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USEFUL FOR

- ★ UPSC
- ★ BPSC
- ★ UPPSC
- ★ MPPSC
- ★ SSC etc.

1. Launch of Watershed Yatra.

Union Rural Development Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched the "Watershed Yatra", an initiative to spread awareness and promote water resource management under the Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0). The Yatra covers 805 projects and will last for 60 to 90 days. 6673 Gram Panchayats (13587 villages) will be reached in 26 States and 2 Union Territories under the Abhiyaan.



2. America separated from UNHRC.

US President Donald Trump decided to withdraw the US from the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC) and signed an executive order for this. The US and Israel accused the UNHRC of unfairly targeting and defaming Israel. Trump said that the UNHRC has deviated from its mission and is promoting anti-Semitism.



3. Sahitya Akademi Award for Ek Hor Ashwatthama.

Shri Chaman Arora was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award 2024 for his book "Ik Hor Ashwatthama" in Dogri language. It is a short story compilation. An engraved copper plaque and a sum of ₹1,00,000 will be awarded as the prize. This honor will be given to the family member or nominee of the author at a special ceremony in New Delhi on 8 March 2025.



4. NIELIT Centre of Excellence in Chip Design.

Shri S Krishnan, Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology inaugurated the Centre of Excellence (CoE) of National Institute of Electronics and Information Technology (NIELIT) at Noida. The centre will provide state-of-the-art facilities for research, innovation and training in chip design and VLSI (very large scale integration).



5. US Mission Blue Ghost.

The Blue Ghost lander is an advanced spacecraft developed by Firefly Aerospace. It aims to deliver scientific payloads to the surface of the Moon and advance lunar research. It is an important part of NASA's Lunar Surface Operations Program and Artemis mission, which aim to establish a long-term human presence on the Moon.



6. 15th International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias held in New Delhi.

The 15th International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias was held in New Delhi, the capital of India from 5-7 February 2025. Global pharmacopoeias leaders, regulatory authorities and industry stakeholders participated in this meeting, which aimed to improve pharmaceutical standards and improve public health outcomes. Measures for harmonization and regulatory convergence of pharmaceuticals were discussed in this meeting.



7. AYUSH Ministry launches special campaign 'Shatavari – For Better Health'.

The Ministry of AYUSH launched the “Shatavari – For Better Health” campaign aimed at raising awareness about the medicinal benefits of asparagus. It was inaugurated by Minister of State for AYUSH (Independent Charge) Shri Prataprao Jadhav in presence of senior officials including Vaidya Rajesh Kotecha (Secretary, Ministry of AYUSH) and Dr. Mahesh Kumar Dadhich (CEO, NMPB).



8. K. Balasubramaniam appointed as new head of Citibank India.

Citibank has appointed K. Balasubramaniam as India Sub-Cluster and Banking Head. He will replace Ashu Khullar, who will now become co-head of global asset management (GAM). Balasubramaniam's appointment is subject to the approval of the Reserve Bank of India (RBI). Balasubramaniam will report to Amol Gupte, Asia South Head and Head of Banking, Citibank.



1. "Watershed Yatra" has been launched under which scheme?

A - MNREGA

B - Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0)

C - National Water Mission

D - Pradhan Mantri Fasal Bima Yojana

Union Rural Development Minister Shri Shivraj Singh Chouhan launched "Watershed Yatra", an initiative to spread awareness and manage water resources under Pradhan Mantri Krishi Sinchai Yojana (WDC-PMKSY 2.0). The Yatra will cover 805 projects and will last for 60 to 90 days.



2. Which country recently withdrew from the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC)?

A - France

B - Russia

C - China

D - America

US President Donald Trump decided to withdraw the US from the United Nations Human Rights Council (UNHRC), alleging that it is biased against Israel and spreading anti-Semitic propaganda. The US also stopped UNHRC aid for Palestinian refugees. The Trump administration directed a review of US participation in the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), while the US and Israel had withdrawn from UNESCO in 2019.



