

NISHTHA- THE CIVIL SERVICES SOCIETY HANSRAJ COLLEGE



NISHTHA

The Civil Services Society of Hansraj College





Edition VIII





NISHCHAY TEAM

Editors-in-chief

Ashwamegh Singh

B. Taraka Ratna Senior Advisor

Layout Designers

Atharva Sharma

Technical Head

Priyanka Choudhary

Technical Head

Vineet Kakkad

Technical Head

Rahul

Vice-President

Chandrashekhar Hiremath

Joint Secretary

Layout Editors

Atharva Sharma

Technical Head

Priyanka Choudhary

Technical Head

Vineet Kakkad

Technical Head

Virendra Choudhary

Abhijeet Kumar

Content Editors

Shatakshi Shukla

Organizing Head

Amiya Dixit

Organizing Head

Prince Malik

Organizing Head

Proof Readers

Saloni Bharti

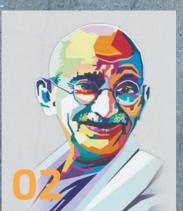
Sahil Singh

Parth Kamboj

Content Writers

Shatakshi Shukla Prince Malik Amiya Dixit Shivam Shubham Nancy Saiyam Nikita Om Tiwari Diya





GANDHI'S FOOTPRINT IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY



UNESCO & CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION

INTRO

An introduction to the monthly 'Nishchay Newsletter'

GANDHI'S FOOTPRINTS IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY

GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER QUOTAS: LESSONS FROM INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES

UNESCO AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION: PRESERVING OUR PAST FOR THE FUTURE

DEMOCRATIC BACKSLIDING: A GLOBAL CONCERN & INDIA'S RESILIENCE

FOCUS OF THE MONTH

F1887742118
15
16
28
20
23

WEEKLY FOCUS

Week 1	24
Week 2	26
Week 3	27
Week 4	28

QUIZZES CROSSWORD 01

02

05

09

12

74

31

From the Principal's Desk

प्रिय पाठकों,

निष्ठा- द सिविल सर्विसेज सोसाइटी ऑफ हंसराज कॉलेज के मासिक समाचार पत्र "निश्रय" के नवीनतम संस्करण के प्रक्षेपण पर मैं संपादक मंडल और सभी सदस्यों को हार्दिक बधाई देती हं। निष्ठा द्वारा नियमित रूप से आयोजित किए जाने वाले विभिन्न कार्यक्रमों और वक्ता सत्रों से मैं वास्तव में प्रसन्न हं। निष्ठा ने उम्मीदवारों की आकांक्षाओं और उनकी सहायता करने के लिए हर संभव प्रयास किया है। मासिक समाचार पत्र सबसे प्रतिष्ठित यूपीएससी-सीएसई के सभी महत्वपूर्ण कार्यक्षेत्रों को संरेखित करने की प्रतिबद्धता और एकमात्र उद्देश्य को दर्शाता है। सरकारी नीतियों के व्यावहारिक विश्लेषण से लेकर सिविल सेवकों के प्रेरक प्रोफाइल तक. आपके लेख उस कठोर और विचारशील विचारों को प्रदर्शित करते हैं जिसे हम हंसराज कॉलेज में बढावा देने का प्रयास करते हैं और निष्ठा सोसाइटी के माध्यम से राष्ट्र निर्माण हेतु कुशल प्रशासकों की स्वर्णिम पीढ़ी के निर्माण हेत् हंसराज कॉलेज प्रतिबद्ध है।



मैं इस न्यूज़लेटर को फलीभूत करने के लिए सभी योगदानकर्ताओं की कड़ी मेहनत और समर्पण के लिए हार्दिक प्रशंसा करना चाहती हूँ। आपके अथक प्रयास हमारे कॉलेज समुदाय की ताकत और जीवंतता की गवाही देते हैं।

हंसराज के अमृत काल में सिविल सेवकों की अगली पीढ़ी को पोषित करने के लिए समर्पित सोसाइटी के रूप में, मुझे विश्वास है कि आप आने वाले वर्षों में अपनी उपलब्धियों पर हमें गौरवान्वित करना जारी रखेंगे। स्टूडेंट्स की भलाई के लिए आपकी लगन और प्रतिबद्धता वास्तव में प्रेरणादायक है। मुझे संदेह नहीं है कि आप अपने चुने हुए क्षेत्र में सार्थक प्रभाव डालेंगे।

एक बार फिर, मैं आपको इस उत्कृष्ट समाचार पत्र को लॉन्च करने के लिए बधाई देती हूँ, और मैं हमारे कॉलेज समुदाय के सभी सदस्यों को इसके द्वारा उठाए गए प्रासंगिक मुद्दों को पढ़ने और संलग्न करने के लिए प्रोत्साहित करती हूँ।

प्रो.(डॉ) रमा प्राचार्या, हंसराज कॉलेज

From the Convenor's Desk

प्रिय पाठकों,

निष्ठा सोसाइटी मासिक पत्रिका " निश्चय" के आठवें संस्करण के प्रकाशन पर संपादकीय मंडल को हार्दिक बधाई। प्रति माह प्रकाशित होने वाली यह पत्रिका प्रशासनिक सेवा के परीक्षा की तैयारी कर रहे अभ्यर्थियों के लिए पूरक की भूमिका निभाती है। इस प्रतिष्ठित परीक्षा के पाठ्यक्रम के महत्वपूर्ण विषयों पर बेहद सरल भाषा और रचनात्मकतापूर्ण लेख पाठकों के समक्ष परोसा गया है। पत्रिका में सामान्य अध्ययन तथा ज्वलनशील सामयिक घटनाओं का बहुआयामी दृष्टिकोण से विश्लेषण प्रस्तुत किया गया है। इंटरनेट पर मौजूद स्रोतों के बहुमार के बीच यह पत्रिका अपने विषय सामग्री के सार्थकता और प्रामाणिकता के मापदंड पर खरा उतरती है।



इस पत्रिका के विषय वस्तु के चयन, प्रूफ और उनके संपादन के दृष्टि से संपादक मंडल, तकनीकी विभाग और सभी सदस्यों ने जो श्रमसाध्य कार्य किया है वह अभिनंदनीय है। कॉलेज की प्राचार्या प्रो. रमा ने हमेशा की तरह इस बार भी समुचित मार्गदर्शन और सानिध्य से इस अंक को अंतिम रूप देने में बड़ी भूमिका निभाई है और हंसराज के अमृत काल में अनेक ज्ञानवर्धक गतिविधियों के प्रोत्साहन के लिए प्राचार्या महोदया का विशेष धन्यवाद। प्राचार्या प्रो. रमा मैम के कुशल नेतृत्व में हंसराज कॉलेज राष्ट्र निर्माण हेतु कुशल प्रशासकों के निमार्ण हेतु प्रतिबद्ध है।

