

AMOGHAVARSHA IAS ACADEMY

Daily Current Affairs

1. Recently, the Prime Minister of India inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 at India Expo Mart in which city?

- [A] Greater Noida
- [B] Bhopal
- [C] Jaipur
- [D] Gandhinagar

Correct Answer: A [Greater Noida]

Notes:

Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated SEMICON India 2024 on 11 September 2024 in Greater Noida, Uttar Pradesh. The event runs from 11 to 13 September and highlights India as a growing semiconductor investment hub. SEMICON India 2024 offers a platform for global semiconductor leaders, industry, and government officials to connect. The event is organized by SEMI, in collaboration with München India and supported by MeitY. The theme is "Shaping the Semiconductor Future." India's electronics sector is currently valued at \$150 billion, with a target of \$500 billion by 2030.

2. Recently, which country has become the 101st member to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

- [A] Pakistan
- [B] Nepal
- [C] Bhutan
- [D] Croatia

Correct Answer: B [Nepal]

Notes:

Nepal has become the 101st country to join the International Solar Alliance (ISA) as a full member. Nepal handed over its Instrument of Ratification to the ISA in New Delhi. This was done during a meeting between Nepal's Dr. Surendra Thapa and India's Joint Secretary Abhishek Singh. The ISA is a collaborative platform focused on increasing the use of solar energy technologies. Its main goals are improving energy access, ensuring energy security, and supporting energy transitions. ISA was initiated by India and France to combat climate change through solar energy deployment.

3. What is "Mikania micrantha", recently mentioned in news?

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- [A] New TB vaccine
- [B] Synthetic food dye
- [C] Invasive weed
- [D] Pesticide

Correct Answer: C [Invasive weed]

Notes:

Mikania micrantha, an invasive weed, is rapidly spreading in Bhadra Tiger Reserve, threatening its biodiversity. It is a perennial, fast-growing climber native to Central and South America. Mikania is invasive in Southeast Asia, India, and the Pacific Islands. Introduced in India in the 1940s for tea plantations, it now poses a serious threat to crops and forests. It thrives in areas with high fertility, moisture, and humidity. Mikania kills other plants by blocking light and smothering them. It produces chemicals that inhibit plant growth and spreads quickly through wind-dispersed seeds and roots.

4. Nilgiri Mountain Railway, recently seen in the news, is situated in which state?

- [A] Assam
- [B] Himachal Pradesh
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Tamil Nadu

Correct Answer: D [Tamil Nadu]

Notes:

The Coonoor railway station, part of the Nilgiri Mountain Railway (NMR), is being transformed under the Amrit Bharat Station Scheme, drawing criticism from heritage enthusiasts. The NMR line, known as the Ooty toy train, runs 45.88 km from Mettupalaiyam to Ooty, located in Tamil Nadu's Coimbatore and Nilgiri districts. The train first ran on June 15, 1899, after plans were initiated in 1854. The railway was operated by Madras Railway under a government agreement. In 2005, the NMR was recognized as a UNESCO World Heritage Site, highlighting its cultural and historical significance.

5. Recently, which ministry organized the event 'Greening Steel: Pathway to Sustainability'?

- [A] Ministry of Steel
- [B] Ministry of Science and Technology
- [C] Ministry of New and Renewable Energy
- [D] Ministry of Defence

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Correct Answer: A [Ministry of Steel]

Notes:

The Ministry of Steel organized the event “Greening Steel: Pathway to Sustainability” on 10th September in New Delhi. Various experts from ministries, academia, and think tanks attended the event to discuss sustainable steel production. The event featured a panel discussion on leadership and innovation for driving the green steel transition. The report “Greening the Steel Sector in India: Roadmap and Action Plan” was released, focusing on decarbonization strategies. This aligns with India’s Net Zero emissions goal for 2070, as reducing carbon in steel production is vital to combat climate change.

6.As per a recent study, which species produces food grains as much as 140 million tonnes of food annually?

- [A] Earthworms
- [B] Bullocks
- [C] Fish
- [D] Ants

Correct Answer: A [Earthworms]

Notes:

A recent study has highlighted that earthworms play an equivalent role in global food production to that of Russia, contributing to around 140 million tonnes of food annually.

