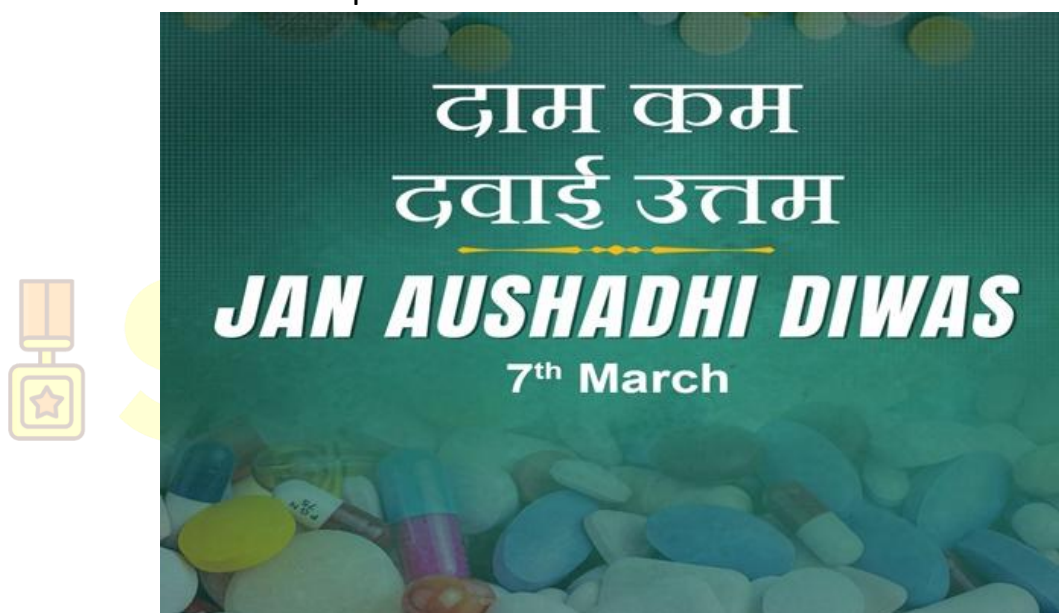


Daily Current Affairs

07 March 2025

Jan Aushadhi Diwas

- **Jan Aushadhi Diwas.** The day is celebrated to raise awareness about the scheme and **promote the use of generic medicines.** **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana** (PMBJP) aims to make quality generic medicines available at affordable prices to all.



- **Chemicals and Fertilizers Ministry organised** week-long activities nationwide to support this initiative. **Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Pariyojana** was **launched in November 2008** to provide quality medicines at affordable prices to the public through dedicated outlets called Pradhan Mantri Bhartiya Janaushadhi Kendras.
- The scheme provides **medicines at prices 50 to 80 per cent less** than the market. It also provides medicines procured only from certified manufacturers to ensure the quality of the products.
- One of the major initiatives launched under the initiative includes the **Suvidha Sanitary Napkins at one rupee per pad only.** Over 15 thousand Janaushadhi Kendras are now operational across all districts of the country and the scheme has created a promising avenue for self-employment, offering sustainable and regular earnings.



Barbados Award

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi has been conferred with **the prestigious Honorary Order of Freedom of Barbados Award** in recognition of his strategic leadership and valuable assistance during the COVID-19 pandemic.



