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➤ **Who has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian women's hockey team following Janneke Schopman's departure?**

- A) Sjoerd Marijne
- B) Dilip Tirkey
- C) Harendra Singh
- D) Janneke Schopman
- E) None of the above

Answer

C) Harendra Singh



SPORTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Appointment of Harendra Singh as the head coach of the Indian women's hockey team
- **Location:** India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of Harendra Singh's Appointment:** To rebuild the Indian women's hockey team and prepare them for the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics, following recent controversies and the departure of previous coach Janneke Schopman.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Model Code of Conduct (MCC):** A set of guidelines issued by the Election Commission to regulate political parties and candidates prior to elections. This is why the official announcement of Harendra's appointment is delayed.
- **Dronacharya Award:** A prestigious sports coaching honor in India, awarded to Harendra Singh for his contributions to hockey.



Static GK Information:

- **Harendra Singh:**
 - **Career Start:** 1997
 - **Notable Achievements:** Coached the Indian team to win 11 gold medals, including the 2016 Men's Junior World Cup and the 2017 Women's Asia Cup.



SPORTS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Significance
Appointment of Harendra Singh as head coach	India	Marks a significant leadership change in Indian women's hockey, aiming for a rebuild and strong preparation for the 2028 Olympics.



OBITUARY



➤ **What significant roles did BS Raghavan hold during his career?**

- A) Prime Minister of India
- B) Chief Secretary of West Bengal
- C) Chairman of the International Wheat Council
- D) Columnist for businessline
- E) Both B and D

Answer
E) Both B and D



OBITUARY



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of BS Raghavan's Career:** To serve in various administrative and leadership roles within the Government of India and the state of West Bengal, contributing significantly to public service and policy.



OBITUARY



Important Terms Explained:

- **Chief Secretary:** The senior-most civil servant in a state government in India, holding a key position in the administrative hierarchy.
- **Indian Administrative Service (IAS):** The premier civil service of India, members of which occupy key positions in the Union Government, state governments, and public-sector undertakings.



OBITUARY



Static GK Information:

- **BS Raghavan:**
 - **Career:** Served as the Chief Secretary of West Bengal, held various secretarial positions in the Government of India, and was involved in several significant committees.
 - **Contributions:** Notable for his advisory role in the media and involvement in international delegations.



OBITUARY



Tabular Summary:

Event	Significance
Death of BS Raghavan	Marks the passing of a prominent bureaucrat who played a significant role in Indian administrative services and international diplomacy.



OBITUARY



➤ **What significant scientific achievement is Peter Higgs most famously associated with?**

- A) Discovery of gravitational waves
- B) Development of quantum mechanics
- C) Discovery of the Higgs boson
- D) Invention of the cyclotron
- E) Formulation of the theory of relativity

Answer

C) Discovery of the Higgs boson



OBITUARY



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Passing of physicist Peter Higgs
- **Location:** Edinburgh, United Kingdom



OBITUARY



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of Peter Higgs' Research:** To explore and explain the fundamental aspects of particles and their mass through the theoretical prediction of the Higgs boson.



OBITUARY



Important Terms Explained:

- **Higgs Boson:** Often referred to as the "God particle," it is a fundamental particle associated with the Higgs field, which gives mass to other fundamental particles through the Brout-Englert-Higgs mechanism.
- **Brout-Englert-Higgs Mechanism:** A process proposed to explain how particles acquire mass. It was pivotal in expanding the Standard Model of particle physics.



OBITUARY



Static GK Information:

- **Peter Higgs:**
 - **Field:** Theoretical Physics
 - **Notable Awards:** Nobel Prize in Physics, 2013
 - **Affiliation:** University of Edinburgh



OBITUARY



Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Significance
Death of Peter Higgs	Edinburgh, UK	Marked the passing of a notable physicist whose work on the Higgs boson greatly advanced our understanding of the universe.



RANKING



➤ Which country produced the highest number of offshore unicorns, according to the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024?

- A) United States
- B) China
- C) India
- D) United Kingdom
- E) Singapore

Answer
C) India



RANKING

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Publication of the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024



RANKING

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Hurun Report:** To provide an updated and comprehensive analysis of the global distribution and valuation of unicorns, which are startups valued at over \$1 billion, as of 2024.
- **India's Unique Contribution:** Leading the world in the creation of offshore unicorns, which highlights its global influence in the startup ecosystem.
- **Unicorns worldwide:** India ranks third with 67 unicorns, US has 703, China has 340



RANKING

Important Terms Explained:

- **Unicorn:** A startup company valued at more than \$1 billion.
- **Offshore Unicorns:** Companies founded by nationals of one country but registered and operating primarily from another country.



RANKING

Static GK Information:

- **Hurun Report:**
 - **Founded Year:** 1999 by Rupert Hoogewerf
 - **Headquarters:** Shanghai, China



RANKING

Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Date	Chief Guest	Significance
Publication of Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024	Global	2024	Rupert Hoogewerf, Chairman and Chief Researcher of Hurun Report	Provides a detailed analysis of the global unicorn ecosystem, highlighting the rise in valuations and the significant role of AI in current market dynamics. India recognized for producing the most offshore unicorns.



RANKING



Rank	Rank Change	Unicorn	Valuation (US\$bn)	Change (US\$bn)	Country	Sector	Year Founded
1-	0	ByteDance	220	20	China	Social Media	2012
2-	0	SpaceX	180	43	USA	Aerospace	2002
3*	14	OpenAI	100	80	USA	AI	2015
4↓	-1	Ant Group	80	-40	China	FinTech	2014
5↓	-1	Shein	65	0	China	E-Commerce	2012
6↓	-1	Stripe	61	11	USA	FinTech	2010
7-	0	Databricks	43	12	USA	Big Data	2013
8*	8	Canva	39	18	Australia	SaaS	2012
9*	8	Binance	34	14	Malta	Blockchain	2017
10↓	-4	WeBank	33	0	China	FinTech	2014

Source: Hurun Research Institute * New to Top 10



➤ Which of the following is the first private sector bank to open a branch in Lakshadweep's Kavaratti?

- A) ICICI Bank
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) Axis Bank
- D) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- E) Yes Bank



Answer
B) HDFC Bank



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Inauguration of HDFC Bank branch
- **Location:** Kavaratti, Lakshadweep



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of HDFC Bank:** To extend its banking services to more remote areas, including Lakshadweep, aiming to enhance financial accessibility and offer digital banking solutions tailored to the needs of the local population.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Digital Banking Solutions:** Banking services that are facilitated through digital platforms, including online banking, mobile banking apps, and QR-based transactions, which are especially relevant for island regions like Lakshadweep.



Static GK Information:

- **HDFC Bank:**
 - **Founded Year:** 1994
 - **CEO:** Sashidhar Jagdishan
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India



Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Chief Guest	Significance
Opening of HDFC Bank's branch	Kavaratti, Lakshadweep	Captain Lovekesh Thakur, Commanding Officer, Indian Navy; K P Muthukoya	First private sector bank to open a branch in Lakshadweep, aiming to enhance the banking infrastructure and service availability in the region.



➤ **What is the revised GDP growth forecast for India for FY25 as per the Asian Development Bank (ADB)?**

- A) 6.6%
- B) 6.7%
- C) 7.0%
- D) 7.2%
- E) 8.0%

Answer
C) 7.0%



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Revision of India's GDP growth forecast by ADB for FY25



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Revision:** The ADB revised India's GDP growth forecast to reflect the positive impact of robust public and private investments, a strong services sector, and improved consumer confidence on the economy.



Important Terms Explained:

- **GDP (Gross Domestic Product):** The total value of all goods and services produced over a specific time period within a nation's borders. It is used as a broad measure of economic performance.
- **FY25 (Fiscal Year 2025):** Refers to the fiscal year starting in 2024 and ending in 2025, as used in the context of the Indian financial calendar.



Static GK Information:

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB):**
 - **Founded Year:** 1966
 - **President:** Masatsugu Asakawa
 - **Headquarters:** Manila, Philippines



Tabular Summary:

Event	Significance
ADB's revision of India's GDP forecast for FY25	Indicates a positive economic outlook for India due to strong investments and consumer confidence, projecting it as a major growth engine in Asia and the Pacific.



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



➤ Which organization has KABIL signed an MoU with for Technical & Knowledge cooperation for Critical Minerals?

- A) NALCO
- B) CSIR-IMMT
- C) MECL
- D) HCL
- E) Ministry of Mines

Answer
B) CSIR-IMMT



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)
- **Location:** NALCO Corporate Office, Bhubaneswar



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate of KABIL:** KABIL is tasked with identifying, exploring, acquiring, developing, mining, processing, and procuring critical and strategic minerals to ensure supply side assurance and mineral security for India.
- **Objective of the MoU:** To leverage CSIR-IMMT's technical expertise for projects related to mineral processing, beneficiation, and metal extraction, and to facilitate joint research and the exchange of scientific information.



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Critical Minerals:** These are essential minerals crucial for economic and national security, which this MoU aims to explore and secure for national use.
- **Mineral Beneficiation:** Refers to the process of improving the economic value of extracted ores by removing impurities and increasing their grade before further processing.
- **Metal Extraction:** Involves the separation of metal from raw ore minerals, and it is a critical step in metallurgical operations.



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Static GK Information:

- **KABIL:**
 - **Founded:** It is a joint venture formed under the Ministry of Mines, Government of India.
 - **CEO:** Shri Sadashiv Samantaray
 - **Headquarters:** India
- **CSIR-IMMT:**
 - **Founded Year:** 1964
 - **Director:** Dr. Ramanuj Narayan
 - **Headquarters:** Bhubaneswar, Odisha, India



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Chief Guest	Significance
MoU signing between KABIL and CSIR-IMMT for cooperation in critical minerals	NALCO Corporate Office, Bhubaneswar	Shri Sridhar Patra, CMD, NALCO & Chairman, KABIL	Enhances collaboration in mineral processing and security, boosting India's 'Make in India' initiative and mineral security.



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



➤ What is the main goal of the partnership between ICICI Lombard and Policybazaar?

- A) To settle insurance claims faster
- B) To issue more policies than any other company
- C) To make insurance more accessible in India
- D) To increase digital distribution channels
- E) To expand to international markets



Answer

C) To make insurance more accessible in India



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Strategic partnership announcement between ICICI Lombard and Policybazaar



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Partnership:** To make insurance solutions accessible to nearly one crore customers by combining the product portfolio of ICICI Lombard with the extensive reach of Policybazaar. The aim is also to support the vision of "Insurance for All by 2047" in India.



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Democratise Insurance:** Refers to the process of making insurance accessible to a broader segment of the population, emphasizing ease and comprehensiveness in purchasing insurance.
- **Digital Distribution Channels:** Online platforms and technologies used to sell and manage insurance policies, enhancing customer reach and service efficiency.



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Static GK Information:

- **ICICI Lombard:**
 - **Founded Year:** 2001
 - **CEO:** Bhargav Dasgupta (Managing Director & CEO)
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- **Policybazaar:**
 - **Founded Year:** 2008
 - **CEO:** Sarbvir Singh (Joint Group CEO of PB Fintech, which owns Policybazaar)
 - **Headquarters:** Gurgaon, Haryana, India



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Chief Guest	Significance
Strategic partnership announcement between ICICI Lombard and Policybazaar	Sarbvir Singh, Joint Group CEO of PB Fintech; Anand Singhi, Chief of Retail and Government Business, ICICI Lombard	Aims to democratize insurance in India by leveraging the strengths of both companies to make insurance solutions more accessible to a vast number of customers.



AWARDS



➤ Which institution's research team won the 'Best Scientific Poster Award' at the ASCRS 2024 Annual Meeting for their study on post-crosslinking surgery patients?

- A) Massachusetts General Hospital
- B) Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital
- C) Stanford University Medical Center
- D) Johns Hopkins Hospital
- E) Mayo Clinic



Answer

B) Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital



AWARDS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Winning the 'Best Scientific Poster Award' at the ASCRS 2024 Annual Meeting
- **Location:** Boston, Massachusetts, USA



AWARDS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Study:** To assess the efficacy of RevitalVision vision-training software in improving best-corrected vision in stable keratoconus patients after corneal collagen cross-linking surgery.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Keratoconus:** A progressive eye disease where the normally round cornea thins and begins to bulge into a cone-like shape, causing visual impairment.
- **Corneal Collagen Cross-Linking:** A medical procedure that strengthens corneal tissue to halt the progression of keratoconus.
- **RevitalVision:** A vision-training software designed to improve visual acuity through exercises that enhance the brain's image processing.



AWARDS



Static GK Information:

- **Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital:**
 - **Founded:** 1957
 - **Founder:** Dr. J. Agarwal
 - **Headquarters:** Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India



AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Date	Significance
'Best Scientific Poster Award' at ASCRS 2024	Boston, USA	April 2024	Recognition of groundbreaking research by Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital's team on improving vision in keratoconus patients post-crosslinking surgery.



AWARDS

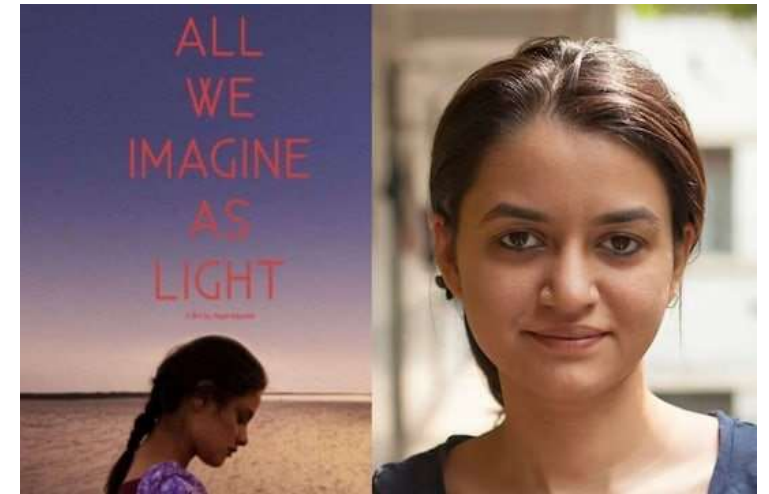


➤ Which film directed by Payal Kapadia marks the first Indian entry in nearly 30 years to compete for the Palme d'Or at the Cannes Film Festival?

- A) A Night of Knowing Nothing
- B) Afternoon Clouds
- C) All We Imagine as Light
- D) And What Is the Summer Saying?
- E) Santosh

Answer

C) All We Imagine as Light



AWARDS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Selection of Payal Kapadia's film for the Cannes Film Festival competition section
- **Location:** Cannes, France



AWARDS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of Film Entry:** To compete for the Palme d'Or, the top honor at the Cannes Film Festival, showcasing Indian cinema on a prestigious international platform.



AWARDS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Palme d'Or:** The highest prize awarded at the Cannes Film Festival, given to the director of the best feature film of the official competition.
- **Cannes Film Festival:** An annual film festival held in Cannes, France, which previews new films of all genres, including documentaries, from around the world.



AWARDS



Static GK Information:

- **Payal Kapadia:**
 - **Notable Works:** A Night of Knowing Nothing, Afternoon Clouds, And What Is the Summer Saying?
 - **Achievements:** Winner of the Golden Eye for best documentary at Cannes 2021



AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Date	Chief Guest	Significance
Payal Kapadia's film entry to Cannes	Cannes, France	May 14 to 25	Greta Gerwig (jury president)	Marks the return of Indian cinema to the competition section of Cannes with a significant entry after nearly three decades.



- **Which two countries recently agreed to enhance their counter-terrorism cooperation in response to a terrorist attack in Moscow?**

- A) India and Russia
- B) Kazakhstan and Russia
- C) India and Kazakhstan
- D) India and Pakistan
- E) Kazakhstan and Uzbekistan

Answer

C) India and Kazakhstan



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Meeting to enhance counter-terrorism cooperation
- **Location:** Astana, Kazakhstan



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Meeting:** To strengthen counter-terrorism collaboration between India and Kazakhstan in response to regional security threats, particularly following a terrorist attack in Moscow.



Important Terms Explained:

- **State-Sponsored Terrorism:** Refers to government support of violent non-state actors engaged in terrorism.
- **Cross-Border Terrorism:** Terrorist acts committed by individuals or groups from one country into another.



Static GK Information:

- **Kazakhstan:**
 - **Country Name:** Republic of Kazakhstan
 - **Currency:** Kazakhstani tenge
 - **Capital:** Nur-Sultan (formerly Astana)
 - **Prime Minister:** Alikhan Smailov



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Significance
Meeting to enhance India-Kazakhstan counter-terrorism cooperation	Astana, Kazakhstan	Aims to address regional terrorist threats and improve security measures in light of recent attacks.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ What is the total balance in PMJDY accounts as of FY24?

- A) Rs 1.98 trillion
- B) Rs 2.35 trillion
- C) Rs 2.34 trillion
- D) Rs 59,203 crore
- E) Rs 32,032 crore

Answer

B) Rs 2.35 trillion



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Event and Location:

- **Event:** Update on the balance and account growth of PMJDY
- **Location:** India



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of PMJDY:** To ensure universal access to banking facilities with at least one basic banking account for every household, financial literacy, access to credit, insurance and pension.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Important Terms Explained:

- **PMJDY (Pradhan Mantri Jan Dhan Yojana):** A financial inclusion program of the Government of India aimed at expanding access to financial services such as bank accounts, remittances, credit, insurance, and pensions.
- **JAM Trinity:** Refers to Jan Dhan Yojana, Aadhaar, and Mobile number linkage which facilitates direct benefit transfers.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Static GK Information:

- **Launch Date of PMJDY:** August 28, 2014
- **Features:** No minimum balance required, overdraft facility up to Rs 10,000, and a RuPay debit card with accident insurance cover.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Tabular Summary:

Event	Location	Date	Significance
Update on PMJDY account balances and growth	India	FY24	Demonstrates significant growth in the financial inclusion initiative, with total balances reaching Rs 2.35 trillion and the addition of 33 million new accounts in FY24.



QUICK RECALL



- **Harendra Singh has been appointed as the head coach of the Indian women's hockey team.**
- **BS Raghavan, the former Chief Secretary of West Bengal, dies at 96.**
- **Nobel Prize-winning physicist Peter Higgs dies, aged 94.**
- **India produced the highest number of offshore unicorns according to the Hurun Global Unicorn Index 2024.**
- **HDFC Bank is the first private sector bank to open a branch in Lakshadweep's Kavaratti.**
- **The revised GDP growth forecast for India for FY25 as per the Asian Development Bank is 7.0%.**
- **CSIR-IMMT has KABIL signed an MoU with for Technical & Knowledge cooperation for Critical Minerals.**
- **The main goal of the partnership between ICICI Lombard and Policybazaar is To make insurance more accessible in India.**



QUICK RECALL



- **Dr. Agarwal's Eye Hospital institution's research team won the 'Best Scientific Poster Award' at the ASCRS 2024 Annual Meeting.**
- **Payal Kapadia's All We Imagine as Light is first Indian film in 30 years to make it to Cannes' competition section.**
- **India and Kazakhstan agreed to enhance their counter-terrorism cooperation in response to a terrorist attack in Moscow.**
- **Jan Dhan balance rises 18% to Rs 2.35 trillion in FY24.**



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