आशा है कि "निश्चय" का यह अंक आपको पसंद आएगा और आपके परीक्षा-उन्मुख ज्ञान को नया आयाम प्रदान करेगा। धन्यवाद

> प्रो.(डॉ) प्रभांशु ओझा संयोजक, निष्ठा सोसायटी

From the President's Desk

Dear readers,

I am filled with gratification and ecstasy to announce the launch of the next edition of the monthly newsletter-Nishchay. This endeavour is dedicated to nurturing and inspiring fervent individuals and proffering them valuable insights across a range of pivotal topics shaping the vibrant tapestry of the coveted Civil Services Examination.



In a world that is constantly evolving, the significance of staying informed and connected cannot be overstated; thus this novel initiative is designed to harmonize all the crucial aspects of the prestigious UPSC-CSE, emphasizing both the foundational elements of the exam syllabus & ever-changing current affairs.

We firmly believe that this newsletter will serve as a source of motivation, catalyst of collective progress, and repository of knowledge that enlightens us with the latest developments around the globe along with the static portion.

I extend my heartfelt gratitude to each one of you for your unwavering support, and we hope you enjoy this meticulously crafted newsletter.

Sincerely, Ashwamegh Singh President Nishtha - The Civil Services Society of Hansraj College India's freedom struggle was a long and arduous one, spanning over two centuries. It was a period of immense sacrifice and dedication by countless freedom fighters, who fought tirelessly for the country's independence.

The footprints of our forefathers are still visible all around us, in the form of the institutions and values that they built. Their legacy continues to inspire us to strive for a better India, one that is truly free, just, and equitable.

Be it Mahatma Gandhi, who is widely regarded as the father of the Indian nation and led the Indian freedom movement through non-violent civil disobedience or Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, who was the Iron Man of India and is credited with uniting the princely states into a unified nation; the steps of leaders like them eventually made India what she is actually today. Their legacy is one of courage, sacrifice, and dedication. The footprints of these freedom fighters can be seen in all aspects of modern Indian society. We owe them a debt of gratitude for the India that we enjoy today.

The footprints of forefathers left a lasting legacy that continues to shape the nation's values, ideals, and identity. These iconic leaders, along with countless others who participated in the struggle for independence, deserve our gratefulness and reverence. Their sacrifices, resilience, and unwavering dedication have paved the way for the India we know today – a free, sovereign, and democratic nation. It is our duty to remember their struggles and carry forward the spirit of independence for future generations.

INTER O XI

GANDHI'S FOOTPRINTS IN INTERNATIONAL DIPLOMACY

Mahatma Gandhi, the father of the Indian nation, was a prominent figure in India's struggle for independence from British colonial rule. His philosophy of non-violence and peaceful resistance inspired many leaders around the world, including Martin Luther King Jr. and Nelson Mandela. While he is primarily known for his nonviolent resistance and his pivotal role in India's quest for freedom, his influence extended far beyond the borders of his homeland. This essay explores Gandhi's impact on international diplomacy and how his principles of nonviolence and civil disobedience continue to resonate in global politics. Gandhi's influence on international diplomacy can be traced back to his role in shaping India's foreign policy during the early years of its independence.

Gandhi's foray into international diplomacy was marked by his ability to articulate the moral and ethical dimensions of political movements. His philosophy of nonviolent resistance, or Satyagraha, captivated the imagination of leaders and activists worldwide. One of the most significant examples of this was his involvement in the Indian diaspora's struggles in South Africa. In the early 20th century, Gandhi led the Indian community in South Africa in their fight against discriminatory laws.





His successful campaign not only improved the condition of Indians in South Africa but also established him as a global symbol of nonviolent protest.

Gandhi's ideas of non-violence and peaceful coexistence were central to India's foreign policy under Jawaharlal Nehru, India's first Prime Minister. Nehru was a close associate of Gandhi and shared his vision of a world free from violence and conflict. Nehru's foreign policy was based on the principles of non-alignment, peaceful coexistence, and disarmament. These principles were aimed at promoting peace and stability in the world and reducing the risk of nuclear war.

Gandhi's influence on international diplomacy continued during and after World War II. His insistence on nonviolence during a time of global conflict struck a chord with leaders such as Winston Churchill and Franklin D. Roosevelt. While he did not directly participate in the negotiations at the end of the war, his principles of peaceful coexistence and nonviolent resistance found a place in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Charter, reflecting the enduring impact of his diplomacy. Gandhi's assassination in 1948 marked a profound loss for India and the world. However, his legacy in international diplomacy persisted. Leaders like Martin Luther King Jr. in the United States drew inspiration from Gandhi's methods, adapting them to their own civil rights movements. Nelson Mandela in South Africa, in his fight against apartheid, also cited Gandhi as an Inspiration.

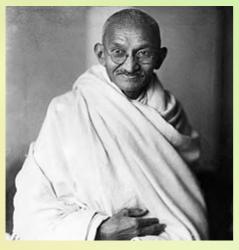
What was the name of Gandhi's philosophy of nonviolent resistance?

- A) Satyagraha
- B) Non Violism
- C) Peaceful Revolution
- D) Civil Disobedience

Gandhi played a significant role in the Indian diaspora's struggles in which country during the early 20th century?

- A) INDIA
- B) USA
- C) SOUTH AFRICA
- D) UK

Gandhi's influence on international diplomacy can also be seen in India's role as a mediator in various conflicts around the world. India played a key role in mediating the end of the Korean War, and also played a role in resolving conflicts in Cambodia, Sri Lanka and Afghanistan.



In conclusion, Mahatma Gandhi's footprint in international diplomacy was characterized by his unwavering commitment to nonviolence, civil disobedience, and the moral high ground.

