ನಮ್ಮ FORESIGHT

KAS/PSI/FDA/AAO/PDO

FORESIGHT KAS
(KAS/PSI/FDA/AAO/PC)

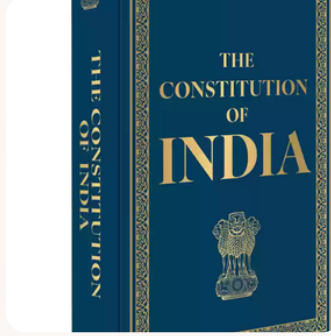## MONTHLY MAGAZINE

JULY-2024

NEWS-INSHORTS

- Colombo Process
- Project Nexus
- **46th session** of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee
- Sampoornata Abhiyan
- **NAMO Drone Didi**' Scheme
- Freedom, the world's pioneering CNG motorcycle
- 'Zorawar'
- **'AgriSURE' fund**
- Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas
- Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBR)
- One Scientist, One Product' scheme

FOCUS

- Assessment Test - July 2024
- **KAS- Mains** Qns (E)

AGRI FORESIGHT KAS

KARNATAKA/INDIA/INTERNATIONAL-CURRENT AFFAIRS

FORESIGHT KAS
(KAS/PSI/FDA/AAO/PC)

FORSIGHT KAS ACADEMY
(KAS/PSI/ACF/RFO/AO)
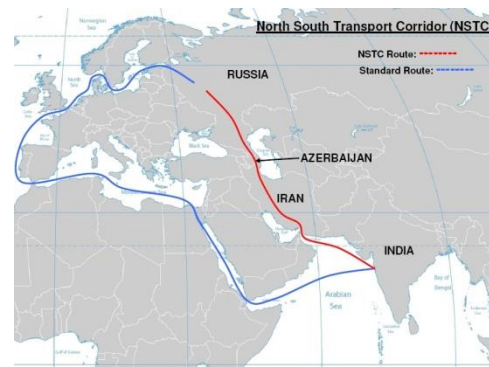### https://t.me/Nammaforesightkas

agreement ratified by 13 countries — India, Russia, Iran, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Bulgaria, Armenia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Oman, Tajikistan, Turkey and Ukraine.multimodal route Mumbai, India + Bandar Abbas and Bandar-e-Anzali in Iran, the Caspian Sea to reach Astrakhan, Moscow, and St. Petersburg in Russia.

July – 2024 Current affairs

- **Russia has sent two trains carrying coal to India through the International NorthSouth Transport Corridor (INSTC) for the first time. The consignment will travel over 7,200 km from St. Petersburg, Russia to Mumbai port via Bandar Abbas port in Iran. It integrates shipping, rail, and road networks to facilitate cargo movement between India, Iran, Azerbaijan, Russia, Central Asia, and Europe.**

- **The eSankhyiki portal launched by MoSPI aims to enhance data access by centralizing and streamlining access to comprehensive national statistical data.** real-time inputs for planners
  first phase of the module includes four major products of MoSPI: National Accounts Statistics, CPI IIP ASI

- **Air India is setting up South Asia's largest flight training school in Amravati, Maharashtra, with an investment exceeding ₹200 crore.**

India's Unified Payments Interface (UPI) will be connected with the FPSs of MPST

- **Project Nexus is a collaborative effort between RBI, BIS, and central banks of ASEAN countries to enhance the efficiency, speed, and costeffectiveness of retail crossborder payments. Scheduled to launch by 2026, this initiative will integrate domestic fast payment systems across Malaysia, the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and India, marking a significant advancement in international payment systems.**

- **The State Bank of India (SBI) introduced "MSME Sahaj," an innovative online loan solution designed specifically for MSMEs, This platform allows MSMEs to obtain loans up to ₹1 lakh against their GSTregistered sales invoices within 15 minutes**

- **Forestdwelling horned frog: Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India (ZSI) discovered a new species of forestdwelling horned frog in Arunachal Pradesh. Named Xenophrys apatani, after the Apatani community in the Lower Subansiri district, this discovery highlights the biodiversity richness of Arunachal Pradesh's Talle Wildlife Sanctuary.**

1.Apatani are a tribal group in Arunachal Pradesh + Eastern himalayas+integrated rice-fish farming
2. Subansiri River (Chayul Chu in Tibet) is a trans-Himalayan River + largest tributary (right bank) of the Brahmaputra River.

