.

- (A) 2
- (B) 4

- (C) 6
(D) 8

30. *Lawyers' Day in Odisha Is celebrated on____.*

- (A) 24 April
(B) 26 April
(C) 28 April
(D) 30 April

31. *Who has been sworn in as the new President of Bangladesh?*

- (A) Khaleda Zia
(B) Shahabuddin Chuppu
(C) Sheikh Ibrahim Saleh
(D) Muhammadu Buhari

32. *National Panchayati Raj Day is celebrated on____.*

- (A) 16 April
(B) 20 April
(C) 24 April
(D) 28 April

33. *The joint exercise between the Indian and American air forces "Cope India 2023" was held in which India State?*

- (A) Gujarat
(B) Uttarakhand
(C) Karnataka
(D) West Bengal.

34. *Which of the following country has recently honoured Ratan Tata with its highest civilian honour?*

- (A) France
(B) Germany
(C) Australia
(D) New Zealand

35. *Operation Kaveri is the evacuation operation carried out by the Indian government to bring back its citizens from which of the following Country?*

- (A) Yemen
(B) Afghanistan
(C) Sudan
(D) Libya

36. *Which Indian state recently becomes the first to prepare a DNA database for the identification of unidentified dead bodies?*

- (A) New Delhi
(B) Gujarat
(C) Himachal Pradesh
(D) Kerala

37. *Who is the first Indian woman cricketer to be named Wisden Cricketers of the Year?*

- (A) Mithali Raj
(B) Smriti Mandhana
(C) Harmanpreet Kaur
(D) Deepti Sharma

38. *Which Indian state has won the National Award for best implementation of 'Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana'?*

- (A) Punjab
(B) Haryana
(C) Madhya Pradesh
(D) Karnataka

39. *Which of the following country has become India's largest trading partner in the financial year 2022-23?*

- (A) China
(B) United Kingdom
(C) United States
(D) Saudi Arabia

40. *Recently, the Odisha government launched its own Odia typing tool in English. What is the name of the typing tool?*

- (A) Mo Lipi
(B) Amma Lipi
(C) Ama Lipi
(D) Ma Lipi

41. *Which of the following country has recently shut down its last three nuclear reactors?*

- (A) United Kingdom
(B) United States
(C) Germany
(D) Australia

42. *In which Indian city the first 3D-printed post office was constructed recently?*

- (A) New Delhi
(B) Ahmedabad
(C) Bengaluru
(D) Hyderabad

43. *Which state government has recently passed a bill to ban online gambling?*

- (A) Karnataka
(B) Kerala
(C) Tamil Nadu
(D) Andhra Pradesh

44. *Which player won India's first gold medal in the Asian Wrestling Championship 2023 in Astana, Kazakhstan?*

- (A) Sakshi Malik
(B) Aman Sehrawat

- (C) Bajrang Punia
(D) Sushil Kumar

- (C) Uttar Pradesh
(D) Himachal Pradesh

45. Consider the following statement about the Odisha State Commission for Women;

1. It is a Constitutional body.
2. It has a chairperson and six members appointed by the state government.

Which of the following Statement is/are correct?

- (A) 1 only (B) 2 only
(C) Both 1 and 2 (D) Neither 1 nor 2

46. Which country has recently launched an initiative to license crypto firms?

- (A) Japan.
(B) China.
(C) El Salvador
(D) Venezuela

47. Which of the following state government has recently given OBC status to the transgender community?

- (A) Andhra Pradesh
(B) Madhya Pradesh

48. The President of India has inaugurated the 'Bhoroxa' (Trust) App, it is related to;

- (A) Online Education
(B) Police Reform
(C) Woman's Safety
(D) Skill Development

49. Which country has recently become the 31st member of NATO?

- (A) Ukraine
(B) Poland
(C) Norway
(D) Finland

50. The State of Odisha marked the first 'zero fatality week' campaign from ___April to ___April.

- (A) 1 - 7
(B) 7-15
(C) 15-21
(D) 21-28

ANSWERS

1. Answer: C

Explanation: In a first-ever census of mangrove pitta birds carried out in two coastal districts of Odisha, 179 such birds were sighted. This is the first-ever systematic survey of this species in India, and it covered an area of 1,000 hectares of mangrove forests in Bhitarkanika National Park and Mahanadi Wildlife Sanctuary.

2. Answer: C

Explanation: The Centre has approved the installation of 10 nuclear reactors in five states; Karnataka, Haryana, Madhya Pradesh, and Rajasthan.