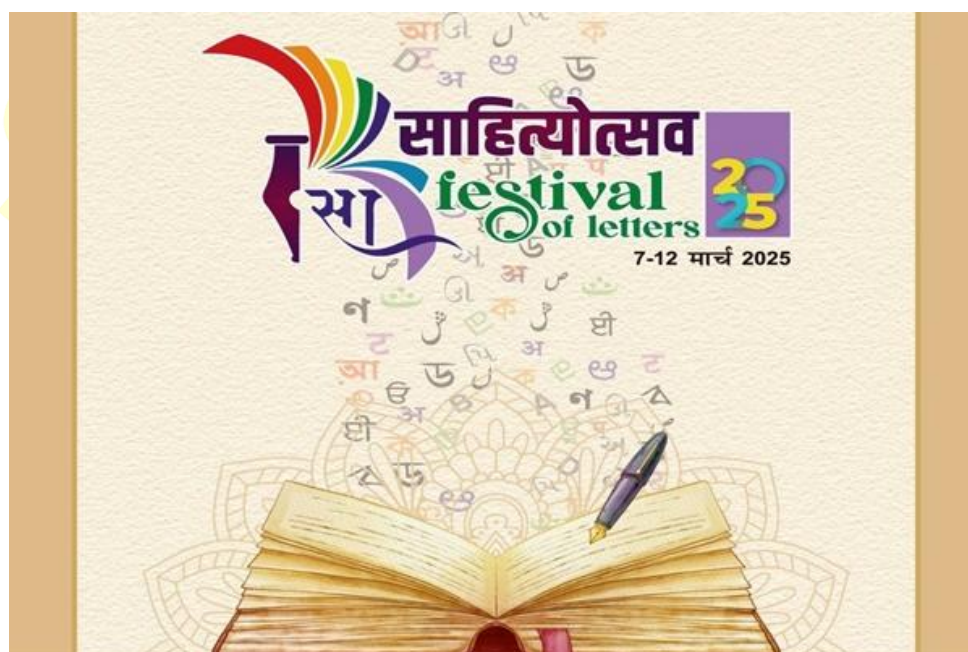
- The award was received by Minister of State for External Affairs Pabitra Margherita on behalf of Prime Minister Modi in a ceremony held in Bridgetown, Barbados. Mr Pabitra Margherita expressed his gratitude for the recognition and

called it a profound honour to accept the prestigious award on behalf of Prime Minister Modi.

- The award announcement was made by the Prime Minister of Barbados Mia Amor Mottley during a meeting with Prime Minister Modi on 20th November last year, held on the **sidelines of the 2nd India-CARICOM Leaders' Summit** in Georgetown, Guyana. Prime Minister Mottley acknowledged the vital role played by **Prime Minister Modi in strengthening international cooperation** and support during the unprecedented situation of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Asia's Largest Literature Festival 'Sahityaotsav'

- Sahitya Akademi will organize its annual Festival of Letters, **Sahityaotsav, Asia's Largest Literature Festival**. This six-day event will be inaugurated by the Union Minister for Culture, Gajendra Singh Shekhawat at Rabindra Bhavan in New Delhi.