FORSIGHT KAS ACADEMY
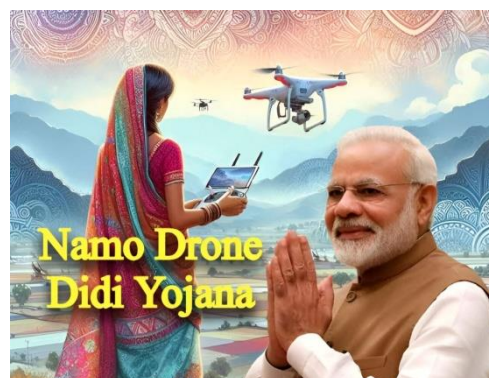## (KAS/PSI/ACF/RFO/AO)
https://t.me/Nammaforesightkas

- **India assumed the chairmanship of the 'Colombo Process', a regional initiative involving 12 Asian countries, aimed at enhancing governance and opportunities for overseas employment**

- **The RBI increased the Ways and Means Advances (WMA) limit for State governments and Union Territories (UTs) by 28%, raising it from ₹47,010 crore to ₹60,118 crore. Ways and Means Advances (WMA) are shortterm loans provided by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to the central and state governments to help with temporary cash flow mismatches**

  WAM- replaced ad hoc treasury bills+return the amount within 90 days.+interest rate @reporate+ not a part of FRBM

- **Rajinder Khanna has been appointed as the additional National Security Adviser (NSA), marking the first time this position has been filled. Currently Ajit Kumar Doval is NSA**

- **India is hosting the 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee from July 2131, 2024, at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi. This event, attended by delegates from 195 countries, signifies India's role in global cultural diplomacy and its commitment to promoting cultural preservation and recognition worldwide.**

  final say on whether a property is inscribed on the World Heritage List.

- **The World Heritage Committee meets once a year, and consists of representatives from 21 of the States Parties to the Convention elected by their General Assembly. A Committee member's term of office is six years, but most state parties choose voluntarily to be members of the committee for only four years in order to give other states parties an opportunity to be on the committee. The Committee is responsible for the implementation of the World Heritage Convention, defines the use of the World Heritage Fund, and allocates financial assistance upon requests from States Parties.**

- **NITI Aayog has initiated the 'Sampoornata Abhiyan', also known as the Completeness Campaign, to accelerate development in 112 Aspirational Districts and 500 Aspirational Blocks. This campaign focuses on enhancing key indicators like healthcare access, nutrition, and agricultural productivity to foster inclusive growth in these regions.**

- **NAMO Drone Didi' Scheme aims to empower women in the agriculture sector by training them to operate agricultural drones. The initiative targets 15,000 womenled SelfHelp Groups to use drones for activities like crop monitoring, fertiliser spraying, and seed sowing. It is administered by the Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, Rural Development, and the Department of Fertilizers, highlighting its focus on enhancing women's participation and capability in agricultural practices**

Namo Drone Didi Yojana

launched under the flagship Lakhpati Didi project
Centre will provide each SHG 80% towards the cost of a drone or a maximum of Rs 8 lakh
Self-Help Groups (SHGs)-Self-Employed Women's Association (SEWA) in 1970.+SHG Bank Linkage Project launched by National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD) in 1992
SHG normally consists of not less than five persons (with a maximum of twenty) of similar economic outlook and social status.

- The Smart Cities Mission in India, originally scheduled to conclude on June 30, 2024, has been extended until March 31, 2025, The Smart Cities Mission was launched on June 25, 2015

- Neeraj Chopra, the defending men's javelin throw champion and India's first track and field Olympic gold medalist, will lead the 28member Indian athletics squad at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

- The Indian Olympic Association (IOA) announced that Sharath Kamal, a veteran table tennis player, will serve as the male flag bearer for India at the Paris 2024 Olympics, alongside PV Sindhu.

  France's second-longest river after the Loire,

- In all, India won six medals a silver and five bronze at the Paris 2024 Olympics.

- The Paris Olympics opening ceremony will be held on the River Seine, as confirmed by French President Emmanuel Macron.