3. Answer: D

Explanation: To commemorate the rich and diverse Dogra culture and heritage, the Directorate of Tourism, Jammu is organising a three-day 'Baisakhi Mahotsav 2023' in Jammu and Kashmir from April 13 to 15 2023.

The event aims to promote tourism and cultural exchange in the region and to celebrate the spirit of Baisakhi, which marks the harvest season and the beginning of a new year.

4. Answer: C

Explanation: According to the Election Commission of India, a political party can be recognised as a national party if it meets certain criteria based on its performance in Lok Sabha or Assembly elections. One of the criteria is that the party should be recognised in at least four states.

In April 2023, the latest political party to achieve this status is the Aam Aadmi Party (AAP), led by Delhi Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal.

5. Answer: C

Explanation: Recently Odisha Government has announced that the students of all government and government-aided schools in Odisha will get iron and folic acid (IFA) tablets during the summer vacation under the Anemia Mukta Lakhsya AbhiyaN (AMLAN).

Anaemia Mukta Lakhya Abhiyan (AMLAN) was launched by Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik on November 24, 2022, to eradicate anaemia from the state.

6. Answer: D

Explanation: Anaemia is a condition that occurs when the blood does not have enough healthy red blood cells or haemoglobin. Haemoglobin is the protein in red blood cells that carries oxygen to the tissues of the body. Anaemia can cause symptoms such as fatigue, weakness, shortness of breath, dizziness, and pale skin.

There are many possible causes of anaemia, depending on the type and severity of the condition. Some of the common causes are; Iron deficiency, Vitamin B12 and folate deficiency.

7. Answer: B

Explanation: The World Bank has announced a loan of \$100 million for Odisha.

The loan from the World Bank will support two projects in Odisha: Odisha Disaster Recovery Project (ODRP) and Odisha Social Protection Program (OSPP).

8. Answer: C

Explanation: A new facility dedicated to the conservation and breeding of the Asian king vulture, a species that faces a high risk of extinction, will soon be inaugurated in the Maharajganj district of Uttar Pradesh. This will be the first centre of its kind in the world to focus on the protection and propagation of this rare and majestic bird of prey.

9. Answer: C

Explanation: Hyderabad, Telangana hosted the Food Conclave-2023 on April 28 and 29, a prestigious annual event that brings together 100 experts from the agri-food industry to discuss and exchange ideas on various topics related to food production, processing, and innovation.

The event was organized by the Government of Telangana, with the support of several knowledge partners such as the World Economic Forum-India, Indian Vegetable Oil Producers Association (IVPA), Indian Dairy Association, Heifer International, and Society of Aquaculture Professionals.

10. Answer: C

Explanation: Gross State Domestic Product (GSDP): The GSDP of Odisha for 2023-24 is projected to be Rs 8.65 lakh crore, amounting to a growth of 12.9% over 2022-23.

11. Answer: D

Explanation: As a part of Prime Minister Narendra Modi's vision to boost career opportunities for India's youth under the Skill India Mission, the Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE) organized the Pradhan Mantri National Apprenticeship Mela, PMNAM at IIT College in Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir.

12. Answer: C

Explanation: Gond painting is a form of tribal art that originated in Madhya Pradesh and is associated with the Gond community.

The Gond painting was traditionally done on the mud walls and floors of the houses, using natural colours made from charcoal, cow dung, leaves, and flowers.

In April 2023, the Gond painting received the Geographical Indication (GI) tag from the Government of India.

13. Answer: D

Explanation: The External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar inaugurated the 'Tulsi Ghat Restoration Project' in Uganda, as part of India's development partnership with the African nation.

14. Answer: B

Explanation:

15. Answer: B

Explanation: Recently the Odisha state government approved Rs 3,597 crore to build 866 new bridges on rural roads and expand the Cuttack Ring Road at an estimated cost of Rs 121 crore.

The Biju Setu Yojana was launched by the Odisha government in 2011 to build bridges in rural areas for improving the communication and socio-economic conditions of the people.

16. Answer: C

Explanation: According to a report by World of Statistics, Venezuela has been ranked as the most criminal country in the world, followed by Papua New Guinea, Afghanistan, South Africa, Honduras and Trinidad and Tobago. The ranking is based on the crime index, which measures the level of crime and safety in a country.

The report also highlighted the factors that contribute to the high crime rates in these countries, such as poverty, inequality, corruption, violence and social unrest.

17. Answer: B

Explanation: The International Prize in Statistics 2023, which is statistics' equivalent of the Nobel Prize, has been awarded to Calyampudi Radhakrishna Rao, a prominent Indian-American mathematician and statistician.

