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**BY: SANDEEP BANSAL**

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MCQ Quiz  
Questions

[NCERTQUIZ.COM](https://ncertquiz.com)

- **Which water body is home to the ports of Caimanera and Boquerón, recently seen in the news?**
- (a) Red Sea
- (b) Hudson Bay
- (c) Guantánamo Bay
- (d) Black Sea



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## Correct Answer: (c) Guantánamo Bay

- **Explanation:**

- The **US President** recently signed an executive order to prepare a **large-scale migrant detention center** at **Guantánamo Bay**, located in **southeastern Cuba**.
- This **strategic inlet** near the **Windward Passage** is served by the **ports of Caimanera and Boquerón**.
- **Guantánamo Bay**, often referred to as "**Gitmo**," has housed **terrorism suspects** since **9/11** and includes a **Migrant Operations Centre** for **Haitian and Cuban migrants**.
- The **current facility is too small** to accommodate the **30,000 detainees** expected under the new plans.

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*Atlantischer  
Ozean*

*Karibisches Meer*

# **KUBA- SANTIAGO DE CUBA**

HA  
OTION

- **In which Indian state will the country's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) university be established?**

- (a) Karnataka
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Andhra Pradesh
- (d) Maharashtra



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## Correct Answer: (d) Maharashtra

- **Explanation:**

- Maharashtra is set to establish **India's first Artificial Intelligence (AI) university**, with a dedicated **task force** formed for its **planning and implementation**.
- The university will focus on **AI research, innovation, and education**, promoting **collaboration between industry, academia, and the government**.
- The initiative aims to make **Maharashtra a leading hub for AI-driven skill development and technological advancements**.
- The university will also contribute to **policy formulation and regulatory frameworks** for AI in India.

- Consider the following statements regarding Kashmir's hand-knotted carpets ("Kal Baffi"):
- The Persian Sehna (Sinneh) knot is the primary knotting technique used.
- Sultan Zain-ul-Abidin introduced this craft to Kashmir in the 15th century.
- Unlike other woven rugs, its pile is formed by looping yarn onto warp threads.
- A distinctive vertical loom with horizontal beams is used for weaving.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2, and 3 only
- (c) 2 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

- **Correct Answer: (d) 1, 2, 3, and 4**
- **Explanation:**
- **Sehna (Sinneh) knot** is a Persian-origin knot used in Kashmiri carpets.
- **Zain-ul-Abidin** introduced Persian weaving techniques in the 15th century.
- **Warp-looped knots** create the pile, unlike regular handwoven rugs.
- **A wooden vertical loom** with two horizontal beams is traditionally used.
- Recently, the Geographical Indications Registry Chennai has granted a new logo for the Kashmir hand-knotted carpet in order to preserve the exclusivity of the famed Kashmir carpets.



# THE ART OF KAL BAFFI





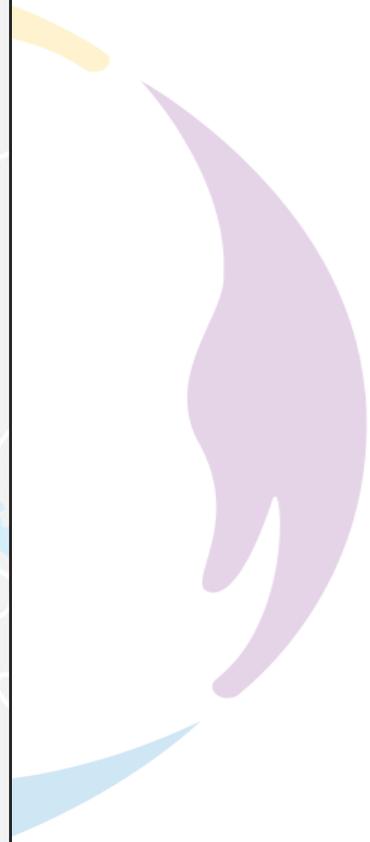


- **Which country was the host of the inaugural African Urban Heat Summit?**
- (a) Nigeria
- (b) Democratic Republic of the Congo
- (c) Sierra Leone
- (d) Egypt



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- **Correct Answer: (c) Sierra Leone**
- **Sierra Leone** hosted the **first-ever African Urban Heat Summit**, launching **Freetown's Heat Action Plan (HAP)**—Africa's **first** comprehensive urban heat response strategy.
- Organized by **Freetown and Climate Resilience for All (CRA)**, the summit gathered **mayors, policymakers and climate experts** to address **rising urban heat risks**.
- The **HAP** focuses on **cooling corridors, green spaces and protective measures** for vulnerable populations.
- With **70% of Africa's population** projected to be **urban by 2050**, deadly **heatwaves** are anticipated by the **2090s**, posing **health and economic challenges**.



HITHA  
DEVOTION

- **Consider the following statements regarding the Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhyuday Yojana (PM-AJAY):**
- **It is a 100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme aimed at poverty reduction among Scheduled Castes (SCs).**
- **The scheme was introduced by merging three existing schemes, including the Pradhan Mantri Adarsh Gram Yojana (PMAGY).**
- **Only Scheduled Caste individuals living below the poverty line are eligible for benefits under this scheme.**
- **Under its infrastructure development component, only villages with at least 50% SC population are eligible for grants.**
- **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**
- (a) 1 and 2 only
- (b) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (c) 3 and 4 only
- (d) 1, 2, 3, and 4

- **Correct Answer: (b) 1, 2, and 4 only**
- **Explanation:**
- **Statement 1 is correct:** PM-AJAY is a **100% Centrally Sponsored Scheme** launched to **reduce poverty among SC communities** through employment generation and socio-economic development.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** It is a **merged scheme** that includes **PMAGY, Special Central Assistance to SCSP, and Babu Jagjivan Ram Chhatrawas Yojana.**
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The scheme **primarily benefits SCs**, but it does **not restrict benefits only to individuals living below the poverty line**—infrastructure development is also covered.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** Villages with **at least 50% SC population** are eligible for **grants under the infrastructure development component** of the scheme.

**Pradhan Mantri Anusuchit Jaati Abhuyday Yojana (PM-AJAY)  
is a merged scheme of 3 Centrally**

## **SPONSORED SCHEMES**



Special Central Assistance to  
Scheduled Castes Sub Plan  
(SCA to SCSP)



Pradhan Mantri Adarsh  
Gram Yojana  
(PMAGY)



Babu Jagjivan Ram  
Chhatrawas Yojana  
(BJRCY)

# TEAM NISHTHA

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• **Which city is set to host the 12th edition of the World Government Summit in 2025?**

- (a) Beijing
- (b) Dubai
- (c) Paris
- (d) New Delhi



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: (b) Dubai**
- **Explanation:**
- The **12th World Government Summit** is being held in **Dubai, UAE, from February 10 to February 13, 2025.**
- The event brings together **global leaders, policymakers, and experts** to discuss governance and innovation.
- The theme for **2025** is "**Shaping Future Governments.**"
- It is organized by a **non-governmental organization** founded in **2013** by **Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum.**

- **Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi (KASP) is a health initiative of which Indian state?**
- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Odisha
- (c) Kerala
- (d) Maharashtra



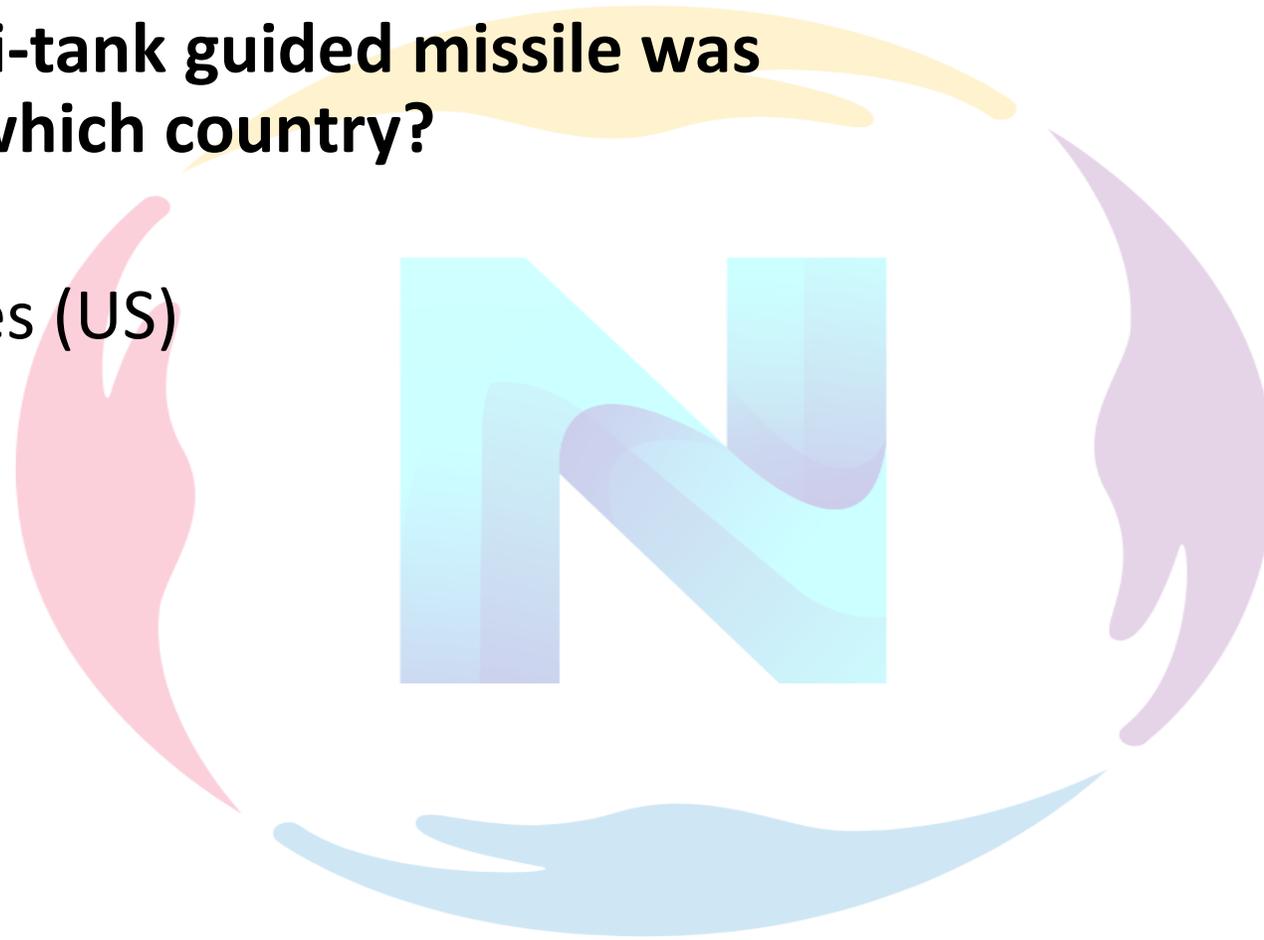
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- **Correct Answer: (c) Kerala**
- **Explanation:**
- The **Kerala government** allocated an additional **₹300 crore** for the **Karunya Arogya Suraksha Padhathi (KASP)**, bringing the total allocation to **₹978.54 crore** for the current financial year.
- **KASP provides ₹5 lakh health coverage per family annually to over 64 lakh vulnerable individuals.**
- It benefits **41.99 lakh poor families (bottom 40% of the state's population)** and is implemented in **197 state-run, 4 central, and 364 private hospitals.**
- **₹700 crore** is earmarked for KASP in the upcoming state budget.

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- **The Javelin anti-tank guided missile was developed by which country?**
- (a) France
- (b) United States (US)
- (c) China
- (d) Russia



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- **Correct Answer: (b) United States (US)**
- **Explanation:**
- **Javelin is a man-portable, fire-and-forget anti-tank guided missile developed by Raytheon and Lockheed Martin (US).**
- It is designed to destroy **heavily armored vehicles, bunkers, and fortifications** and is also effective against **low-flying helicopters**.
- **India and the US** are in talks for the **procurement and co-production** of these missiles to strengthen India's defense capabilities.

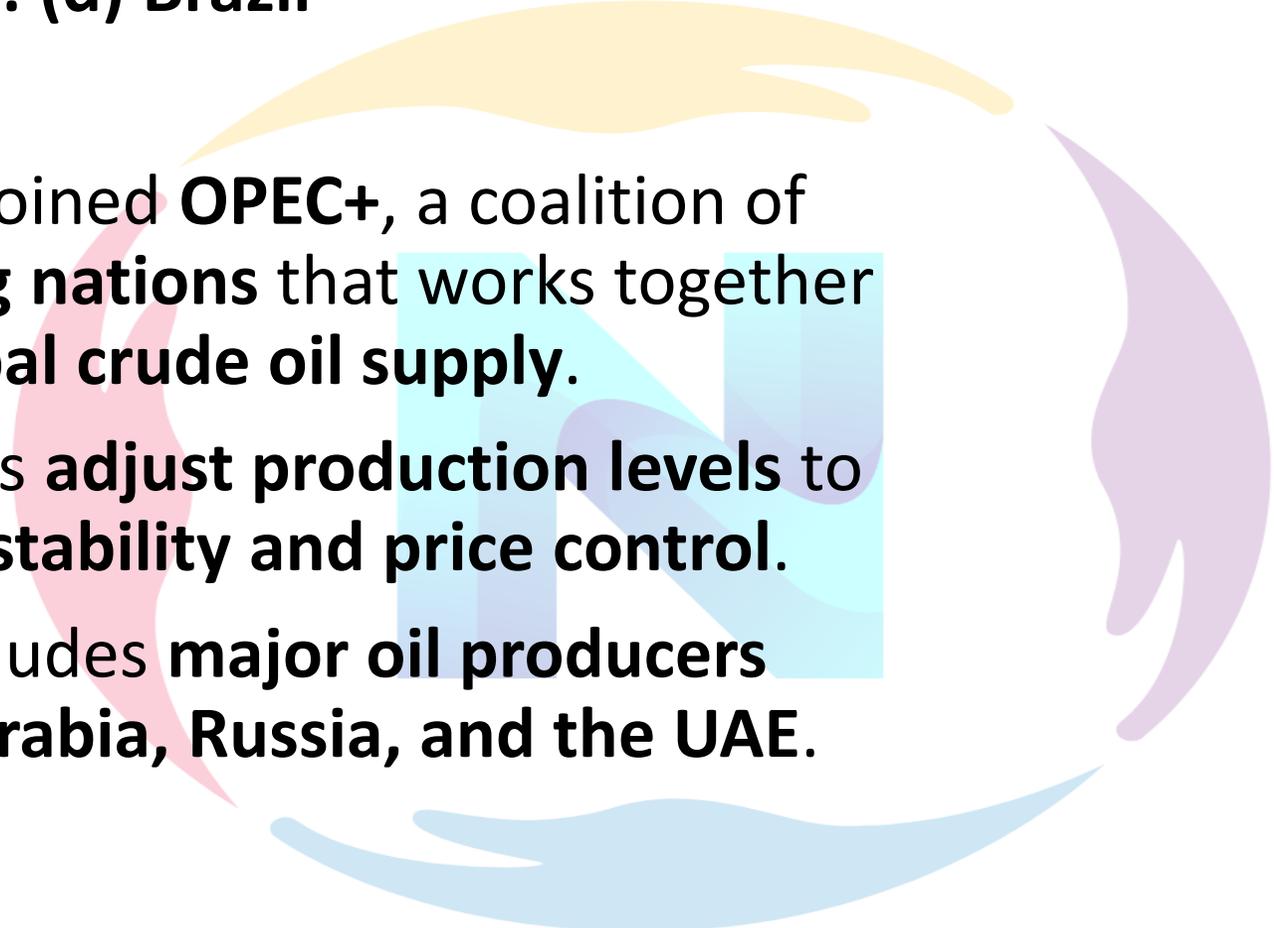


SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Which country recently became a member of OPEC+?**
- (a) Kenya
- (b) Uganda
- (c) Egypt
- (d) Brazil



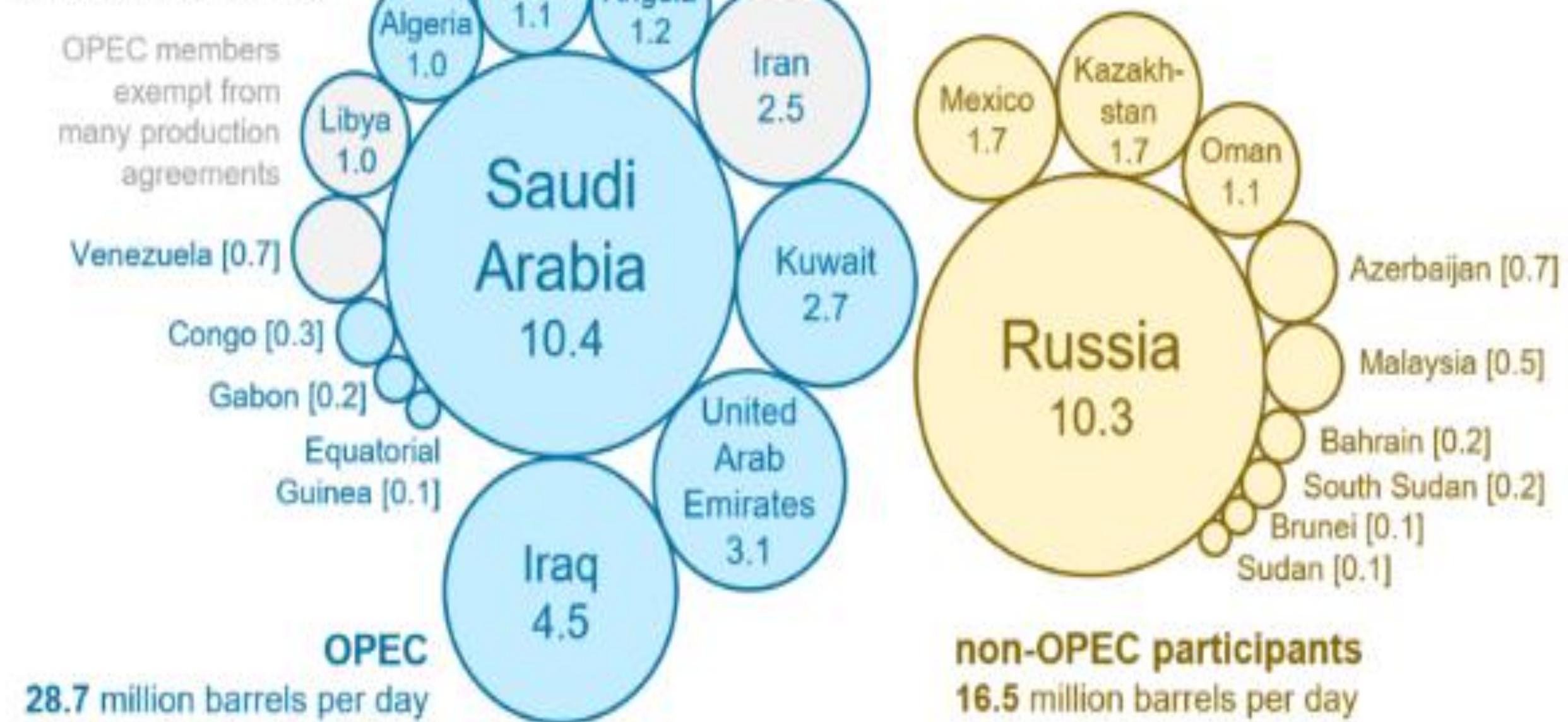
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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- 
- **Correct Answer: (d) Brazil**
  - **Explanation:**
  - **Brazil** recently joined **OPEC+**, a coalition of **22 oil-exporting nations** that works together to regulate **global crude oil supply**.
  - OPEC+ members **adjust production levels** to ensure **market stability and price control**.
  - The alliance includes **major oil producers** such as **Saudi Arabia, Russia, and the UAE**.

# Total oil production from OPEC+ (OPEC and non-OPEC participants)

2022 production in million barrels per day

OPEC members exempt from many production agreements



**OPEC**

**28.7 million barrels per day**

**non-OPEC participants**

**16.5 million barrels per day**

# WORLD

## OPEC Member Countries



SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **The 2nd edition of Simolu Festival was celebrated in which Indian state?**
- (a) Assam
- (b) Sikkim
- (c) Nagaland
- (d) Manipur



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: (a) Assam**
- **Explanation:**
- **The 2nd Simolu Festival took place on February 15, 2025, at Bwisang-Na eco-resort, Barunguri, Laokhowa, Assam.**
- **It celebrates the blooming of Bombax ceiba (Shimul) flowers, promoting eco-tourism, conservation, and local culture.**
- **Activities included cycling, camping, ethnic cuisine displays, cultural performances, and awareness sessions.**



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- **Which state government introduced the nPROUD (New Programme for Removal of Unused Drugs) initiative?**
- (a) Gujarat
- (b) Tamil Nadu
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Kerala



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- **Correct Answer: (d) Kerala**
- **Explanation:**
- **Kerala** launched **nPROUD**, India's **first government-led initiative** to collect and dispose of **unused and expired medicines** scientifically.
- The initiative will be **piloted in Kozhikode Corporation and Ulliyeri panchayat** before being expanded statewide.
- It involves **local self-government bodies and the Green Brigade** for proper implementation.