- The mascots for the 2024 Paris Olympics and Paralympics are called the Phryges, a tribe of colorful red characters based on the Phrygian cap.
  The Phrygian cap, also known as the liberty cap, is a symbol of freedom and revolution that has been part of French history for centuries

Name	Sports category	Medal
Manu Bhaker	Mixed team 10m air pistol (Shooting)	bronze
Manu BhakerSarabjot Singh	Mixed team 10m air pistol (Shooting)	bronze
Neeraj Chopra	javelin	Silver
Aman Sehrawat	wrestling	bronze
Swapnil Kusale	Men's 50m rifle 3 positions (Shooting)	Bronze
Team India	Men's event Hockey	Bronze

- Bajaj Auto made headlines by launching Freedom, the world's pioneering CNG motorcycle. This innovative vehicle represents a significant step towards environmental sustainability and cost efficiency in the automotive sector.

- Karnataka has introduced the Karnataka Platformbased Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill to regulate social security and welfare for platformbased gig workers, making it the second state after Rajasthan to do so. This bill aims to establish a Welfare Board, grievance

redressal mechanisms, and mandates for aggregators to ensure timely payments and safe working conditions for gig workers **What impact do gig platforms have on employment in Karnataka? (MQKAS 2024)**

- India recently unveiled the **'Zorawar' light tank**, developed in collaboration with **DRDO and Larsen & Toubr**o. Named after General Zorawar Singh, the tank is designed for **highaltitude operations** and features advanced weaponry and protection systems

- The **Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) initiative** aims to **increase telecom connectivity in rural areas**, **replacing the Universal Service Obligation Fund (USOF)**. It focuses on promoting telecommunication services in underserved rural, remote, and urban areas, funding research, supporting pilot projects, and introducing new telecom services and technologies

- NITI Aayog member Arvind Virmani has projected that India's economy will grow at a rate **of 7%** in the fiscal year 202425

- The **'AgriSURE' fund aims to boost Agri StartUps and rural enterprises** by providing **financial support** through a **CategoryII Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) of Rs 750 crore**. This initiative involves contributions from the Department of Agriculture & Farmers Welfare, NABARD, and financial institutions, with **NABVENTURES managing the fund**. The fund is designed to foster innovation, entrepreneurship, and sustainable development within the agriculture sector, promoting economic growth and employment opportunities in rural areas.

AIF fund estd in India - a privately pooled investment vehicle that collects funds from investors both Indian or foreign, for investing

- The **construction of the world's largest Ramayan Temple** is taking place in **Bihar's East Champaran** district. **Inspired by Angkor Wat,** this monumental temple project includes a threestorey structure with distinctive features such as the world's largest Shivling and 22sanctum sanctorum. **Angkor Wat, located in Cambodia, is now considered the eighth Wonder of the World**.
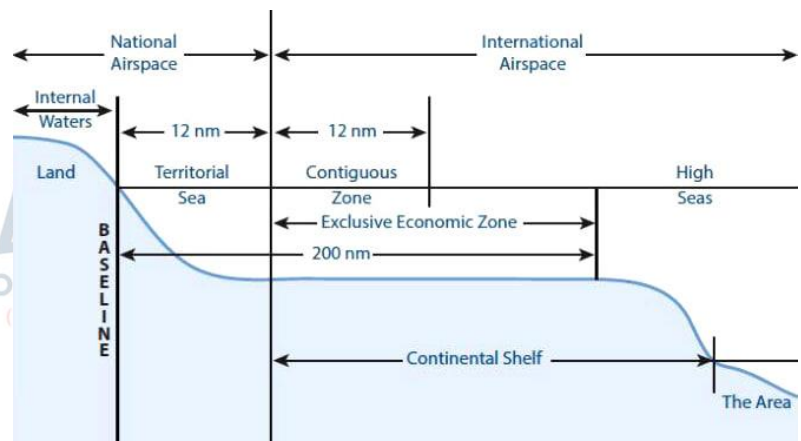

- **India observes 'Samvidhaan Hatya Diwas' (Constitution Murder Day) annually on June 25.** This day commemorates the sacrifices made during the 1975 Emergency period, emphasizing the struggle to uphold democracy and individual freedom. The decision to observe this day aims to honour those who endured persecution and to ensure that such oppressive actions do not recur in India's democratic history.

india has declared a National Emergency three times.
1962 to 1968 during the India-China war,
1971 during the Indo-Pakistan war,
1975 to 1977 due to political instability.

National Emergency	Article 352	This emergency is declared in response to a threat from war, armed rebellion, or external aggression. It allows the central government to suspend certain fundamental rights and assume more power over states
State Emergency	Article 356	This emergency is declared when a state's constitutional machinery fails. (Constitional Emergency)
Financial Emergency	Article 360	This emergency is declared when the country's financial stability is at risk.