If earthworms were considered a country, their food production would make them the fourth-largest global producer, trailing only behind Russia, which produced 150 million tonnes in 2022 and expects to produce 120 million tonnes this year.

A Focus on Shaping Future of Millions

7.As per Wildlife Trust of India, which is the most endangered amphibian genus in India?

- [A] Dancing Frog
- [B] True Frog
- [C] Tree Frog
- [D] Cascade Frog

Correct Answer: A [Dancing Frog]

Notes:

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The Wildlife Trust of India has identified the dancing frogs found exclusively in the Western Ghats as the most endangered amphibian genus in India.

It is also the fifth most threatened genus in the world with 92 per cent of its species in the threatened category. The organisation made the analysis based on the second edition of the Global Amphibian Assessment, which was released recently.

8. 'Malvinoxhosan biota', which was seen in the news, is a group of_?

[A] Marine animals

[B] Reptiles

[C] Insects

[D] Bacteria

Correct Answer: A [Marine animals]

Notes:

The Malvinoxhosan biota, an ancient group of aquatic creatures, is thought to have vanished from Gondwana over a span of five million years.

A recent study suggests that climate change played a significant role in their extinction. According to the study, a substantial drop in sea levels caused by climate change resulted in the disappearance of this group of marine animals.

9. As per a new study, which species has their head all over its body?

[A] Octopus

[B] Star Fish

[C] Jelly fish

[D] Mambas

Correct Answer: B [Star Fish]

Notes:

A new study has found that the body plan of starfish is much more complex and distributed than previously thought, challenging the understanding of their evolution.

Using genetic and molecular tools, the research created a 3D atlas of gene expression in starfish, revealing that the "head" of a starfish is scattered across its body, raising questions about the evolution of these creatures.

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10.Saurauia Punduana plant, a critically endangered species, has been recorded for the first time in which Indian state?

- [A] Goa
- [B] Manipur
- [C] West Bengal
- [D] Karnataka

Correct Answer: B [Manipur]

Notes:

A critically endangered species as per the International Union for Conservation of Nature (IUCN) Red List, has been recorded for the first time in Manipur's Tamenglong district.

The Saurauia Punduana plant was recorded during a recent Rapid Biodiversity Assessment (RBA) field survey. The survey covered the key areas of the biodiversity heritage sites of Longku forest. The local people call this plant as Anoibang.

11.Which organisation released the draft of a global climate agreement which presented three options to tackle fossil fuels?

- [A] UN
- [B] WEF
- [C] NITI Aayog
- [D] IMF

Correct Answer: A [UN]

Notes:

The United Nations released the latest draft of a global climate agreement which presented three options to tackle fossil fuels which ranged from phasing them out to not talking about it at all.

The first proposes an 'orderly and just phase out of fossil fuels' stance and one seen as essential by low-lying island nations at threat from rising seas. The second calls for faster efforts to phase out projects that lack the means to capture and store emissions, and to "rapidly" reduce fossil fuel use to achieve carbon neutrality in global energy production by 2050.The third option contained in the 24-page draft is "no text" at all, a position supported by oil giant Saudi Arabia and China.

12.Zakouma national park, which was seen in the news, is in which country?

- [A] Namibia

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[B] Chad

[C] Egypt

[D] South Africa

Correct Answer: B [Chad]

Notes:

For more than five years, the two black rhinos in Chad's Zakouma National Park have lived a lonely existence.

In May 2018, the pair of females were part of a group of six critically endangered black rhinos that African Parks helped translocate from South Africa to Zakouma. But within days of release into their new home, four had died. This week, five more black rhinos arrived in Zakouma, Chad's oldest national park, to join the surviving pair.

13. Which Asian country has recently launched its own Forest and Wood Certification Scheme?

[A] Sri Lanka

[B] India

[C] Bangladesh

[D] Japan

Correct Answer: B [India]

Notes:

India's Union Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has launched the Indian Forest & Wood Certification Scheme.

