

AMOGHAVARSHA IAS ACADEMY

Daily Current Affairs

1. Recently, the 5th International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies, also known as Swachh Vayu Diwas, is observed on which day?

- [A] 1 September 2024
- [B] 5 September 2024
- [C] 7 September 2024
- [D] 10 September 2024

Correct Answer: C [7 September 2024]

Notes:

The Rajasthan State Pollution Control Board hosted the 5th International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies on 7 September 2024 in Jaipur. This day is also known as Swachh Vayu Diwas in India. Along with this, the 4th meeting of the Apex Committee of the National Clean Air Programme (NCAP) took place, chaired by Bhupendra Yadav, Union Minister for Environment, Forest and Climate Change. The United Nations declared 7 September as the International Day of Clean Air for Blue Skies in 2019. The theme for 2024 is "Invest in clean air now."

2. Recently, Abdelmadjid Tebboune has been elected as the president of which country?

- [A] Algeria
- [B] Australia
- [C] Iran
- [D] Vietnam

Correct Answer: A [Algeria]

Notes:

In the 2024 Algerian presidential election, 78-year-old President Abdelmadjid Tebboune was re-elected with a huge win. He secured 94.65% of the valid votes, as per Mohamed Charfi, head of the election authority. The election was held on 7 September 2024, with 5.6 million voters out of 25 million eligible participants. President Tebboune was re-elected for a second five-year term. He was first elected in 2019, but the opposition boycotted that election. Tebboune, seen as military-backed, defeated rivals Abdelaali Hassani Cherif and Youcef Aouchiche, who gained 3% and 2.1% of votes, respectively.

3. Which city has secured first position in the Swachh Vayu Survekshan (SVS) 2024?

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- [A] Jaipur
- [B] Surat
- [C] Kolkata
- [D] Varanasi

Correct Answer: B [Surat]

Notes:

Surat, previously ranked 13th, secured 1st place in the Swachh Vayu Survekshan (SVS) 2024 among 131 cities across India.

The city scored 194 out of 200 marks and reduced PM10 levels by 12.71% in 2023-24. Surat was honored as a 'National Clean Air City' with ₹1.5 crore, a trophy, and a certificate at a ceremony in Jaipur. The Swachh Vayu Sarvekshan, initiated by the government, aims for a 30% reduction in air particulates and evaluates cities based on waste management, dust, emissions, and public awareness.

4.How many medals were won by India at the 2024 Paris Paralympics?

- [A] 15
- [B] 20
- [C] 25
- [D] 29

Correct Answer: D [29]

Notes:

The 17th Paris Paralympics concluded on 8 September 2024 with a ceremony at Stade de France, Paris. It was held from 28 August to 8 September 2024, organized by the International Paralympics Committee. The 18th Summer Paralympics will take place in Los Angeles, USA, in 2028. India won a record 29 medals, surpassing the 19-medal haul from the 2020 Tokyo Paralympics. China topped the medal tally with 220 medals, while India ranked 18th. Harvinder Singh and Preeti Pal were India's flag bearers at the closing ceremony.

5.Sukanya Samridhi Yojana, recently seen in the news, was launched in which year?

- [A] 2014
- [B] 2015
- [C] 2018

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[D] 2020

Correct Answer: B [2015]

Notes:

The government introduced new rules for the Sukanya Samridhi Yojana (SSY), effective from 1 October 2024. SSY, launched in 2015 under the “Beti Bachao Beti Padhao” campaign, is a small-deposit savings scheme for girl children. Guardians can open an SSY account for their girl child, who must be under 10 years old and an Indian resident. The scheme allows a minimum deposit of ₹250 and a maximum of ₹1.5 lakh annually, with deposits for 15 years and maturity at 21 years. Partial withdrawal up to 50% is allowed for education after age 18. SSY offers tax benefits under Sections 80C and 10 of the Income Tax Act. New rules require the transfer of guardianship from grandparents to legal guardians or parents, else the account will be permanently closed.