- The emergency provisions in the Indian Constitution were borrowed from the Weimar Constitution of Germany

- High Seas Biodiversity Agreement: India has approved the signing of the High Seas Biodiversity Agreement, which aims to promote the sustainable use and protection of marine biological diversity in areas beyond national jurisdiction, commonly referred to as the 'High Seas'. Led by

the Ministry of Earth Sciences, India's decision underscores its commitment to international efforts under the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) to safeguard marine biodiversity and ensure responsible ocean governance.

The United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS), 1982 is an international agreement that establishes the legal framework for marine and maritime activities.

- Kerala became the first state to prepare Peoples Biodiversity Registers (PBR) for each local selfgovernment (LSG) body with the help of local communities
The Biological Diversity Act (2002) mandates development of Peoples' Biodiversity Registers (PBRs) at local level to document as well as safe guard bioresources and associated knowledge.

- The Indian Council of Agricultural Research (ICAR) is set to launch the 'One Scientist, One Product' scheme on July 16, coinciding with its 96th foundation day celebrations. This initiative aims to revolutionize agricultural and animal husbandry research in India. The event, held in Delhi, will highlight ICAR's commitment to advancing agricultural science and technology, with Union Agriculture Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan presiding over the inauguration. The scheme

represents a significant step forward in promoting innovation and progress in the agricultural sector.

- The **first confirmed death from Chandipura virus in Gujarat** was reported in Mota Kanthariya, Aravalli, involving a fouryearold child. This death, confirmed by Pune's **National Institute of Virology**, is part of a concerning outbreak in the region. The virus has caused 14 deaths within two weeks and has 26 suspected cases under investigation. **Chandipura virus, transmitted** primarily by **sandflies and mosquitoes**, poses significant health risks, including **rapid progression to severe symptoms like encephalitis and mortality.** The outbreak underscores the need for vigilant public health responses and management strategies.

primarily affects children under 15 years old + arbovirus + infect the central nervous system, first identified in Chandipura village of Maharashtra + endemic in central India, especially in rural and tribal areas

- India has expressed its support for **Mauritius regarding the Chagos Archipelago** issue, aligning with its stance on **decolonization.** The **Chagos Archipelago, an overseas territory of the United Kingdom,** has been a point of

island group located in the central Indian Ocean + Diego Garcia atoll, Danger Island

contention, with Mauritius asserting its claim over the islands since gaining independence in 1968. The **International Court of Justice ruled in 2019** that the **UK's governance of the Chagos Islands was unlawful and called for its withdrawal**

- The **Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA) in Bengaluru** developed a **new online tool to create a comprehensive star catalogue** for **the Adaptive Optics System (AOS)** of the upcoming **ThirtyMeter Telescope (TMT).** This international project, involving India, aims to significantly advance our understanding of the universe. The IIA leads India's collaboration in this ambitious Endeavour. It is an ambitious international project coming up at **Mauna Kea in Hawaii**, involving India, the US, Canada, China, and Japan that aims to advance the understanding of the universe significantly.

- **Madhya Pradesh** was recognized as the **'Best Performing State'** under the **Prime Minister SVANidhi scheme**, which aims to **support urban street vendors with collateralfree loans up to ₹50,000.** This accolade was announced by the **Union Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry**, highlighting Madhya Pradesh's effective management and implementation of the scheme.

Launched in June 2020 during the COVID19 pandemic, the PM SVANidhi scheme helps street vendors recover from the economic impact by providing microcredit, thereby enhancing their financial stability and supporting small businesses.

- India's first overseas Jan Aushadi Kendra was inaugurated in Mauritius by S Jaishankar, alongside Mauritian PM Pravind Kumar Jugnauth.

- Kerala retained its top rank in the NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 202324, highlighting its strong performance in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

- The PM Surya Ghar scheme mandates the 100% solarisation of all government buildings in India by 2025.

- China has introduced the world's first carbon fibre highspeed train, which is designed to reach speeds of up to 87 mph while using 7% less energy compared to traditional steel trains.

- Charaideo Maidam, located in Assam, has been nominated for UNESCO World Heritage status, aiming to be North East India's first cultural site on the list. These ancient burial mounds, constructed for Ahom kings and nobles, are of great historical and cultural significance. The nomination, announced by Prime Minister Modi, highlights Assam's rich heritage and seeks to recognize the unique practices and traditions of the Ahom community, marking an important step in preserving and promoting Assamese culture globally.

