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Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0 Programme

- Lok Sabha Speaker Om Birla inaugurated the Panchayat Se Parliament 2.0
 programme in the Central Hall of Samvidhan Sadan in New Delhi. Around five
 hundred elected women representatives from Panchayati Raj institutions from
 20 States and Union Territories are participating in the programme.
- It is aimed **at empowering elected women representatives** from Scheduled Tribes from Panchayati Raj institutions and enhancing their knowledge of constitutional provisions, parliamentary procedures, and governance to foster effective leadership.



- Om Birla said, **Panchayati Raj institutions are working towards** the development of villages and realise the vision of self-reliant India. He said women have made a huge contribution to the country's heritage and culture.
- Mr Birla said Panchayat plays an important role in making women socially and economically empowered and self-reliant. Women associated with Panchayats will play an important role in disseminating the benefits of central government's schemes and programmes to the ground level.

Aero India 2025

- The **15th edition of Asia's biggest aero show** Aero India 2025 will be held at the Air Force Station, **Yelahanka in Bengaluru, Karnataka** from the 10th to the 14th of next month.
- The theme of the event is The Runway to a Billion Opportunities. Aero India will
 provide a unique platform for forging partnerships between foreign and Indian
 firms to accelerate the indigenisation process and showcase cutting-edge
 technologies.



- The event includes both **air displays and static exhibitions** of a large array of military platforms from the aerospace sector. A number of bilateral meetings will be held during the event focussing on bolstering the defence and aerospace ties with friendly countries.
- Global CEOs, CMDs of domestic PSUs and premier private defence and aerospace manufacturing companies from India will be participating in the event.
- The India Pavilion will showcase the country's commitment to its **Make-in-India initiative by showcasing indigenous defence manufacturing** capabilities and cutting-edge technologies.
- Dynamic aerobatic displays and live technology demonstrations will provide an immersive experience, showcasing the potential of modern aerospace platforms and technologies.



• Aero India has already carved a niche for itself globally as a premier aerospace exhibition with 14 successful editions organised since 1996 in Bengaluru.

Jammu Is To Be The 69th Railway Division

- Railway Ministry will set up a new division with headquarters at Jammu under the Northern Railway Zone by reorganising the Firozpur division.
- The proposed Jammu division will include five sections: Pathankot-Jammu-Udhampur (now martyr Captain Tushar Mahajan), Srinagar-Baramulla, Bhogpur Sirwal-Pathankot, Batala (excluding)-Pathankot, and Pathankot-Joginder Nagar.
- Currently, **the Indian Railways has 68 divisions and** when the notification is issued by the Indian Railways, Jammu will be the **69th division of the Indian Railways**.



• India has the fourth largest rail network in the world after the United States of America, China, and Russia. However, the Indian railways is the world's largest

railway system under single management and the largest employer with around **1.25 million employees**.

- To manage the vast network the Indian Railway has divided its operation into 17 Zones and within the Zones the network is divided into divisions.
- Northern Zone is the largest zone of the Indian railways. The Jammu Division will be under the **Northern Railway Zone**. It will be formed by reorganising the existing Firzorpur division and it will **manage the 742.1 km network**.



38th National Games Torch 'Tejaswini'

• **38th National Games** will be hosted by **Uttarakhand for the first time**, marking a significant event in the state's sports history. The **torch**, **named 'Tejaswini**,' has begun its journey across the state, spreading excitement and awareness about the games.

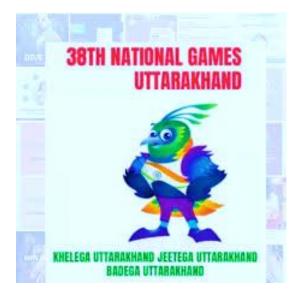


- Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami flagged off the **torch rally from Haldwani**, and it is expected to cover **3,823 km**, **visiting 99 locations in 13 districts before** reaching the capital, Dehradun.
- The National Games will take place from January 28 to February 14, 2025, at the Rajiv Gandhi International Stadium in Dehradun. The torch rally was officially inaugurated by Uttarakhand Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami on December 26, 2024, in Haldwani, which marked the beginning of the journey.
- The torch, named Tejaswini, **travels across 13 districts of Uttarakhand**, visiting 99 locations in total.