6. Which company has recently announced an initiative “AI Odyssey” to skill 100,000 developers in India on AI technology?

[A] IBM

[B] Microsoft

[C] Google

[D] Amazon

Correct Answer: B [Microsoft]

Notes:

Microsoft has announced an initiative named AI Odyssey to skill 100,000 developers in India in artificial intelligence technologies and tools. This will enable developers to solve complex real-world problems and create value by building AI solutions aligned to business outcomes. The program aims to promote AI fluency and adoption in the country by imparting comprehensive AI training to the developers over a month.

7. What is the primary purpose of the ICD-11 TM Module 2?

[A] Classifying modern biomedicine

[B] Including Ayurveda, Siddha, Unani in WHO classification

[C] Monitoring infectious diseases

[D] Developing Ayush insurance coverage

Correct Answer: A [Classifying modern biomedicine]

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Notes:

The ICD-11 TM Module 2, launched by the World Health Organization in collaboration with India's Ministry of Ayush, primarily aims to include data and terminology relating to diseases based on traditional medicine systems – Ayurveda, Siddha, and Unani – in the WHO's International Classification of Diseases (ICD11) classification. This significant inclusion marks a step towards achieving global uniformity in traditional medicine, recognizing and integrating these ancient systems of medicine into the international healthcare framework. The inclusion of these traditional medical systems in the ICD11 classification reflects a growing recognition of the importance and relevance of traditional medicine in global healthcare. It also represents an effort to create a more comprehensive and inclusive international health vocabulary that acknowledges the diversity of medical systems and practices around the world.

8. What is the primary objective of the XRISM satellite mission, that was recently making news?

- [A] Studying Venusian clouds
- [B] Mapping Earth's surface
- [C] Observing the X-ray cosmos
- [D] Monitoring climate change

Correct Answer: C [Observing the X-ray cosmos]

Notes:

The XRISM (X-ray Imaging and Spectroscopy Mission) satellite mission, a collaborative effort led by Japan's JAXA, along with NASA and ESA, primarily aims to observe and study the X-ray cosmos. Launched on September 6, 2023, XRISM's mission is to scrutinize the universe's hottest regions, largest structures, and objects with the strongest gravity. This is achieved through advanced technology capable of detecting X-rays with energies up to 12,000 electron volts. The mission is equipped with two significant instruments, Resolve and Xtend, each contributing uniquely to the exploration of the cosmos. Resolve analyzes the chemical compositions, temperatures, densities, and motion directions of celestial objects, as demonstrated by its detailed examination of N132D, a supernova remnant in the Large Magellanic Cloud. Xtend complements this by capturing wide-field X-ray images, like its observation of Abell 2319, a galaxy cluster undergoing a merger. XRISM's mission signifies a major advancement in our understanding of the universe beyond the capacities of visible light, providing more detailed chemical maps and insights into the dynamic processes governing the cosmos.

9. Which mobile app, recently launched by the IMD, provides integrated GIS-based services for all weather-related information?

- [A] Monsoon

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[B] Mausam

[C] Accurate weather

[D] RadarScope

Correct Answer: B [Mausam]

Notes:

India Meteorological Department (IMD) launched MAUSAM, an integrated GIS-based mobile app offering weather services such as hourly forecasts, Rainfall, Humidity, Sunrise/Sunset, Moonrise/Moonset, Rain Alert, Lightning Alert, Cyclone Alert, and more. The app supports 12 Indian languages and introduces “mausamgram” accessible via the mobile app or IMD website. “mausamgram” enables users to view observations, forecasts, and warnings through a map or search function using place names, pincodes, or coordinates, aligning with the vision “Har Har Mausam, Har Ghar Mausam.”

10. Western Equine Encephalitis virus, recently seen in the news, is transmitted to humans through which one of the following?