- The Ministry of Panchayati Raj is set to launch the 'Gramoday Sankalp' magazine, aiming to highlight the theme "Viksit Bharat and Role of Panchayats." This initiative seeks to disseminate best practices and innovative grassroots approaches, with support from the Ministry of Information and Broadcasting's Policy Planning Cell

- India's first integrated agricultural export facility is being developed at Jawaharlal Nehru Port in Mumbai. This initiative, valued at Rs. 284.19 crore, aims to streamline logistics, reduce multiple handling, and extend the shelf life of agricultural products, thereby enhancing India's export capacity. Jawaharlal Nehru Port (or Nhava Sheva)Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra argest public container port in India.

- in adherence to Article 280(1) of the Constitution, has established the Sixteenth Finance Commission, appointing Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former ViceChairman of NITI Aayog and Professor at Columbia University, as its Chairman.

  The Commission has been requested to make its report available by 31st October, 2025

  Division of Tax Proceeds: distribution of taxes between the Union Government and the States and among the states
  Principles for Grants-in-Aid:o the States from the Consolidated Fund of India. asper art275
  Enhancing State Funds for Local Bodies
  Evaluation of Disaster Management Financing:

- The "Chip 4" alliance is a strategic alliance between four of the world's top producers of semiconductors: United States Japan Taiwan, South Kore

- During the COP27 climate summit in Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt, the UAE and Indonesia announced the "Mangrove Alliance for Climate." It includes UAE, Indonesia, India, Sri Lanka, Australia, Japan, and Spain.

- The Samudrayaan project is expected to be realized by 2026 and is being designed and developed by the National Institute of Ocean Technology (NIOT) in Chennai
The project is part of the larger Deep Ocean Mission, which supports the center's Blue Economy policy
MATSYA 6000', has an endurance of 12 hours under normal operation and 96 hours in case of emergency for human safety.

- The European Space Agency (ESA) is collaborating with the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) on the Ramses project to study the Apophis asteroid. This collaboration focuses on monitoring the 375meter asteroid Apophis, which is expected to pass 32,000 km from Earth in 2029. The Ramses spacecraft, developed for this mission, will closely approach and follow the asteroid to gather valuable data and assess potential threats to Earth.

- PM launched the Shinkun La Tunnel project on the 25th anniversary of Kargil Vijay Diwas. The tunnel, set to be the world's highest, will be constructed in Ladakh at an altitude of approximately 15,800 feet. This 4.1kmlong twintube tunnel will be part of the NimuPadumDarcha road and is being built by the Border Roads Organisation (BRO) with an investment of Rs 1,681 crore.

- World Craft City, Srinagar has become the fourth Indian city to be recognised as a 'World Craft City' by the World Craft Council (WCC).
In 2021, it was designated as part of the UNESCO Creative City Network (UCCN) for crafts and folk arts.
Jaipur, Malappuram, and Mysore are the other Indian cities that have previously been recognised as World Craft Cities.

- SCADA system was developed for the first time in the country to monitor and control micro irrigation system performance

Prime Minister Modi will inaugurate the Narayanpur Left Bank Canal Extension, Rehabilitation and Renovation and Modernization Project. It is the **first time in the country** that SCADA (Automation System for Narayanpur Left Bank Main Canal) automatic gates have been installed. With a capacity of 10,000 cusecs of water to be transported through the canal, the project will irrigate 4.5 lakh hectares of cultivated area.

Basava Sagar Dam, previously known as **Narayanpura Dam**, is a dam constructed across the Krishna River at Yadgir District, Karnataka State

PM launches SCADA system

Prime Minister Narendra Modi, on Thursday, inaugurated the newly installed SCADA (Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition) system of water gates at Basava Sagara dam and its water channels in Hunasagi taluk in Yadgir district. Under this system, 4.5 lakh hectares of farm land in Vijayapura, Kalaburagi and Raichur districts will be irrigated. Tail-end farmers will also get water without any obstruction. Popular in Australia, the system has now been installed in the Krishna left bank irrigation project.

- The **Ideas4LiFE portal** was **launched at the Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi** (IIT Delhi) by Union Minister Shri Bhupender Yadav. This portal **aims to collect innovative ideas for promoting environmentfriendly lifesty**les and s**upporting the global Mission Life initiative**

- The **Atomic Energy Regulatory Board (AERB)** has granted permission for the "**First Approach to Criticality**" of the 500 MWe **Prototype Fast Breeder Reactor (PFBR) located at Kalpakkam**, Tamil Nadu.