3. The book Ik Hor Ashwatthama belongs to which language?

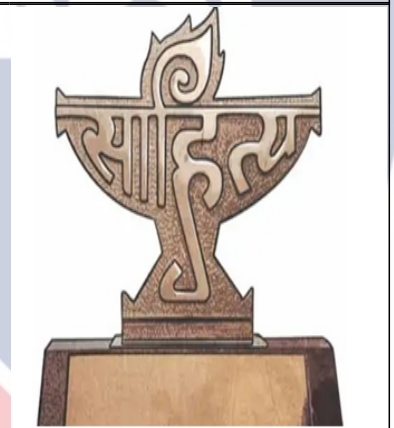
A - Dogri

B - Sanskrit

C - Punjabi

D - Hindi

Shri Chaman Arora was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Award 2024 for his book "Ik Hor Ashwatthama" in Dogri language. It is a short story compilation. He will be awarded an amount of ₹1,00,000 and an engraved copper plaque. The honor will be given to his family member or nominee in New Delhi on 8 March 2025.



4. Who recently inaugurated the NIELIT Centre of Excellence in Chip Design?

A - Prime Minister Narendra Modi

B - Minister of Electronics and Information Technology Ashwini Vaishnav

C - Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Shri S. Krishnan

D - Director General of NIELIT

Secretary, Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology, Shri S. Krishnan inaugurated the Centre of Excellence for Chip Design and VLSI Research of NIELIT in Noida. The centre has been set up in

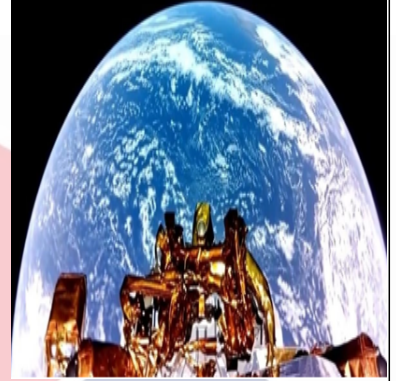


with SoC Teamup Semiconductors Pvt Ltd, a DPIIT-registered startup. It aims to promote semiconductor design, innovation and development.

5. What is the US mission Blue Ghost?

- A - Lander, spacecraft
B - Trademark
C - International treaty
D - None of the above

The Blue Ghost lander is an advanced spacecraft developed by Firefly Aerospace, aimed at delivering scientific payloads to the Moon and advancing research. It is part of NASA's Artemis mission and Lunar Surface Operations Program, which aim to establish a long-term human presence on the Moon.



6. Where was the 15th International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias held?

- A - New Delhi
B - Jaipur
C - Prayagraj
D - Bhopal

The 15th International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias was held from 5-7 February 2025 in New Delhi, attended by global pharmaceutical leaders, regulatory authorities and industry stakeholders. It aimed to improve pharmaceutical standards and enhance public health. The meeting was organised by the World Health Organisation (WHO) and hosted by the Indian Pharmacopoeia Commission.

New Delhi host the 15th International Meeting of World Pharmacopoeias



7. Recently, which ministry has launched a special campaign for Shatavari – Better Health

- A - Ministry of AYUSH
B - Ministry of Finance
C - Ministry of Home Affairs
D - Ministry of External Affairs

The Ministry of AYUSH launched the “Shatavari – Better Health Ke Liye” campaign, aimed at raising awareness on the medicinal benefits of asparagus. It was inaugurated by Minister of State for AYUSH Prataprao Jadhav, in which senior officials were present. The initiative is to empower women’s health and traditional medicine.



8. Recently K Balasubramaniam has been appointed as the head of which bank?

- A - Citibank India
B - Indian Overseas
C - HDFC
D - SBI

Citibank has appointed K Balasubramaniam as the India Sub-Cluster and Banking Head, who will replace Ashu Khullar. His appointment is subject to RBI approval. He will report to Amol Gupte, while Khullar will now be the co-head of Global Asset Management (GAM). Under Khullar's leadership (2019-2025), Citibank India reached the top position in investment banking.