[A] Through direct contact with infected individuals

[B] Consumption of contaminated food or water

[C] Airborne transmission

[D] Mosquito bites

Correct Answer: D [Mosquito bites]

Notes:

Argentina's International Health Regulations National Focal Point reported a human case of Western Equine Encephalitis Virus (WEEV) infection to the World Health Organization. WEEV, a mosquito-borne virus with an 11.5 kb RNA genome, is a recombinant of Eastern Equine Encephalitis Virus and Sindbis-like virus. Mosquitoes transmit it, with passerine birds as reservoirs and equine species as intermediate hosts. While often asymptomatic, severe cases may result in neurological symptoms, requiring symptomatic care due to the absence of specific antiviral treatment.

11. Two ancient temple caves were recently discovered near Rajapur, Ratnagiri in which state?

[A] Karnataka

[B] Maharashtra

[C] Andhra Pradesh

[D] Kerala

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Correct Answer: B [Maharashtra]

Notes:

Two ancient temple caves were discovered near Rajapur, Ratnagiri, in the state of Maharashtra. The caves are believed to have been created in the 5th or 6th century CE.

They are older than the Elephanta caves. Ratnagiri is also home to the Ratnagiri Caves, a Buddhist center. The Buddhist monuments were constructed from the 5th century CE onwards, with the last work in the 13th century.

12. Which city is the host of the 54th International Film Festival of India?

- [A] Kochi
- [B] Goa
- [C] Chennai
- [D] Guwahati

Correct Answer: B [Goa]

Notes:

The 54th International Film Festival of India will be held in Goa from November 20 to 28, 2023. British film 'Catching Dust' will be opening at the festival while the American film 'The Featherweight' will be the closing movie.

Turkish film About Dry Grasses will be the midfest movie. Hollywood star Michael Douglas will be honoured with the Satyajit Ray Lifetime Achievement Award at IFFI this year. During the 9-day festival, more than 270 films will be showcased. The opening Film in the feature section is a Malayalam film, Aattam, and in the non-feature section is Andro Dreams from Manipur.

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13. Which state organises the 'Unboxing BLR Habba (UBH)' festival?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Karnataka
- [C] Kerala
- [D] Andhra Pradesh

Correct Answer: B [Karnataka]

Notes:

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Karnataka Deputy Chief Minister DK Shivakumar announced the Unboxing BLR Habba (UBH) 2023. The festival is set to be hosted by Bengaluru from December 1.

The inaugural edition of the annual city-wide festival will include a diverse range of events, spanning arts, culture, literature, heritage, technology, environment, design, dance, music, theatre, exhibitions, and more.

14. The Dhillio festival, which was seen in the news, is celebrated in which state/UT?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Goa
- [C] Telangana
- [D] Chennai

Correct Answer: B [Goa]

Notes:

Dhillio is an ecofeminist festival celebrated in the Western Ghats of Goa. The festival's fervour is also felt in the forested villages of Joida in Karnataka.

These villages are home to the Goan Kunbi community members, whose ancestors had migrated to Joida during the Portuguese era to escape persecution.

15. 'Mahima Cult' is a religious movement, which originated in which state?

- [A] Odisha
- [B] Telangana
- [C] Karnataka
- [D] West Bengal

Correct Answer: A [Odisha]

Notes:

The Union Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship officially commenced the two-day 'International Seminar on Santha Kavi Bhima Bhoi and the enduring influence of the Mahima Cult.'

Originating in the spiritual and cultural milieu of Odisha, India, the Mahima Cult is a unique religious movement that emphasizes simplicity, equality, and unwavering devotion to the formless Divine.

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16. 'Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam' festival is associated with which state?

- [A] Tamil Nadu
- [B] Andhra Pradesh
- [C] Kerala
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Andhra Pradesh]

Notes:

The Union Ministry of Tourism in association with Ministry of Culture, Sangeet Natak Academy and State Government of Andhra Pradesh successfully organised the prequel event of Krishnaveni Sangeetha Neerajanam.

It is a first of its kind festival to celebrate the rich heritage of classical music and promote lesser-known tourist attractions. The main event is to be organized in December 2023 in Vijayawada. The event will also feature spectacular display and sale of regional cuisine, local handicrafts and handlooms.