- **Which tech company unveiled its first quantum computing chip, Majorana 1?**
- (a) Amazon
- (b) Microsoft
- (c) Meta
- (d) Google



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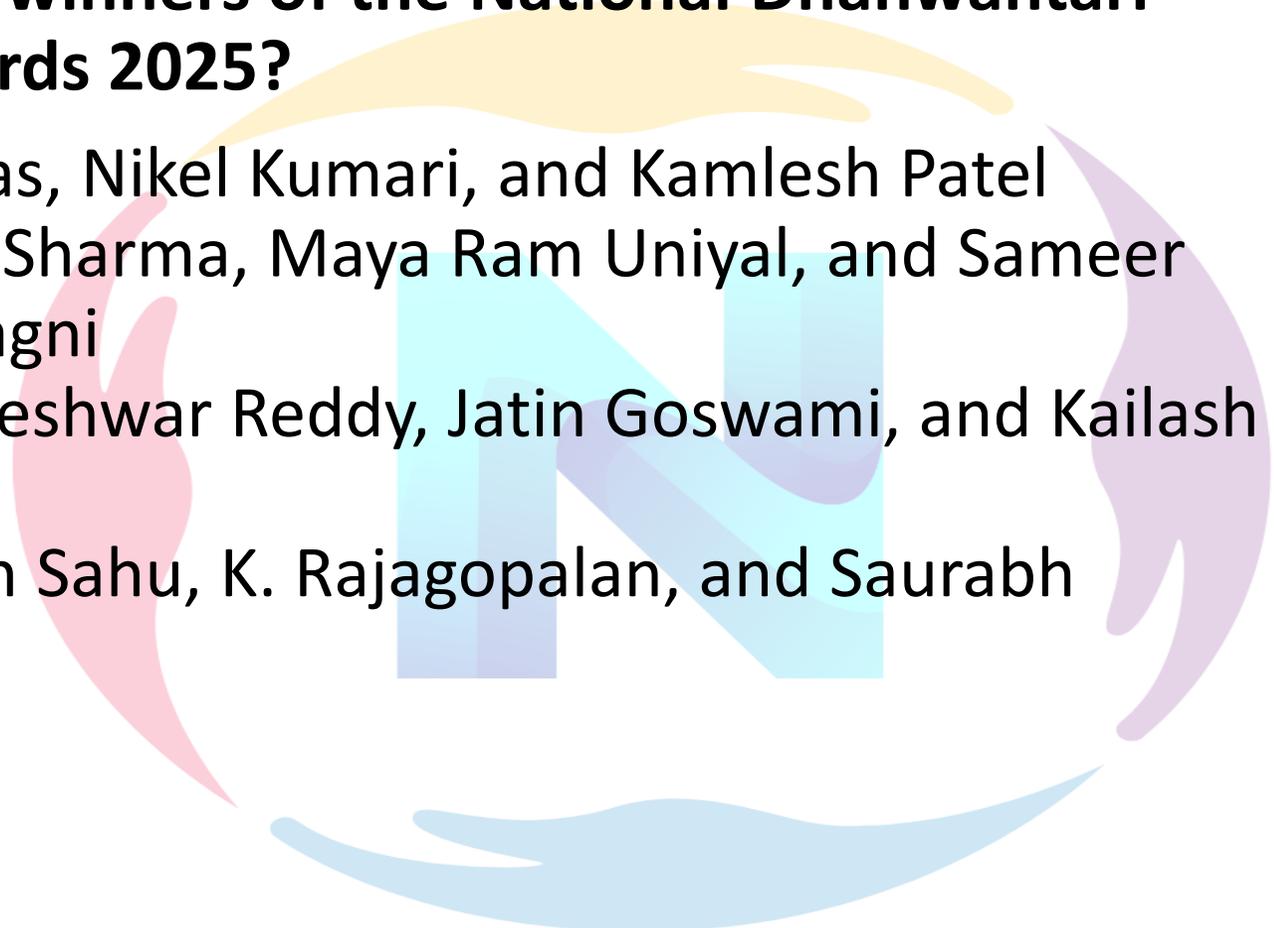
- **Correct Answer: (b) Microsoft**
- **Microsoft** introduced **Majorana 1**, a breakthrough **quantum computing chip** designed for **better stability, speed, and reduced computational errors**.
- The chip is based on **Majorana particles**, an exotic quantum state that enhances reliability.
- It has been validated by **DARPA (Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency), U.S.**



TEAM  
SHAPING CA



- **Who were the winners of the National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025?**
- (a) Mahesh Vyas, Nikel Kumari, and Kamlesh Patel
- (b) Tara Chand Sharma, Maya Ram Uniyal, and Sameer Govind Jamadagni
- (c) Duvvur Nageshwar Reddy, Jatin Goswami, and Kailash Nath Dikshit
- (d) Manoranjan Sahu, K. Rajagopalan, and Saurabh Dwivedi



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- **Correct Answer: (b) Tara Chand Sharma, Maya Ram Uniyal, and Sameer Govind Jamadagni**
- **The Ministry of AYUSH honored three distinguished Ayurveda practitioners with the National Dhanwantari Ayurveda Awards 2025 in Mumbai.**
- **Awardees:**
  - **Vaidya Tara Chand Sharma** – Nadi Vaidya expert and author.
  - **Vaidya Maya Ram Uniyal** – Scholar in **Dravyaguna Vigyana** with 60 years of service.
  - **Vaidya Sameer Govind Jamadagni** – Founder of **Vishwa Vyakhyanmala**.
- Each recipient received a **citation, a trophy featuring Lord Dhanwantari, and ₹5 lakh.**



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- **Where was the Exercise Desert Hunt 2025 conducted?**

- (a) Rann of Kutch
- (b) Spiti Valley
- (c) Jodhpur
- (d) Nubra Valley



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: (c) Jodhpur**
- **Explanation:**
- **Exercise Desert Hunt 2025** was a **tri-service special forces exercise** conducted at **Air Force Station Jodhpur, Rajasthan, from February 24-28, 2025.**
- It included **Para (SF)** from the **Indian Army**, **Marine Commandos (MARCOS)** from the **Navy**, and **Garud (SF)** from the **Air Force.**
- The drills focused on **airborne insertion**, **precision strikes**, **hostage rescue**, **counter-terrorism**, and **urban warfare.**

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- **Which ministry launched the ‘One Day as a Scientist’ initiative to promote scientific research among students?**
- (a) Ministry of Science and Technology
- (b) Ministry of Defence
- (c) Ministry of AYUSH
- (d) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare



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- **Correct Answer: (c) Ministry of AYUSH**
- **Explanation:**
- The **Ministry of AYUSH** introduced the **‘One Day as a Scientist’** initiative to engage students in **scientific research and innovation.**
- It aligns with **PM Modi’s ‘Mann Ki Baat’** vision to **develop a scientific mindset** in young students.
- The program allows students to visit **AYUSH institutions**, explore **modern research labs**, and gain **hands-on experience** in **traditional and modern medicine.**

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- **Which state launched the 'Mana Mitra' initiative, a WhatsApp Governance service?**

- (a) Tamil Nadu
- (b) Andhra Pradesh
- (c) Karnataka
- (d) Telangana



**TEAM NISHTHA**

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer:** (b) Andhra Pradesh
- The 'Mana Mitra' initiative was launched by the **Andhra Pradesh** government, allowing citizens to access 161 civil services via WhatsApp.
- The service was unveiled by Minister Nara Lokesh in Amaravati, aiming to bring government services directly to the people.
- It was developed in partnership with Meta and is set to expand with the integration of blockchain and AI technologies for seamless digital governance.

**Recently, Ellie, Asia's first life-sized animatronic, was seen in the news. Which animal is Ellie designed to represent?**

- (a) Tiger
- (b) Lion
- (c) Rhino
- (d) Elephant



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- **Correct Answer:** (d) Elephant

- **Explanation:**

Ellie is an animatronic elephant introduced by PETA India in Bengaluru.

- It is designed to educate children about the harsh realities of elephant captivity, animal welfare, and compassion.

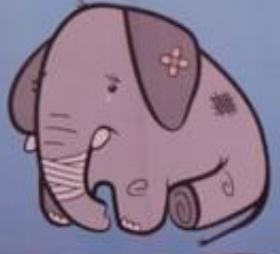
- Through its hyper-realistic movements and interactions, Ellie narrates a story of cruelty in circuses and the rescue of elephants to sanctuaries, highlighting the importance of not using elephants for entertainment.

- An animatronic is a puppet that moves with the help of electronics. Animatronics are used in movies, video games, and theme parks. The term is a combination of "animation" and "electronics".

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ELEPHANTS  
**NEVER  
FORGET**



... and Ellie  
will show you  
how you can  
help th



ELEPHANTS  
**NEVER  
FORGET**



... and E  
will sho  
how you  
help



**In which of the following states in India has the white tiger breeding centre been approved by the Central Zoo Authority (CZA)?**

- A. Rajasthan
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Uttar Pradesh
- D. West Bengal



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- **Correct Answer:** B. Madhya Pradesh
- The Central Zoo Authority (CZA) has approved India's first White Tiger Breeding Centre in Rewa district, Madhya Pradesh.
- The centre, located in Govindgarh, near the Mukundpur white tiger safari, aims to enhance biodiversity conservation, promote wildlife tourism, and generate local employment.
- The region holds historical significance as it was home to the last known wild white tiger, which was captured in Rewa.



**Who among the following has been appointed as the new Chief Minister of Delhi?**

- (a) Arvind Kejriwal
- (b) Pramila Tokas
- (c) Rekha Gupta
- (d) Atishi Marlena



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- **Correct Answer:**  
(c) Rekha Gupta

- **Explanation:**

Rekha Gupta, a BJP leader and Shalimar Bagh MLA, has been appointed as the new Chief Minister of Delhi, succeeding Atishi Marlena of AAP.

- She was the 4th female CM of Delhi, following Sushma Swaraj, Sheila Dixit and Atishi Marlena.

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- **Recently, 'Keshav Kunj' was seen in the news. It is related to which of the following?**

- **Options:**

- (a) New House Policy for RSS Volunteer

- (b) The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) headquarters

- (c) A new training center for RSS volunteers

- (d) A cultural event organized by RSS

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- **Correct Answer:** (b) The Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS) headquarters
- 'Keshav Kunj' is the new headquarters of the **Rashtriya Swayamsevak Sangh (RSS)**, located in Jhandewalan, New Delhi.
- The complex includes multiple facilities such as high-rise towers, an auditorium, a library, a hospital, a canteen, and a Hanuman temple. Built with modern infrastructure and a focus on sustainability, it was funded entirely by public donations.



केशव कुंज

• India has inaugurated its first Open-Air Art Wall Museum at which location?

- A. Mumbai
- B. Chennai
- C. Kolkata
- D. New Delhi



TEAM NISHTHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: D) New Delhi**
- **Explanation:**  
India's first **Open-Air Art Wall Museum** has been inaugurated at **Mausam Bhawan, New Delhi**, to commemorate **150 years of the India Meteorological Department (IMD)**.
- The museum features **38 murals** that depict India's meteorological advancements and IMD's historical journey.
- Developed in collaboration with **Delhi Street Art**, the initiative transforms IMD's exterior walls into a visual representation of India's weather forecasting legacy.



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- Consider the following statements regarding the “Watershed Yatra” campaign:
  1. It has been launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti to promote river basin conservation in India.
  2. The campaign is part of Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0).
  3. One of its key objectives is to enhance soil and water conservation for sustainable agriculture.
- Which of the statements given above is/are correct?
  - A. 1 and 2 only
  - B. 2 and 3 only
  - C. 1 and 3 only
  - D. 1, 2, and 3

- **Correct Answer:** B. 2 and 3 only
- **Explanation:**

The **Watershed Yatra** campaign was launched by **Union Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan** under **Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchayee Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0)**, not by the **Ministry of Jal Shakti** but rather the **Ministry of Rural Development**.
- The initiative focuses on **soil and water conservation, sustainable resource management**, and improving **agricultural productivity and livelihoods**.
- Hence, **statement 1 is incorrect**, while **statements 2 and 3 are correct**.



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- **Recently, India has adopted the Electronic Personnel License (EPL) for flight crew. Which was the first country to do so?**

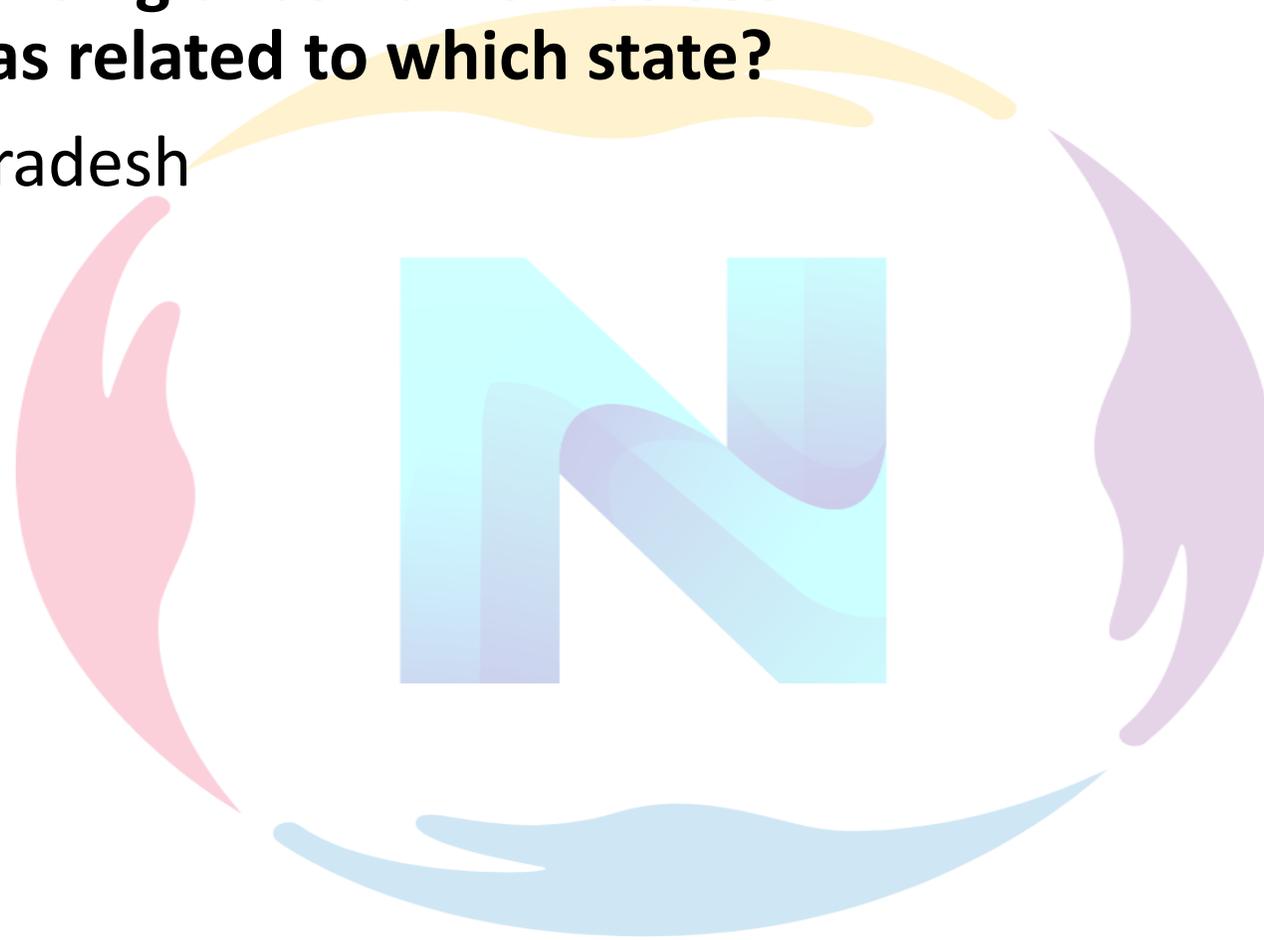
- A. China
- B. United States
- C. United Kingdom
- D. France



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- **Correct Answer: A. China**
- India has become the **second country** in the world to introduce the **Electronic Personnel License (EPL)** for flight crew, following **China**, which was the first to implement digital licensing for pilots.
- Launched by **Civil Aviation Minister K. Rammohan Naidu**, this initiative enhances **convenience, transparency, and efficiency** in the licensing process, aligning with India's push for **aviation safety and digital transformation** to meet growing industry demands.
- Under this system, pilots will now get electronic license in place of traditional physical license, which can be easily accessed digitally. It can be accessed through eGCA mobile application.

- **Recently, the Mising tribe name was seen in the news. It was related to which state?**
- A. Arunachal Pradesh
- B. Assam
- C. Nagaland
- D. Manipur



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- **Correct Answer: B. Assam**
- The **Mising tribe** of Assam recently celebrated the **Ali Ai Ligang** festival, which marks the beginning of the **sowing season**.
- This festival is observed on the **first Wednesday of the Assamese month of Fagun** and holds great significance in the agricultural traditions of the **Mising community**, which primarily depends on farming for their livelihood.
- The Mising people are one of the largest tribal communities in Assam, primarily residing along the **banks of the Brahmaputra River**.



# Ali - Ai - Ligang

festival celebrated by the Mishing tribe of Assam

TEAM NISHTHA  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Which monument was recently renamed as 'Vijay Durg'?**
- A. Red Fort, Delhi
- B. Golconda Fort, Hyderabad
- C. Gateway of India, Mumbai
- D. Fort William, Kolkata



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- **Correct Answer: D. Fort William, Kolkata**
- The **Indian Army** recently renamed **Fort William** in **Kolkata** to '**Vijay Durg**' as part of its **decolonization efforts**.
- The new name pays tribute to **India's indigenous military heritage** and takes inspiration from the **historic Vijaydurg Fort in Maharashtra**, a significant naval stronghold under **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**.
- This move aligns with the **government's broader initiative** to eliminate **colonial influences** from institutions, symbols, and landmarks across the country.

## Fort William Renamed as Vijay Durg to Shed Colonial Legacy

The Indian Army's Eastern Command headquarters in Kolkata, formerly known as Fort William, has been renamed **Vijay Durg**, reflecting efforts to eliminate remnants of colonial heritage. The new name is inspired by **Sindhudurg Fort** in Maharashtra—one of the oldest Maratha naval bases established by **Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj**.

In addition to the fort's renaming:

- **Kitchener House** within the premises has been renamed **Manekshaw House**, in honor of Field Marshal Sam Manekshaw.
- **St. George's Gate** is now called **Shivaji Gate**, paying tribute to the Maratha warrior king.

### Historical Background of Fort William:

- Situated along the eastern bank of the **Hooghly River** in Kolkata, the fort was originally constructed by the British and named after **King William III of England**.
- Its first version was built starting in **1696** under **Sir John Goldsborough** and completed by **1706**.
- The structure sustained damage during the **Siege of Calcutta** in **1756**, when **Siraj-ud-Daulah** defeated the British forces.
- Following the **Battle of Plassey** in **1757**, **Robert Clive** oversaw the reconstruction of the fort at a new location, which took place between **1758 and 1781**.



# TEAM NISHTHA

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- **Consider the following statements regarding India's logistics sector:**
- **India aims to achieve a top 25 ranking in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) by 2030.**
- **The PM Gati Shakti and National Logistics Policy are key initiatives to enhance logistics efficiency and reduce costs.**
- **The government plans to reduce logistics costs from 13-14% of GDP to single digits to improve competitiveness.**
- **India's logistics market is projected to reach \$300 billion by 2030.**
- **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**
- A. 1 and 2 only
- B. 2 and 3 only
- C. 1, 2, and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

- **Correct Answer: C. 1, 2, and 3 only**
- India is **strengthening its logistics sector** through initiatives like **PM Gati Shakti** and the **National Logistics Policy**, with the goal of securing a **top 25 position** in the **World Bank's LPI by 2030** (currently ranked **38th**).
- The country is investing in **multi-modal infrastructure, digital transformation and policy-driven advancements** to make India a **global logistics hub**.
- Additionally, the **government aims to reduce logistics costs** from the current **13-14% of GDP** to **single digits**, enhancing **economic efficiency and global competitiveness**.
- However, India's logistics market is projected to reach **\$484.43 billion by 2029**, growing at an annual rate of **8.8%**, up from **\$317.26 billion in 2024**.

- **Recently, The International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA) was seen in the news. Where is the headquarters of IBCA?**
- A. Geneva, Switzerland
- B. New York, USA
- C. New Delhi, India
- D. Nairobi, Kenya



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: C. New Delhi, India**
- The headquarters of IBCA is in **New Delhi, India.**
- The **International Big Cat Alliance (IBCA)** is a treaty-based **intergovernmental organization** dedicated to the **global conservation of seven big cat species—tiger, lion, leopard, snow leopard, cheetah, jaguar, and puma.**
- It was launched by **Prime Minister Narendra Modi on April 9, 2023**, during the **50th anniversary of Project Tiger.**
- The alliance focuses on addressing **illegal wildlife trade, poaching, and climate change impacts.**
- By **January 23, 2025**, it attained **full international legal status** with ratifications from **five countries.**

# INTERNATIONAL **BIG CATS** ALLIANCE



**JAGUAR**



**SNOW LEOPARD**



**PUMA**



**LEOPARD**



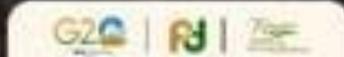
**LION**



**TIGER**



**CHEETAH**



# TEAM NISHTHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

**Consider the following statements regarding Dokra art:**

- 1. Dokra is an ancient metal-casting technique that follows the lost-wax casting method.**
- 2. This art form is primarily practiced by tribal communities in the states of Chhattisgarh, Odisha, West Bengal, and Jharkhand.**
- 3. Dokra artifacts are usually made of silver and are known for their intricate stone inlay work.**
- 4. The technique of Dokra art has connection with India's royal household heritage.**

**Which of the statements given above are correct?**

- A. 1 and 2 only**
- B. 1 and 3 only**
- C. 2 and 4 only**
- D. 3 and 4 only**

- **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 2 only**
- Dokra is a **traditional metal-casting technique** that follows the **lost-wax process**, a method used in India for over **4,000 years**.
- This art form is widely practiced by **tribal artisans** in **Chhattisgarh, Odisha, West Bengal, and Jharkhand**, among other states.
- The artifacts are typically made from **brass and bronze**, not silver, and often depict **tribal motifs, animals, and deities**.
- Additionally, Dokra art is deeply **rooted in India's tribal heritage**, making statement 3 and statement 4 incorrect.