His influence extended beyond India's struggle for independence to encompass broader global issues of justice, equality, and human rights. His impact can be seen in the civil rights movements of the 20th century and in the enduring principles of nonviolence that continue to shape global politics. Gandhi's legacy in international diplomacy serves as a testament to the enduring power of moral conviction and peaceful resistance in shaping the course of history.

peaceful coexistence and nonviolent resistance found a place in which international documents after World War II? A) The Geneva Convention

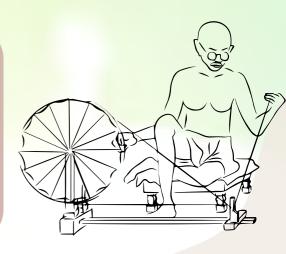
Gandhi's principles of

B) The Treaty of Versiallies C) The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the United Nations Charter D) The Marshall Plan



Which Indian Prime Minister shared Gandhi's vision of nonviolence and peaceful coexistence, influencing India's foreign policy?

- A) Sardar Patel
- B) Jawaharlal Nehru
- C) Indira Gandhi
- D) Rajeev Gandhi



GLOBAL PERSPECTIVES ON GENDER QUOTAS: LESSONS FROM INDIA AND OTHER COUNTRIES



In the ever-shifting landscape of global politics, the issue of gender parity in legislative bodies stands as a pivotal challenge. Nations around the world, including India, have grappled with the glaring underrepresentation of women in political spheres, leading to the implementation of affirmative action measures such as gender quotas. These policies, rooted in the pursuit of equity, unfold a nuanced tapestry of complexities and invaluable lessons.

India's journey toward gender parity in politics has been marked by both challenges and triumphs. The roots of gender quotas in India trace back to the 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments in 1992, which mandated the reservation of one-third of seats for women in local governance bodies. This policy, despite initial skepticism, has yielded remarkable results. The reservation of seats for women in Panchayati Raj institutions empowered countless women, fostering grassroots leadership and bolstering the argument for gender quotas at the national level.

However, the path to gender equality in national politics proved arduous. India's earlier attempts to pass a Women's Reservation Bill faced numerous obstacles, with political parties often hesitant to relinquish established power structures. Yet, the recent passage of the Naari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam (Women's Reservation Bill, 2023) signifies a monumental leap.



Mandating the allocation of one-third of parliamentary seats for women, this Act marks a paradigm shift, spotlighting India's resolve to address historical gender imbalances in its legislative framework.

Examining international landscapes provides a wealth of insights. In neighboring Pakistan, the implementation of gender quotas revealed the challenge of token representation due to a limited pool of qualified women candidates, emphasizing the need for comprehensive educational and societal reforms. Conversely, the success story of Rwanda, where women occupy more than half the seats (61%) in the parliament, underscores the transformative potential of gender quotas when coupled with political will and societal support.

What prompted India to introduce gender quotas for women in local governance bodies?

A) The success of gender quotas in national politics B) International pressure from neighboring countries C) The 73rd and 74th Constitutional Amendments in 1992

D) A grassroots movement by women activists

Further afield, the Norwegian experience with corporate board quotas sheds light on the positive externalities of such policies. Norway's mandate, requiring public limited companies to have at least 40% women on their boards, not only enhanced gender diversity but also led to improved corporate governance and financial performance. This exemplifies the farreaching impact of gender quotas beyond political spheres, demonstrating their potential to drive positive change in corporate boardrooms and beyond.

Which recent Act in India mandates the allocation of onethird of parliamentary seats for A) Naari Shakti Vandan Adhiniyam

(Women's Reservation Bill, 2023)

- B) Women's Political **Empowerment Act**
- C) Gender Quota Legislation
- D) National Women's Representation Law

with the universal struggle for political inclusivity and gender equality. The multifaceted lessons gleaned from India's experiences, both past and present, alongside international case studies, underscore several imperatives. First and foremost, proactive political will is indispensable. Political parties, as primary gatekeepers, must proactively nurture female leaders, fostering a conducive environment for their political participation.

The global discourse on gender quotas resonates

In which country have women occupied more than half of the seats (61%) in the parliament due to gender quotas? A) INDIA

- **B) PAKISTAN**
- C) RWANDA D) NORWAY

Secondly, gender quotas must be accompanied by comprehensive educational reforms. Investing in the education of girls and women equips them with the knowledge and confidence to engage meaningfully in political and societal spheres. Additionally, challenging entrenched gender norms and biases is essential. Societal attitudes play a pivotal role in determining the success of gender quotas; thus, awareness campaigns and educational initiatives are vital in reshaping mindsets.



Furthermore, economic empowerment stands as a cornerstone of gender equality. Providing women with economic opportunities not only enhances their financial independence but also bolsters their political agency. Access to resources and economic avenues widens the scope of their participation in public life, making their voices more influential and impactful.

The global discourse on gender quotas underscores the imperative of proactive political will, societal transformation, and comprehensive educational and economic reforms. India's journey, encompassing both challenges and triumphs, serves as a beacon illuminating the path toward gender equality. learning from diverse international experiences and amalgamating these lessons with a resolute commitment to change, nations worldwide can pave the way for a more inclusive and representative political future, where the voices of women resonate prominently in the corridors of power.

66

Besides politics, what external impact did Norway's corporate board quotas have?

- A) Improved corporate governance and financial performance
- B) Increased political representation for women
- C) Reduced corporate diversity
- D) Enhanced international trade agreements







UNESCO AND CULTURAL HERITAGE PROTECTION: PRESERVING OUR PAST FOR THE FUTURE







Cultural heritage is the legacy of physical artifacts and intangible attributes of a group or society that are inherited from past generations, maintained in the present, and bestowed for the benefit of future generations. It encompasses tangible cultural heritage such as monuments, sites, artifacts, and landscapes, as well as intangible cultural heritage such as oral traditions, performing arts, social practices, rituals, and festive events.

UNESCO, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, is a specialized agency of the United Nations that is dedicated to promoting international cooperation and dialogue in education, science, culture, and communication. UNESCO's work on cultural heritage protection is guided by the Convention Concerning the Protection of the World Cultural and Natural Heritage, which was adopted in 1972. The Convention has been ratified by 194 countries and is one of the most widely ratified international treaties in the world.

UNESCO's World Heritage Site system is a powerful tool for maintaining cultural heritage. By raising awareness of the importance of cultural heritage, providing technical and financial assistance, monitoring the condition of World Heritage Sites, and supporting international cooperation, UNESCO is helping to ensure that the world's cultural heritage is preserved for future generations.

The Convention establishes a system of international cooperation and assistance for the protection of cultural heritage sites that are of outstanding universal value. These sites are inscribed on the World Heritage List, which currently includes over 1,150 properties in 167 countries.