17. Asa di vaar, ardas, Nagar kirtan, Akhand Paath Sahib and langar are associated with which religion?

- [A] Buddhism
- [B] Jainism
- [C] Sikhism
- [D] Islam

Correct Answer: C [Sikhism]

Notes:

People celebrated the 554th birth anniversary of Guru Nanak, the founder of the Sikh faith. The Sikh community mark Guru Nanak's Prakash Utsav with various rituals, including Asa di vaar, ardas, Nagar kirtan, Akhand Paath Sahib, langar, and cultural programs.

The festival includes worshipers singing hymns in procession during the pre-dawn hour. Pakistan issues 3000 visas to Sikh pilgrims to celebrate birth anniversary of Guru Nanak.

18. 'Santiniketan' is a university town situated in which state/UT?

- [A] Puducherry
- [B] West Bengal

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[C] Goa

[D] Odisha

Correct Answer: B [West Bengal]

Notes:

Santiniketan, the university town in West Bengal's Birbhum district, was recently inscribed on the UNESCO's World Heritage List.

A Centre-approved board identifying Santiniketan as UNESCO-approved world heritage site has finally been erected by Visva-Bharati in the location and mentions Rabindranath Tagore. Santiniketan – founded by Debendranath Tagore and home to Visva-Bharati, the university set up by his son Rabindranath – was accorded world heritage status by UNESCO, and shortly after that plaques had come up marking the site and they bore the names of only Chancellor Narendra Modi and the then Vice-Chancellor Bidyut Chakrabarty.

19. Which city is the host of the first Indian Art, Architecture & Design Biennale (IAADB) 2023?

[A] Chennai

[B] New Delhi

[C] Mysuru

[D] Varanasi

Correct Answer: B [New Delhi]

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated the first Indian Art, Architecture & Design Biennale (IAADB) 2023 at Red Fort.

During the programme, the Prime Minister also inaugurated the 'Aatmanirbhar Bharat Centre for Design' at Red Fort and the student Biennale- Samunnati. He also launched a Commemorative Stamp.

20. 1500-year-old Ancient sculptures with Gupta and Pala artforms, were recently discovered in which state?

[A] Punjab

[B] Uttar Pradesh

[C] Mizoram

[D] West Bengal

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Correct Answer: C [Mizoram]

Notes:

Two ancient sculptures were discovered at Kolalian village in Mizoram's Mamit district near Assam's Barak Valley.

The art forms of the sculptures, claimed to be 1,500 years old, have a strong similarity with the structures found during the Gupta and Pala periods (between 750 and 1200 CE). They have found two sculptures including one 'relief' (carved into the hills) looking like a Buddha and another 'free standing' (statue made of stone in the hills) which looks like Parvati, a Hindu goddess.

21. Which state launched 'Griha Adhar' and 'Chavath e Bazaar' initiatives?

[A] Kerala

[B] Gujarat

[C] Goa

[D] Odisha

Correct Answer: C [Goa]

Notes: Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant distributed Griha Adhar sanction orders, a program aimed at financially supporting homemakers and improving their quality of life.

He also launched "The Chavath e Bazaar," a digital initiative empowering Goan entrepreneurs and self-help groups, under the Swayampurna Goa Programme. The government plans to provide free training to women in packaging and selling food items under Swayampurna Goa 2.0.

22. Which state announced Mukhya Mantri Shramik Kalyan Yojana (MMSKY)?

[A] Madhya Pradesh

[B] Sikkim

[C] Meghalaya

[D] Arunachal Pradesh

Correct Answer: D [Arunachal Pradesh]

Notes:

Arunachal Pradesh Chief Minister Pema Khandu has announced the launch of the Mukhya Mantri Shramik Kalyan Yojana (MMSKY) as part of the National Labour Day celebrations.

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Under the scheme, benefits such as maternity benefits, natural death compensation, accidental death compensation, funeral assistance, medical assistance, and more have been significantly increased.