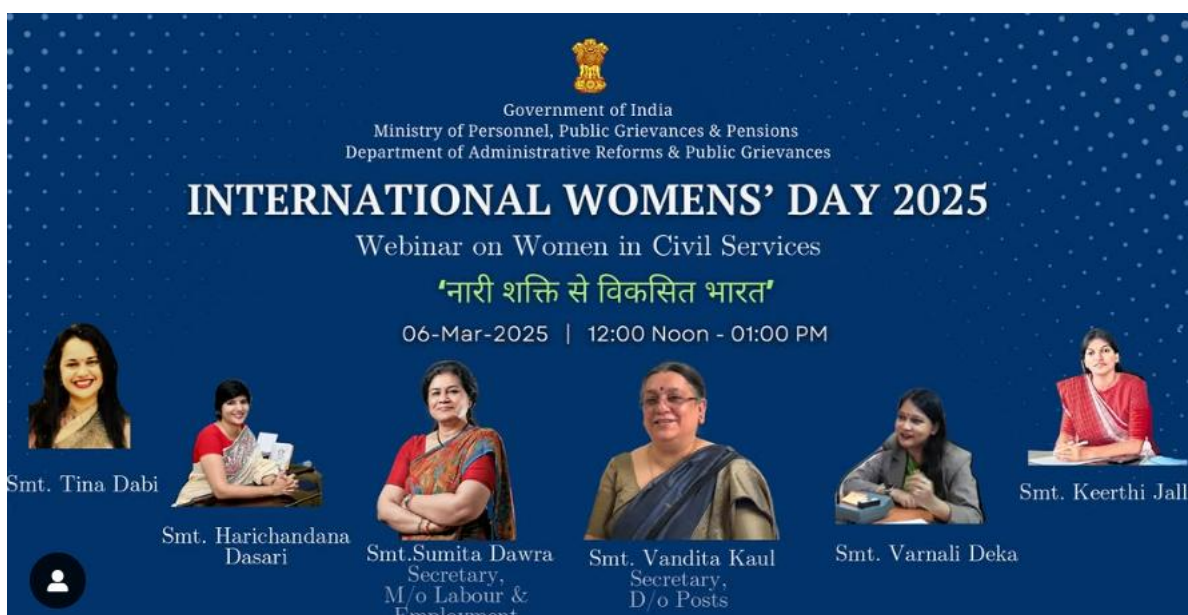


- **Over 700 writers from different parts of the country**, representing more than 50 languages, will participate in the festival. In the festival, the prestigious **Sahitya Akademi Awards will be presented in 23 languages**. This event will feature nearly 120 sessions.
- The theme of this festival is **Indian Literary Traditions**. It will feature Young Writers, Women Writers, North East and Tribal writers, LGBTQ writers and poets, alongside renowned writers, translators, publishers, poets, and distinguished personalities from various fields.

- Throughout the festival, there will be presentations, readings and discussions by eminent authors, poets, translators, publishers and critics on a wide range of subjects. The **Festival of Letters is open and free for all literary lovers** and those who wish to experience the flavour of India's longest-running Literature Festival.

“Nari Shakti Se Viksit Bharat” Conference

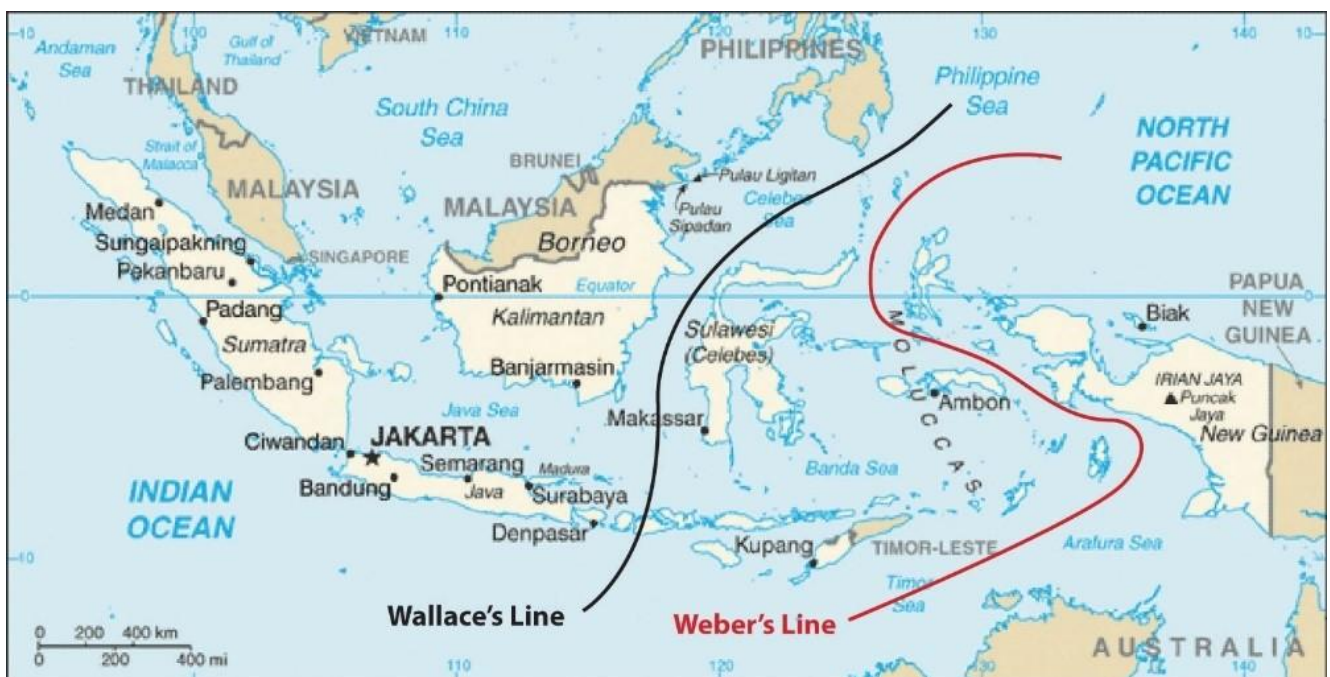
- President Droupadi Murmu will **inaugurate a national conference in New Delhi on International Women's Day** on the 8th of this month. The Conference is being organised on the **theme of “Nari Shakti Se Viksit Bharat”** by the Women and Child Development Ministry.