TEAM NISHITHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

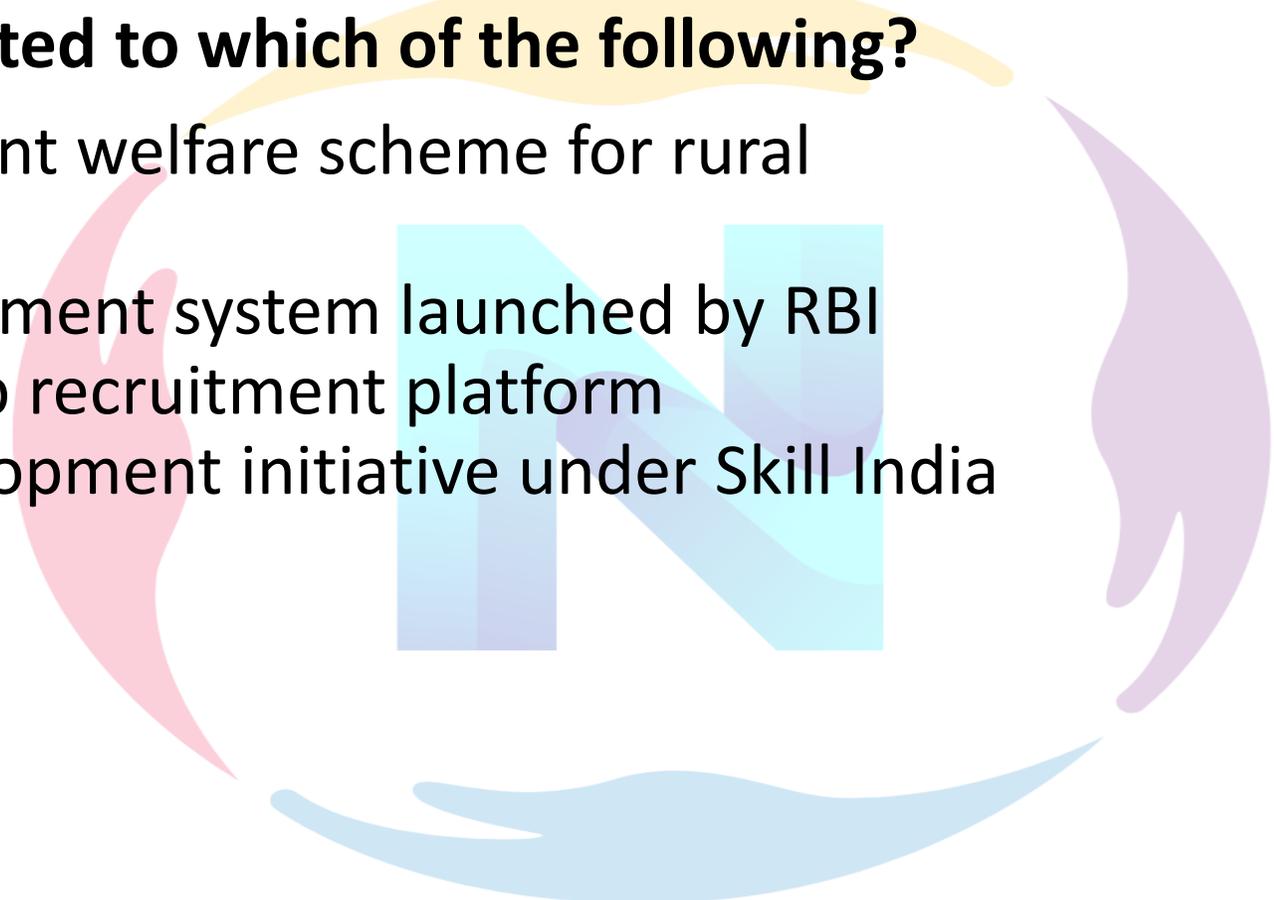
- **Consider the following statements regarding the Union Budget 2025:**
- **The budget provides full exemption of Customs Duties on 25 critical minerals to support key industries.**
- **A new agricultural scheme has been introduced to improve productivity in low-yield districts.**
- **The MSME Loan Guarantee scheme has been discontinued to allocate funds to other priority sectors.**
- **The budget includes measures to enhance investments in the insurance sector.**
- **Which of the statements given above are correct?**
- **A. 1, 2, and 4 only**
- **B. 1 and 3 only**
- **C. 2 and 4 only**
- **D. 1, 2, 3, and 4**

- **Correct Answer: A. 1, 2, and 4 only**
- The **Union Budget 2025** focuses on economic growth across multiple sectors. It grants **full exemption of Customs Duties on 25 critical minerals**, supporting industries like **space, defence, and renewable energy**.
- A **new agricultural scheme** aims to improve **productivity in low-yield districts**, ensuring better yields for farmers.
- The budget also includes measures to **enhance investment in the insurance sector**.
- However, the **MSME Loan Guarantee scheme has not been discontinued**; rather, it continues to support small businesses, making statement 3 incorrect.

TEAM NISHITHA

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- **Recently, the name 'APNA' was seen in the news. It is related to which of the following?**
- A. A government welfare scheme for rural employment
- B. A digital payment system launched by RBI
- C. A private job recruitment platform
- D. A skill development initiative under Skill India



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: C. A private job recruitment platform**
- The **Ministry of Labour & Employment (MoLE)** has partnered with **APNA**, a leading **job recruitment platform**, to enhance employment opportunities in India.
- This collaboration will provide **10 lakh job opportunities annually** through the **National Career Service (NCS) Portal**, facilitating better **digital hiring and employer-employee connections**.
- This initiative supports the government's broader goal of improving **employment accessibility and workforce integration**.

**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Consider the following statements regarding the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST):**
- **The NCST was established by amending Article 338 of the Indian Constitution.**
- **It is a statutory body responsible for safeguarding the rights of Scheduled Tribes (STs).**
- **The commission has the power to investigate and monitor matters related to the constitutional and legal rights of STs.**
- **The NCST does not have the authority to recommend measures for the socio-economic development of Scheduled Tribes.**
- **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**
- A. 1 and 3 only
- B. 2 and 4 only
- C. 1, 2, and 3 only
- D. 1, 3, and 4 only

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- **Correct Answer: A. 1 and 3 only**
- The **National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)** was established through the **89th Constitutional Amendment Act, 2003**, which **amended Article 338 and inserted Article 338A** in the Constitution.
- It is a **constitutional body**, not a statutory body, making **Statement 2 incorrect**.
- The commission has the power to **investigate and monitor** matters relating to the **safeguards of Scheduled Tribes** under the Constitution, making **Statement 3 correct**.
- NCST also has the authority to **recommend measures** for the socio-economic development of STs, making **Statement 4 incorrect**.
- Recently, the **22nd Foundation Day of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST)** was celebrated.
- The 22nd Foundation Day of the National Commission for Scheduled Tribes (NCST) was marked by events emphasizing its role in safeguarding and advancing the rights of Scheduled Tribes (STs) in India.

- **In which zoo of India has the first zoo-based bio-bank been established?**
- A. Arignar Anna Zoological Park, Tamil Nadu
- B. Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, West Bengal
- C. Nandankanan Zoological Park, Odisha
- D. Mysuru Zoo, Karnataka

- **Correct Answer: B. Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park, West Bengal**
- India's **first zoo-based biobank** has been set up at the **Padmaja Naidu Himalayan Zoological Park (PNHZP)** in **Darjeeling, West Bengal**.
- The facility, operational since **July 2024**, stores **genetic materials of endangered species** to support conservation and research.
- This initiative is a **collaboration with the Centre for Cellular and Molecular Biology (CCMB)** and includes an **animal museum**, further strengthening India's biodiversity conservation efforts.

- **Consider the following statements regarding the PM-JANMAN Package:**
- **It was launched in January 2024 to support Scheduled Tribes in rural areas.**
- **The package includes constructing 4.9 lakh pucca homes and laying 8,000 km of roads.**
- **The scheme does not focus on healthcare services for tribal communities.**
- **It is implemented under the Ministry of Tribal Affairs.**
- **Which of the statements given above are correct?**
- A. 1, 2, and 4 only
- B. 1 and 3 only
- C. 2 and 4 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

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- **Correct Answer: C. 2 and 4 only**
- The **PM-JANMAN Package (Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan)** was launched in **November 2023** (not January 2024) to uplift **Particularly Vulnerable Tribal Groups (PVTGs)**, not all **Scheduled Tribes**, making **Statement 1 incorrect**.
- The scheme includes **4.9 lakh pucca homes and 8,000 km of roads**, which is correct. It also provides **1,000 mobile medical units**, contradicting **Statement 3**, making it incorrect.
- The scheme is implemented under the **Ministry of Tribal Affairs**, making **Statement 4 correct**.



Ministry of Tribal Affairs  
Government of India

# PM JANMAN

(Pradhan Mantri Janjati Adivasi Nyaya Maha Abhiyan)

A Visionary Initiative towards Tribal Welfare

11 Basic Amenities | 24,000 Crore Allocated | Convergence with 9 Ministries

	<b>Sabko Pucca Ghar</b>
	<b>Har Ghar Nal Se Jal</b>
	<b>Gaon-Gaon Tak Sadak</b>
	<b>Har Ghar Bijli</b>
	<b>Shiksha Ke Liye Hostel</b>
	<b>Kaushal Vikas</b>
	<b>Door Daraz Gaon Tak Mobile Medical Unit</b>
	<b>Sabko Poshan</b>
	<b>Unnat Aajeevika</b>
	<b>Door Daraz Gaon Tak Mobile Network</b>

Empowering Tribals

Transforming India



# NISHTHA

RS WITH DEVOTION

- **Consider the following statements regarding the 'Swavalambini' initiative:**
- **It was launched by the Ministry of Women and Child Development in collaboration with NITI Aayog.**
- **The initiative focuses on women entrepreneurship in Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.**
- **It provides business skills, mentorship, and financial support to women.**
- **The program is specifically designed for women in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs).**
- **Which of the statements given above are correct?**
- A. 1, 2, and 3 only
- B. 2, 3, and 4 only
- C. 1 and 3 only
- D. 1, 2, 3, and 4

- **Correct Answer: B. 2, 3, and 4 only**
- The **'Swavalambini'** initiative was launched by the **Ministry of Skill Development and Entrepreneurship (MSDE)** in collaboration with **NITI Aayog**, not the **Ministry of Women and Child Development**, making **Statement 1 incorrect**.
- The program focuses on **women entrepreneurship** in the northeastern states of Assam, Meghalaya, and Mizoram.
- It provides **business skills, mentorship, and financial support** while targeting **women in Higher Education Institutions (HEIs)** for structured training.



# TEAM NISHTHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **With reference to the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana (PMSGMBY), consider the following statements:**
- **It was launched on February 13, 2025, to promote solar energy adoption in rural households.**
- **The scheme aims to install rooftop solar panels in one crore households by March 2027.**
- **The scheme provides Central Financial Assistance (CFA) to households for solar panel installation.**
- **As of January 2025, the total number of households that installed solar panels under this scheme is over 15 lakh.**
- **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**
- (A) 1 and 4 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 2, and 3 only

- **Answer:** (B) 2 and 3 only
- **Explanation:**
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The scheme was launched on **February 13, 2024**, not 2025.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The target is to install **rooftop solar panels in one crore households by March 2027**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** The scheme provides **financial support (CFA) to households** for solar panel installation.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** As of **January 27, 2025**, the total number of installed solar panels is **8.46 lakh**, not over 15 lakh.

**PM SURYA GHAR  
MUFT BIJLI YOJANA**



**TEAM NISHTHA**

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **With reference to the Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay Sanrakshan Abhiyan (PM-AASHA), consider the following statements:**
- **The scheme has been extended until 2025-26 to provide better income support to farmers.**
- **The Price Support Scheme (PSS) under PM-AASHA allows procurement of crops at the Minimum Support Price (MSP).**
- **The Price Stabilization Fund (PSF) ensures direct income transfers to farmers when prices fall below MSP.**
- **The Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS) compensates farmers when market prices fall below MSP, ensuring income stability.**
- **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**
- (A) 1 and 2 only
- (B) 1, 2, and 4 only
- (C) 2, 3, and 4 only
- (D) 1, 3, and 4 only

- **Answer: (B) 1, 2, and 4 only**
- **Explanation:**
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The PM-AASHA scheme has been **extended until 2025-26** to support farmers' income.
- **Statement 2 is correct:** The **Price Support Scheme (PSS)** ensures procurement of crops at **MSP** to provide price security.
- **Statement 3 is incorrect:** The **Price Stabilization Fund (PSF)** is **not** meant for direct income transfers to farmers but is used to **manage price volatility** in agricultural markets.
- **Statement 4 is correct:** The **Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS)** compensates farmers when market prices fall **below MSP**, stabilizing their income.



# ENSURING REMUNERATIVE PRICES TO FARMERS

Cabinet approves Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan



## PRICE SUPPORT SCHEME (PSS)

Physical procurement of pulses, oilseeds & Copra by Centre Nodal Agencies. Central Government to bear procurement expenditure and losses due to procurement



## PRICE DEFICIENCY PAYMENT SCHEME (PDPS)

To cover all oilseeds for which MSP is notified. Farmers to get direct payment to the difference between MSP & selling price



## PILOT OF PRIVATE PROCUREMENT & STOCKIST SCHEME (PPPS)

Private sector participations in procurement operation to be piloted. For oilseeds, states have the option to roll out PPPS on pilot basis



Government Guarantee increased to **₹45,550 cr**



HTHA  
WITH DEVOTION

- **Which state launched the "Nodi Bandhan" scheme?**
- (A) Bihar
- (B) West Bengal
- (C) Assam
- (D) Odisha



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (B) West Bengal**
- **Explanation:**  
The **West Bengal government** launched the "**Nodi Bandhan**" scheme to focus on **riverine development, erosion control along the Ganga-Padma, and boosting livelihoods through pisciculture and irrigation.**
- Additionally, the **Ghatal Masterplan** aims to **prevent floods in West Midnapore**, with a total project cost of ₹1,500 crore.

- **Recently, Mount Taranaki was seen in the news. It is located in which country?**
- (A) Mexico
- (B) New Zealand
- (C) Indonesia
- (D) USA



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (B) New Zealand**
- New Zealand's **Parliament granted Mount Taranaki (Taranaki Maunga) legal personhood**, recognizing it as a **living entity with rights similar to a human**.
- This decision aligns with **Māori cultural beliefs** and aims to **preserve the mountain while addressing past injustices** against Indigenous communities.



TEAM  
SHAPING C

- **Which country became the first to criminalize AI-generated child sexual abuse material (CSAM)?**
- (A) United States
- (B) Canada
- (C) United Kingdom
- (D) Australia



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (C) United Kingdom**
- The **United Kingdom** has become the **first country** to criminalize **AI-generated child sexual abuse material (CSAM)**.
- The British government is implementing **strict legal measures** to prevent the misuse of generative AI in creating and distributing such content, ensuring **harsh penalties for offenders** and strengthening efforts against child exploitation.

TEAM  
SHAPING CAR



**Which of the following countries was NOT in the list of those withdrawing from ECOWAS?**

- (A) Ghana
- (B) Mali
- (C) Niger
- (D) Burkina Faso



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (C) Ghana**
- **Niger, Mali, and Burkina Faso** have officially withdrawn from the **Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)** due to diplomatic tensions and military-led governments.
- However, **Ghana** remains a member of ECOWAS and was **not** part of the withdrawal decision.
- This move reflects a growing divide between these nations and the regional bloc over governance and foreign relations.

### **Static Points on ECOWAS:**

- **Established:** 28 May 1975
- **Headquarters:** Abuja, Nigeria
- **Member States:** Initially **15 countries** (Now reduced after recent withdrawals).
- **Objective:** **Regional economic integration, political stability, and security cooperation** in West Africa.
- **Official Languages:** English, French, Portuguese

• **Who became the first Black woman to win the Mrs World 2025 title from Soweto?**

- (A) Zozibini Tunzi
- (B) Tshego Gaelae
- (C) Candice Abrahams
- (D) Rolene Strauss



**TEAM NISHTHA**

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (B) Tshego Gaelae**
- **Explanation:**
- **Tshego Gaelae, a 34-year-old attorney from Soweto, South Africa, made history by becoming the first Black woman to win the Mrs World 2025 title in Las Vegas.**
- She was also crowned **Mrs South Africa 2024** before securing this global honor.
- Gaelae follows in the footsteps of **Candice Abrahams**, who won **Mrs World 2016**, and aims to use her platform to promote **women's empowerment**.
- Her win is a **historic moment in the 40-year history** of the Mrs World pageant.



• **Recently, which of the following countries withdrew from the World Health Organization (WHO)?**

- (A) Brazil
- (B) Canada
- (C) Germany
- (D) Argentina



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (D) Argentina**
- **Explanation:**
- **Argentina**, under President **Javier Milei**, announced its **withdrawal from the WHO**, citing "**deep differences**" over the organization's handling of **global health issues**, particularly the **COVID-19 pandemic**.
- This decision follows a similar move by the **United States** under **former President Donald Trump**.
- The withdrawal has sparked **debates** about its impact on **Argentina's healthcare system** and **international relations**, with concerns over potential disruptions in medical cooperation and global health initiatives.

**Consider the following statements regarding the Belt and Road Initiative (BRI):**

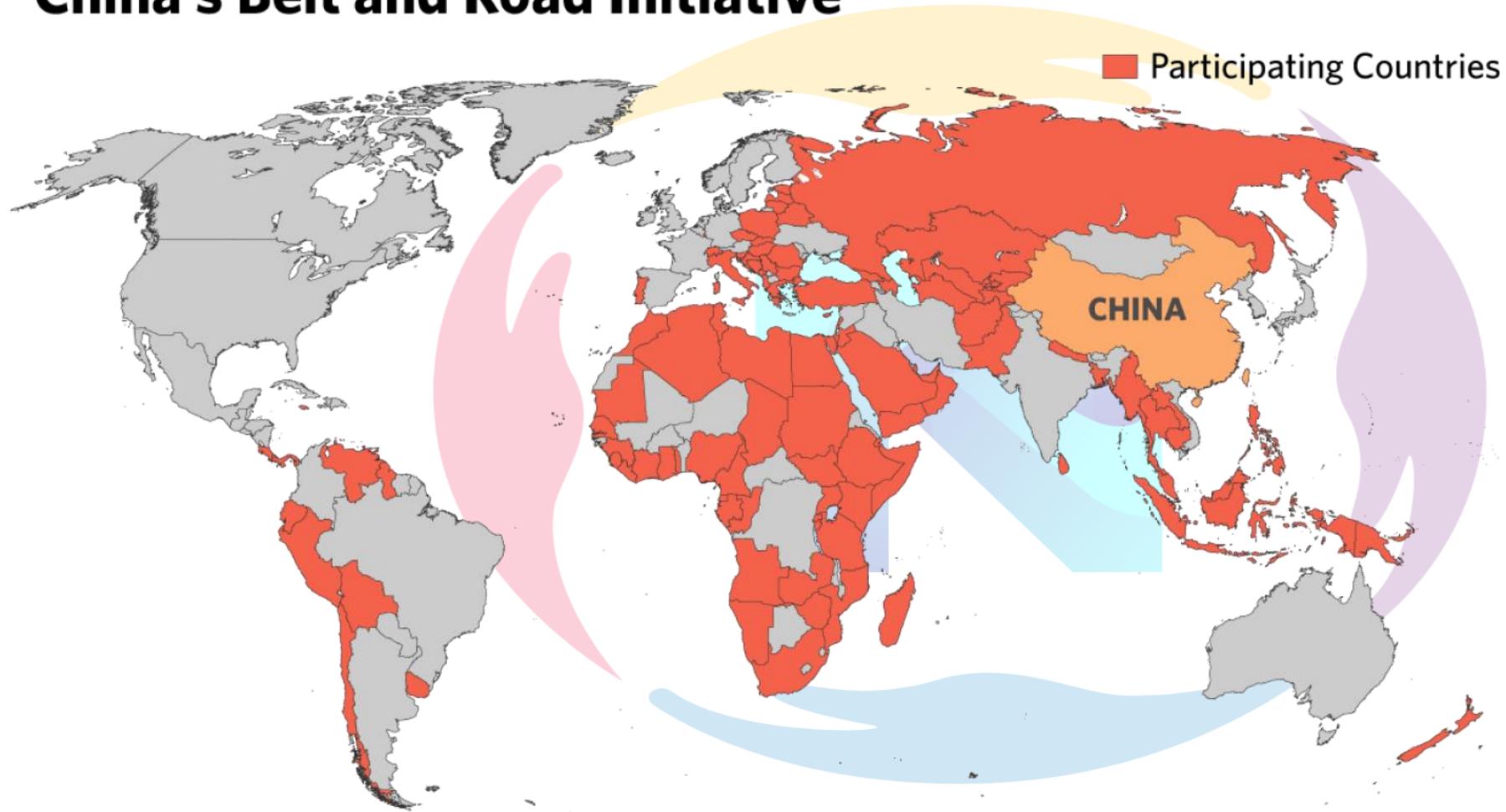
- 1. The BRI was launched in 2013 as China's global infrastructure and economic development strategy.**
- 2. The initiative primarily focuses on maritime trade routes, excluding land-based connectivity projects.**
- 3. Several countries have expressed concerns over debt-trap diplomacy associated with BRI-funded projects.**

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

- (A) 1 and 3 only
- (B) 2 and 3 only
- (C) 1 and 2 only
- (D) 1, 2, and 3

- **Answer: (A) 1 and 3 only**
- **Explanation:**
- **Statement 1 is correct:** The **Belt and Road Initiative (BRI)** was launched by **China in 2013** to develop a vast network of infrastructure projects, including **roads, railways, and ports** across **Asia, Africa, and Europe**.
- **Statement 2 is incorrect:** The BRI includes both **land-based (Silk Road Economic Belt)** and **maritime routes (21st Century Maritime Silk Road)** to enhance global connectivity.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** Critics argue that BRI has led to **debt-trap diplomacy**, where countries struggle to repay loans, leading to China gaining **strategic influence over key assets** (e.g., Sri Lanka's **Hambantota Port**).

# China's Belt and Road Initiative



Source: China's Belt and Road Portal

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TEAM NISHTHA  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Recently, India signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which country regarding Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)?**
- (A) Nicaragua
- (B) Peru
- (C) Argentina
- (D) Brazil



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (A) Nicaragua**
- **Explanation:**
- India and **Nicaragua** signed an **MoU on Quick Impact Projects (QIPs) in Managua**, focusing on improving **physical and social infrastructure** to benefit local communities.
- The agreement was signed by **Indian Ambassador Sumit Seth** and **Nicaraguan Foreign Minister Valdrack Jaentschke**.
- **QIPs are small-scale, high-impact projects** funded by India, aimed at enhancing **development cooperation** with partner nations.

- **Quick Impact Projects (QIPs)** are **small-scale, high-impact developmental initiatives** undertaken by India in various partner countries, particularly in its neighborhood and Africa, as part of its development partnership programs.

- ◆ **Key Features of QIPs:**

1. **Cost-effective:** Generally limited to a budget of around **US\$ 50,000 per project.**

2. **Short Duration:** Implemented within **6–12 months.**

3. **High Visibility:** Aimed at delivering **tangible benefits to local communities** quickly.