- Amid a surge in dengue cases in Karnataka, the State government on fixed a price cap **of ₹300 each on Dengue Elisa NS1** antigen and Dengue **Elisa IgM** antibody tests in private hospitals and diagnostic laboratories. For a rapid card screening test (NS1, IgM and IgG antibodies), the government has **fixed a price of ₹250**

dengue as an epidemic disease the responsibilities of owners, builders, managers, institutions to enforce measures that can prevent mosquito breeding

The enzymelinked immunosorbent assay **(Elisa) is an immunological assay** commonly used to **measure antibodies, antigen**s, proteins and glycoproteins in biological samples. The rates have been fixed under the **Karnataka Epidemic Diseases Act, 2020.**

- The **Sampoorna Abhiyan** is a threemonth campaign launched by NITI Aayog to improve the health, nutrition, agriculture, education, and social development of India's most underdeveloped regions

- PM Modi receives **Russia's prestigious civilian honour the Order of St Andrew the Apostle**

  Vladimir Putin presented the Order of St Andrew the Apostle to **President of China** Xi Jinping

- **PRAJJWALA CHALLENGE** :he Ministry of Rural Development launched it in an effort to get suggestions, ideas, and activities that could revolutionize the rural economy.

- **Kenza Layli,** an artificial intelligence (AI) influencer from Morocco, has been crowned the world's first "Miss AI.

- **Honey Mission:** The KVIC has launched the Honey Mission to provide awareness, training and 'Bee Boxes' along with Bee Colonies to the farmers. The mission was launched in August 2017 in line with **the 'Sweet Revolution'.** The 'Sweet Revolution' was launched in 2016 to promote beekeeping and associated activities.

- **India's first silkworm insurance scheme, named "Resham Keet Bima," was launched in the state of Uttarakhand .** The scheme aims to protect sericulturists from climate change and other hazards.

- **Niti Aayog's Sustainable Development Goals Index 202324, 1st Kerala and Uttarakhand, 2nd Tamil Nadu ,3rd Goa and Himachal Pradesh , 4th Punjab & Sikkim , 5th – KARNATAKA**

- **First Centralised Wildlife Crime Management System 'HAWK' Launched in first in Kerala and 2nd in Karnataka**

- **India's rank in the 2023 Global Hunger Index (GHI) was 111 out of 125 countries.** The GHI is an annual report that tracks hunger at the global, regional, and country levels. It assesses progress and setbacks in combating hunger by ranking countries on a scale of 0 to 100, with 0 being the best and 100 being the worst. The Global Hunger Index (GHI) is calculated and released annually by European NGOs Concern Worldwide and Welthungerhilfe.

- **Chandipura virus? Gujarat death toll rises to 15, Chandipura virus (CHPV) infection in Gujarat, CHPV is transmitted by various species of sandflies, such as *Phlebotomine* sandflies, *Phlebotomus papatasi* and mosquitoes such as *Aedes aegypti* (vector for dengue). It primarily affects children under 15 years old.**

- **IMF Growth Forecast: 2024, India: 7.0%**

- **The Bruhat Bengaluru Mahanagara Palike announces Suraksha 75 Mission to make Bengaluru's junctions safer for pedestrians.**

cyber security policy
first part focuses on building a strong cyber security ecosystem across all segments of the society,-n public domain,
second part of the policy focuses on strengthening the cyber security posture of the State's IT assets-internal to the state's IT teams
a skilling programme by CISCO as the Karnataka Government signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the network giant to train 40,000 individuals in cybersecurity skills and awareness...
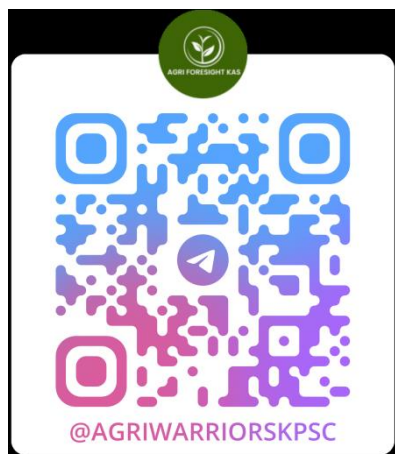
- **Karnataka has unveiled the Cyber Security Policy, 2024, to combat rising cybercrimes, increase awareness, build skills, boost publicprivate, State government has allocated 100cr fund.. (KAS MAINS EXPECTED Question)/ PSI 455 Essay Topic.**