Rao is recognized for his pioneering work in 1945 that laid the foundation for the modern field of statistics and provided powerful tools for scientific data analysis.

18. Answer: D

Explanation: David Warner, the captain of Delhi Capitals became the fastest batsman to reach the 6000-run mark in the IPL during a match against Rajasthan Royals at the Barsapara Stadium in Guwahati. He achieved this feat in just 165 innings, which is faster than Virat Kohli and Shikhar Dhawan, who are the only other players to have scored 6000 runs in the IPL.

19. Answer: C

Explanation: Berlin in Germany has been named the city with the most exceptional public transport system globally, according to a survey conducted by Time Out, a London-based media outlet that specializes in the hospitality industry and identifies itself as a global brand committed to urban life.

20. Answer: C

Explanation: UNICEF in its latest report 'The state of the world's children 2023: For every child, vaccination,' praised the Odisha government's immunization coverage despite the challenge of the Covid-19 pandemic.

According to the report, more than 90% of children in Odisha are fully immunized, which is significantly higher than the national average of 76.4%

21. Answer: C

Explanation: The silver medal in the women's 68kg category at the Asian wrestling championships 2023 held in Astana, Kazakhstan was won by India's Nisha Dahiya. She defeated Delgermaa Enkhsaikhan of Mongolia and Feng Zhou of China in the quarter-finals and semi-finals respectively, before losing to Japan's Ami Ishi in the final.

22. Answer: C

Explanation: Ghana has become the first country in the world to approve a new malaria vaccine from Oxford University, which could save millions of lives from the deadly disease. The vaccine is called R21/Matrix-M.

23. Answer: D

Explanation: According to poll affidavits analyzed by the Association for Democratic Reforms (ADR), West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee has the lowest total assets of about ₹15 lakhs among the current 30 CMs of states and union territories.

Out of the 30 CMs, 29 (97%) are crorepatris with an average asset value of ₹33.96 crore per CM. The top CM in terms of assets is Andhra Pradesh's Jagan Mohan Reddy (over ₹510 crore).

24. Answer: D

Explanation: The World Veterinary Day 2023 is celebrated on 29th April 2023. This day is observed to honour and recognise the contributions of veterinarians to animal health, welfare and public health. The theme of World Veterinary Day 2023 is 'Promoting Diversity, Equity, and Inclusiveness in the Veterinary Profession'.

25. Answer: C

Explanation: The first full trial run of Odisha's first Vande Bharat Express connecting Puri to Howrah in West Bengal was conducted on 28 April.

26. Answer: B

Explanation: The Filmfare Awards 2023 was a night of glamour and glory for the Bollywood industry.

Alia Bhatt won the Best Actress in a Leading Role award for her portrayal of Gangubai Kathiawadi, a brothel owner and mafia queen in Mumbai's red-light district. This was her fourth Filmfare award for Best Actress, after winning it for Highway, Raazi and Gully Boy in the past

27. Answer: C

Explanation: Dr N. Gopalakrishnan, a renowned scientist and academician, has passed away at the age of 76. He was associated with the field of materials science and engineering and made significant contributions to the development of nanomaterials, biomaterials, and smart materials.

28. Answer: B

Explanation: India's first water metro service was recently inaugurated in Kerala by Prime Minister Narendra Modi. The Kochi Water Metro is a network of electric-hybrid boats that connect ten islands in and around the port city of Kochi.

29. Answer: B

Explanation: According to the National Medical Devices Policy 2023, which was approved by the Union Cabinet on April 26, 2023, the government plans to support the setting up of 4 medical device parks in Himachal Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh, Tamil Nadu and Uttar Pradesh.

These parks will provide infrastructure and facilities for the domestic production of medical devices and reduce the import dependence in this sector.

30. Answer: C

Explanation: The people of Odisha paid rich tributes to Utkal Gauraba Madhusudan Das on his birth anniversary on 28th April. The birthday anniversary is also observed as Lawyers' Day in Odisha.

31. Answer: B

Explanation: Shahabuddin Chuppu, a former judge and freedom fighter, has become the 22nd president of Bangladesh. He succeeds Abdul Hamid, who served two consecutive terms as president.

32. Answer: C

Explanation: The National Panchayati Raj Day is observed on April 24 every year, as it marks the date when the first Panchayat elections were held in India.

The day aims to highlight the importance of grassroots democracy and decentralization of power in India.

33. Answer: D

Explanation: In Paschim Medinipur district of West Bengal, a joint exercise between the air forces of India and America took place. The exercise, named "Cope India 2023", aimed to enhance interoperability and cooperation between the two countries.