4. **Sectors Covered:**

1. Education (e.g., schools, classrooms)
2. Health (clinics, sanitation)
3. Infrastructure (roads, community halls)
4. Agriculture and Water Management

- ◆ **Purpose of QIPs:**

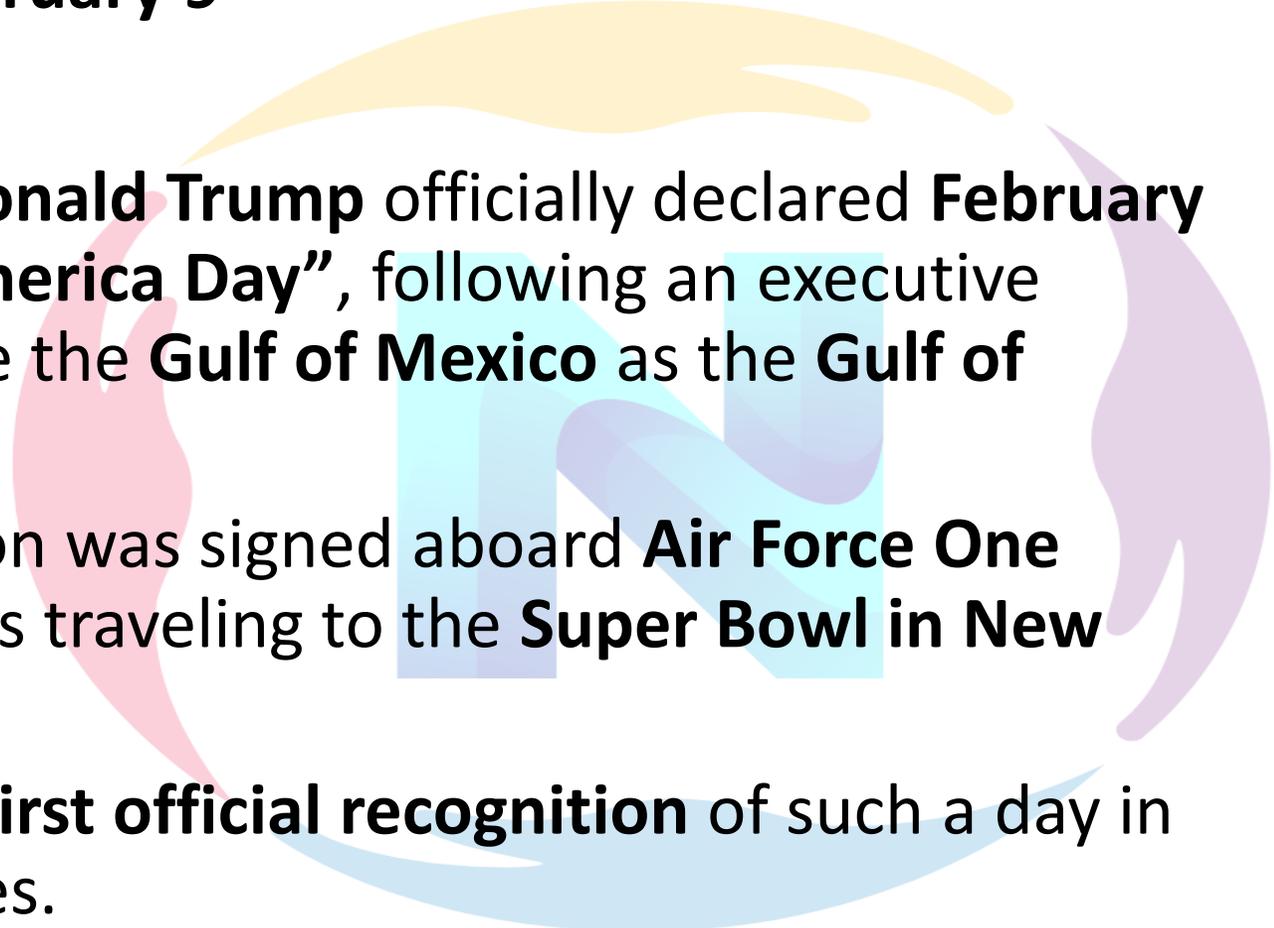
- Enhance India's goodwill and visibility.
- Build people-to-people connections.
- Support capacity building and development in partner countries.
- Act as tools of **soft diplomacy** and **development cooperation.**

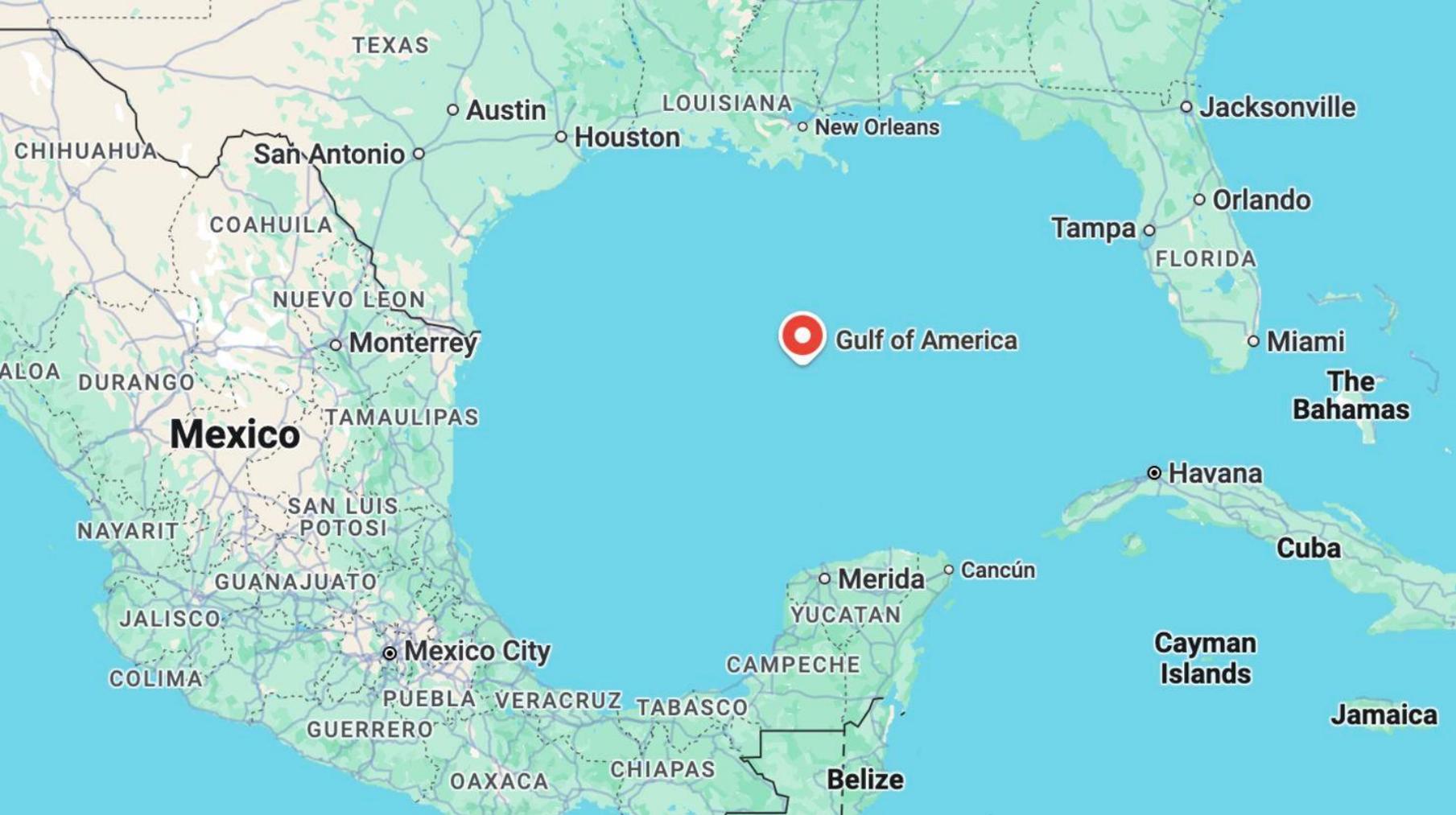
TEAM NISHTHA  
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- **Which day has Donald Trump officially recognized as “Gulf of America Day”?**
- (A) February 5
- (B) February 7
- (C) February 9
- (D) February 11



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- 
- **Answer: (C) February 9**
  - **Explanation:**
  - **US President Donald Trump** officially declared **February 9** as “**Gulf of America Day**”, following an executive order to rename the **Gulf of Mexico** as the **Gulf of America**.
  - The proclamation was signed aboard **Air Force One** while Trump was traveling to the **Super Bowl in New Orleans**.
  - This marks the **first official recognition** of such a day in the United States.



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- Recently, the “Operation Devil Hunt” was seen in the news. It was related to which country?
- (A) Pakistan
- (B) USA
- (C) Bangladesh
- (D) Sri Lanka



TEAM NISHTHA  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: (C) Bangladesh**
- **Bangladesh** launched “**Operation Devil Hunt**”, a large-scale security crackdown against **loyalists of former Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina** following violent protests.
- The **interim government under Muhammad Yunus** initiated the operation to restore stability amid rumors of Hasina’s return from **exile in India**.
- The crisis escalated further after the **Bangabandhu Memorial Museum** was **demolished**, straining **India-Bangladesh relations** as India condemned the act.

- **Consider the following statements regarding the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act (CLNDA), 2010:**
- **The CLNDA provides for a no-fault liability regime, making the operator of a nuclear plant solely liable for any nuclear damage.**
- **The Act allows foreign nuclear suppliers to be held directly liable in case of a nuclear accident in India.**
- **India's CLNDA aligns completely with the international Convention on Supplementary Compensation for Nuclear Damage (CSC).**
- **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**
- **(A) 1 only**
- **(B) 1 and 3 only**
- **(C) 2 and 3 only**
- **(D) 1, 2, and 3**

- **Answer: (A) 1 only**
- **Explanation:**
- The **Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act (CLNDA), 2010** establishes a **no-fault liability** regime where the **operator (not the supplier)** of a nuclear plant is **exclusively liable** for any nuclear damage.
- Contrary to international norms, **foreign suppliers are not directly liable**, but Section 17(b) allows operators to seek recourse from them under certain conditions.
- India has signed the **Convention on Supplementary Compensation (CSC)**, but its **liability provisions differ from global nuclear liability frameworks**, leading to concerns from foreign investors.
- Recently, During Prime Minister Narendra Modi's visit to the U.S. and France, India amended the Civil Liability for Nuclear Damage Act (CLNDA) and Atomic Energy Act to address concerns of foreign nuclear companies, boost investment, and revive stalled projects.

- **Who became the first Hindu to lead the US intelligence community as the Director of National Intelligence (DNI)?**
- **A) Tulsi Gabbard**
- **B) Ro Khanna**
- **C) Preet Bharara**
- **D) Usha Vance**



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: A) Tulsi Gabbard**
- **Explanation:** Tulsi Gabbard has made history as the first Hindu to be appointed as the Director of National Intelligence (DNI) in the United States.
- She now oversees 18 intelligence agencies, playing a crucial role in national security.
- Gabbard, a former Democratic Congresswoman and Iraq War veteran, is known for her independent political views and foreign policy critiques.



# TEAM NISHTHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- Which of the following organizations launched the “Imagine a world with more women in science” campaign?
- **A)** World Economic Forum (WEF)
- **B)** United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)
- **C)** International Labour Organization (ILO)
- **D)** United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

- **Answer: B) UNESCO**
- **Explanation:** UNESCO launched the campaign to mark the 10th anniversary of the **International Day of Women and Girls in Science** on **February 11**.
- The initiative promotes gender equality in STEM fields, emphasizing the need for more female representation in leadership roles.
- While women comprise one-third of the global scientific community, leadership opportunities remain limited, highlighting the need for continued efforts toward inclusivity.

- **Recently, SEBI launched 'MITRA'. What is the full form of MITRA?**
- **A) Mutual Investment Trust and Recovery Assistance**
- **B) Mutual Fund Investment Tracing and Retrieval Assistant**
- **C) Money Investment Tracking and Reclamation Aid**
- **D) Mutual Fund Investor Tracking and Resolution Assistance**

- **Answer: B) Mutual Fund Investment Tracing and Retrieval Assistant**
- **Explanation:** The Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) launched **MITRA** to help investors trace and reclaim **inactive or unclaimed mutual fund folios**.
- This initiative assists in resolving issues related to **outdated contact details, KYC non-compliance, and long-inactive investments (over ten years)**, ensuring easier fund retrieval.

**Consider the following statements regarding the India-EFTA Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement (TEPA):**

- 1. The European Free Trade Association (EFTA) consists of Switzerland, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein.**
- 2. India-EFTA TEPA marks the first-ever trade agreement between India and a European bloc.**
- 3. The India-EFTA Desk has been launched to enhance economic collaboration, ease of doing business, and investment transparency.**

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

- A) 1 and 2 only**
- B) 2 and 3 only**
- C) 1 and 3 only**
- D) 1, 2, and 3**

- 
- **Answer: D) 1, 2, and 3**
  - **Explanation:** The **India-EFTA TEPA** is a **historic agreement** that enhances trade and economic ties between **India and EFTA nations** (Switzerland, Norway, Iceland, and Liechtenstein). Trick- LISteN
  - The **India-EFTA Desk** aims to **boost investment, reduce trade barriers, and increase economic cooperation**, making EFTA the **first European bloc to formalize a trade pact with India.**



India-EFTA

Trade and Economic Partnership Agreement



TEAM NISHTHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Recently, whose tenure has been extended as the Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) of India until March 2027?**
- **A) Sanjeev Sanyal**
- **B) Krishnamurthy Subramanian**
- **C) V Anantha Nageswaran**
- **D) Raghuram Rajan**



**TEAM NISHTHA**  
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- **Answer: C) V Anantha Nageswaran**
- **Explanation:** V Anantha Nageswaran was appointed as the **Chief Economic Advisor (CEA) of India in 2022**, and his tenure has now been extended until **March 2027**.
- The CEA plays a crucial role in advising the government on **economic policies, fiscal management, and financial reforms**.

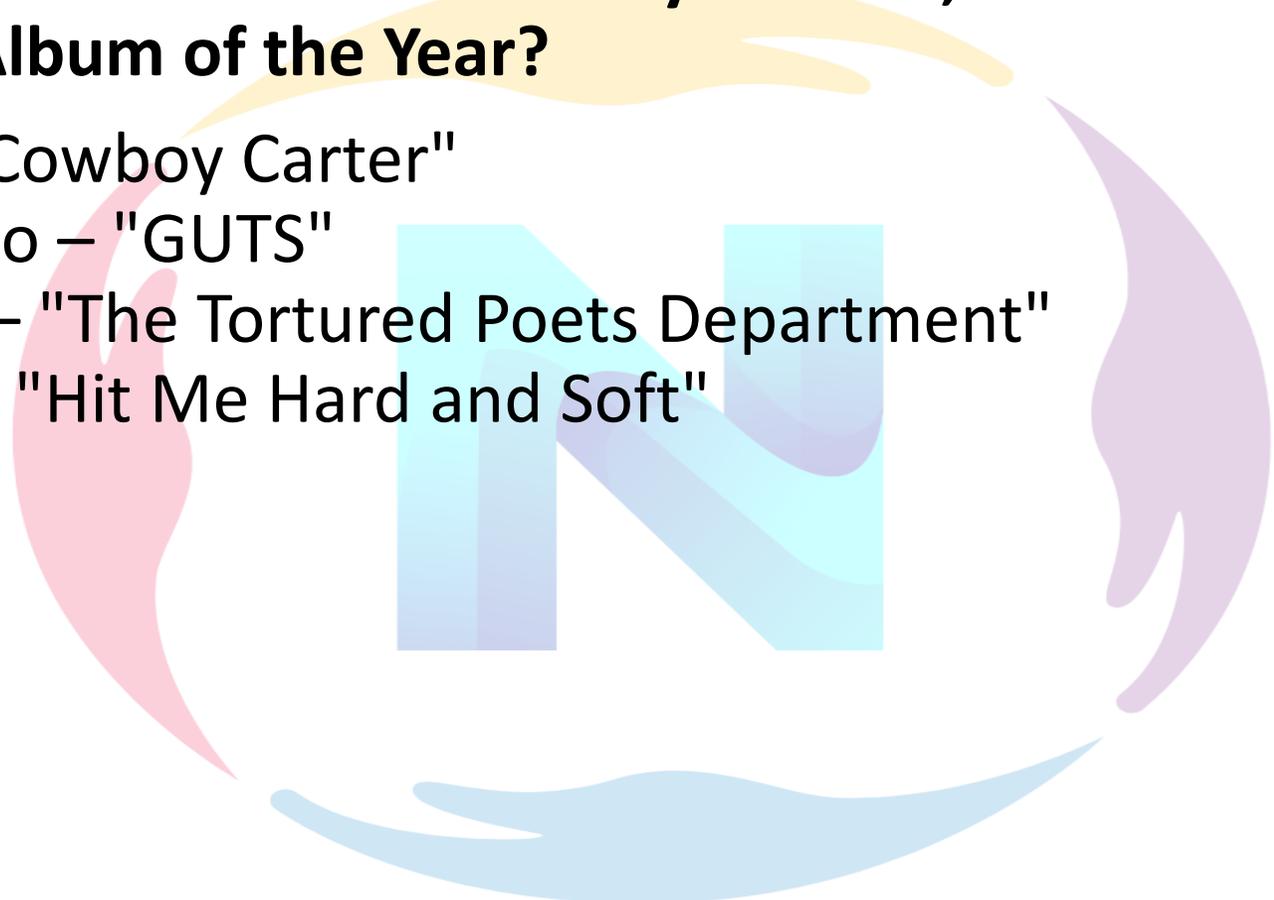
Name	Current/Recent Role	Key Background & Roles	Focus Areas / Contributions	Notable Works / Ideas
<b>Sanjeev Sanyal</b>	Member, Economic Advisory Council to PM (EAC-PM)	Former Principal Economic Adviser, Historian, Urban Planner	Agile policymaking, Indian economic history	<i>Land of the Seven Rivers, Ocean of Churn</i>
<b>Krishnamurthy Subramanian</b>	Executive Director, IMF (India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Bhutan)	Former Chief Economic Adviser (2018–2021), Professor at ISB	Ethical wealth creation, pro-market reforms	Economic Surveys 2019–2021
<b>V Anantha Nageswaran</b>	Chief Economic Adviser (since 2022)	Economist, Academic (IIMs, Singapore), Financial Market Expert	Post-COVID recovery, digital infrastructure, macroeconomic policy	Economic Survey 2022–23
<b>Raghuram Rajan</b>	Former RBI Governor (2013–2016), Prof. at Chicago Booth	Former IMF Chief Economist, Globally respected academic	Inflation targeting, financial stability, banking sector reforms	<i>Fault Lines, The Third Pillar</i>



# TEAM NISHTHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Recently, at the 67th Annual Grammy Awards, who won the Album of the Year?**
- **A) Beyoncé – "Cowboy Carter"**
- **B) Olivia Rodrigo – "GUTS"**
- **C) Taylor Swift – "The Tortured Poets Department"**
- **D) Billie Eilish – "Hit Me Hard and Soft"**

The logo for Team Nishtha features a large, stylized letter 'N' in the center. The 'N' is composed of several overlapping, semi-transparent shapes in shades of cyan, blue, and purple. Surrounding the 'N' are four hands, each in a different color (yellow, pink, purple, and blue), positioned as if they are holding or supporting the letter. Below the graphic, the text 'TEAM NISHTHA' is written in a bold, grey, sans-serif font. Underneath that, the tagline 'SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION' is written in a smaller, all-caps, grey, sans-serif font.

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- **Answer: A) Beyoncé – "Cowboy Carter"**
- **Explanation:** At the **67th Annual Grammy Awards** held on **February 2, 2025**, at the **Crypto.com Arena in Los Angeles**, **Beyoncé won Album of the Year for "Cowboy Carter."**
- This victory solidified her legacy as one of the most awarded artists in Grammy history.
- **Static Points on Grammy Awards:**
- **Founded:** 1959 by the National Academy of Recording Arts and Sciences (NARAS).
- **Most Grammy Wins (Artist):** Beyoncé (32 awards as of 2025).
- **Most Grammy Wins (Album of the Year):** Taylor Swift (4 times – record holder).
- **Youngest Winner of Album of the Year:** Billie Eilish (18 years old in 2020).
- **First Grammy Venue:** Beverly Hilton Hotel, Los Angeles (1959).



# Grammy® Winner

ALBUM OF THE YEAR  
**BEYONCÉ**  
"COWBOY CARTER"

RECORDING ACADEMY™



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- **Who won the 'Outstanding Achievement in Indian Cinema' award at IIFA 2025?**

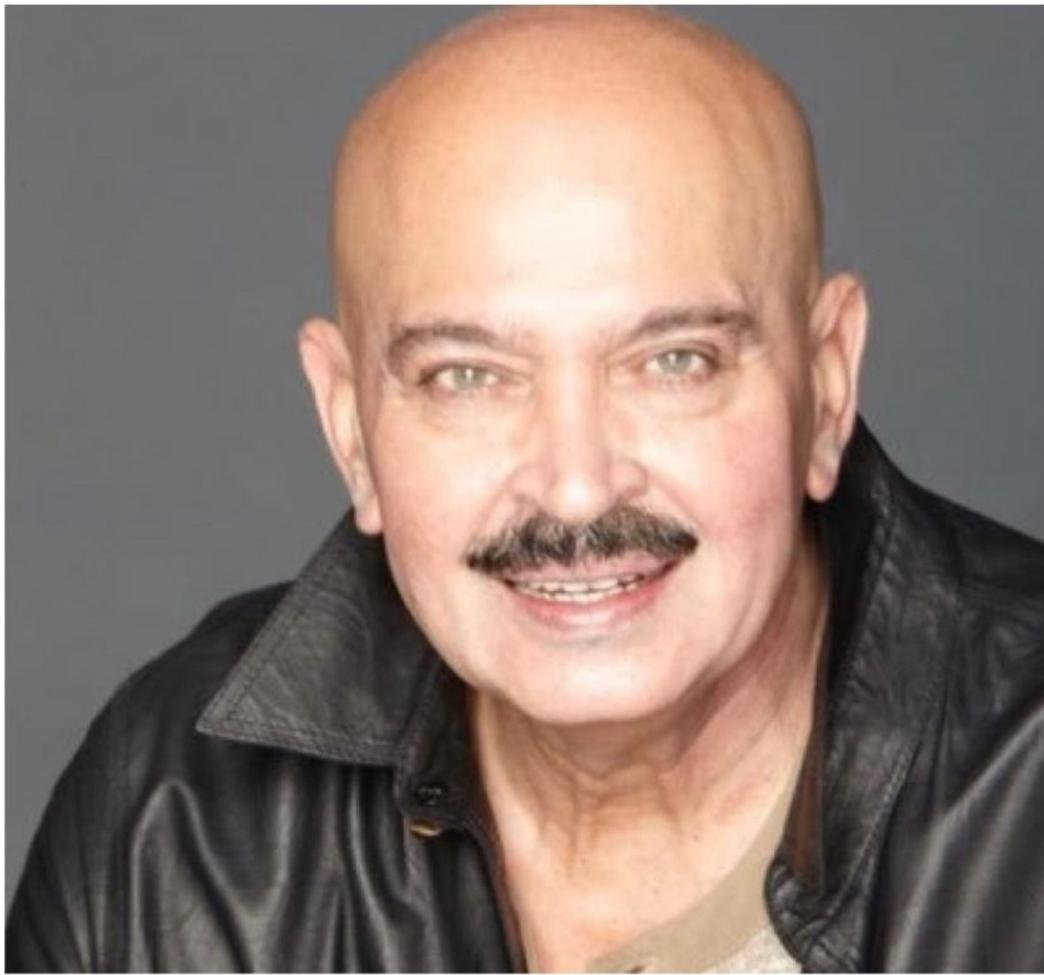
- **A) Rajkumar Hirani**
- B) Rakesh Roshan**
- C) Mani Ratnam**
- D) Sanjay Leela Bhansali**



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- **Answer: B) Rakesh Roshan**
- **Explanation:**
- Veteran filmmaker **Rakesh Roshan** has been honored with the **'Outstanding Achievement in Indian Cinema'** award at the **IIFA 2025** for his remarkable contributions as a **director, producer, and actor**.
- The award will be presented during the **25th anniversary celebrations of IIFA**, scheduled to take place on **March 8-9, 2025, in Jaipur, Rajasthan**.