UNESCO also provides technical assistance and financial support to countries to help them protect their cultural heritage through the World Heritage Fund. The World Heritage Fund is financed by contributions from states to the Convention as well as voluntary contributions from individuals, private foundations, and corporations.

Some specific examples of UNESCO's work on cultural heritage protection include the Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala, which is a serial nomination of three Hoysala-style temple complexes in Karnataka, India, dating from the 12th to 13th centuries: Chennakeshava Temple, Belur , Hoysaleswara Temple, Halebeedu and Keshava Temple, Somanathapura .

The temples have been included in the UNESCO World Heritage List in 2023, becoming India's 42nd World Heritage Site.

The Hoysala temples are known for their exquisite architecture and intricate stone carvings. They are considered to be some of the finest examples of Hindu temple architecture in the world.



What is cultural heritage?

A) Only tangible objects and monuments
B) Both tangible and intangible aspects of a society's legacy
C)Only intangible traditions and rituals
D) None of the above



66

What is the significance of the Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala temples in Karnataka, India?

A) They were built in the 20th century B) They are known for their Islamic architecture C) They showcase exquisite Hindu temple architecture D) They are made of wood and not stone



Which Hindu deity is the Chennakeshava Temple dedicated to?

- A) SHIVA
- **B) VISHNU**
- C) BRAHMA
- D) DURGA



- The Chennakeshava Temple is the largest and most ornate of the three Hoysala temples. It is dedicated to the Hindu God Vishnu and was built by King Vishnuvardhana in the early 12th century. The temple is known for its star-shaped plan, its intricate stone carvings, and its towering gateway. The temple walls are covered with sculptures of Hindu deities, mythical creatures, and scenes from Hindu epics.
- The Hoysaleswara Temple is dedicated to the Hindu god Shiva and was built by King Veera Ballala II in the 13th century. The temple is known for its intricate stone carvings, its two large Nandi bulls, and its unfinished gateway. The temple walls are covered with sculptures of Hindu deities, mythical creatures, and scenes from Hindu epics. The temple's unfinished gateway is particularly impressive, with its intricate carvings and towering pillars.
- The Keshava Temple is the smallest of the three Hoysala temples, but it is no less impressive. It is dedicated to the Hindu god Vishnu and was built by King Narasimha I in the 13th century. The temple is known for its perfect symmetry, its intricate stone carvings, and its serene atmosphere. The temple walls are covered with sculptures of Hindu deities, mythical creatures, and scenes from Hindu epics. The Sacred Ensembles of the Hoysala are a testament to the skill and craftsmanship of the Hoysala people. They are also a reminder of the rich cultural heritage of India.

INTEGRATION OF PRINCELY STATES: A REMARKABLE ACHIEVEMENT IN INDIAN HISTORY

The integration of princely states into the Indian Union after independence was a remarkable achievement in Indian history. At the time independence, there were over 560 princely states in India, covering about one-third of the country's territory and population. The rulers of these states had varying degrees of autonomy, and some were reluctant to join the new nation.

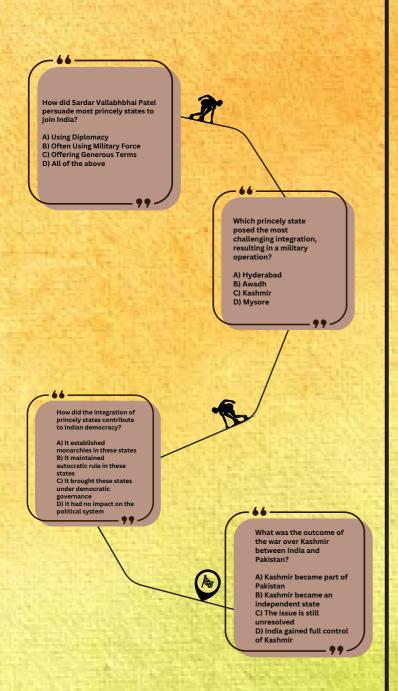
The integration of the princely states was a challenging task, but it was successfully accomplished under the leadership of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel, the first Deputy Prime Minister and the Home Minister of India, Patel was a skilled negotiator and organizer, and he was able to persuade most of the princes to accede to the Indian Union.



Chamber of Princes (The Narendra Mandal) Meeting, New Delhi



Patel used a variety of tactics to integrate the princely states. He offered the princes generous terms, princely states, such as retaining their titles and privy purses. He also used diplomacy and persuasion to convince them that it was in their best interests to join India. In some cases, Patel had to use military force to integrate the states, but he tried to avoid this whenever possible.



One of the most difticult challenges that Patel faced was the integration of the state of Hyderabad. The Nizam of Hyderabad, Mir Osman Ali Khan, was reluctant to join India and wanted to remain independent. Patel tried to negotiate with the Nizam, but he was unsuccessful.

The situation escalated when the paramilitary force, known Razakars, instigated violent attacks against a largely Hindu population Hyderabad to support the Nizam's rule. Following Lord Mountbatten's resignation in June 1948, the Congress government made a significant decision. On September 13, 1948, Indian forces were deployed to Hyderabad as part of 'Operation Polo' to address the growing unrest and restore peace in the region. The operation was a success, and Hyderabad was integrated into the Indian Union.

Kashmir was a much larger and more complex issue. The ruler of Kashmir, Maharaja Hari Singh, was a Hindu, but the majority of the population was Muslim. The Maharaja wanted to remain independent, but he was under pressure from both India and Pakistan. In October 1947, Pakistan-backed tribesmen invaded Kashmir. The Maharaja appealed to India for help, and Patel agreed to send Indian troops to Kashmir, on the condition that Maharaja Hari Singh signed the 'Instrument of Accession' to India.

The war over Kashmir lasted for over a year and ended in a stalemate. The United Nations intervened and brokered a ceasefire. The Kashmir issue remains unresolved to this day, but the Indian Army has control over most of the state.

Significance of the Integration of Princely States

The integration of the princely states was a significant event in Indian history for a number of reasons. First, it helped to create a unified and independent India. Without the integration of the princely states, India would have been a fragmented country with multiple borders and different political systems.

Second, the integration of the princely states helped to promote democracy and equality in India. The princely states were ruled by autocratic monarchs, but the Indian Union was committed to democracy and the rule of law. The integration of the princely states helped to bring these states under the fold of a democratic system of government.

Third, the integration of the princely states helped to promote economic development in India. The princely states were often underdeveloped and poorly administered. The Indian government invested heavily in these states after independence, which helped to improve their infrastructure and economy.