23. Which state/UT launched “Mukhyamantrir Atmanirbharshil Asom Abhiyan”?

- [A] Assam
- [B] West Bengal
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Jharkhand

Correct Answer: A [Assam]

Notes: The Assam government launched a new scheme called “Mukhyamantrir Atmanirbharshil Asom Abhiyan.”

This scheme aims to provide financial assistance of Rs. 2 lakh each to two lakh young individuals, fostering self-reliance and economic independence among the state’s youth. The registration process for the program is scheduled to commence by September end.

24. As per recent data, what is the percentage of villages declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus?

- [A] 50%
- [B] 65%
- [C] 75%
- [D] 80%

Correct Answer: C [75%]

Notes: India reaches a significant sanitation milestone with 75% of its villages now declared Open Defecation Free (ODF) Plus under the Swachh Bharat Mission – Grameen.

The declaration of over 4.4 lakh villages as ODF Plus represents the efforts toward accomplishing the objectives of Phase II of the Swachh Bharat Mission – Grameen by 2025.

25. Which Union Ministry is associated with which ‘GOBARdhan’ scheme?

- [A] Ministry of Jal Shakti
- [B] Ministry of MSME
- [C] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

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[D] Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare

Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Jal Shakti]

Notes: The Department of Drinking Water and Sanitation of Ministry of Jal Shakti has introduced the Unified Registration Portal for GOBARdhan to simplify the process of registering Compressed Bio-Gas (CBG) and biogas facilities across the country.

Currently, there are more than 1,163 biogas plants and 426 CBG plants registered on the portal, making them eligible for support through the Market Development Assistance (MDA) scheme offered by the Department of Fertilizers.

26. Which state launched a dedicated 'Tourism Policy 2023', and aims to attract ₹20,000-crore investments in 5 years?

[A] Gujarat

[B] Tamil Nadu

[C] Karnataka

[D] Maharashtra

Correct Answer: B [Tamil Nadu]

Notes: Tamil Nadu government has unveiled its new tourism policy to develop the State into the most attractive experiential destination in Asia.

Over the next five years, the state aims to attract ₹20,000-crore investments and to facilitate the skill development of 3 lakh people. In the next five years, the State expects tourism to contribute at least 12 per cent of the State GSDP annually and tourism and supporting industries in the State to employ 25 lakh people.

A Focus on Shaping Future of Millions
27. Which Union Ministry prepared the 'Smart Cities Mission, India: Localising SDGs' Report?

[A] Ministry of Finance

[B] Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

[C] Ministry of MSME

[D] Ministry of Commerce and Industry

Correct Answer: B [Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs]

Notes: 'Smart Cities Mission, India: Localising Sustainable Development Goals' was prepared by the Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry and UN-Habitat.

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It revealed that around 70 percent of projects under the SCM align with the SDGs on cities, clean water and sanitation, clean energy and economic growth.

28. Which Union Ministry released 'UMMEED' guidelines?

- [A] Ministry of MSME
- [B] Ministry of Finance
- [C] Ministry of Education
- [D] Ministry of Minority Affairs

Correct Answer: C [Ministry of Education]

Notes: The Union Ministry of Education (MoE) has unveiled draft guidelines called Understand, Motivate, Manage, Empathise, Empower, Develop (UMMEED).

They are designed to prevent student suicides by recommending the formation of wellness teams, training for teachers and families, and prompt responses to students displaying warning signs.

29. 'Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Yojana' is associated with which state/UT?

- [A] West Bengal
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Assam
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Maharashtra]

Notes: Recently, the Maharashtra government approved the release of the initial installment of Rs 1,720 crore to farmers as part of the Namo Shetkari Mahasanman Nidhi Yojana.

Under the scheme, the state government will provide an additional amount of ₹6,000 along with ₹6,000 provided by the Central Government under PM KISAN scheme.

30. What is the name of the autonomous organization formed to promote youth development in India?

- [A] Youth Skill India
- [B] Mera Yuva Bharat
- [C] Young India

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[D] Study in India

Correct Answer: B [Mera Yuva Bharat]

Notes: The Union Cabinet has given nod to establish an autonomous organization known as Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat).

This body is designed to function as a comprehensive facilitator, leveraging technology to promote both the development of youth and youth-led development.

31. Mera Peak, recently seen in the news, is located in which country?

[A] Bhutan

[B] India

[C] Nepal

[D] Myanmar

Correct Answer: C [Nepal]

Notes: A British man set a new Guinness World Record for the highest altitude ski BASE jump, leaping from 18,753 feet on Mera Peak in Nepal. Mera Peak is located in the Khumbu region of Nepal, standing at 6,476m above sea level, making it the highest trekking peak in the country. The peak dominates the area between the Hinku and Hongu Drangkas valleys and is considered the gateway to Everest. Trekkers usually climb Mera Central, although Mera North Peak is the highest. Mera Peak was first climbed in 1953 by Col. Jimmy Roberts and Sen Tenzing.

32. Mount Kilimanjaro, recently seen in the news, is located in which country?

[A] Botswana

[B] Congo

[C] Tanzania

[D] Ethiopia

Correct Answer: C [Tanzania]

Notes: Five-year-old Teghbir Singh from Ropar, Punjab, climbed Mount Kilimanjaro, the highest peak in Africa. He started the trek on August 18 and reached the Uhuru peak on August 23. Mount Kilimanjaro stands at over 19,340 feet (5895 meters) in Tanzania. The trek posed challenges like low oxygen and altitude sickness, with temperatures dropping to -10°C. Teghbir received a Mountain Climbing Certificate from Tanzania National Parks. He matched the world record set by a Serbian boy for summiting Kilimanjaro at age five. Teghbir is now the youngest Asian and Indian to achieve this feat.

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33. Arbaat Dam, recently seen in the news, is located in which country?

- [A] Sudan
- [B] Kenya
- [C] Nigeria
- [D] Ethiopia

Correct Answer: A [Sudan]

Notes: The Arbaat Dam in eastern Sudan collapsed after heavy rainfall, leading to severe flooding. Sudan, located in northeastern Africa, was Africa's largest country before South Sudan's secession in 2011. It is now the third largest. The country is bordered by Central African Republic, Chad, Egypt, Eritrea, Ethiopia, Libya, South Sudan, and the Red Sea.

Sudan is home to the River Nile, the longest river in the world, with the White and Blue Niles meeting in Khartoum, the capital, and flowing to the Mediterranean Sea via Egypt.

34. "Sabina Shoal", recently seen in the news, is located in which sea?

- [A] Red Sea
- [B] Black Sea
- [C] South China Sea
- [D] Arabian Sea

Correct Answer: C [South China Sea]

Notes: China's natural resource ministry released its first survey report on the disputed Sabina Shoal in the South China Sea.

Sabina Shoal, also known as Xianbin Reef, is an oceanic coral atoll located in the eastern part of the Spratly Islands in the South China Sea. It is situated 75 nautical miles from the Philippine province of Palawan and lies within the Philippines' 200-nautical mile Exclusive Economic Zone (EEZ) under UNCLOS. China claims the shoal and much of the South China Sea as its territory and maintains a presence there, though it is 630 nautical miles from China. Sabina Shoal is 23 km long, composed of two main parts connected by a narrow section, with central lagoons surrounded by a coral ring.

35. Nazca Ridge, recently seen in the news, is a submarine ridge located in which ocean?

- [A] Indian Ocean

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[B] Arctic Ocean

[C] Pacific Ocean

[D] Atlantic Ocean

Correct Answer: C [Pacific Ocean]

Notes: Oceanographers found a new seamount on the Nazca Ridge, 900 miles off Chile's coast. Nazca Ridge is a submarine ridge in the southeastern Pacific Ocean near South America. It is around 1,100 kilometers long and varies in width. The ridge starts at the Nazca Plate off Peru and extends southwest towards Easter Island, Chile. It was created by volcanic activity from a hotspot in the Earth's mantle. The ridge consists of unusually thick basaltic ocean crust.

It is tectonically active, subducting beneath the South American Plate at the Peru-Chile Trench.



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