- The journey covers an **extensive distance of 3,823 kilometers** and is set to culminate in Dehradun on January 25, 2025.
- **Mascot "Mauli"**: Inspired by the Monal, the state bird of Uttarakhand. Symbolizes the region's uniqueness and encourages young athletes to aim high.
- Logo : Reflects the beauty and biodiversity of Uttarakhand, incorporating the Monal's vibrant imagery.
- **Tagline : "Sankalp Se Shikhar Tak"** (From Resolve to Zenith), representing determination and ambition.

SSBCrack



Hanoi Declared World's Most Polluted City

- Hanoi, Vietnam's capital, has recently been identified as the world's most polluted city, with PM2.5 levels reaching 266 micrograms per cubic meter. This alarming air quality has raised significant health concerns among residents and prompted government action.
- AirVisual reported that Hanoi's PM2.5 levels were the highest globally, indicating severe air pollution.



- **Sources of Pollution Heavy Traffic**: The city's dense traffic contributes significantly to air pollution.
- **Trash Burning**: Open burning of waste releases harmful pollutants into the air.
- Industrial Activities: Emissions from factories and industrial sites add to the deteriorating air quality.



- Health Impacts on Residents : Respiratory Issues: Elderly residents report increased breathing difficulties due to poor air quality.
- **Reduced Visibility**: Young people have noted decreased visibility and discomfort while breathing.
- **Government Initiatives** : Promotion of Electric Vehicles (EVs): Deputy Prime Minister Tran Hong Ha has called for an accelerated transition to EVs to reduce pollution. EV Adoption Targets: Hanoi aims for at least 50% of buses and 100% of taxis to be electric by 2030.

BHARATPOL Portal

 Home Minister Amit Shah will launch BHARATPOL portal developed by Central Bureau of Investigation in New Delhi. The BHARATPOL portal will streamline the processing of all requests for international assistance through INTERPOL, including the issuance of Red Notices and other colour-coded INTERPOL notices.



• Home Ministry said in a statement that under the **leadership of Prime Minister Narendra Modi**, the central government has taken several important initiatives to strengthen the country's law enforcement agencies.



 BHARATPOL portal will significantly facilitate Indian law enforcement agencies enabling real-time information sharing for faster access to international police assistance.



- The growing footprint of transnational crimes including cyber-crime, financial crimes, online radicalization, organized crimes, drug trafficking, and human trafficking, necessitates rapid and real-time international assistance in criminal investigations.
- To address this challenge, **CBI has developed BHARATPOL Portal**, which will bring all the stakeholders on a common platform. **By facilitating easier and**

faster access to international assistance, it will strengthen India's efforts in combating transnational crimes.

' Faral Sakhi'

- Mira Bhayandar Municipal Corporation (MBMC) has conceptualized a flagship initiative called 'Faral Sakhi', aimed at empowering women entrepreneurs in the city of Mira Bhayandar, Maharashtra.
- The program will provide comprehensive training and support to help women entrepreneurs **engaged in traditional snack production to scale** their ventures sustainably and effectively.



- **MBMC collaborated with the Women Entrepreneurship Platform** (WEP) of NITI Aayog and formally launched 'Faral Sakhi' under the Award to Reward initiative of WEP.
- WEP, incubated in NITI Aayog in 2018 as an aggregator platform, transitioned into a public-private partnership in 2022.



- The 'Faral Sakhi' initiative aims at creating permanent employment opportunities for women by engaging them in the production and sale of traditional festive snacks ('Faral').
- A central kitchen, set up by MBMC, enables women from self-help groups (SHGs) to prepare these snacks professionally. 25 women from Mira Bhayandar will be selected for technical training in business operations.
- This training, **facilitated by the Centre for Education**, **Governance**, and Public Policy (CEGP Foundation), will equip participants with the skills and knowledge needed to establish sustainable businesses and contribute to the local economy.