The integration of the princely states was a remarkable achievement that helped to shape modern India. It was a complex and challenging task, but it was successfully accomplished under the leadership of Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel. Patel's skill and determination in integrating the princely states played a vital role in creating a unified, democratic, and prosperous India.

TOP PERFORMERS

Once again, the Nishtha community has been dazzled by the exceptional contributions of our treasure and the talented individuals who are enriching our heritage with their unwavering dedication and tireless endeavours. We believe that such diligent work deserves recognition, and hence, with immense joy, we proudly announce the outstanding performers for the month of September 2023.



We extend our heartfelt congratulations to those who have harnessed their remarkable talents and skills to drive our collective mission forward. Keep aspiring, achieving, and serving as a source of inspiration for us all. As we document these remarkable efforts, our aim is to ignite the spirit of collaboration, reminding us that together, we can achieve remarkable feats. We hope that all our members will be inspired by these examples of dedication, hard work, and persistence.

We commend you for utilizing your extraordinary talents and capabilities to further our shared goals. Continue your pursuit of excellence and continue to motivate and uplift others.

TOP STORIES

FOCUS OF THE MONTH



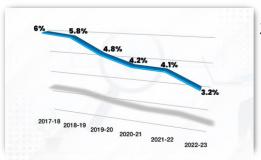
1) Nobel Prize 2023

The Nobel Prizes for 2023 have been announced for all categories in the month of October. The prestigious award has been conferred upon Katalin Kariko and Drew Weissman in Physiology and medicines(for mRNA Vaccine); Pierre Agostini, Ferenc Krausz and Anne L'Huillier in Physics(for Electron dynamics in matters); Moungi Bawendi, Louis Brus and Aleksey Yekimov in Chemistry(for Discovery and Synthesis of quantum lots); Jon Fosse in Literature,(for innovative plays and prose which give voice to the unsayable); Narges Mohammadi in Peace (for Fight against women's oppression in Iran); Claudia Goldin in Economics field (for Gender Gap in labor markets).



2) India launches Operation Ajay

India initiated Operation Ajay to evacuate its citizens amid the war between Palestinian Gaza strip's Hamas group and Israel. The war has instilled fear among the civilians residing in that area. The objective of the mission is to ensure safety and well-being of approximately 18000 Indians who are residing there. The National Indian Embassy is in direct contact with Indian nationals through a 24-hour emergency number, trying to know location and the willingness to leave the place. Meanwhile, special charter flights and other arrangements are also being organized.



3) India Records Lowest Unemployment Rate in 6 Years

According to the Periodic Labour Force Survey Annual Report 2022-23 released by the National Sample Survey Office (NSSO), India experienced the lowest unemployment rate of 3.2%, for the people aged 15 and above. The Centre has claimed improvement in key labour market indicators in urban areas compared to those in pre-pandemic period (April-June 2018 to October-December 2019).



4) Shreshta Scheme

In order to enhance quality of education to school students in India, Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment has introduced the 'Scheme for Residential Education for Students in High Schools in Targeted Areas' (SHRESHTA). This program aims to offer top-tier education to Scheduled Caste (SC) students and enhance the impact of development projects in regions predominantly inhabited by the SC community.

TOP STORIES

FOCUS OF THE MONTH

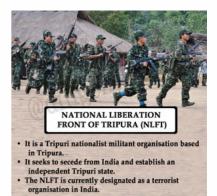
5) Eight foot Gandhi statue in Tolstoy Farm

A statue of Mahatma Gandhi, measuring eight feet in height, was revealed at Tolstoy Farm, Johannesburg, an ashram initiated and organised by Gandhi during his South African movement. A towering tribute to a legendary peace activist which mirrors Gandhi's likeability in 1914 when he bid farewell to South Africa marking a moment of chapter in the nation's narrative. High Commissioner of India, Prabhat Kumar, said it to be a grand tribute to him at Tolstoy Farm, where he lived for 5-6 years.



6) Centre Bans NLFT and ATTF

The Ministry of Home Affairs issued a gazetted notification on Tuesday, prohibiting the activities of insurgent organisations originating in Tripura, namely the National Liberation Front of Tripura (NLFT) and the All Tripura Tiger Force (ATTF), for a duration of five years. Additional secretary Piyush Goyal stated these organisations to be a secessionist organisation which promotes arm struggles and incites indigenous people of Tripura. They find them to be continously engaging in subversive and violent activities.



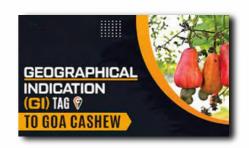
7) Sagar Parikrama -IX

Indian govt launches Sagar Parikrama Phase-IX on October 7. Sagar Parikrama is an outreach program intended to reach out to fishermen community across the entire coastal belt of the country. The initiative has been launched to understand the issues, experiences and aspirations of fishermen and also to create awareness of various schemes and programs of the Government available to fishermen in coastal areas.



8) GI tag for Goan Cashew

The Geographical indication registry in Chennai has granted GI tag to Goan cashews. This step gives it affirmation of unique products originating from a specific geographical region. Goan cashews are known for their long and cherished heritage. GI tag would serve as a trademark, provide international recognition and would help the local industries to prosper and maintain the authenticity of the traditional product.



CSAT

General Mental Ability

Introduction:-

Blood Relationship problems involve interpreting a given relationship string that is coded in a particular manner and then matching it with the relationship given in questions. The process of making a relationship string by decoding each and every relation is time-consuming, thus to use less time we should be clear of all the relationship patterns that can exist between any two individuals. Very wellknown relations are: Mother, father, son, daughter, brother, sister, niece, nephew, uncle, aunt, husband, wife, cousin, grandfather, grandmother, grandson, granddaughter, brother-inlaw, sister-in-law, father-in-law, mother-inlaw, son-in-law, daughterin-law.

The relation between people can be:

1) Blood Relative: Those who are related to us by birth.
Eg: Mother, Father, Brother, etc.

2) In-laws Relative: Those who are related to us through our spouse, after marriage.
Eg: Brother-in-law, Father-in-law, etc.