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- In which place the BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025 was held?
- A) Kathmandu, Nepal
- B) Colombo, Sri Lanka
- C) Gandhinagar, India
- D) Dhaka, Bangladesh



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- **Answer: C) Gandhinagar, India**
- **Explanation:**
- The **BIMSTEC Youth Summit 2025** will take place in **Gandhinagar, Gujarat, India, from 7th to 11th February 2025**. The event is inaugurated by **Union Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya** and will bring together young leaders from **Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand** to discuss **youth-led initiatives, leadership, and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)**.
- It is organized by the **Ministry of Youth Affairs & Sports, Government of India**.

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## **Static Points on BIMSTEC (Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation):**

- **Founded: June 6, 1997** (Bangkok Declaration).
- **Member Countries: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, Thailand.**
- **Headquarters: Dhaka, Bangladesh.**
- **Objective: Enhance regional cooperation in trade, transport, security, environment, and technology.**
- **Chairmanship: Sri Lanka (2022-Present).**
- **BIMSTEC Secretariat: Established in Dhaka, Bangladesh (2014).**

- **Which country will host the next Global AI Summit?**
- **A) USA**
- **B) France**
- **C) UK**
- **D) India**



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- **Answer: D) India**

- **Explanation:**

Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** announced that **India** will host the next **Global AI Summit**, following discussions at the **AI Action Summit in Paris**.

- The summit, co-chaired by PM Modi and **French President Emmanuel Macron**, emphasized **global AI cooperation, ethical AI development, and India's leadership in AI initiatives**.

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- **Which country will host the 17th BRICS Summit?**
- **A) Saudi Arabia**
- **B) Brazil**
- **C) Russia**
- **D) Egypt**



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- **Answer: B) Brazil**
- **Explanation:**  
The **17th BRICS Summit** will be held in **Rio de Janeiro, Brazil**, on **July 6-7, 2025**.
- The summit will focus on **global governance reforms, economic cooperation and strengthening ties among Global South countries**.
- With BRICS expanding to include **Iran, Egypt, and Saudi Arabia**, the summit will play a crucial role in shaping **future global trade, finance and diplomatic relations**.

- **Which country has taken over the Chairmanship of BOBP-IGO?**
- **A) Bangladesh**
- **B) Maldives**
- **C) India**
- **D) Sri Lanka**



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- **Answer: C) India**
- **Explanation:**

India has taken over the **Chairmanship of the Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation (BOBP-IGO)** from **Bangladesh** during the **13th Governing Council Meeting in Malé, Maldives**.
- The transition happened at the “**Policy Guidance for Mainstreaming Ecosystem Approach to Fisheries Management (EAFM) in Small-Scale Fisheries**” conference from **February 20-22, 2025**, organized by the **Ministry of Fisheries & Ocean Resources of the Maldives** in collaboration with BOBP-IGO.

## Static Points on BOBP-IGO (Bay of Bengal Programme Inter-Governmental Organisation):

- **Established: 2003**
- **Member Countries: India, Bangladesh, Sri Lanka, Maldives**
- **Headquarters: Chennai, India**
- **Purpose: Sustainable fisheries development and marine ecosystem conservation in the Bay of Bengal region.**

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- **Consider the following statements regarding the Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) 2024:**
- **The Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) is released annually by the World Economic Forum (WEF).**
- **India ranked 96th out of 180 countries in the CPI 2024, with a score of 38, marking a decline from previous years.**
- **Denmark is ranked as the least corrupt country, while South Sudan, Somalia, Venezuela, and Syria are among the most corrupt.**
- **Among India's neighbors, Pakistan ranked higher than India, while China ranked lower in the index.**
- **Which of the above statements is/are correct?**
- **A) 1 and 2 only**
- **B) 2 and 3 only**
- **C) 1, 3, and 4 only**
- **D) 2, 3, and 4 only**

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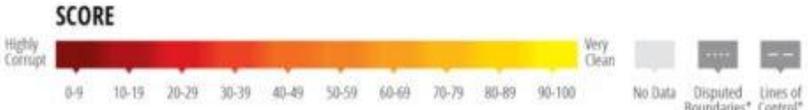
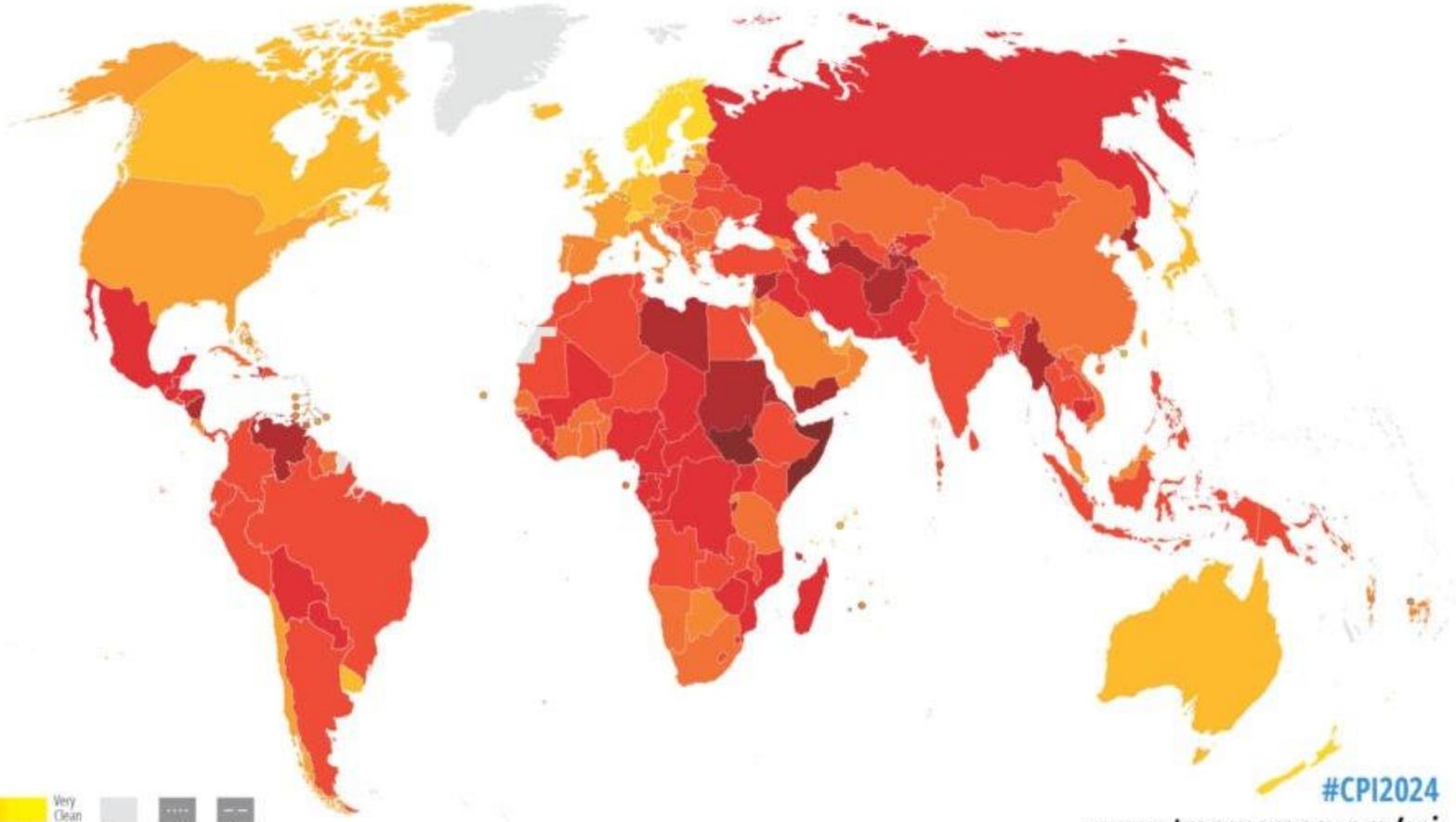
- **Answer: B) 2 and 3 only**
- **Statement 1 is incorrect:** The **Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI)** is released by **Transparency International**, not the World Economic Forum (WEF).
- **Statement 2 is correct:** India ranked **96th** in **CPI 2024** with a **score of 38**, showing a **decline from 39 in 2023 and 40 in 2022**.
- **Statement 3 is correct:** **Denmark** ranks **1st** as the **least corrupt** country, followed by **Finland (2nd)** and **Singapore (3rd)**.
- **Statement 4 is incorrect:** **Pakistan (135th)** ranked lower than India, while **China (76th)** ranked higher.

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# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2024

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 180 countries/territories around the world.



\*The designations employed and the presentation of material on this map follow the UN practice to the best of our knowledge as of January 2025. They do not imply the expression of any opinion on the part of Transparency International concerning the legal status of any country, territory, city or area or of its authorities or concerning the delimitation of its frontiers or boundaries.

#CPI2024  
[www.transparency.org/cpi](http://www.transparency.org/cpi)

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## Static Points on Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI):

- **Released by:** Transparency International (since 1995)
- **Scoring System:** Ranges from **0 (highly corrupt)** to **100 (very clean)**
- **Purpose:** Measures **perceived levels of public sector corruption** globally
- **India's Rank Over the Years:**
  - 2024 – 96th (Score: 38)
  - 2023 – 93rd (Score: 39)
  - 2022 – 85th (Score: 40)

- **What was India's rank in the World Bank's Logistics Performance Index (LPI) 2023?**
- **A) 22nd**
- **B) 38th**
- **C) 45th**
- **D) 50th**



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- **Answer: B) 38th**
- **Explanation:**  
India secured **22nd rank in the International Shipments category** and **38th place overall among 139 countries** in the **World Bank's LPI 2023**.
- The ranking reflects India's **improved logistics efficiency, reduced trade costs, and integration of advanced technology** in supply chain management.



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• Which of the following countries conducted the military exercise 'Ekuverin' with India?

- A) Sri Lanka
- B) Bangladesh
- C) Maldives
- D) Indonesia



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- **Answer: C) Maldives**
- **Explanation:**  
The **13th edition of Exercise 'Ekuverin'** was held from **2-15 February 2025** in **Maafilaafushi, Maldives.**
- This **biennial military exercise between India and the Maldives** aims to enhance **interoperability between their armed forces** and improve **counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations** in an island environment.



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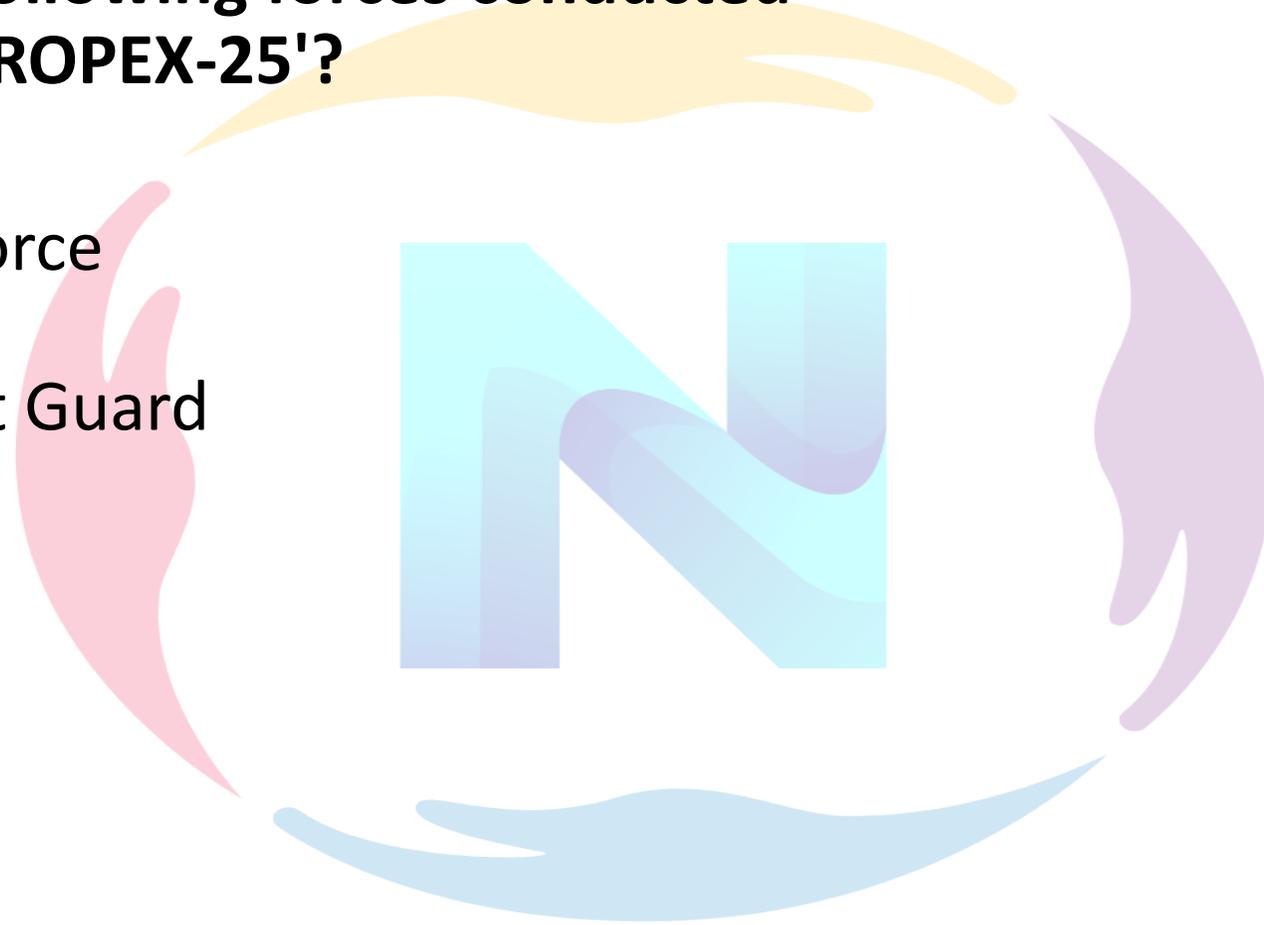
- Which of the following forces conducted the exercise 'TROPEX-25'?

- A) Indian Navy

- B) Indian Air Force

- C) Indian Army

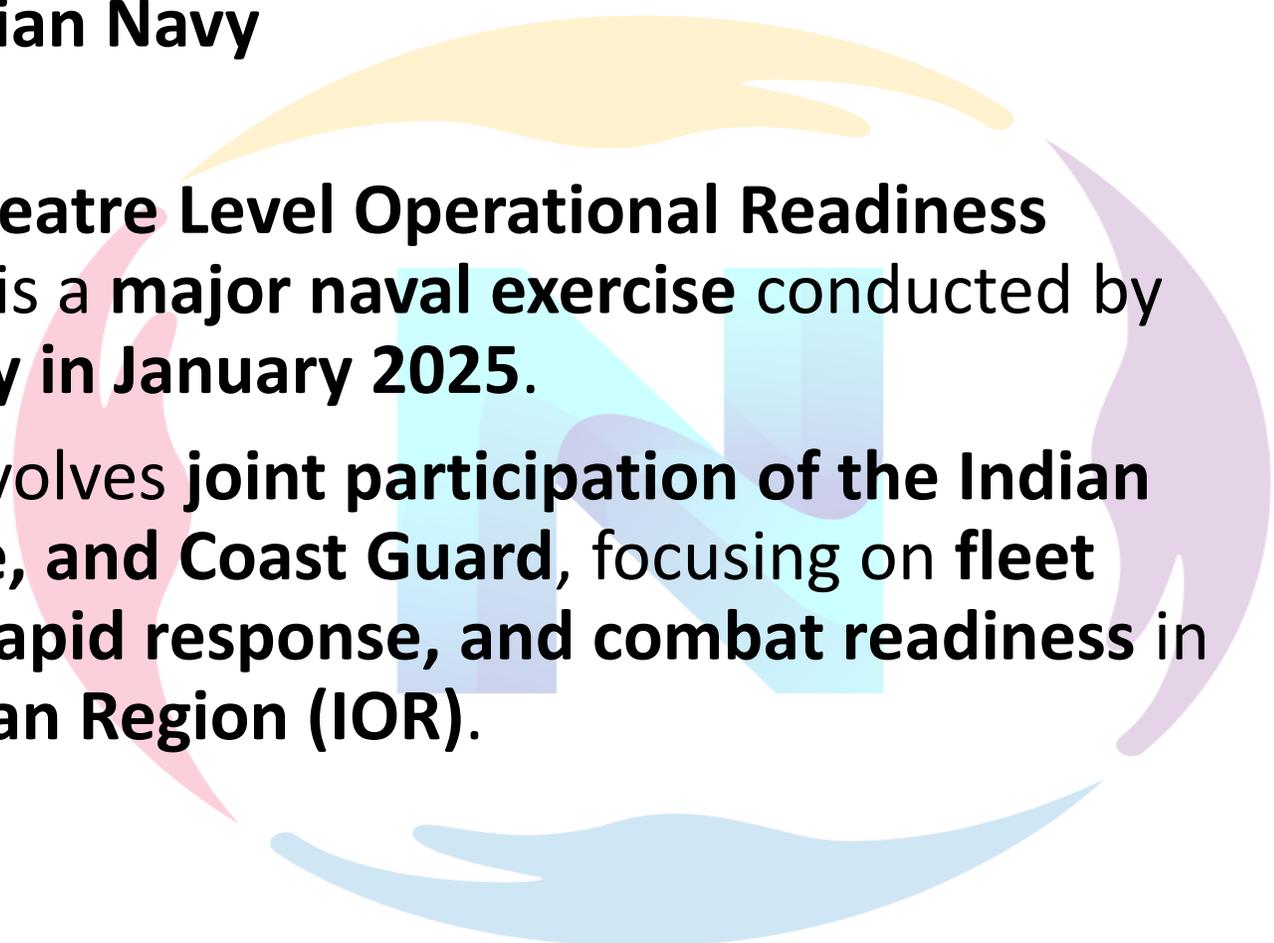
- D) Indian Coast Guard



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- **Answer: A) Indian Navy**
- **Explanation:**  
**TROPEX-25 (Theatre Level Operational Readiness Exercise 2025) is a major naval exercise conducted by the Indian Navy in January 2025.**
- The exercise involves **joint participation of the Indian Army, Air Force, and Coast Guard**, focusing on **fleet coordination, rapid response, and combat readiness in the Indian Ocean Region (IOR).**

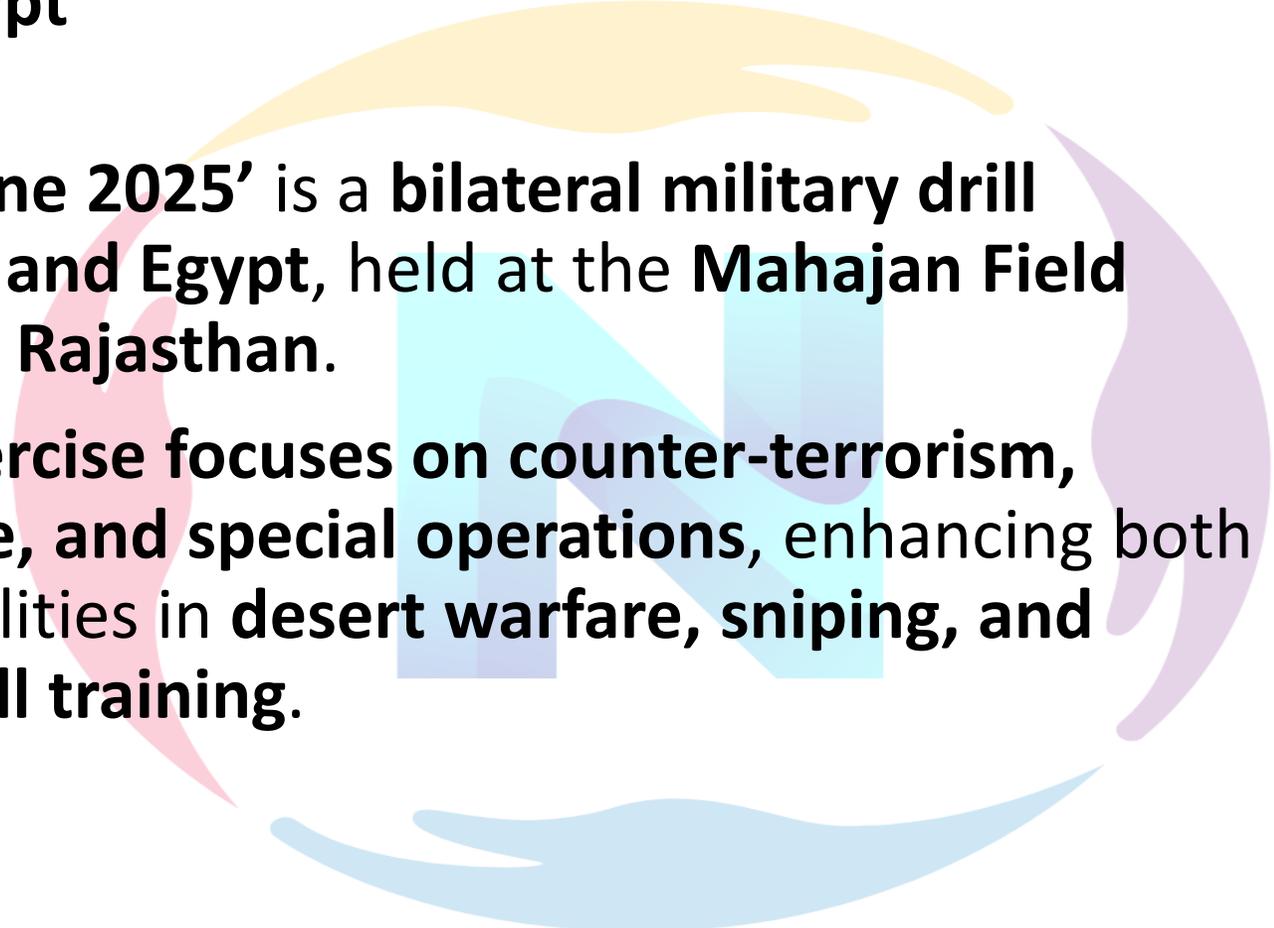


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- **'Cyclone 2025' is a joint military exercise between India and which country?**
- **A) UAE**
- **B) Egypt**
- **C) Saudi Arabia**
- **D) Oman**



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- 
- **Answer: B) Egypt**
  - **Explanation:**  
**Exercise 'Cyclone 2025' is a bilateral military drill between India and Egypt, held at the Mahajan Field Firing Range in Rajasthan.**
  - **The 14-day exercise focuses on counter-terrorism, reconnaissance, and special operations, enhancing both nations' capabilities in desert warfare, sniping, and combat free fall training.**

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- **Where was the sixth edition of Exercise 'Dharma Guardian' held?**
- **A) Rajasthan, India**
- **B) Hokkaido, Japan**
- **C) Ladakh, India**
- **D) Mount Fuji, Japan**



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- **Answer: D) Mount Fuji, Japan**
- **Explanation:**  
**Exercise 'Dharma Guardian' 2025 is a joint military exercise between India and Japan, held at Mount Fuji, Japan, from February 25 to March 9, 2025.**
- **It focuses on urban warfare tactics, counter-terrorism operations, and high-altitude warfare, strengthening defense cooperation and strategic ties between the Indian Army and the Japan Ground Self-Defense Force (JGSDF).**

- **NAVDEX 2025 was recently held in which of the following countries?**
- **A) UAE**
- **B) India**
- **C) France**
- **D) Singapore**



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- **Answer: A) UAE**
- **NAVDEX 2025 (Naval Defence Exhibition)** was held in **Abu Dhabi, UAE**, alongside **IDEX 2025 (International Defence Exhibition & Conference)**.
- Goa Shipyard Ltd (GSL) showcased its **indigenously designed Fast Patrol Vessels (FPVs) and Offshore Patrol Vessels (OPVs)** at the event, demonstrating India's growing **defense manufacturing and maritime capabilities** under the **"Make in India"** initiative.