REVIEW QUESTIONS

- 1. How Many Railways Division India Have ?
- A. 67
- B. 68
- C. 69
- D. 70

ANSWER: C

- 2. Panchayat Se Parliament Programme Focus On
- A. Women Entrepreneurs
- B. Women Representatives In PRI's
- C. Women SHG's
- D. Women Teachers **ANSWER: B**

3. ' Faral Sakhi' Initiative is Started In

- A. K<mark>era</mark>la
- B. Gujarat
- C. Maharashtra
- D. Chattisgarh ANSWER: C
- 4. Which Indian State Has Become The First To Incorporate The Green GDP Model Into Its Economic Framework
- A. Kerala
- B. Madhya Pradesh
- C. Chhattisgarh
- D. Himachal Pradesh
 - **ANSWER: C**
- 5. What Is Main Objective Of One Nation One Subscription Initiative
- A. To provide free access to textbooks for students
- B. To offer access to international scholarly journals and articles
- C. To support online degree programs
- D. To fund academic research projects **ANSWER: B**

- 6. To Which Base Year Will The Wholesale Price Index (WPI) Be Revised As Per The Government's Latest Initiative
- A. 2022-23
- B. 2021-22
- C. 2020-21
- D. 2023-24 ANSWER: A

7. Which State Launched The Ladki Bahin Scheme

- A. Maharashtra
- B. Gujarat
- C. Karnataka
- D. Tamil Nadu

ANSWER: A

8. Banded Royal Butterfly Has Been Spotted In Which State Recently

- A. Assam
- B. Mizoram
- C. Tripura
- D. <mark>Sikki</mark>m

ANSWER: C

9. Centralised Pension Payments System Is Implemented By Which Organization

- A. Employees' Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO)
- B. Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- C. Ministry of Finance
- D. Department of Administrative Reforms & Public Grievances ANSWER: A

10. Methylcobalamin Is An Activated Form Of Which Vitamin

- A. Vitamin D
- B. Vitamin A
- C. Vitamin B12
- D. Vitamin K

ANSWER: C

- 11. What Is The Name Of The Digital Platform Used By CAG To Improve Transparency And Accountability In Public Spending
- A. Digital Transparency Toolkit (DTT)
- B. Public Spending Analyzer (PSA)
- C. Open Data Kit (ODK)
- D. None of the Above **ANSWER: C**
- 12. The Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award Is Awarded For _____.
- A. Best university performance in Khelo India Games
- B. Lifetime contribution to sports
- C. Outstanding performance in sports over the past four years
- D. Excellence in coaching **ANSWER: C**
- 13. Indian Government Is Contemplating The Introduction Of Honorary Senior Ranks For Retiring Personnel In Which Sector
- A. Indian Army
- B. Central Armed Police Forces (CAPF)
- C. Indian Air Force
- D. Indian Navy ANSWER: B

14. Who Took The Oath As The 23rd Governor Of Kerala On January 2, 2025

- A. Arif Mohammed Khan
- B. T. Ravi
- C. Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- D. Anandiben Patel ANSWER: C

15. Harmanpreet Singh, Who Won The Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award 2024, Represents Which Sport

- A. Shooting
- **B.** Para-Athletics
- C. Hockey
- D. Chess
 - **ANSWER: C**

16. On Which Date Is Savitribai Phule Jayanti Celebrated Annually

- A. January 3
- B. January 2
- C. January 4
- D. January 5

ANSWER: A

17. Who Is Recipient Of Gangadhar National Award For Poetry 2023

- A. Jayanta Mahapatra
- B. Prativa Satpathy
- C. Ranjit Hoskote
- D. Keki N. Daruwalla

ANSWER: B

- 18. The Book 'Jammu Kashmir & Ladakh Through The Ages' Was Published By Which Organization
- A. Indian Council of Historical Research (ICHR)
- B. Archaeological Survey of India
- C. Ministry of Home Affairs
- D. National Book Trust (NBT) ANSWER: D
- 19. According To Assam's Elephant Population Estimate 2024, What Is The Total Estimated Elephant Population In The State
- A. 5,719
- B. 5,828
- C. 5,900
- D. 5,750

ANSWER: B

20. Who Among The Following Was The First President Of Constituent Assembly

- A. Dr. Rajendra Prasad
- B. Sachidanand Sinha
- C. Jawahar Lal Nehru
- D. B R Ambedkar

ANSWER: B