This national forest certification scheme offers voluntary third-party certification designed to promote sustainable forest management and agroforestry in the country. The scheme includes forest management certification, tree outside forest management certification, and chain of custody certification. The Indian Forest and Wood Certification Scheme, will be overseen by the Indian Forest and Wood Certification Council.

14. Which is the implementing agency for Indian forest and Wood Certification Scheme, that was introduced recently?

[A] Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

[B] Indian Institute of Forest Management

[C] Indian Council of Forestry Research and Education

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[D] Forest Survey of India

Correct Answer: B [Indian Institute of Forest Management]

Notes:

The Ministry of Environment, Forests and Climate Change has introduced the Indian Forest & Wood Certification Scheme. This voluntary national certification initiative aims to encourage sustainable forest management and agroforestry practices in India. The scheme encompasses forest management certification, tree outside forest management certification, and chain of custody certification.

The Indian Forest and Wood Certification Council will oversee the scheme, acting as a multistakeholder advisory body. The Indian Institute of Forest Management, Bhopal, will serve as the scheme's operating agency, managing its overall implementation.

15. Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary, where Eastern Ghats Nature Interpretation Centre is being opened, is located in which state?

[A] Tamil Nadu

[B] Andhra Pradesh

[C] Karnataka

[D] Telangana

Correct Answer: B [Andhra Pradesh]

Notes:

The Eastern Ghats Nature Interpretation Centre is being opened in the Kambalakonda Wildlife Sanctuary. It is a forest located near Visakhapatnam, near Andhra Pradesh. The sanctuary is a tropical deciduous forest with a canopy of tree cover of mixed composition along with scrubland and meadows. It is bordered by Simhachalam hill range on the West and Gambheeram reservoir on the North-east.

16. Kirkuk, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?

[A] Israel

[B] Iraq

[C] Australia

[D] Greece

Correct Answer: B [Iraq]

Notes:

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A curfew has been enforced in Kirkuk, a northern Iraqi city, after violent confrontations between rival demonstrations by Kurdish and Arab residents.

The clashes have prompted Prime Minister Mohammed Shia al-Sudani to order extensive security operations in the affected areas.

17. Which place has become Florida's first sanctuary city for LGBTQ+ individuals and their families?

[A] Lake Worth Beach

[B] Miami

[C] Orlando

[D] Destin

Correct Answer: A [Lake Worth Beach]

Notes:

The Lake Worth Beach, situated in southeastern Florida, has made history by becoming Florida's first sanctuary city for LGBTQ+ individuals and their families.

The unanimous decision by Lake Worth Beach commissioners signifies a significant milestone in the LGBTQ+ community's fight for inclusivity and acceptance. The decision aims to provide a safe and welcoming environment for LGBTQ+ residents.

18. 'Kyiv and Lviv World Heritage Sites' are in which country?

[A] Russia

[B] Ukraine

[C] Belarus

[D] Belgium

Correct Answer: B [Ukraine]

Notes:

UNESCO, the United Nations cultural organization, has designated the World Heritage Sites in the Ukrainian cities of Kyiv and Lviv as "in danger" due to the ongoing conflict sparked by Russia's invasion.

This decision was made during UNESCO's annual world heritage committee meeting in Riyadh. Kyiv's Saint Sophia Cathedral, dating back to the 11th century, and Lviv's historic center, near the Polish border, have faced constant danger since the invasion.

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19. Lampedusa, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?

- [A] Germany
- [B] Ukraine
- [C] Italy
- [D] Finland

Correct Answer: C [Italy]

Notes:

The European Commission President vowed a 10-point EU action plan to help Italian island of Lampedusa, which includes using the EU's external borders agency to identify migrants arriving and repatriate those not eligible for asylum.

Nearly 126,000 migrants have arrived in Italy just this year, which is almost double the figure by the same date in 2022.

20. Which countries are fighting for Nagorno-Karabakh region?

- [A] Israel- Palestine
- [B] Japan- China
- [C] Armenia- Azerbaijan
- [D] India- Sri Lanka

Correct Answer: C [Armenia- Azerbaijan]

Notes:

The Nagorno-Karabakh territory lies in the mountainous South Caucasus region between the Black Sea and the Caspian Sea.