- **The Karnataka government has ordered implementation of 'Naavu Manujaru' programme from this academic year.**
  To improve the capacity of the students to think independently, rationality and understand the pros and cons of every issue. It will also helpful for the overall development of the students

Date	Significance
July 3	International Plastic Bag Free Day
July 6	International Day of Cooperatives
July 11	World Population Day
July 15	World Youth Skills Day
July 17	World Day for International Justice
July 29	International Tiger Day

It is an exclusive's initiative for preparation of Agriculture officer/ AAO exams by KPSC—

https://t.me/agriwarriorskpsc

Multiple choice questions for practice: July -2024 (Practice set)

Question 1:

Which country sent two trains carrying coal to India through the International NorthSouth Transport Corridor (INSTC) for the first time?

A) China

B) Russia

C) Iran

D) Kazakhstan

Answer: B) Russia

Explanation: Russia sent two trains carrying coal to India through the INSTC for the first time, covering a distance of over 7,200 km from St. Petersburg to Mumbai via Iran.

Question 2:

What is the main purpose of the eSankhyiki portal launched by MoSPI?

A) To enhance agricultural productivity.

B) To streamline government subsidies.

C) To centralize and streamline access to national statistical data.

D) To provide financial assistance to MSMEs.

Answer: C) To centralize and streamline access to national statistical data.

Explanation: The eSankhyiki portal aims to enhance data access by centralizing and streamlining comprehensive national statistical data.

Question 3:

Which of the following initiatives is a collaborative effort to enhance the efficiency of retail crossborder payments?

A) Project Sangraha

12

B) Project Nexus

C) Project Samudrayaan

D) Project Agni

Answer: B) Project Nexus

Explanation: Project Nexus is a collaborative effort between the RBI, BIS, and central banks of ASEAN countries to improve retail crossborder payments.

Question 4:

Which frog species was discovered in Arunachal Pradesh and named after the Apatani community?

A) Rana arunachali

B) Xenophrys apatani

C) Euphlyctis cyanophlyctis

D) Micrixalus saharnsis

Answer: B) Xenophrys apatani

Explanation: Researchers from the Zoological Survey of India discovered a new species of forestdwelling horned frog in Arunachal Pradesh, named Xenophrys apatani after the Apatani community.

Question 5:

What is the primary objective of the 'Sampoornata Abhiyan' initiated by NITI Aayog?

A) Promote cultural heritage

B) Enhance education in urban areas

C) Accelerate development in Aspirational Districts

D) Improve financial literacy

Answer: C) Accelerate development in Aspirational Districts

Explanation: 'Sampoornata Abhiyan' aims to accelerate development in 112 Aspirational Districts and 500 Aspirational Blocks focusing on healthcare, nutrition, and agricultural productivity.

Question 6:

Which initiative targets 15,000 womenled SelfHelp Groups to use drones for agricultural purposes?

A) Project Drona

B) NAMO Drone Didi Scheme

C) Agri Drone Mission

D) Women's Empowerment Mission

Answer: B) NAMO Drone Didi Scheme

Explanation: The NAMO Drone Didi Scheme empowers women in agriculture by training them to operate drones for activities like crop monitoring and fertiliser spraying.

Question 7:

India is hosting the 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee in 2024 at which venue?

A) Vigyan Bhavan, New Delhi

B) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

C) Hyderabad International Convention Centre

D) Rashtrapati Bhavan, New Delhi

Answer: B) Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi

Explanation: India is hosting the 46th session of the UNESCO World Heritage Committee at the Bharat Mandapam in New Delhi.

Question 8:

Who was recently appointed as the additional National Security Adviser of India?

A) Ajit Kumar Doval

B) Rajinder Khanna

C) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar

D) Bipin Rawat

Answer: B) Rajinder Khanna

Explanation: Rajinder Khanna has been appointed as the additional National Security Adviser (NSA).

Question 9:

What is the name of India's first CNG motorcycle launched by Bajaj Auto?

A) Bajaj Pulse

B) Bajaj Freedom

C) Bajaj EcoRide

D) Bajaj Swift

Answer: B) Bajaj Freedom

Explanation: Bajaj Auto launched the world's pioneering CNG motorcycle named Bajaj Freedom.