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- Recently, the Akash missile system was seen in the news. What is its range and type of missile?
- A) 10 km, Surface-to-Surface Missile
- B) 25 km, Surface-to-Air Missile
- C) 50 km, Air-to-Air Missile
- D) 100 km, Anti-Tank Guided Missile



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Answer: B) 25 km, Surface-to-Air Missile**
- **Explanation:**  
The **Akash missile** is a **medium-range Surface-to-Air Missile (SAM)** developed by **India's DRDO**.
- It has a **range of up to 25 km** and can engage multiple aerial threats, including **fighter jets, cruise missiles and drones**.
- The system is known for its **mobility, cost-effectiveness and indigenous development**, making it a key component of India's **air defense strategy**.



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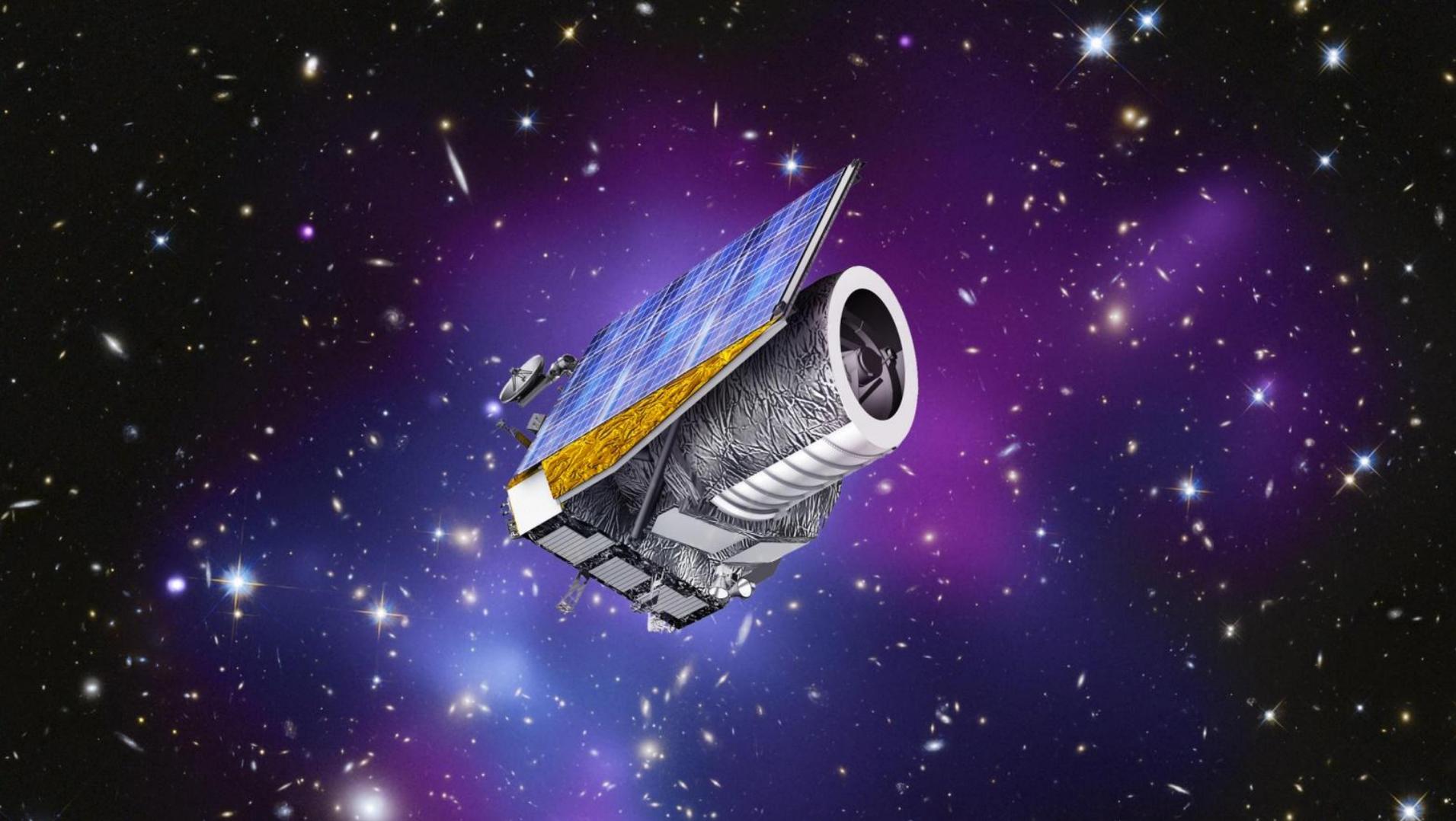
**Consider the following statements regarding the European Space Agency's (ESA) Euclid telescope:**

- 1. Euclid was launched in 2023 to explore the dark Universe, focusing on dark matter and dark energy.**
- 2. It operates under the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to map billions of galaxies over a six-year mission.**
- 3. Euclid discovered an Einstein Ring in NGC 6505, caused by gravitational lensing from a distant galaxy.**

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

- A) 1 and 2 only**
- B) 1, 2, and 3**
- C) 2 and 3 only**
- D) 1 and 3 only**

- **Answer: B) 1 and 3 only**
- The **Euclid telescope** was launched by the **European Space Agency (ESA) on July 1, 2023**, to study **dark matter and dark energy** by mapping galaxies across the cosmos.
- It is **not operated by ISRO**, making statement **2 incorrect**.
- In **September 2023**, during testing, **Euclid discovered a rare Einstein Ring in NGC 6505**, confirming its ability to reveal gravitational lensing effects.
- This breakthrough enhances our understanding of the **structure and expansion of the Universe**.

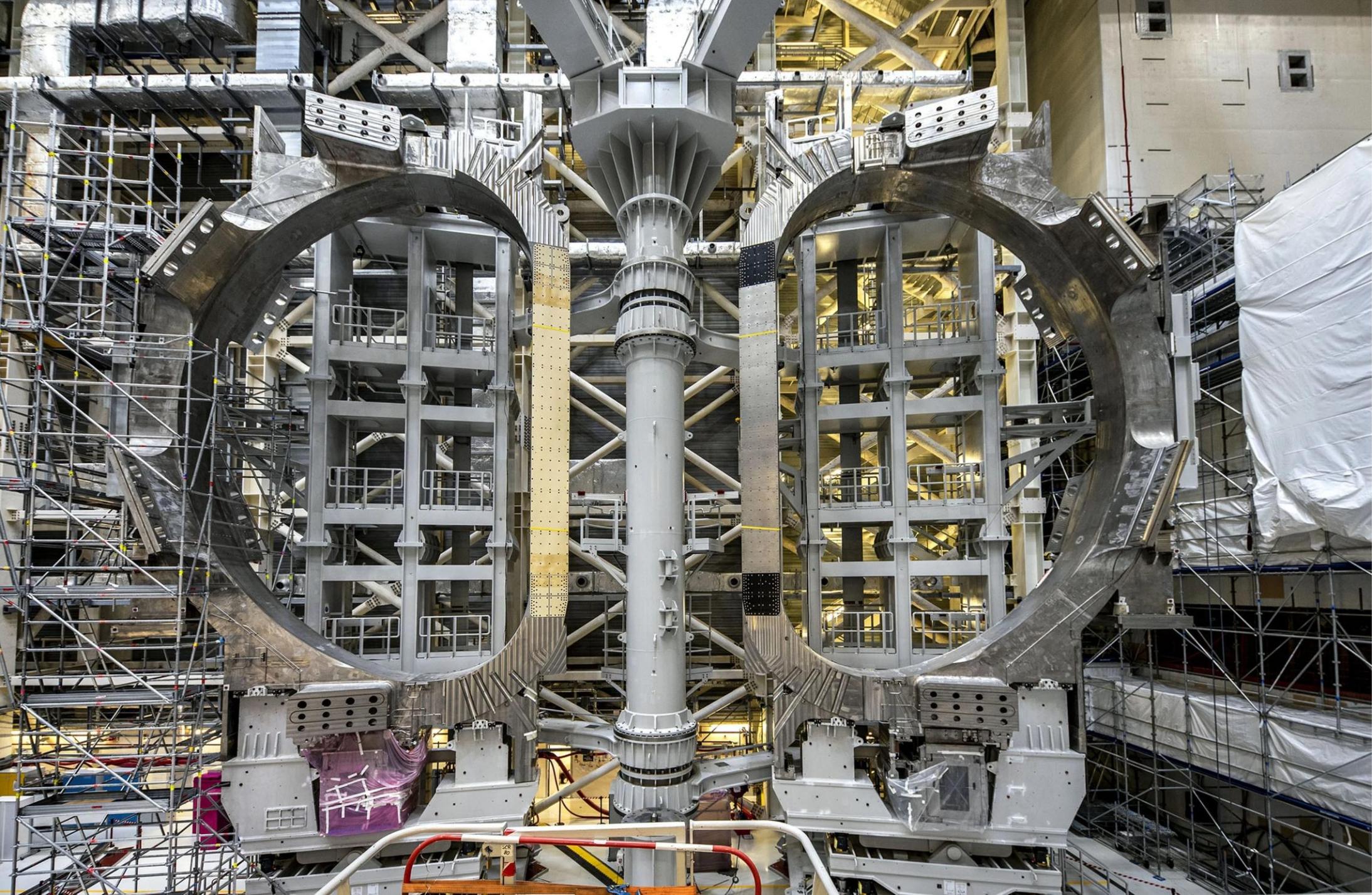


# TEAM NISHTHA

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- **Consider the following statements regarding the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER):**
- **ITER is the world's largest tokamak-based fusion reactor and is being constructed in France.**
- **It is a collaborative project involving 35 nations, including India, China and the United States.**
- **The primary objective of ITER is to generate electricity using nuclear fusion technology.**
- **Which of the statements given above is/are correct?**
- **A) 1 and 2 only**
- **B) 2 and 3 only**
- **C) 1 and 3 only**
- **D) 1, 2, and 3**

- **Answer: A) 1 and 2 only**
- **Explanation:**  
ITER is the **world's largest experimental tokamak-based fusion reactor**, located in **Cadarache, France**. It is an **international collaborative effort involving 35 nations**, including **India, China, the US, Russia, Japan, and the EU**, aimed at demonstrating the feasibility of fusion energy.
- However, ITER itself **will not generate electricity**; its primary goal is to achieve **burning plasma**, where the **fusion reaction sustains itself**.
- This will serve as a foundation for future **commercial fusion power plants**, making statement **3 incorrect**.



- **Which of the following official song was launched by the ICC for the ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025?**
- A) Khel Ka Junoon
- B) Jeeto Baazi Khel Ke
- C) Champions Ka Tashan
- D) Cricket Ka Mela



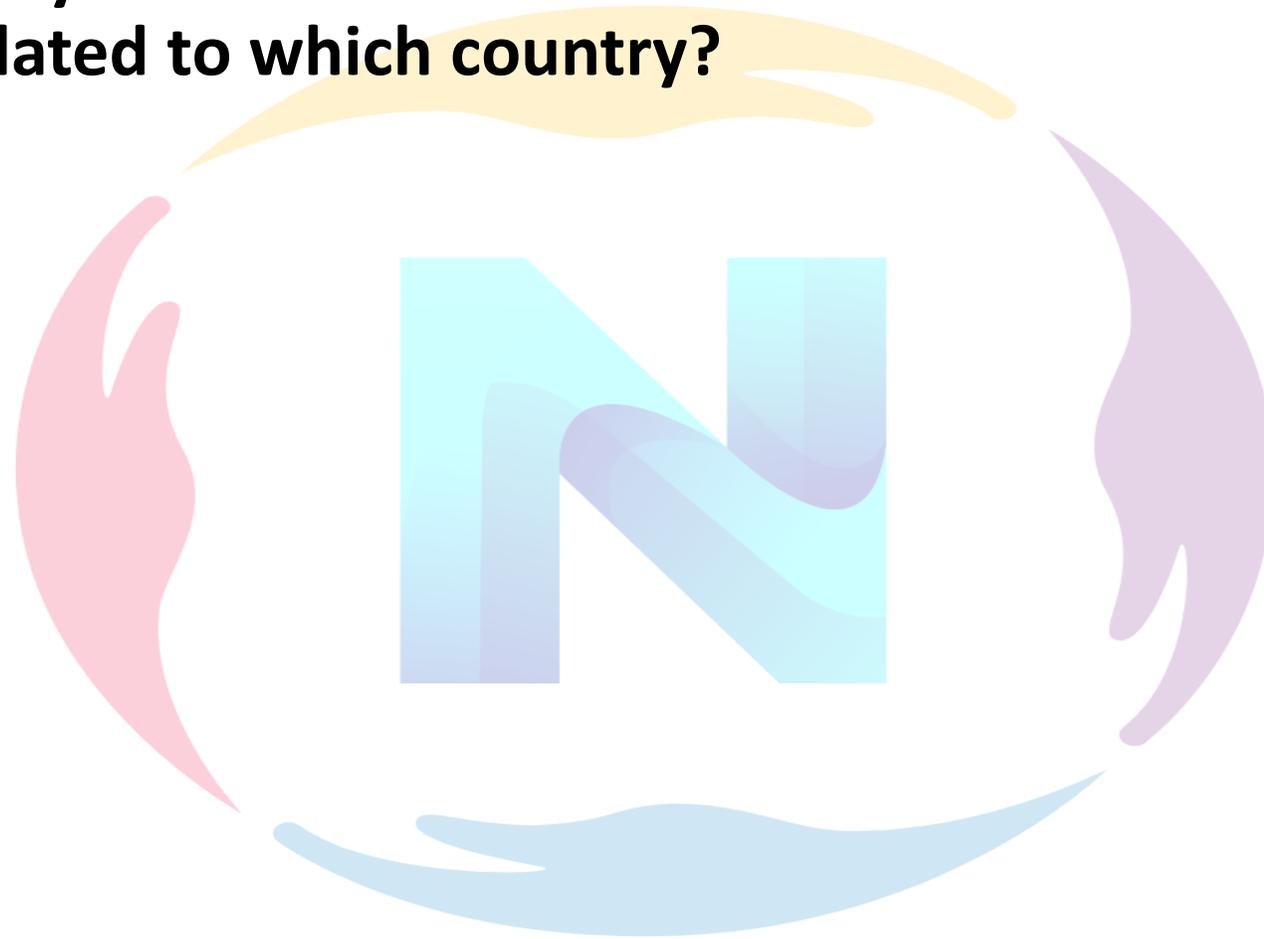
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- **Answer:** B) Jeeto Baazi Khel Ke
- **Explanation:** The **International Cricket Council (ICC)** launched the official theme song "**Jeeto Baazi Khel Ke**", sung by **Atif Aslam**, for the **ICC Men's Champions Trophy 2025**.
- The song aims to build excitement ahead of the tournament, which will be held in **Pakistan and Dubai from February 19 to March 9, 2025**.
- **Shikhar Dhawan**, former India opener, has been named one of the official event ambassadors, adding excitement to the tournament.

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• **Recently, Shohely Akhter was seen in the news. She is related to which country?**

- A) Pakistan
- B) Sri Lanka
- C) Bangladesh
- D) Afghanistan



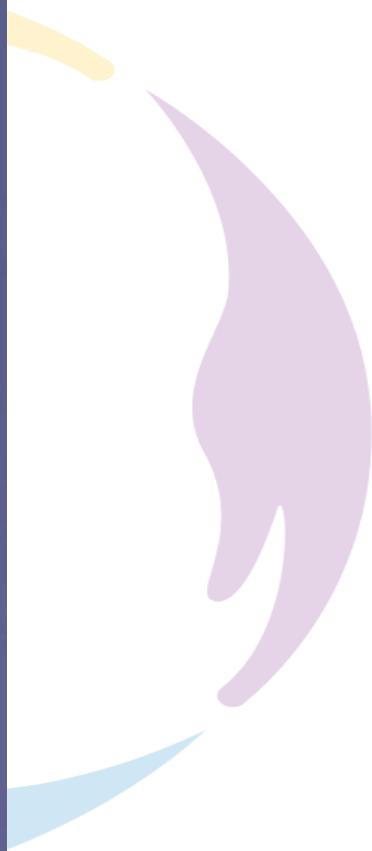
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- **Answer:** C) Bangladesh
- **Explanation:** Shohely Akhter, a **Bangladeshi cricketer**, became the **first woman player to be banned by the ICC for corruption**.
- She was found guilty of attempting to fix matches during the **2023 Women's T20 World Cup** and has been **banned for five years** from all forms of cricket.



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# TEAM NISHTHA

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- **Who won the Tata Steel Masters chess tournament in 2025?**

- A) Magnus Carlsen
- B) D Gukesh
- C) R Praggnanandhaa
- D) Arjun Erigaisi



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- **Answer:** C) R Praggnanandhaa
- **Explanation: Indian Grandmaster R Praggnanandhaa** won the **Tata Steel Masters 2025** tournament, defeating **D Gukesh** 2-1 in a **tie-breaker final** in the Netherlands.
- This was **Praggnanandhaa's first-ever Tata Steel Masters title**, and his victory was aided by **Arjun Erigaisi**, who defeated Gukesh earlier in the tournament.



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TATA STEEL  
TOURNAMENT  
CHESS  
2025

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TATA STEEL  
TOURNAMENT  
CHESS  
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TATA STEEL  
TOURNAMENT  
CHESS  
2025

- **Which state is set to host the 39th National Games in 2027?**

- A) Meghalaya
- B) Goa
- C) Uttarakhand
- D) Maharashtra



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- **Answer:** A) Meghalaya
- **Explanation:** Meghalaya has been officially selected by the **Indian Olympic Association (IOA)** to host the **39th National Games in February/March 2027**.
- Meghalaya Chief Minister **Conrad Sangma** confirmed the announcement, and the state will receive the **IOA flag** during the closing ceremony of the **38th National Games**.
- The **2025 National Games of India**, also known as the **38th National Games of India** and informally as the **Uttarakhand 2025**.

• **Recently, The 9th Asian Winter Games were held in Harbin. How many medals India won in the Games?**

- A) 2
- B) 0
- C) 3
- D) 5



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- **Answer: D) No medals won**
- **Explanation: India, sending its largest-ever contingent of 59 athletes, did not win any medals but saw promising performances, including Tara Prasad finishing 8th in figure skating .**
- **The 9th Asian Winter Games were held in Harbin, China, from February 7-14, 2025, with 34 nations participating in 11 winter sports. China topped the medal tally with 85 medals, followed by South Korea and Japan.**

## What was the theme of World Wetlands Day 2025?

- A) Wetlands and Climate Resilience
- B) Protecting Wetlands for Our Common Future
- C) Sustainable Wetlands for Biodiversity
- D) Wetlands: Nature's Guardians

- **Answer:** B) Protecting Wetlands for Our Common Future
- **Explanation: World Wetlands Day,** observed on **February 2**, raises awareness about the importance of wetlands in supporting biodiversity, climate resilience, and sustainable development.
- The **2025 theme, “Protecting Wetlands for Our Common Future,”** emphasizes the need to safeguard these vital ecosystems for both nature and humanity.