Important denotations for solving Blood Relation problems:

Male: (+) Female: (-)

Married couple:







Practice Questions

		>		-		
1. A family consists of six members A, B, C, D, E, and F. B is the daughter of C but C is not the father of B. A and C are married couples. E is the sister of C. D is the son of A. F is the sister of A. How D is related to F?						
(a) Paternal Aunt	(b) Nephew	(c) Niece	(d) 1	Maternal Aunt		
2 Pointing to Simran, Ravi said, "She is the daughter of my father's only daughter". How is Simran" 's mother related to Ravi?						
(a) Sister	(b) Aunt	(c) Husba	ınd	(d) Maternal aunt		
3. Pankaj is the son of Rajesh and Sapna, while Deepa is the only granddaughter of Sheela who is the mother of Prakash and Sapna. If Prakash is unmarried and is the brother of the wife of Rajesh, then how is Pankaj related to Deepa?						
(a) Paternal uncle	(b) Grandfatl	her (c)	Brother	(d) Husband		
4. Saloni is the daughter of the only son of Kartik. Nirupama is the mother of Deepak. Yamini's only son, Ankit, is married to Nirupama. Kartik is the paternal grandfather of Deepak. How is Kartik related to Ankit?						
(a) Father	(b) Son	(c) Br	other	(d) Paternal Uncle		
5. A is the son of B. B is the husband of C and Brother of D. D is the mother of E and wife of F.						
How is B related to (a) Cousins (b)		(c) Sister-in-	Law	(d) Brother-in-Law		
6. Study the following information carefully and answer the questions given below the passage: In a family of six persons - Anu, Ayushi, Sohan, Ajay, Anupam, and Anuj - there are three males and three females. There are two married couples and two persons are unmarried. Each one of them has different professions, viz. Doctor, Engineer, Lawyer, Teacher, Writer and Architect. Anupam, who works as an engineer, is the mother-in-law of Anu, who is the wife of Sohan. Ajay is the father of Anuj and he does not work as a doctor or an architect. Ayushi works as a writer and is the sister of Anuj, who works as a lawyer. Sohan does not work as an architect.						
6. Who among the (a) Sohan	following works (b) Ajay (s as a doctor? (c) Anu	(d) None	e of these		
7. How is Anuj rela (a) Daughter	ted to Anupam? (b) Brother	(c) Son	(d) Data	Inadequate		

(d) Two

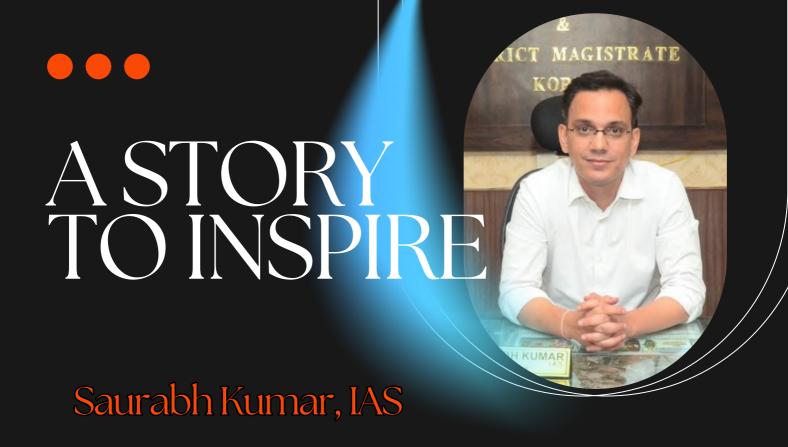
- b) Nephew a) Sister c) Brother
- **Father**
- Brother-in-law

8. How many sons does Anupam have?
(a) Four (b)Three (c) One

- Sohan
- c) Son d) Two







Saurabh Kumar, born in 1984 in Uttar Pradesh, completed his schooling from graduated Lucknow. in Electrical, **Electronics** and **Communications** Engineering from MNNIT, Prayagraj, in 2006. he became an Administrative Service Officer, and has served in various roles thereafter. In 2016, he became the Collector of Dantewada, a LWE (Left Wing Extremism) severely affected district, and he worked tirelessly to transform it, emphasising improvement of livelihood opportunities, health, education, and nutrition outcomes.

Shri Saurabh Kumar served as the Chief Executive Officer of Chhattisgarh Infotech Promotion Society (CHiPS) and expanded its operations state-wide, earning the National e-Governance Gold Award in 2014. In 2017, he received the Prime Minister's Award for Excellence in Public Administration, for creating a cashless village, Palnar. He also won a second National e-Governance Gold Award in 2018 for "Padhe Dantewada, Likhe Dantewada", an ICT application, tracking educational and health outcomes for 38,000 government school students in Dantewada.

Dantewada, nestled in the dense Dandakaranya forests with its tranquil streams and ancient tribal traditions, has often been in the limelight for the wrong reasons. Since the late 1980s, it has been synonymous with conflict, hunger, violence, and bloodshed. However, dedicated, proactive, and admirable individuals, like IAS Saurabh Kumar, who was stationed as the District Collector of Dantewada, have sparked high hopes amongst the people. His relentless efforts long-awaited ignited have a transformation, slowly but surely, in this once strife-torn district.

In the village of Dantewada, the universal right to education faced hurdles and a scarcity of opportunities, obstructing its realization.





These obstacles impeded the fundamental right to learning. IAS Saurabh Kumar, stationed in Dantewada, took proactive steps to address this challenge, ensuring that educational opportunities were made accessible to all, thus paving the way for equitable growth.

The quote by Nelson Mandela, "Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world", resonates profoundly, albeit often overlooked. In this world, where understanding its depth requires contemplation, there exists a man who epitomizes the profound significance of this statement. His commitment to harnessing education as a transformative force is resolute. With unwavering dedication, he has harnessed the potent weapon of knowledge to affect unparalleled change. Through his actions, he exemplifies how education can combat ignorance, dispel darkness, and usher in a brighter future. In a world of passive observers, he stands as an active architect of positive change, using education to shape destinies.

The good news is that a positive change is slowly but steadily rolling in. Saurabh has always been a man on a mission. Soon after taking charge of Dantewada's administration, the young bureaucrat was struck by the distressing fact that the district didn't have enough doctors, engineers, or even science teachers in its schools.

Skilled manpower from outside the region was reluctant to come to the district and the local youth lacked opportunities and skills. Facing this stark reality and the prospect of a bleak future, they often turned to a life of violence and left-wing extremism.

In response, Kumar decided to be the change. Understanding that steering local students towards the right career paths could deter them from violence, introduced unassumina impactful two-hour career counselling sessions. He personally connected with groups of 50 to 100 higher secondary students randomly selected from government schools across the district. Through these sessions, he quietly empowered them to dream of brighter futures and resist the siren call of extremism, gently altering the course of Dantewada's youth away from violence.