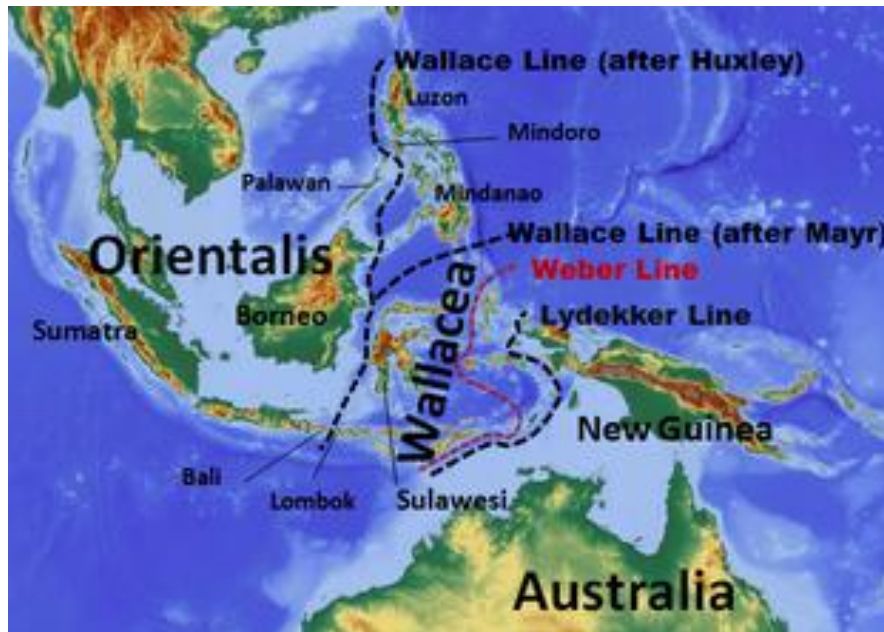
- Women from **various fields will participate in the event**, including officers from the armed forces and paramilitary forces, Delhi police, My Bharat volunteers, Anganwadi Workers, ASHA workers and Self Help Group members.
- The event will also mark the presence of **representatives from international organisations** such as the World Bank, UNICEF, United Nations Women, UNDP and UNFPA. A social media campaign with the **hashtag “SheBuildsBharat”** is also being organised. Minister for Women and Child Development, Annapurna Devi said that the **day provides an opportunity to discuss** the multi-faceted development of women and remove the obstacles to achieving this.

Wallace Line & Biodiversity

- **Wallace Line is concept in biogeography.** It marks the distinct biodiversity found in Asia and Australia. This line was identified by **Alfred Russel Wallace** in the late 19th century. He observed a sharp **contrast in species composition** between these two regions.
- The Wallace Line runs between **Bali and Lombok**, extending north between **Borneo and Sulawesi**, and **curves south of Mindanao**. This geographical barrier has deep implications for the distribution of species. Wallace conducted extensive **research over eight years**.



- He noted a dramatic **shift in animal species as he crossed the Wallace Line**. On either side of the line, different organisms thrived. For instance, **Australia is known for its marsupials**, while **Asia is home to a diverse range of mammals**.
- Wallace's observations laid the groundwork for **modern biogeography**. **Sulawesi is particularly intriguing**. It is home to species not found anywhere else, such as tarsiers and the anoa.
- **Despite being close to Borneo, the island supports distinct flora and fauna**. Wallace struggled to **classify Sulawesi's species**. He recognised their affiliations with various regions, **including Africa and India**. This complexity raises questions about species migration and adaptation.



2025 Pritzker Architecture Prize

- Chinese architect and educator Liu Jiakun has won the 2025 Pritzker Architecture Prize, the most important award in architecture. This prize honors him for **combining traditional Chinese styles with modern design** and for his efforts to create fair and inclusive spaces.



- Jiakun, who was born and still works in Chengdu, China, is the second Chinese architect to receive this award after Wang Shu in 2012.
- Previous winners include **Riken Yamamoto (2024), David Chipperfield (2023), and Francis Kéré (2022)**.

- Liu, 68, becomes the **54th laureate of the prize, considered** akin to a Nobel in the field of architecture. The award ceremony will take place this spring at the Louvre Abu Dhabi, designed by Jean Nouvel.

China's Crackdown On Neijuan

- Chinese Premier Li Qiang addressed the National People's Congress, denoting the government's **commitment to combating 'Neijuan'**. This term, meaning **involutionary competition, describes a cycle of diminishing returns** caused by excessive competition.



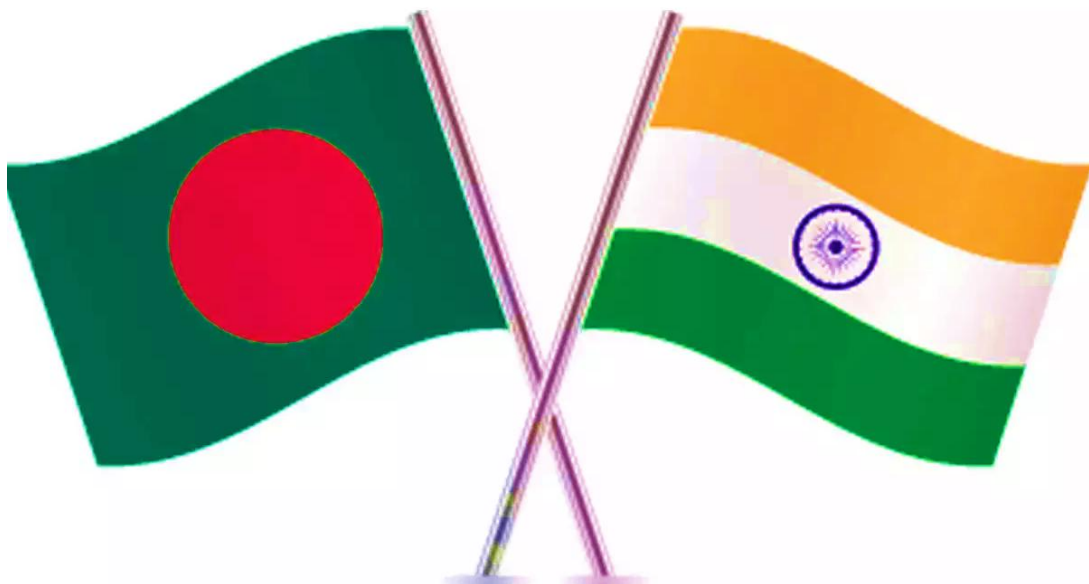
- As China's economy slows, the **government seeks to create a sustainable business environment** while addressing international criticism. Neijuan refers to intense competition that leads to reduced returns. It forces companies and individuals to exert more effort without proportional benefits.
- In the business context, firms engage in price wars and overproduction to **maintain market share, harming profitability**. For workers, it translates to longer hours and constant upskilling without a better quality of life.
- **Neijuan is evident in China's thriving sectors**, particularly in electric vehicles (EVs). Companies slash prices to outdo each other, resulting in unsustainable practices. This aggressive competition leads to lower profits and market instability.



- **Chinese government has intensified its approach to curb Neijuan.** This marks a shift in policy focus towards sustainable growth. Officials aim to eliminate market fragmentation and local protectionism. They are promoting fair competition and innovation over destructive price wars.

Ganga Water Treaty

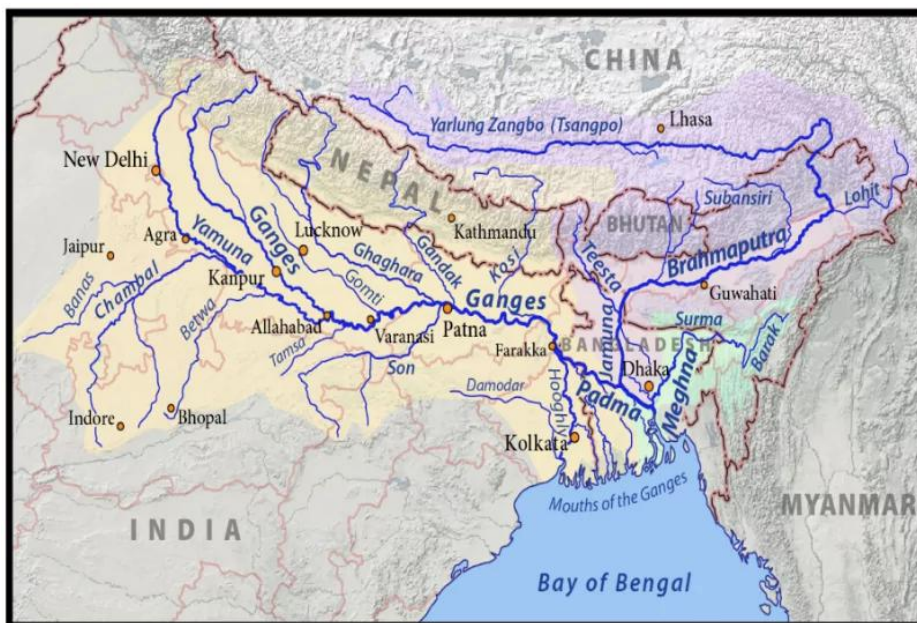
- **Ganga Water Treaty, signed in 1996, will expire in 2026.** This upcoming meeting between India and Bangladesh is crucial for future water-sharing agreements. **Bangladesh seeks a larger share of dry-season water,** denoting severe shortages affecting agriculture.



- The backdrop includes rising tensions following political changes in Bangladesh and unresolved disputes over **water-sharing, notably the Teesta River**. The Ganga River has been a source of conflict between India and Bangladesh for decades. The **Farakka Barrage, operational since 1975**, was built to manage water flow but intensified disputes.



- The treaty established a framework for sharing water, recognising Bangladesh as a lower riparian state. It **aims to balance the needs of both countries** while addressing historical grievances. The treaty outlines specific water-sharing formulas based on the Ganga's flow at the Farakka Barrage during the dry season.



- **If water availability is 70,000 cusecs or less**, both countries receive equal shares. The treaty also guarantees minimum water flow for both nations during critical periods. A Joint Rivers Commission was formed to oversee compliance and resolve disputes.

Prague Chess Festival 2025

- **At the 7th Prague International Chess Festival 2025 Masters**, Indian Grand Master **Aravindh Chithambaram** drew with David Navara in the penultimate round and made a sole lead of 5.5/7. **R. Praggnanandhaa** also drew his game against Liem Quang Le and moved to 5/7. On the other hand, **Wei Yi defeated Thai Dai Van Nguyen** to move to 4.5/7. Now, Aravindh winning against Ediz Gurel will make him a clear champion. However, a draw means, Praggnanandhaa can catch up and force tie-breaks if he manages to beat Anish Giri.



REVIEW QUESTIONS

1. Jan Aushadhi Diwas Celebrated On

- A. 6 March
- B. 7 March
- C. 8 March
- D. 9 March

ANSWER: B

2. Ganga Water Treaty Signed In

- A. 1992
- B. 1995
- C. 1996
- D. 1997

ANSWER: C

3. Where Was The Mobile World Congress (MWC) 2025 Organized

- A. Jakarta, Indonesia
- B. Paris, France
- C. Barcelona, Spain
- D. New Delhi, India

ANSWER: C

4. Which Company Was Responsible For The Blue Ghost Mission 1 Landing On The Moon

- A. Firefly Aerospace
- B. SpaceX
- C. Blue Origin
- D. NASA

ANSWER: A

5. What Is The Primary Purpose Of The Vantara Initiative

- A. To promote agriculture
- B. To provide a safe haven for animals
- C. To build a zoo
- D. To construct wildlife tourism parks

ANSWER: B

6. Which Two Countries Signed An MoU To Enhance Cooperation In WASH (Water, Sanitation, And Hygiene) Sector

- A. India and Bangladesh
- B. India and Sri Lanka
- C. India and Nepal
- D. India and Bhutan

ANSWER: C

7. Which River Systems Were Covered In The Dolphin Population Survey Conducted Under Project Dolphin

- A. Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Koshi
- B. Narmada, Godavari, and Krishna
- C. Brahmaputra, Yamuna, and Mahanadi
- D. Ganga, Brahmaputra, and Indus

ANSWER: D

8. What Is The Primary Purpose Of The Unified Pension Scheme

- A. To Ensure An Assured Payout After Retirement
- B. To Offer Tax Benefits To Employees
- C. To Replace The National Pension System (NPS)
- D. To Increase The Retirement Age Of Employees

ANSWER: A

9. Liu Jiakun Has Won The 2025 Pritzker Architecture Prize. He Is From Which Country

- A. South Korea
- B. Russia
- C. Bhutan
- D. China

ANSWER: D

10. How Does UPI Trading Blocks Benefit Investors

- A. It transfers large sums of money to broker apps in advance
- B. It blocks funds in the user's bank account until a trade happens
- C. It provides cash rewards for every trade
- D. It requires manual fund transfers for every trade

ANSWER: B

11. Who Has Been Appointed As The CEO Of Government e Marketplace

- A. Ajay Bhadoo
- B. Shaktikanta Das
- C. Anshika Raj
- D. Parul Tyagi

ANSWER: A

12. Sharath Kamal, Announced His Retirement, Is Associated With Which Sport

- A. Badminton
- B. Tennis
- C. Table Tennis
- D. Cricket

ANSWER: C

13. Pradhan Mantri Shram Yogi Maandhan Yojana Is Administered By Which Ministry

- A. Ministry of Finance
- B. Ministry of Commerce and Industry
- C. Ministry of Law and Justice
- D. Ministry of Labour and Employment

ANSWER: D

14. International Day For Disarmament And Non-Proliferation Awareness Is Observed Annually On Which Day

- A. March 3
- B. March 4
- C. March 5
- D. March 6

ANSWER: C

15. Which Country Is Leading In Tourist Arrivals To Sri Lanka In Early 2025

- A. India
- B. China
- C. United States
- D. United Kingdom

ANSWER: A

16. Which Country Associated With Discovery Of New Species Of Jumping Spiders

- A. Sri Lanka
- B. Maldives
- C. Bangladesh
- D. Nepal

ANSWER: A

17. Which State Launched The Mukhyamantri Ekal Mahila Swarozgar Yojana To Empower Single Women

- A. Uttar Pradesh
- B. Himachal Pradesh
- C. Rajasthan
- D. Uttarakhand

ANSWER: D

18. Who was appointed as the Controller General of Defence Accounts

- A. Dr Ramesh Kumar
- B. Dr Harish Patel
- C. Dr Mayank Sharma
- D. Dr Sunil Verma

ANSWER: C

19. Who Has Been Assigned The Additional Charge As Revenue Secretary

- A. Tuhin Kanta Pandey
- B. Arun Kumar
- C. Ramesh Chandra
- D. Ajay Seth

ANSWER: D

20. Who Conferred Title Of Jagath Seth On Fatehchand, A Defector Of Battle Of Plassey

- A. Alivardi Khan
- B. Sirajuddaula
- C. Mir Zafar
- D. Muhammad Shah

ANSWER : D