**World  
Wetlands Day**  
2 February 2025



**Protecting  
wetlands for our  
common future**



**Value. Protect. Inspire.**

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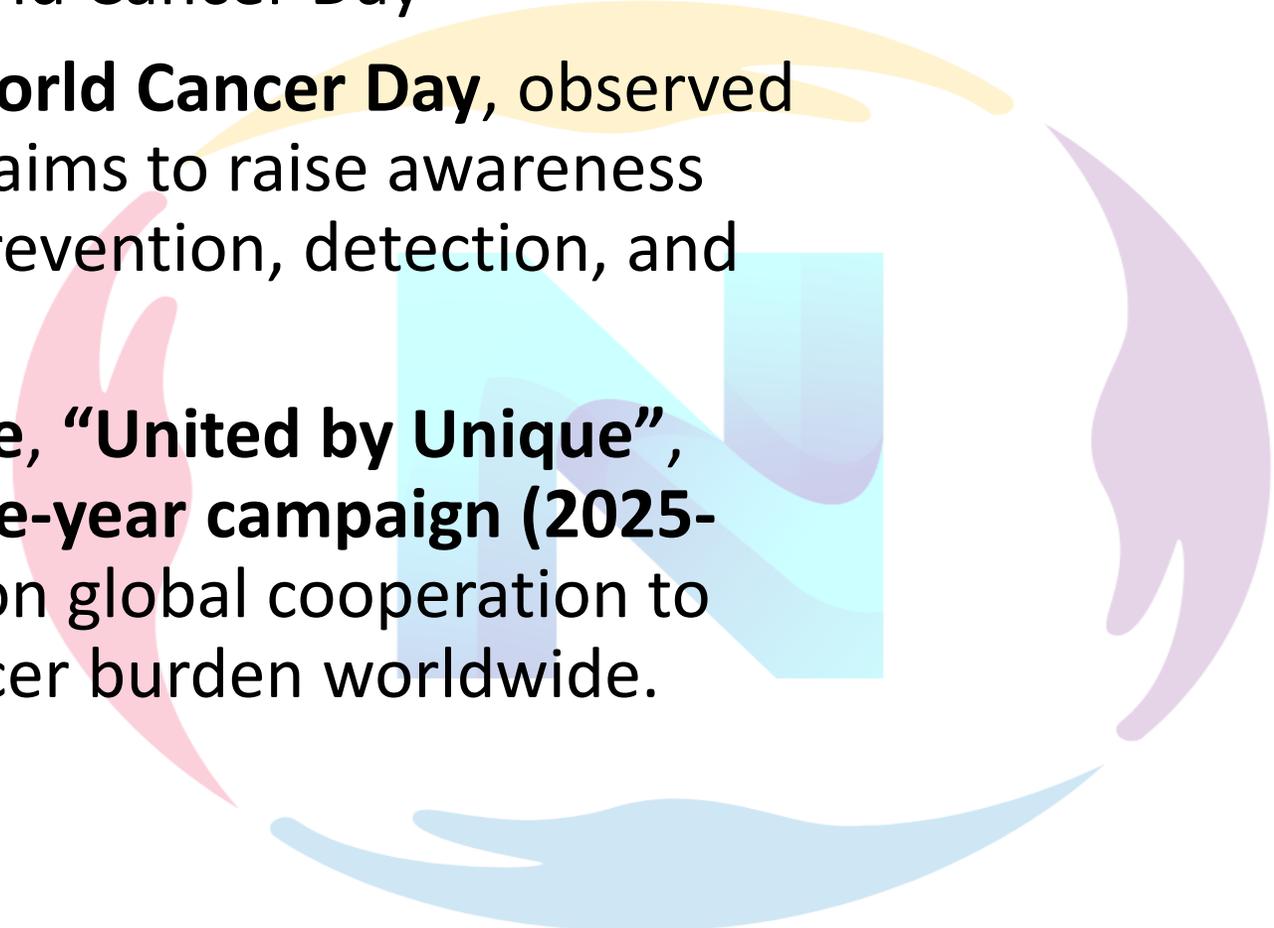
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **World Cancer Day 2025 was observed on which date?**
- (A) February 10
- (B) February 4
- (C) February 15
- (D) February 7



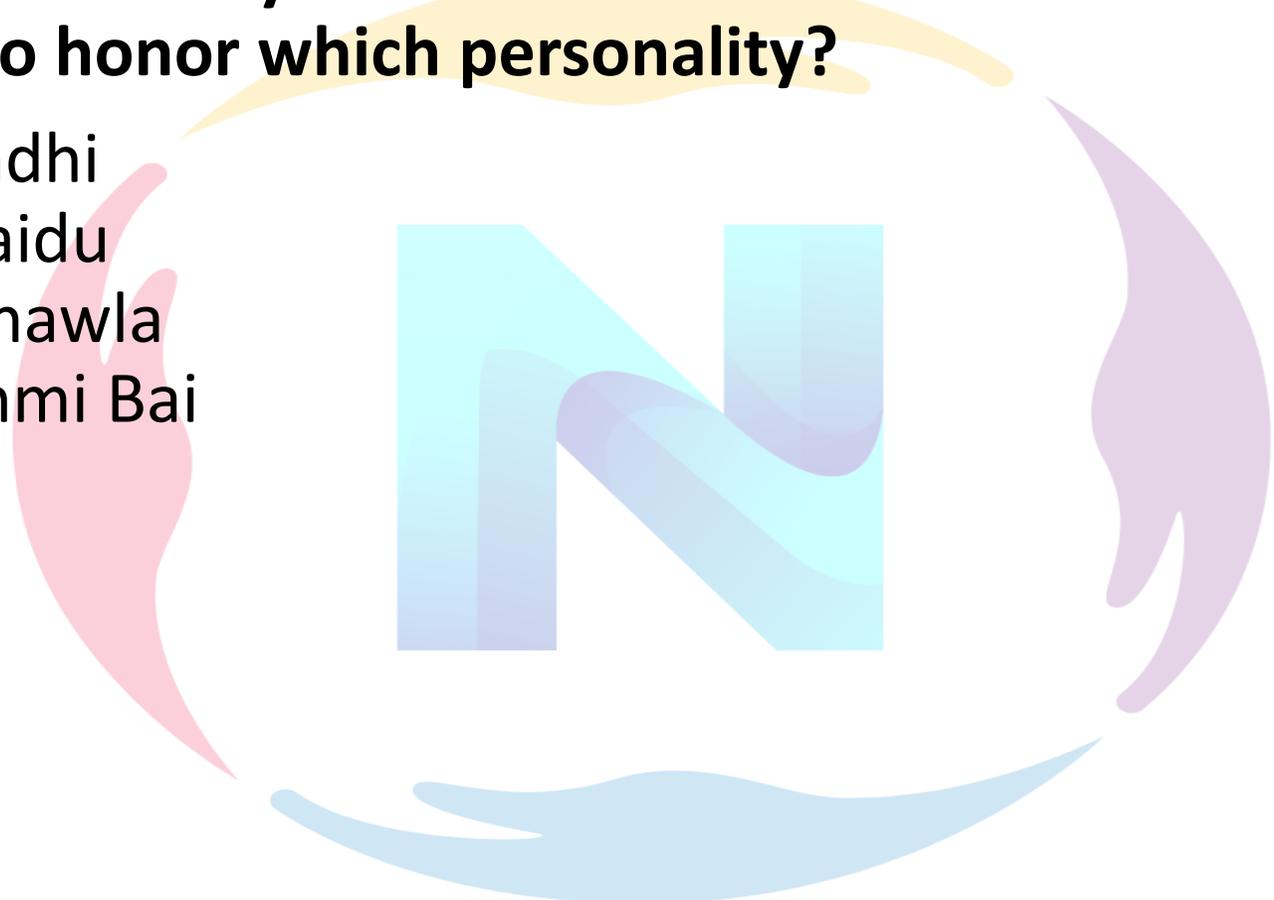
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- **Answer:** D) World Cancer Day
- **Explanation: World Cancer Day**, observed on **February 4**, aims to raise awareness about cancer prevention, detection, and treatment.
- The **2025 theme, “United by Unique”**, launches a **three-year campaign (2025-2027)** focused on global cooperation to reduce the cancer burden worldwide.



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- **National Women's Day in India is observed on February 13 to honor which personality?**
- (A) Indira Gandhi
- (B) Sarojini Naidu
- (C) Kalpana Chawla
- (D) Rani Lakshmi Bai



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- **Correct Answer: B**  
**Explanation: National Women's Day in India** is celebrated on **February 13** to honor **Sarojini Naidu**, a prominent freedom fighter, poet, and advocate for women's rights.
- Known as the "**Nightingale of India**," she was also the **first woman president of the Indian National Congress (1925)** and the **first woman Governor of an Indian state (Uttar Pradesh, 1947)**.



• **World Day of Social Justice 2025 was observed on which date?**

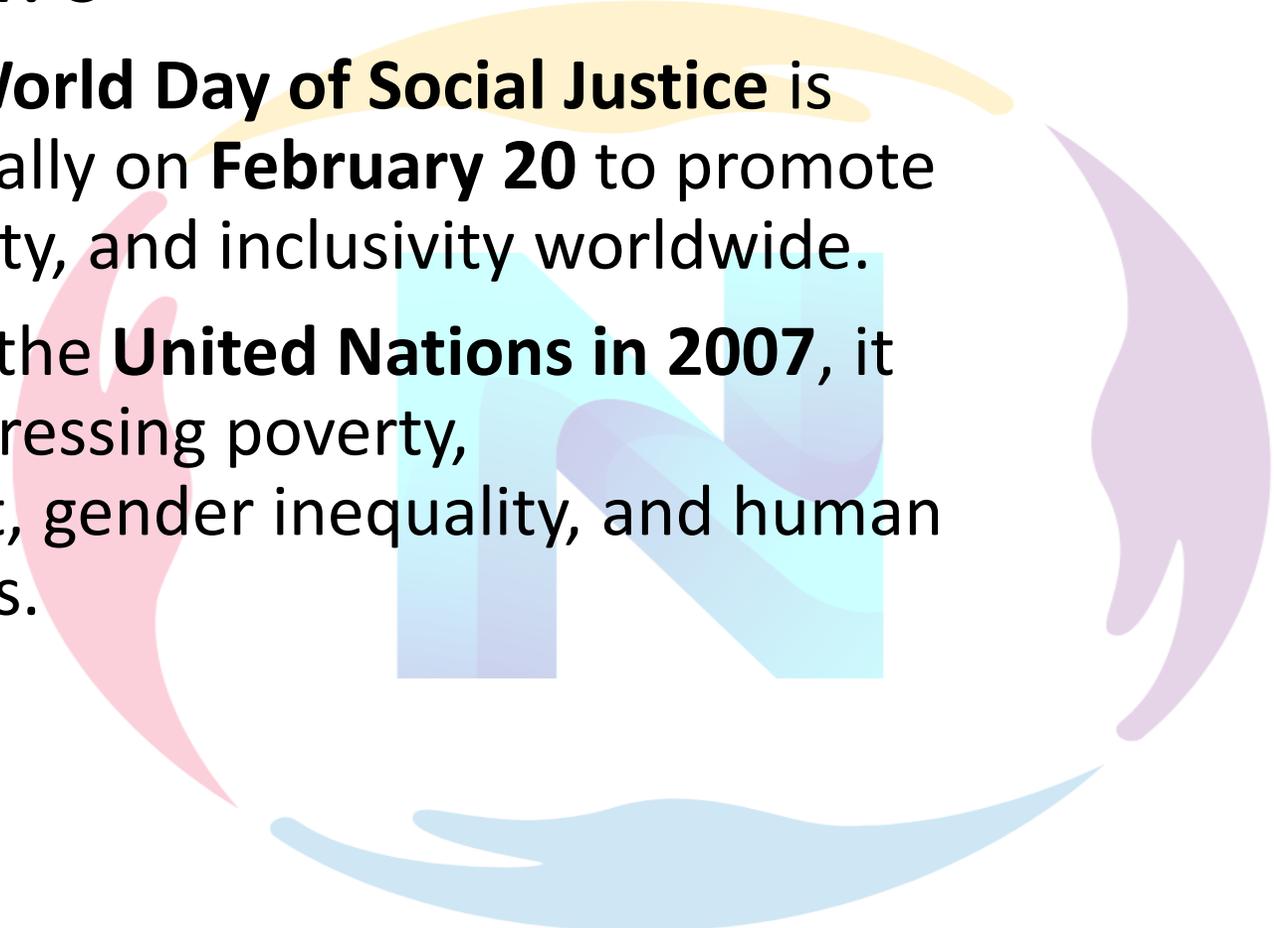
- (A) February 15
- (B) March 8
- (C) February 20
- (D) February 25



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- **Correct Answer: C**
- **Explanation: World Day of Social Justice** is observed annually on **February 20** to promote fairness, equality, and inclusivity worldwide.
- Established by the **United Nations in 2007**, it focuses on addressing poverty, unemployment, gender inequality, and human rights violations.



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- **International Mother Language Day 2025 was observed on which date?**
- (A) February 21
- (B) March 2
- (C) February 18
- (D) January 31



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- **Correct Answer: A**
- **International Mother Language Day**, observed on **February 21**, promotes linguistic and cultural diversity worldwide.
- It was first announced by **UNESCO in 1999** and recognizes the 1952 Bengali Language Movement in Bangladesh.
- **The 2025 edition marked the Silver Jubilee (25th anniversary) of the observance.**

- **World NGO Day 2025 was observed on which date?**
- (A) February 23
- (B) February 27
- (C) February 24
- (D) February 28



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- **Correct Answer: B**
- **World NGO Day**, celebrated on **February 27**, acknowledges the contributions of **non-governmental organizations (NGOs)** in addressing global challenges such as poverty, education, healthcare, human rights, and environmental conservation.
- The theme for **2025** is **“Empowering Grassroots Movements for a Sustainable Future”**.



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**Consider the case of State of Madras v. Champakam Dorairajan (1951), which resulted in a constitutional amendment. What was the main reason for this amendment?**

- (A) To introduce reservations for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in employment
- (B) To validate caste-based reservations in educational institutions
- (C) To abolish untouchability in India
- (D) To grant special protections to religious minorities

- **Answer:** (B) To validate caste-based reservations in educational institutions
- **Explanation:**  
The **Supreme Court ruling in the State of Madras v. Champakam Dorairajan (1951)** struck down caste-based reservations in educational institutions for violating **Article 29(2)**.
- In response, the **First Constitutional Amendment (1951)** was passed, introducing **Article 15(4)**, which empowered the **state to make special provisions for socially and educationally backward classes**.
- This amendment effectively **validated caste-based reservations in education**, ensuring affirmative action policies could continue.



*Champakam Dorairajan, a Brahmin woman from Madras, significantly influenced India's constitutional history by challenging caste-based reservations in educational institutions.*

*Her case, State of Madras v. Champakam Dorairajan (1951), resulted in the First Amendment to the Indian Constitution.*

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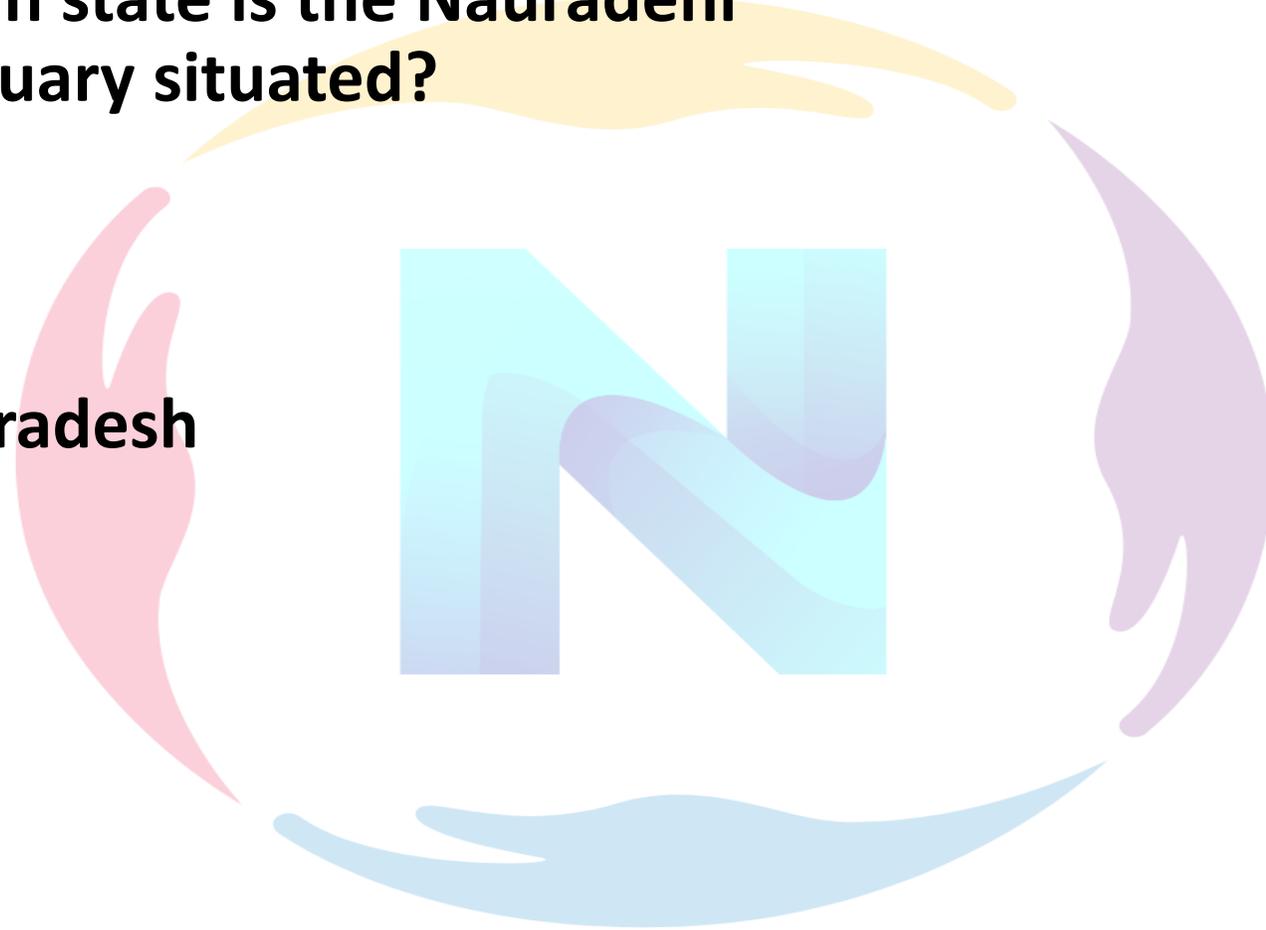
- Which nation collaborated with Germany to develop the Taurus KEPD-350 cruise missile?
- [A] Australia
- [B] Sweden
- [C] Japan
- [D] China



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: B [Sweden]**
- **Explanation:** The Taurus KEPD-350 is a long-range air-launched cruise missile developed by a joint venture between Germany and Sweden.
- The company behind its development, **Taurus Systems GmbH**, is a partnership between **MBDA Deutschland GmbH (Germany)** and **Saab Bofors Dynamics (Sweden)**.
- It is designed for deep penetration and precision strikes, capable of bypassing advanced air defense systems.
- It has been operational since 2005 and is used by the air forces of Germany, Spain, and South Korea.

- In which Indian state is the Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary situated?
- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] Madhya Pradesh



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- **Correct Answer: D [Madhya Pradesh]**
- **Explanation:** Nauradehi Wildlife Sanctuary is the **largest wildlife sanctuary in Madhya Pradesh** and spans across the **Sagar, Damoh, and Narsinghpur districts**.
- It was declared a wildlife sanctuary in 1975 and plays a crucial role as a corridor connecting **Panna and Satpura Tiger Reserves** while also linking to **Bandhavgarh through Rani Durgawati Wildlife Sanctuary**.
- It falls under the **Deccan Peninsula biogeographic region** and is part of the **Ganga and Narmada basins**.

- **Who assumed the role of SEBI chairman in February 2025?**
- **[A] Balbeer Singh**
- **[B] Jitendra Kumar**
- **[C] Tuhin Kanta Pandey**
- **[D] Mani Shankar**



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- **Correct Answer: C [Tuhin Kanta Pandey]**
- **Explanation: Tuhin Kanta Pandey, a 1987-batch IAS officer from the Odisha cadre, was appointed as the new chairman of SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India) in February 2025.**
- He succeeded **Madhabi Puri Buch**, whose term ended on **February 28, 2025**. Before this, Pandey served as the **Secretary of the Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)** and later became the **Finance and Revenue Secretary in September 2024**.
- He played a crucial role in **Air India's privatization and LIC's public listing**.



# TEAM NISHTHA

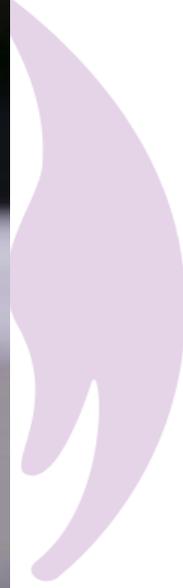
SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- Which cueist clinched the 2025 Asian Snooker Championship title?
- [A] Pankaj Advani
- [B] Lucky Vatnani
- [C] Brijesh Damani
- [D] Aditya Mehta



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Correct Answer: A [Pankaj Advani]**
- **Explanation: Pankaj Advani**, India's most celebrated cueist, secured the **2025 Asian Snooker Championship title** in **Doha, Qatar**.
- He also won the **National Snooker Championship title** in **Indore** in the same year.
- Advani has a **remarkable tally of Asian and world titles**, including **five Asian snooker titles**, **nine Asian billiards titles**, and **two Asian Games gold medals (2006 and 2010)**.
- In the final, he defeated Iran's **Amir Sarkhosh** with impressive breaks of **93 and 66**.



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

• **What is the rank of India in the Climate Risk Index (CRI) 2025?**

[A] 4th

[B] 5th

[C] 6th

[D] 9th



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- **Correct Answer: C [6th]**

- India ranked sixth in the Climate Risk Index 2025 by Germanwatch, highlighting its climate vulnerability.
- It was among the 10 most affected countries by extreme weather events from 1993 to 2022.
- India accounted for 10% of global fatalities and 4.3% of economic losses due to such events.
- The country faced floods, heatwaves, and cyclones, with major floods in 1993, 1998, and 2013. Severe heatwaves occurred in 2002, 2003, and 2015.
- More than 400 extreme events caused \$180 billion in losses and at least 80,000 deaths in India.

TEAM NISHTHA

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **“M23 rebels”, recently highlighted in news, are associated with which country?**

[A] Democratic Republic of Congo

[B] Sudan

[C] Iran

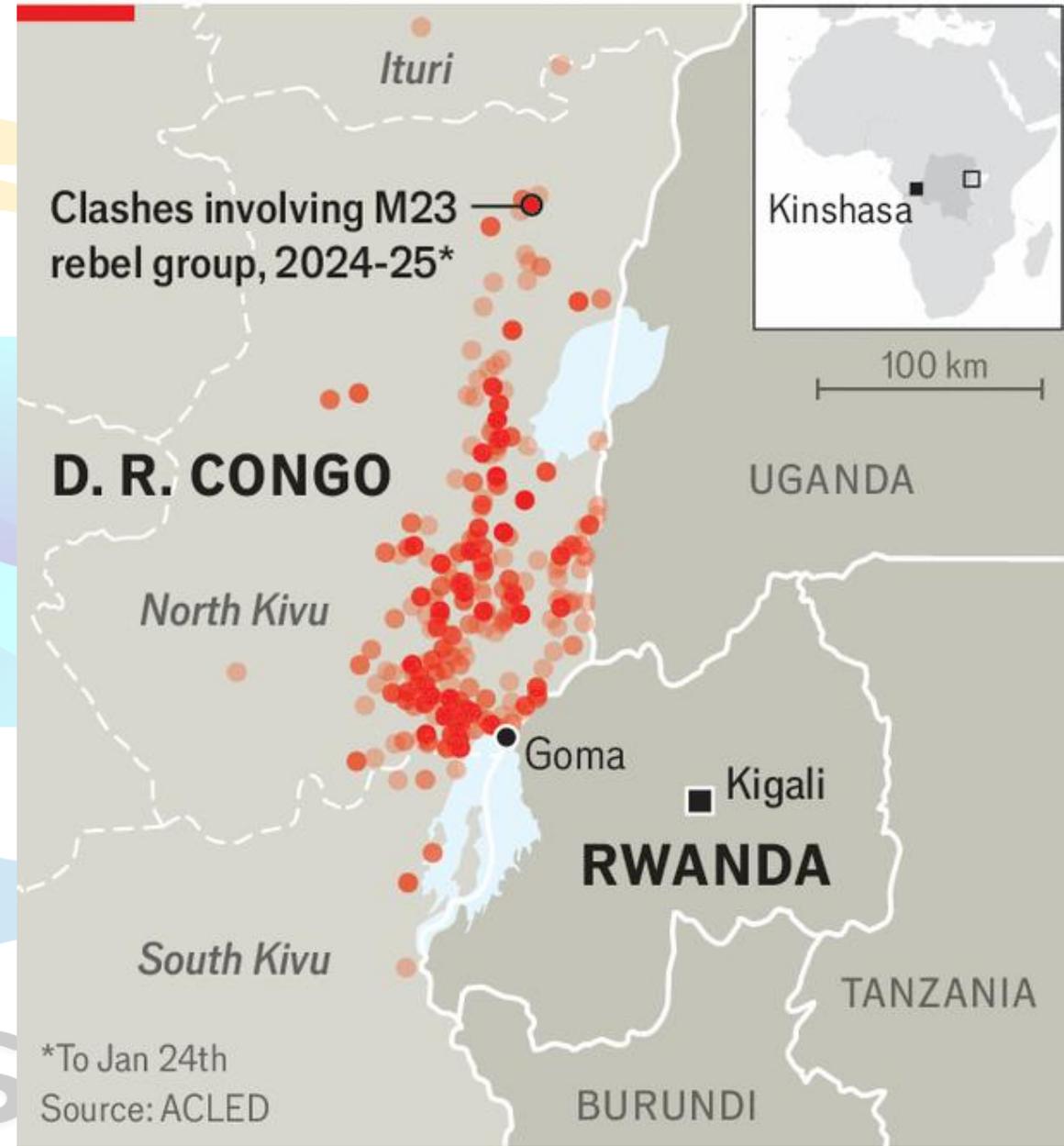
[D] Israel



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- **Correct Answer: A [Democratic Republic of Congo]**
- Rwandan-backed M23 rebels in the Democratic Republic of Congo are advancing south toward Bukavu, the capital of South Kivu province.
- They aim to expand control in the country's east after capturing Goma.
- The M23 (March 23 Movement) is an armed rebel group operating in the eastern Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), particularly in North Kivu province.
- It originated in 2012 from a faction of the Congolese army, citing grievances over a 2009 peace agreement.





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• **Who won the 2025 Chennai Open Tennis men's single title?**

[A] Billy Harris

[B] Elias Ymer

[C] Dalibor Svrčina

[D] Kyrian Jacquet



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- **Correct Answer: D [Kyrian Jacquet]**
- Kyrian Jacquet of France won the 2025 Chennai Open Tennis men's singles title.
- He defeated Elias Ymer of Sweden in the final on 9 February 2025 at SDAT Tennis Stadium, Nungambakkam, Tamil Nadu.
- The 2025 Chennai Open was an ATP 100 Challenger event held from 3-9 February 2025. This is Kyrian Jacquet's first Association of Tennis Professionals (ATP) title.
- In the semi-finals, Jacquet beat Dalibor Svrčina, and Ymer defeated top-seeded Billy Harris.



• **What is the name of mission recently announced by Indian government for development of small modular reactors (SMRs)?**

- [A] Atmanirbhar Nuclear Mission
- [B] Green Energy Nuclear Plan
- [C] Nuclear Energy Mission
- [D] Sustainable Atomic Energy Plan

- **Correct Answer: C [Nuclear Energy Mission]**

- The Finance Minister announced a ₹20,000 crore 'Nuclear Energy Mission' to develop indigenous Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).
- SMRs are small nuclear reactors with a maximum output of 300 MWe, producing 7.2 million kWh per day.
- In comparison, large nuclear plants generate over 1,000 MWe and 24 million kWh per day.
- SMRs are small, modular, and reactor-based, generating low-carbon electricity.
- They have small footprints, lower capital costs, and can be factory-built.
- SMRs can be deployed in locations unsuitable for large nuclear plants.
- They support incremental power additions, energy hubs, industrial heating, district heating, and hydrogen production.

- **PUNCH Mission is an initiative of which space organization?**
- **[A] Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)**
- **[B] Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency (JAXA)**
- **[C] National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)**
- **[D] European Space Agency (ESA)**



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- **Correct Answer: C [National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)]**
- NASA is preparing for the **PUNCH mission**, a unique solar mission aimed at studying the **solar atmosphere**.
- **PUNCH (Polarimetry to Unify the Corona and Heliosphere)** will be launched by **SpaceX** and consists of **four suitcase-sized satellites**, each weighing **64 kg**, placed in **Low Earth Orbit (LEO)**.
- The mission will utilize **three Wide Field Imagers** and **one Narrow Field Imager** to capture **polarized and unpolarized images**.
- By providing **3D measurements of the corona and solar wind** using light polarization, the mission will enhance **space weather predictions** and safeguard space missions. **Its expected duration is two years.**

**Solar wind**  
A steady stream of charged particles - such as electrons, protons and helium nuclei - and magnetic fields from the sun.

**Solar flare**  
Intense, localized burst of radiatino from the sun. Can appear as a bright spot that fades over minutes to hours.

**Coronal mass ejection**  
A large eruption of electricity charged gas and magnetic fields from the sun that is accelerated into space by the solar winds.

**Geomagnetic storm**  
A major disturbance in Earth's magnetic field caused by a large influx of energy from the solar wind. The largest storms happen when a CME reaches Earth.

Earth's magnetic field

**Consider the following statements regarding the SWAYATT initiative:**

- 1. It was launched by the Government e Marketplace (GeM) in 2015 to promote public procurement by startups and women-led enterprises.**
- 2. The initiative focuses on training last-mile sellers, promoting women entrepreneurship, and supporting small-scale businesses.**
- 3. SWAYATT aims to enhance ease of doing business and is based on GeM's principle of social inclusion.**

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

- [A] 1 and 2 only
- [B] 2 and 3 only
- [C] 1 and 3 only
- [D] 1, 2, and 3

- **Correct Answer: B [2 and 3 only]**
- **Explanation:**
- **Statement 1 is incorrect** because the **SWAYATT initiative was launched on 19th February 2019**, not 2015. It was introduced to encourage participation from **startups, women entrepreneurs, micro and small enterprises (MSEs), self-help groups (SHGs), and youth** in government procurement.
- **Statement 2 is correct** as the initiative actively supports **training last-mile sellers, encourages women entrepreneurship, and helps small-scale businesses** participate in government procurement.
- **Statement 3 is correct** as SWAYATT is aligned with **GeM's principle of social inclusion** and is aimed at improving the **ease of doing business** for underrepresented groups in public procurement.

 **GeM** Government e Marketplace

**Online Market**  
for Smart Government Buyers



SEARCH PRODUCT   ADD TO CART   GET YOUR ORDER   MAKE PAYMENT

**SELLERS**

**GOVERNMENT BUYERS**



**TEAM NISHTHA**

SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Which country is hosting the 34th ITTF-ATTU Asian Cup Table Tennis Tournament?**
- [A] **China**
- [B] **Malaysia**
- [C] **Indonesia**
- [D] **India**

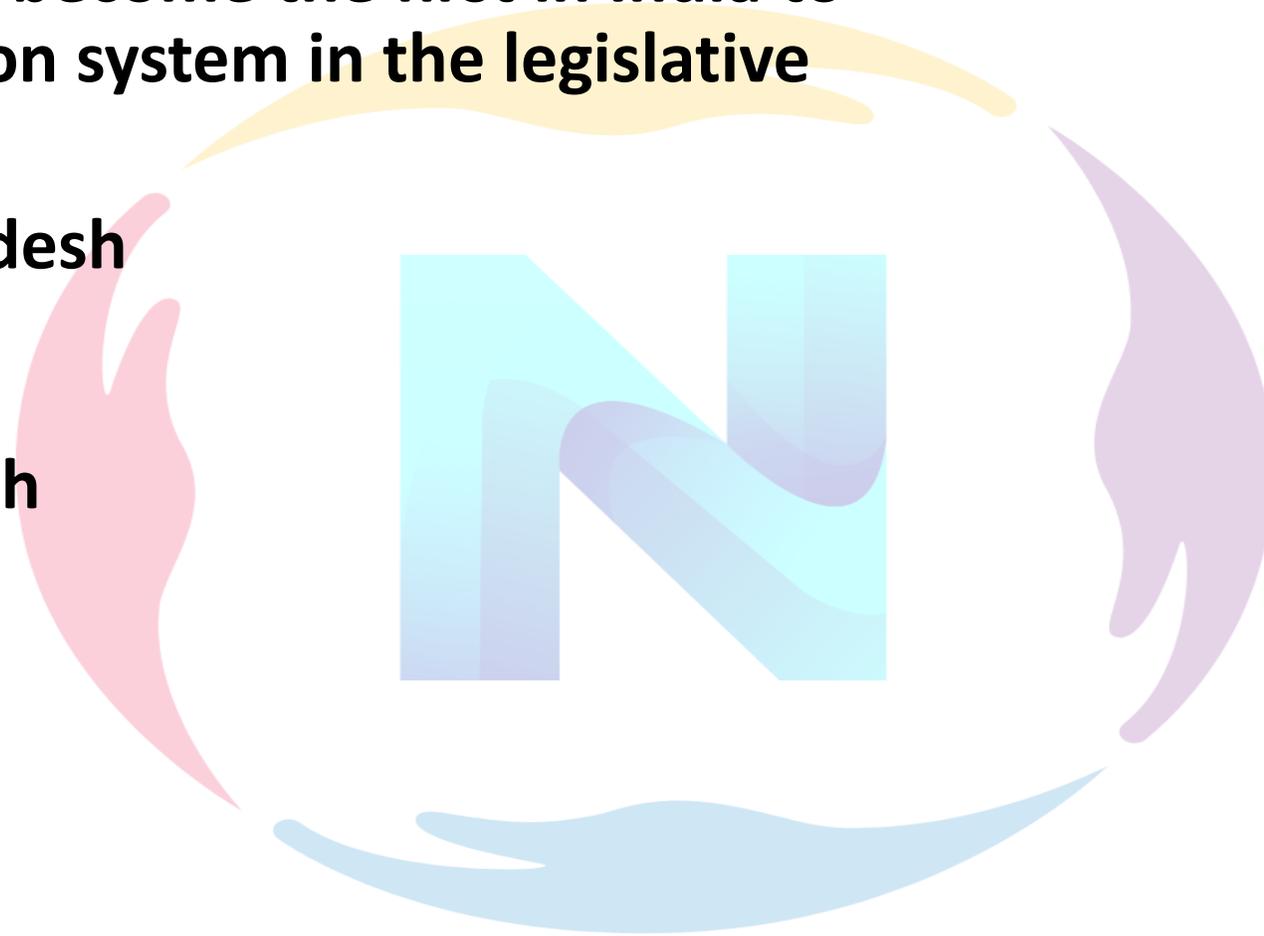


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- **Correct Answer: A [China]**
- **The 34th International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF)-Asian Table Tennis Union (ATTU) Asian Cup is being held from February 19–23, 2025, at the Shenzhen Universiade Sports Center in Shenzhen, China.**
- **The tournament features top athletes from various countries, with India’s men’s team led by veteran player Sharath Kamal.**
- **The event’s official mascot is “Peng Peng”, inspired by Shenzhen’s nickname “Pengcheng”.**

**Which state has become the first in India to have a translation system in the legislative assembly?**

- [A] Madhya Pradesh**
- [B] Bihar**
- [C] Maharashtra**
- [D] Uttar Pradesh**



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- **Correct Answer: D [Uttar Pradesh]**
- Uttar Pradesh has become the **first state in India** to introduce a **translation system in its legislative assembly**.
- The proposal is under review by the **Ruling Committee** and will be implemented after approval.
- **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath** oversaw rehearsals for translations in **Awadhi, Braj, Bhojpuri, Bundelkhand, and English**, enhancing accessibility and inclusivity in legislative proceedings.

- **The Gravehawk hybrid surface-to-air missile system is developed by which country?**
- **[A] United States**
- **[B] Russia**
- **[C] United Kingdom**
- **[D] Brazil**



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- **Correct Answer: C [United Kingdom]**
- **Explanation:**
- The **Gravehawk hybrid surface-to-air missile system**, developed by the **United Kingdom**, has been acquired by **Ukraine** to counter **Russian missile attacks**.
- It is designed to **target short-range airborne threats**, including **drones, cruise missiles, and low-flying aircraft**.
- The system's missiles can reach speeds of **Mach 2.5** and engage targets up to **12 miles away**, providing **enhanced air defense capabilities**.

**GRAVEHAWK: NEW UK-BUILT  
AIR-DEFENCE SYSTEM TO  
PROTECT UKRAINE**



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SHAPING CAREERS WITH DEVOTION

- **Which two countries launched the TRUST initiative to boost cooperation in critical minerals in February 2025?**
- **[A] India and Japan**
- **[B] India and United States**
- **[C] Russia and China**
- **[D] India and Russia**



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- **Correct Answer: B [India and United States]**
- **Explanation:**
- The **TRUST (Transforming Relationship Utilizing Strategic Technology) initiative** was launched by **India and the United States** to strengthen **cooperation in critical minerals**, including **lithium and rare earth elements**.
- Announced during **PM Modi's visit to Washington**, the initiative aims to **enhance supply chain resilience**, facilitate **technology transfer**, and streamline **export controls** for high-tech materials.
- It also focuses on promoting **advanced materials, pharmaceuticals, and high-tech commerce** between both nations.

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# India- US Initiatives for Critical Minerals

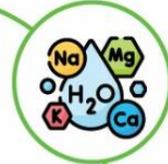
## Strategic Mineral Recovery Initiative

Focuses on recovering and processing critical minerals (lithium, cobalt and rare earths) from heavy industries like Aluminium, coal mining and oil & gas.



## Minerals Security Partnership (MSP)

US-led collaboration of 14 countries and EU to enhance investment in critical minerals supply chains. India joined in 2023.



## Minerals Security Finance Network (initiative under MSP)

Joint financing body to fund global critical minerals projects. India joined in 2024.



- **Which country is the host of Artificial Intelligence (AI) Action Summit 2025?**

- [A] France
- [B] India
- [C] Russia
- [D] United States



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- **Correct Answer:** A [France]
- Prime Minister Narendra Modi co-chaired the 'AI Action Summit' in Paris on 11th February 2025 with French President Emmanuel Macron.
- France hosted the third International AI Summit on 10th-11th February 2025 to promote global cooperation in AI development.
- PM Modi announced that India will host the next Global AI Summit, following discussions at the Paris summit.

- **What is the operational range of the Pinaka Multiple Rocket Launch System (MRLS)?**
- **[A] 30-45 km**
- **[B] 50-65 km**
- **[C] 60-75 km**
- **[D] 80-95 km**



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- **Correct Answer: C [60-75 km]**
- **Explanation:**
- The **Pinaka Multiple Rocket Launch System (MRLS)**, developed by **DRDO's Armament Research and Development Establishment (ARDE)**, has an **effective range of 60 to 75 km**.
- It is a **battle-proven artillery weapon system** that was first used during the **Kargil War**.
- The system can launch **high-explosive and sub-munition warheads** with precision, delivering **rapid and accurate fire** on enemy targets.

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**Consider the following statements regarding the Stryker Infantry Combat Vehicle:**

- 1. Stryker is an eight-wheeled combat vehicle developed by General Dynamics Land Systems (GDLS) for the US Army.**
- 2. It was the first new military vehicle inducted into the US Army since the 2010s.**
- 3. The vehicle has a range of 483 km, a top speed of 100 km/h, and is air-transportable by C-17 and C-130 aircraft.**

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

- [A] 1 and 2 only**
- [B] 2 and 3 only**
- [C] 1 and 3 only**
- [D] 1, 2, and 3**

- **Correct Answer: C [1 and 3 only]**
- **Explanation:**  
Stryker is an **eight-wheeled combat vehicle** developed by **General Dynamics Land Systems (GDLS)** for the **US Army** and was **the first new military vehicle inducted since the 1980s, not the 2010s.**
- It has a **range of 483 km, a top speed of 100 km/h, and is air-transportable by C-17 and C-130 aircraft.**

- **Point Nemo, recently seen in the news, is located in which ocean?**
- **[A] Indian Ocean**
- **[B] Pacific Ocean**
- **[C] Arctic Ocean**
- **[D] Atlantic Ocean**



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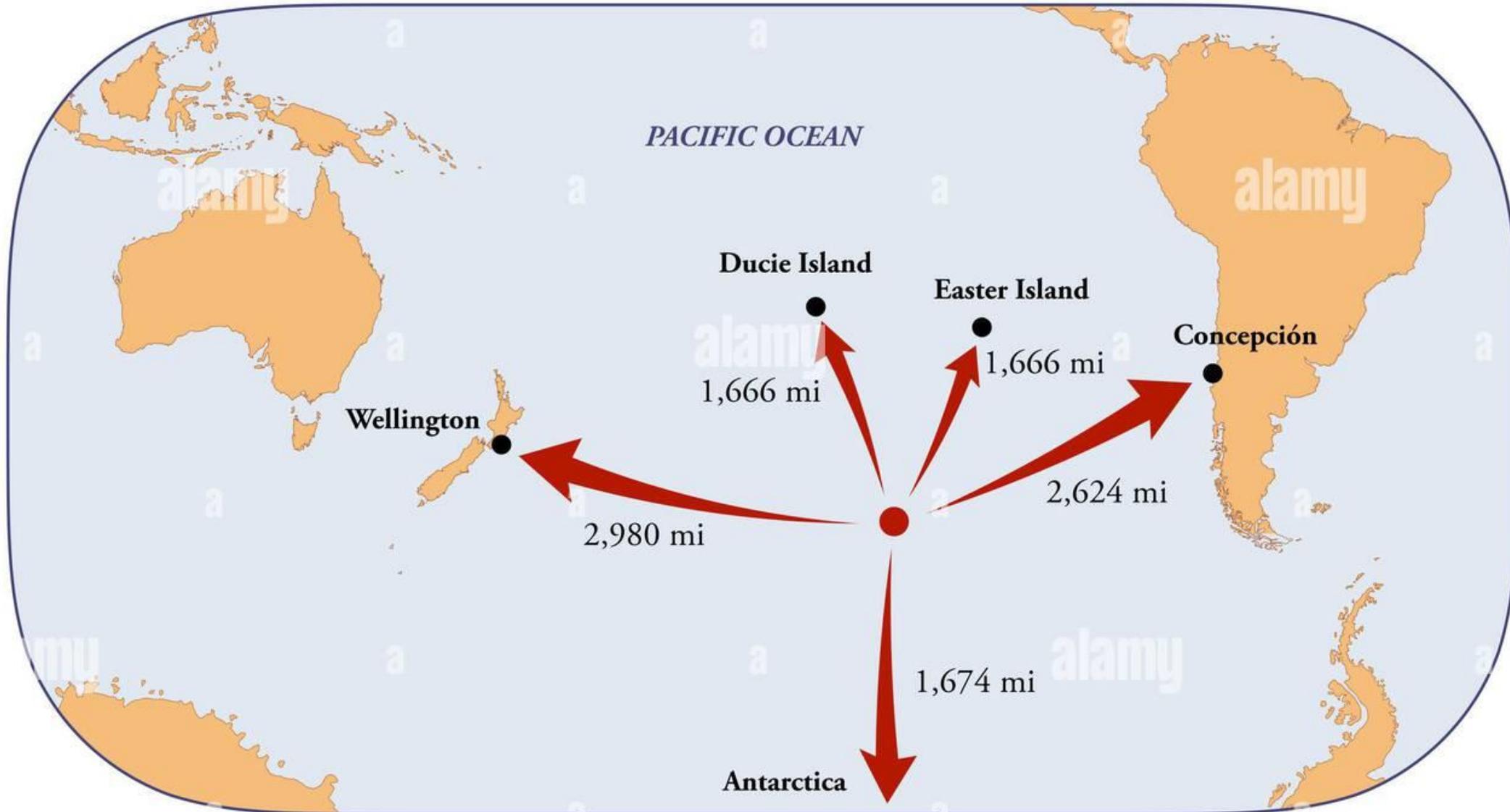
- **Correct Answer: B [Pacific Ocean]**

- **Explanation:**

Two young Indian Navy officers aboard **INSV Tarini** recently crossed **Point Nemo** in the **southern Pacific Ocean** during **Navika Sagar Parikrama-II**.

- Point Nemo, also known as the **Oceanic Pole of Inaccessibility**, is the farthest point from any landmass on Earth.
- Named after **Captain Nemo** from *Twenty Thousand Leagues Under the Sea*, it is about **2,688 km** from the nearest land.
- The closest human presence is often **astronauts aboard the International Space Station**.
- Due to its extreme remoteness, the region has minimal marine life and is commonly used for **space debris disposal**.

# Point Nemo



- **Which bank has become the first Indian bank to implement Clari5's NCRP Integration Solution?**
- **[A] Bank of Baroda**
- [B] Canara Bank**
- [C] Punjab National Bank**
- [D] Bank of India**



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- **Correct Answer: C [Punjab National Bank]**
- Punjab National Bank (PNB) is the first Indian bank to integrate **Clari5's National Cybercrime Reporting Portal (NCRP) solution**. Developed in collaboration with the **Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)**, this solution automates cybercrime complaint processing.
- It enhances security across multiple retail banking channels, including **Internet Banking, Mobile Banking, ATMs, UPI, and NEFT/RTGS**.
- Key features include **automated lien marking, intelligent account freezes, and customizable whitelisting** to safeguard customer accounts.
- **Rivi Varghese, CEO of Clari5**, hailed this integration as a groundbreaking advancement in Indian banking cybersecurity.



**Thanks for  
watching!**



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