Renowned as "Lunch with the Collector", these weekly gatherings, held at the Government Transit Hostel in Dantewada's district headquarters every Wednesday, were a testament to Saurabh Kumar's dedication.





Within this unique forum, student was encouraged to articulate their passions, dreams, and favoured fields of study, with Saurabh and his meticulously noting aspirations. Following each student's input, Saurabh, drawing from technical background, engaged in insightful discussions. He charted out diverse pathways and prospects for every student, offering practical steps to actualize their ambitions, hence effectively guiding them towards more promising futures. with Collector" "Lunch the becomes a symbol of educational empowerment and transformation.

This initiative held immense significance students as were frequently uninformed about the wide array of professional courses and esteemed institutions available to them. The amiable Collector and senior officials complemented this by inspirational sharing tales of perseverance, underscoring how diligence, concentration, and resolve can pave the path to success. This not only instills a culture of diligent study but also fosters vital confidence in students, enabling them to confront life's challenges with resilience and determination.

Following the counselling session, which included teachers staff. school students were treated to a nourishing lunch of puri, dal, various sabzis, papads, and salad. This was accompanied by a brief interactive session where Saurabh's team addressed student queries and sought their feedback improving the on counselling process.

Notably, the engagement didn't end here. Every fortnight, Saurabh invited the parents and teachers of bright students for an "Evening with the Collector", discussing strategies to guide them towards rewarding careers and fruitful lives. This empathetic endeavour had endeared Saurabh Kumar to the people of Dantewada, offering the district a fresh start and inspiring officers nationwide to follow his steps, by nurturing and educating the youth to create a brighter and more positive future.







Ekagra'23: Flagship Event First Segment - Seminar

Nishtha held its first segment of Ekagra'23, an illuminating seminar on 6th October. Mr. Bharat Singh, senior faculty at PW-Only IAS graced the event with his empowering words. The seminar culminated with an online quiz comprising 10 questions and the winners were rewarded with a memento of Nishtha and a book, for enlightening their journey.

Second Segment-Speaker Session

On 7th October, the second segment of Ekagra'23 was inaugurated by the voices of our distinguished speakers, Mr. Shubham Kumar, IAS(AIR-1, 2020), Mr. Satyam Gandhi, IAS(AIR-10, 2020) and Mr. Utkarsh Dwivedi, IAS(AIR-5,2021). After engaging with such commendable personae, the aspirants were filled with strength and passion.



The 6th episode of the illustrious Vyakhyan Mala series was held on 10th October. Mr. Himanshu Gupta, IAS, Director of Education, Delhi, Dr. Ritu Sharma, Sr. Counselor Psychologist and Mr. Anil Swaroop, IAS(R), Former Secretary of School Education graced the event as the speakers. The occasion promoted mental health awareness and opened up fresh opportunities for students to reach their full potential.



Motivational Seminar: Nishtha in association with Project UPSC

Nishtha's novel initiative 'Motivational Seminar 'was successfully held on 21st October where strategies for achieving success in highly aspired examination was disseminated. Prof. Pawan Sinha, ('Guruji'), Dr. Kavita Asthana, ('GuruMaa'), Director, Institute for Research in Indian Wisdom, Dr. Rajendra Pensiyaa, IAS, Special Secretary, Urban Development and Director, Urban Transport, Uttar Pradesh and Mr. Kapil Singh, IAS, Additional Chief Executive Officer,

Yamuna Expressway Industrial Development Authority graced the event. The strategies, imparted by these luminaries, sparked fervour and zeal in the aspirants, igniting their journey to achievement.



Vyakhyan Mala Episode-7

On the 28th of October, Nishtha extended a warm welcome to Khan Sir, the esteemed founder of the Khan GS Research Centre and Khan Global Studies, during the seventh installment of the prestigious Vyakhyan Mala series. Sir had a meaningful exchange with the students, providing them with vital advice for their preparation, resulting in a successful and engaging session.

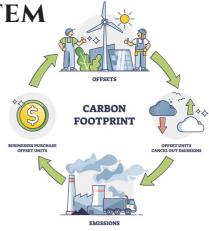
KEEPING TABS ON CARBON WITH AN ACCOUNTING SYSTEM



In a recent editorial, titled 'Keeping tabs on carbon with an accounting system,' dated 5 October 2023, published in the national daily, The Hindu, the intricate issue of the "Climate Polycrisis" was discussed, highlighting the profound interconnections and compounding challenges arising from climate change across various sectors. This intricate problem necessitates a comprehensive strategy that embraces diverse perspectives while upholding principles of resilience and justice. This editorial advocates for the implementation of a National Carbon Accounting (NCA) system as a fundamental solution.

The Climate Polycrisis emanates from factors such as greenhouse gas emissions, unsustainable consumption patterns, and political inertia, resulting in severe consequences such as increased weather events, agricultural disruptions, water scarcity, and health risks. To effectively address this crisis, the editorial presents several key measures.

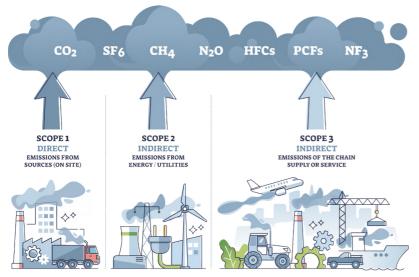
Primarily, the establishment of a comprehensive NCA system assumes pivotal importance. This system would meticulously measure carbon emissions at different levels, enabling the precise tracking of individual, business and national contributions. Public education about carbon emissions, coupled with the introduction of a progressive carbon tax based on NCA data, can serve as powerful incentives for emission reduction efforts.



Setting realistic reduction targets in alignment with global climate objectives and utilizing NCA data for predictions and progress tracking are indispensable. Encouraging innovation in carbon reduction technologies, introducing "carbon GDP" as a parallel goal, and engaging citizens in meaningful discussions about sustainability are additional proposed solutions. Furthermore, integrating carbon accounting into various policies, promoting the global adoption of NCA systems, and fostering international cooperation are underscored as crucial steps.

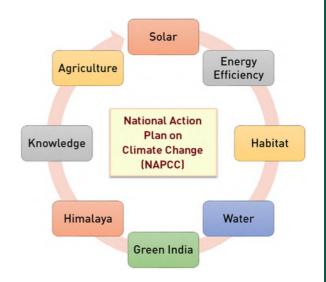


SCOPES OF EMISSIONS



India has taken commendable initiatives including the National Action Plan on Climate Change (NAPCC), Nationally **Determined Contributions** (NDC), National Adaptation Fund on Climate Change (NAFCC) and State Action Plan on Climate Change (SAPCC), to mitigate climate change. However, a more integrated and comprehensive approach, encompassing the implementation of NCA, is imperative to effectively combat the Climate Polycrisis.