Question 10:

Which Indian state introduced the Platformbased Gig Workers (Social Security and Welfare) Bill after Rajasthan?

A) Maharashtra

B) Gujarat

C) Karnataka

D) Kerala

Answer: C) Karnataka

Explanation: Karnataka introduced the bill to regulate social security and welfare for gig workers, making it the second state after Rajasthan.

Question 11:

What is the Digital Bharat Nidhi (DBN) initiative focused on?

A) Promoting digital education

B) Increasing telecom connectivity in rural areas

15

C) Supporting startups

D) Enhancing cybersecurity

Answer: B) Increasing telecom connectivity in rural areas

Explanation: The DBN initiative focuses on promoting telecom connectivity in underserved rural, remote, and urban areas.

Question 12:

Which temple project in Bihar is inspired by Angkor Wat and includes the world's largest Shivling?

A) Mahavir Temple

B) Ramayan Temple

C) Patna Sahib Gurudwara

D) Buddha Smriti Park

Answer: B) Ramayan Temple

Explanation: The Ramayan Temple in Bihar's East Champaran district, inspired by Angkor Wat, includes the world's largest Shivling and 22 sanctum sanctorum.

Question 13:

The Chandipura virus, responsible for several deaths in Gujarat, is primarily transmitted by which vector?

A) Ants

B) Sandflies

C) Ticks

D) Rodents

Answer: B) Sandflies

Explanation: Chandipura virus is primarily transmitted by sandflies and mosquitoes, posing a significant health risk.

Question 14:

Which state was recognized as the 'Best Performing State' under the PM SVANidhi scheme?

A) Uttar Pradesh

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Madhya Pradesh

D) Maharashtra

Answer: C) Madhya Pradesh

Explanation: Madhya Pradesh was recognized as the 'Best Performing State' under the PM SVANidhi scheme for its effective implementation.

Question 15:

Who has been appointed as the Chairman of the Sixteenth Finance Commission?

A) Dr. Arvind Panagariya

B) Dr. Rajiv Kumar

C) Dr. Montek Singh Ahluwalia

D) Dr. Bibek Debroy

Answer: A) Dr. Arvind Panagariya

Explanation: Dr. Arvind Panagariya, former ViceChairman of NITI Aayog, has been appointed as the Chairman of the Sixteenth Finance Commission.

Question 16:

What is the purpose of the 'Mangrove Alliance for Climate' announced during COP27?

A) To combat desertification

B) To protect coastal regions from erosion

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C) To promote sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems

D) To develop new fisheries

Answer: C) To promote sustainable use of mangrove ecosystems

Explanation: The 'Mangrove Alliance for Climate' aims to promote the sustainable use and protection of mangrove ecosystems.

Question 17:

Which city has been nominated for UNESCO World Heritage status as North East India's first cultural site?
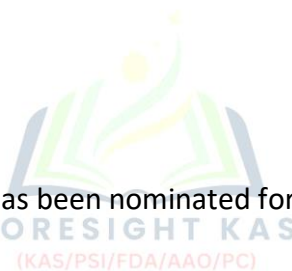
A) Guwahati

B) Shillong

C) Charaideo Maidam

D) Imphal

Answer: C) Charaideo Maidam

Explanation: Charaideo Maidam in Assam has been nominated for UNESCO World Heritage status, aiming to be North East India's first cultural site.

Question 18:

Which new online tool has been developed by the Indian Institute of Astrophysics for the ThirtyMeter Telescope project?

A) StarMapper

B) AstroCatalog

C) StarCatalogue

D) CosmicTracker

Answer: C) Star Catalogue

Explanation: The Indian Institute of Astrophysics developed a comprehensive star catalogue called StarCatalogue for the Adaptive Optics System of the upcoming ThirtyMeter Telescope.

Question 19:

Which Indian state has retained its top rank in NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 202324?

A) Maharashtra

B) Tamil Nadu

C) Kerala

D) Karnataka

Answer: C) Kerala

Explanation: Kerala retained its top rank in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as per NITI Aayog's SDG India Index 202324.

Question 20:

Which country has introduced the world's first carbon fibre highspeed train?

A) Japan

B) Germany

C) China

D) France

Answer: C) China

Explanation: China introduced the world's first carbon fibre highspeed train, designed to reach speeds of up to 87 mph while using less energy.

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