Azerbaijan and Armenia fought a war over this region in the late 1980s and early 1990s, and it has been the trigger for further violence. In 2020, thousands of people were reported killed. Recently Azerbaijan launched a military operation against the breakaway Nagorno-Karabakh region.

21. Tezu Airport, which was seen in the news, is located in which state/UT?

- [A] Jammu and Kashmir
- [B] Arunachal Pradesh
- [C] Sikkim
- [D] Odisha

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Correct Answer: B [Arunachal Pradesh]

Notes:

Recently, the Civil Aviation Minister inaugurated the newly developed infrastructure of the Tezu Airport in Arunachal Pradesh.

It was developed at a cost of Rs. 170 crores. The Minister also announced three direct routes from Itanagar under the UDAN 5.0 namely Itanagar to Delhi, Itanagar to Jorhat, and Itanagar to Rupsi which will be operationalised soon.

22. Haifa, which was seen in the news, is located in which country?

- [A] Greece
- [B] Pakistan
- [C] Israel
- [D] Iran

Correct Answer: C [Israel]

Notes:

Every year on September 23, diplomats from India's Embassy in Israel and Israeli government officials gather at the Haifa War Cemetery to pay respects to the Indian soldiers who were killed and wounded in the battle, on foreign soil.

This year, the commemoration was undertaken to mark the 105th anniversary of the Battle of Haifa. The Jodhpur Lancers contributed in liberating Haifa from the Ottoman Turks, as per the research of Brigadier M S Jodha.

23. Pambarthi and Chandlapur have been chosen by the Ministry of Tourism as the best tourism villages in which state?

- [A] Gujarat
- [B] Rajasthan
- [C] Telangana
- [D] Kerala

Correct Answer: C [Telangana]

Notes:

In Telangana, Pambarthi and Chandlapur have been chosen by the Ministry of Tourism as the best tourism villages in Telangana for the year.

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Union Tourism Minister G. Kishan Reddy said both the villages will receive awards on the occasion of World Tourism Day during a special function in New Delhi. The Centre recognised the handicrafts and tourism places in Telangana and had recognised Bhoodan Pochampalli as a tourism village two years ago.

24.Sko valley, which was seen in the news, is located in which state/UT?

- [A] Ladakh
- [B] Arunachal Pradesh
- [C] Uttarakhand
- [D] Sikkim

Correct Answer: A [Ladakh]

Notes:

The Ministry of Home Affairs has opened two more border tourist destinations 'Marsemik La and Sko valley' for tourists visiting Ladakh.

The previously restricted areas were close to the strategic Chang Chenmo sector north of Pangong lake in Ladakh. Tourists are allowed to trek through this high-altitude valley.

25.Phlegraean Fields, which were seen in the news, is situated in which country?

- [A] UK
- [B] Italy
- [C] Argentina
- [D] Canada

Correct Answer: B [Italy]

Notes:

The Phlegraean Fields, referred to as Campi Flegrei in Italian, is a densely populated region that spans approximately 130 square kilometers to the west of Naples.

The Italian government has recently approved an emergency plan amid rising earthquake activity within the vicinity of Phlegraean Fields.

26.When is World Physiotherapy Day observed every year?

- [A] September 5

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[B] September 8

[C] September 10

[D] September 15

Correct Answer: B [September 8]

Notes:

Every year, the 8th of September is observed as the World Physiotherapy Day (World PT Day). The theme for World PT Day 2023 is arthritis and the role of physiotherapists.

In 2023 the day had a special focus on arthritis, with an in-depth look at some forms of inflammatory arthritis, including rheumatoid arthritis and axial spondyloarthritis.

27. Which state passed a resolution declared 'Poila Baisakh' as State Foundation Day?

[A] Odisha

[B] West Bengal

[C] Sikkim

[D] Gujarat

Correct Answer: B [West Bengal]

Notes:

The West Bengal Legislative Assembly passed a resolution declaring 'Poila Baisakh', the first day of the Bengali calendar, as 'Bangla Dibas' or West Bengal Foundation Day.