CLOSING GENDER PAY GAP IN WORKFORCE



The editorial discusses the work and ideas of Claudia Goldin, the 2023 Economics Nobel Prize winner, who has focused on addressing gender disparities in the labor market. Goldin challenges traditional economic theories that attributed women's absence from the labor force to childcare responsibilities and their lower earnings to lower education levels. She argues that the solution to

these issues lies in reshaping the workplace, not in

women's homes.

Goldin traces the historical evolution of the American economy and how women's exclusion from the labor market began to change as more jobs shifted from factories to offices, schools and hospitals. Despite women's increased educational attainment and changing career choices, they continue to earn less than men. Goldin attributes this gender wage gap to the difficulty women face in taking on jobs with demanding all-consuming responsibilities due to their parental duties.

She argues that "greedy work" with long hours and irregular schedules contributes to this inequality and calls for workplace restructuring with moderate hours and predictable schedules to promote gender equity. Goldin's ideas align with the notion that it's more beneficial for companies to hire workers with regular hours rather than overworking few employees.



It suggests that while women's employment rates in India remain low, secular changes in the job market, education and fertility trends offer opportunities for improvement. However, achieving gender convergence in labor market will require changes in societal attitudes, male participation household work and the reshaping of work and social environments to support a work-life balance for both men and women. It concludes that creating supportive institutions is essential for achieving the gender equality Goldin advocates for.



CEASE THE FIRE



In light of the tragic events in both Israel and Palestine over the past few days, it is essential to emphasize the scale of the tragedy. Beyond the competing claims and counterclaims, there is an undeniable reality that needs to be addressed.

The explosion at the Al-Ahli Al-Arabi Hospital in Gaza has left hundreds of people dead and thousands more injured, in a place that is supposed to be a refuge and a place of healing. Israel disclaimed responsibility for the explosion, saying it was a result of a rocket launched by Hamas, but this has been denied by both Hamas and the rival Palestinian group, PA. Regardless of the details, the impact is far-reaching, and Israel is now facing increased security and geopolitical risks.

US President Joe Biden's visit to Israel has been put on hold as the fallout from the hospital explosion and Arab protests across the region complicates Arab leadership's engagement with Israel. The cancellation of a summit-level meeting in Jordan further threatens to undo much of the progress made under the 2020 Abraham Accords.

Hamas' attack has sparked a strong military response from Israel, but as the violence escalates, the situation continues to deteriorate for all parties involved, including Israel. If the ground offensive in Gaza continues, it will essentially become a prolonged "counter-terrorist" struggle against guerillas, with no immediate or definitive victory. Casualties will continue to mount and Israel's regional adversaries may be emboldened to open further military fronts, further exacerbating the diplomatic costs of this conflict.



Just before the outbreak of hostilities, there seemed to be a glimmer of hope for a more peaceful and connected West Asia, with rapprochement among Saudi Arabia, the United Arab Emirates (UAE), Bahrain, and Israel on the rise. Now, however, that hope seems to be fading.

The international community must come together to call for a cease-fire in order to allow humanitarian aid to reach the people of Gaza, Israel and beyond. This is the first step toward lasting peace. The stakes are too high to ignore.



INDIA-SRI LANKA FERRY SERVICE: A BOOST TO BILATERAL TIES



There has been a connection between Sri Lanka and India for about 2,500 years. The intellectual, cultural, religious, and linguistic exchange has left a legacy in both countries. This cooperation has been characterized by close communication at all levels in recent years. In addition to increased trade and investment, there is also cooperation in the fields of defense, education, culture, and infrastructure. Another step was taken for building a strong relationship with the launch of a passenger ferry service between Kankesanthurai in the Northern Province of Sri Lanka and Nagapattinam in Tamil Nadu, fulfilling a long-standing desire for restoring maritime routes across the Palk Strait. Sri Lanka's civil war, which lasted about 25 years, hampered the movement of people and goods along ancient maritime routes such as Talaimannar to Rameswaram and Colombo to Thoothukudi. The ferry service between Colombo and Thoothukudi launched 12 years ago, did not last long due to lack of demand. Ageless people still remember the famous Boat Mail, which connected Chennai and Talaimannar via Rameswaram and Dhanushkodi by rail and ferry. The devastating cyclone of Dhanushkodi in December 1964, along with the civil war, cut off several transport links, forcing people in both countries to rely solely on air services, which now included Madurai and Tiruchi. Chennai-Jaffna air services restarted 10 months ago and around 10,000 Indian tourists visited Sri Lanka in six months. The launch of a private boat service in Chennai four months ago attracted 6,000 tourists to the island nation. As noted in the route's introduction, this development will not only foster cultural, economic, and civilizational ties but also promote disaster management and maritime security cooperation.

Another thing is that Sri Lanka is one of the largest trading partners of India among the SAARC countries. On the other hand, India is Sri Lanka's largest trading partner globally.



India's exports to Sri Lanka reached \$5.3 billion during 2015-2017, while imports from the country reached \$743 million. This ferry service will certainly help in boosting trade and shipping.

Besides financial benefits, the ferry service is expected to have a positive impact on diplomatic relations between the two countries. The growing mutual understanding and cooperation between India and Sri Lanka will be facilitated by the regular flow of people and goods between the two countries. The opening of ferry services is a positive step that will certainly improve bilateral relations between Sri Lanka and India, and contribute to reviving the centuries-old cultural relationship between the two countries.





*Adhir Ranjan Chowdhury has opted out of the committee

The ferry service is expected to improve the lives of people in both countries in addition to diplomatic benefits. People will have an easier and more affordable option to travel between India and Sri Lanka through ferry services. Additionally, the ferry service is expected to increase economic activity in the coastal regions of both countries. It is anticipated that greater trade and travel will boost employment and the economy.

The launch of the ferry service is a positive development that is sure to benefit both India and Sri Lanka. The ferry service is a symbol of the close ties between the two countries, and it is expected to further strengthen their bilateral relations.





Quiz



- 1. NexCAR19, which was seen in the news, is associated with the treatment of which disease?
- a. CANCER
- b. COVID-19
- c. TB
- d. HIV
- 2. Which institution released a Consultation Paper on 'