



1. Recently, the world's oldest calendar has been discovered in which country?

- [A] Egypt
- [B] Turkey
- [C] Iran
- [D] Iraq

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**Correct Answer:** B [Turkey]

**Notes:**

Archaeologists at Göbekli Tepe in Turkey discovered a pillar that may be the world's oldest calendar, dating back nearly 13,000 years. The pillar is located at the ancient site of Göbekli Tepe in the Şanlıurfa province, which is one of the oldest known farming communities in the world. The markings on the pillar appear to show solar and lunar cycles, and may have been used to record dates by ancient humans using precession, the wobble in Earth's axis that affects the movement of constellations. The markings also depict the summer solstice as a special day, represented by a "V" around the neck of a bird-like beast.

2. Recently, which state has become the first in the country to give money to girl students to buy sanitary napkins?

- [A] Rajasthan
- [B] Gujarat
- [C] Madhya Pradesh
- [D] Odisha

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**Correct Answer:** C [Madhya Pradesh]

**Notes:**

Madhya Pradesh has become the first state in India to give cash to adolescent girls for sanitary napkins. The cash is part of the state's Sanitation and Hygiene scheme. Eligible school girls (class 7-12) receive ₹300 annually. Over ₹57 crore has been distributed to more than 19 lakh girls. The state also launched the Udita program in 2016 to address social taboos and raise awareness about menstruation. Under Udita, women and girls up to 45 years old can receive a free pack of six sanitary pads every month.

3. Which day is observed as 'World Organ Donation Day' every year?

- [A] 12 August
- [B] 13 August
- [C] 14 August
- [D] 15 August

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**Correct Answer:** B [13 August]

**Notes:**

World Organ Donation Day 2024 is celebrated on August 13 to raise awareness about organ donation. The theme for 2024 is "Be the Reason for Someone's Smile Today." Thousands of people worldwide await life-saving organ transplants each year. The day aims to promote the importance of organ donation and dispel related myths. It also honors organ donors who have saved lives and given others a chance at a healthy life.

4. Which institution remained on the top spot in the National Institute Ranking Framework, 2024?

- [A] IIT Madras
- [B] IIT Kanpur
- [C] IIT Delhi
- [D] IIT Roorkee

**Correct Answer:** A [IIT Madras]

**Notes:**

The India Rankings 2024 were released by the Union Education Minister, based on the National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF). IIT Madras ranked 1st in the Overall Category for the sixth year and in Engineering for the ninth year.

IISc Bengaluru topped the Universities Category for the ninth year and Research Institutions for the fourth year. IIM Ahmedabad ranked 1st in Management for the fifth year. AIIMS Delhi topped the Medical Category for the seventh year. Jamia Hamdard, Delhi, ranked 1st in Pharmacy. NLSIU Bengaluru retained 1st position in Law. NIRF was launched in 2015 and uses five broad parameters for ranking. The 2024 edition introduced three new categories: State Public Universities, Open Universities, and Skill Universities, and integrated "Innovation" rankings.

5. Tungabhadra Dam, recently seen in the news, is located in which state?

- [A] Madhya Pradesh
- [B] Maharashtra
- [C] Odisha
- [D] Karnataka

**Correct Answer:** D [Karnataka]

**Notes:**

The 19th crest gate of the 71-year-old Tungabhadra Dam collapsed, causing a flood alert in Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh.

Tungabhadra Dam, also known as Pampa Sagar, is a multipurpose dam on the Tungabhadra River, a tributary of the Krishna River. It is located in the Ballari district of Karnataka, near the town of Hospet. It was initially a joint project of the Hyderabad state and Madras Presidency, later becoming a joint project of Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh after its completion in 1953. The dam has a storage



capacity of 101 TMC, with a catchment area of 28,000 sq. km, standing 49.5 meters high with 33 crest gates. It is one of two reservoirs in India built using mud and limestone, along with the Mullaperiyar Dam in Kerala.

6.Which institute recently issued an advisory to farmers to control 'Fruit Rot Disease' (Kole Roga) in arecanut plantations?

- [A] Central Research Institute of Dryland Agriculture, Hyderabad
- [B] Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod
- [C] Central Institute for Arid Horticulture, Bikaner
- [D] Central Soil Salinity Research Institute, Karnal

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**Correct Answer:** B [Central Plantation Crops Research Institute, Kasaragod]

**Notes:**

The ICAR-Central Plantation Crops Research Institute (CPCRI) in Kasaragod recently issued an advisory to help farmers control the spread of fruit rot disease, also known as koleroga, in arecanut plantations. Fruit rot disease harms crops, leading to major losses for farmers and making produce unsellable. It can sometimes even kill the plant. The disease is caused by fungi, bacteria, or viruses, making it hard to prevent and treat. Heavy rainfall, low temperatures, high humidity, and alternating sunshine and rain favor the spread of the disease.

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

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

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**Correct Answer:** C [Tanzania]

**Notes:**

Climbers from the Himalayan Mountaineering Institute in Darjeeling recently scaled Uhuru Peak, the highest point of Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania. Mount Kilimanjaro is Africa's tallest mountain and the world's largest free-standing mountain.

It is located in northeastern Tanzania near the Kenya border. Kilimanjaro has three volcanic cones: Kibo (dormant), Mawenzi, and Shira (both extinct). Uhuru Peak is on Kibo and is Africa's highest free-standing peak. The mountain is famous for its snow-capped summit and has five vegetation zones. It was named a UNESCO World Heritage Site in 1987.

8.What is the 'Nankai Trough', recently seen in news?



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- [A] A mountain range in Japan
- [B] A river in Africa
- [C] A subduction zone between two tectonic plates in the Pacific Ocean
- [D] A desert in Japan

**Correct Answer:** C [A subduction zone between two tectonic plates in the Pacific Ocean]

**Notes:**

Japan's meteorological agency warns of a higher chance of strong earthquakes and tsunamis on the Nankai Trough. The Nankai Trough is a subduction zone in the Pacific Ocean where two tectonic plates meet. It stretches about 900 km from Shizuoka, near Tokyo, to the southern tip of Kyushu Island. Massive earthquakes, called "megathrust quakes," occur here every century or two, often in pairs. These quakes can trigger dangerous tsunamis along Japan's southern coast.

9.What is the theme of 'International Youth Day 2024'?

- [A] From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development
- [B] Green Skills for Youth: Towards a Sustainable World
- [C] Intergenerational solidarity: Creating a world for all ages
- [D] Transforming Food Systems: Youth Innovation for Human and Planetary Health

**Correct Answer:** A [From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development]

**Notes:**

International Youth Day is observed on August 12th each year since 2010 to celebrate youth potential and address their challenges globally. In India, National Youth Day is celebrated on January 12th since 1985, marking Swami Vivekananda's birth anniversary. The idea for International Youth Day was proposed at the 1991 World Youth Forum in Vienna. The first International Youth Day was observed on August 12, 2010, following a 2009 UN resolution. The 2024 theme is "From Clicks to Progress: Youth Digital Pathways for Sustainable Development," emphasizing youth's role in using digital solutions for achieving UN Sustainable Development Goals by 2030.

10.'Neelakurinji plant', recently seen in news, is mostly found in which region of India?

- [A] Ladakh
- [B] Western Ghats
- [C] Northeastern
- [D] Rajasthan

**Correct Answer:** B [Western Ghats]

**Notes:**

Neelakurinji, a purplish flowering shrub that blooms once every 12 years, is now on the IUCN Red List



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of threatened species. It is found in the Western Ghats of Kerala, Karnataka, and Tamil Nadu. The flowers are most concentrated in the high ranges around Munnar, Kerala, especially in Eravikulam National Park, which is 12 kilometers from Munnar. Nilgiri Hills are named after its blue flowers, and the Paliyan tribes use its blooming cycle to calculate age. Neelakurinji is threatened by habitat loss due to tea plantations, softwood plantations, and urbanization. The global assessment confirms its status as Vulnerable.