The resolution was passed after a debate in the Assembly, with 167 MLAs voting in support of the resolution and 62 MLAs opposing the motion.

28. When is the 'International Day of Sign Languages' celebrated?

[A] September 21

[B] September 23

[C] September 25

[D] September 27

Correct Answer: B [September 23]

Notes:

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Indian Sign Language Research and Training Centre (ISLRTC), New Delhi under the aegis of Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment, celebrated 'International Day of Sign Languages' -2023 on 23rd September 2023.

The theme of this year Sign Language Day-2023 is "A World Where Deaf People Everywhere Can Sign Anywhere!"

29. When is the 'National Ayurveda Day' celebrated in India?

- [A] 10 October
- [B] 10 November
- [C] 10 December
- [D] 10 January

Correct Answer: B [10 November]

Notes:

The Union Minister of Ayush, Sarbananda Sonowal, inaugurated a month-long celebratory initiative commemorating the 8th National Ayurveda Day throughout India.

The Ayurveda Day is celebrated on 10 November 2023 on the theme 'Ayurveda for everyone on every day'. It is celebrated across India as a mark of respect to Lord Dhanvantari, who is said to be the God of Ayurveda.

30. When is the 'International Day of Care and Support' observed by the United Nations?

- [A] 25 October
- [B] 29 October
- [C] 25 December
- [D] 29 December

Correct Answer: B [29 October]

Notes:

The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 'International Day of Care and Support' to be observed on 29 October.

This international day seeks to foreground care and support as a cornerstone of sustainable development and accelerator for equality. This year is the first time, the day is observed.

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31. National Unity Day is celebrated to commemorate the birth anniversary of which leader?

- [A] Mahatma Gandhi
- [B] Jawaharlal Nehru
- [C] Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel
- [D] Dr B.R Ambedkar

Correct Answer: C [Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel]

Notes:

National Unity Day is celebrated in India on October 31, to commemorate the birth anniversary of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first home minister of independent India.

Vallabhbhai Patel was born on October 31, 1875. He is credited with merging over 560 princely states into the Union of India after independence.

32. Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas is celebrated on the birth anniversary of which leader?

- [A] Atal Bihari Vajpayee
- [B] Dr B.R Ambedkar
- [C] Birsa Munda
- [D] Shyama Prasad Mukherjee

Correct Answer: C [Birsa Munda]

Notes:

November 15 is celebrated as Janjatiya Gaurav Diwas, also known as Tribal Pride Day, to honour the birth anniversary of the tribal freedom fighter, Birsa Munda.

Prime Minister Narendra Modi also launched the 'Viksit Bharat Sankalp Yatra' from Ulihatu village in Jharkhand on the day.

33. World Heritage Week is observed every year during which month?

- [A] January
- [B] April
- [C] September
- [D] November

Correct Answer: D [November]

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Notes:

World Heritage Week is observed every year from November 19 to November 25. The week aims to promote the conservation of culture and heritage across the globe.

It celebrates the heritage sites recognised by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO). In India, the festival is observed by the Archaeological Survey of India.

34. What is the theme of 'World Television Day 2023'?

[A] Accessibility

[B] Communication

[C] Inclusion

[D] Awareness

Correct Answer: A [Accessibility]

Notes:

'World Television Day 2023' is observed globally on November 21 to highlight the crucial role of visual media and its growing influence on decision-making.

The invention of television is credited to Scottish engineer John Logie Baird in 1924. In 1996, the United Nations held the first World Television Forum, designating November 21 each year as World Television Day. The theme for this year is Accessibility. National telecast in India began in 1982.

35. What is the theme of 'World Toilet Day 2023'?

[A] Accelerating Change

[B] Improved sanitation systems

[C] Access to sanitation

[D] Access to water

Correct Answer: A [Accelerating Change]

Notes:

World Toilet Day aims to raise awareness about the need for all human beings to have access to sanitation.

The hummingbird is the symbol of World Toilet Day and World Water Day 2023. This year's theme is 'Accelerating Change', using the hummingbird to inspire people to take personal action to help improve toilets and sanitation systems.

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