34. Answer: C

Explanation: Ratan Tata has been awarded Australia's highest civilian honour, the Order of Australia. Tata was recognised for his significant contributions to the Australia-India relationship, especially in the fields of trade, investment, education and philanthropy.

35. Answer: C

Explanation: Operation Kaveri is the evacuation operation carried out by the Indian government to bring back its citizens from Sudan, a country that has been engulfed in a violent conflict between the military and a paramilitary force.

The operation involves the use of Indian Navy and Indian Air Force assets, as well as coordination with other countries and international organizations.

The Sudan crisis erupted on April 15, 2023, when the Rapid Support Force (RSF), a powerful paramilitary group that was part of the transitional government, clashed with the Sudanese army over a coup attempt.

36. Answer: C

Explanation: Himachal Pradesh has become the "first state" to create a DNA database of unidentified bodies. The official said that the database would help in identifying the bodies and providing relief to the families looking for their missing relatives. The database would also assist in solving crimes, identifying disaster victims and tracking repeat offenders.

37. Answer: C

Explanation: Harmanpreet Kaur is the first Indian woman cricketer to be named Wisden Cricketers of the Year. She achieved this honour in 2023. She is the captain of the Indian women's team and a prolific batter.

38. Answer: D

Explanation: Karnataka has bagged the national award for the best implementation of Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana (PMFBY) for the year 2022-23.

39. Answer: C

Explanation: United States emerges as India's biggest trading partner in FY23 at USD 128.55 bn. The Commerce Ministry data shows that the bilateral trade between India and the United States has increased by 7.65% in 2022-23.

40. Answer: C

Explanation: Odisha government creates its own 'Ama Lipi' Odia typing too in English. It is a Unicode phonetic software that allows users to type Odia characters, matras, phalas and conjuncts easily and quickly. It also suggests probable words as you type and has a character map for selecting Odia numerals and symbols.

41. Answer: C

Explanation: In April 2023, Germany switched off its three remaining nuclear power plants as part of a long-planned transition toward renewable energy.

42. Answer: C

Explanation: The first 3D-printed post office in India is being constructed in Bengaluru, Karnataka by Larsen & Toubro Ltd (L&T), a leading engineering and construction company.

43. Answer: C

Explanation: The state government of Tamil Nadu has recently passed a bill to ban online gambling and regulate online games in the state. The bill aims to prohibit online games that involve money or other stakes, such as rummy and poker, citing concerns over addiction and public order.

44. Answer: B

Explanation: Aman Sehrawat, a freestyle wrestler, won India's first gold medal in the Asian Wrestling Championship 2023.

45. Answer: B

Explanation: Recently, the Odisha Government appointed six new members of the State Commission for Women.

Statement 1 is incorrect: It is a statutory body established in 1993 under the Odisha State Commission for Women Act, 1993. It is mandated to safeguard the rights and interests of women in the state of Odisha. It works for the empowerment of women and the elimination of all forms of discrimination and violence against them.

Statement 2 is correct: It has a chairperson and six members appointed by the state government. The chairperson and the members are eminent women from various fields such as law, education, social work, health, media, etc.

46. Answer: C

Explanation: Central American country "El Salvador" has started an initiative to license crypto firms that want to operate in the country as digital asset service providers. The first crypto firm to receive this license was Bitfinex Securities, a subsidiary of iFinex Group that also owns Bitfinex and Tether.

47. Answer: B

Explanation: Madhya Pradesh government has recently added the transgender community to the Other Backward Classes (OBC) list of the state.

48. Answer: C

Explanation: President Draupadi Murmu has launched a mobile application called 'Bhoroxa' (Trust). The app, developed by the Assam State Commission for Women (ASCW), allows women to send distress signals to the nearest police station and their emergency contacts in case of any threat or danger. The app also

provides information on various laws, schemes and helplines related to women's rights and welfare.

49. Answer: D

Explanation: Finland has become the 31st member of NATO, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, a military alliance that provides collective security for its members. Finland joined NATO on April 4, 2023.

50. Answer: A

Explanation: The state of Odisha launched a 'zero fatality week' campaign from April 1 to 7, 2023, to reduce road accidents and deaths in the state.

APTI PLUS
Academy for Civil Services Pvt. Ltd.

**OAS
PRELIMS
TEST
SERIES
2022**

**Based on NCERT,
Standard Text Books &
Current Affairs**

₹ 4,999

Call: 9938386166, 7327846166, 8260677707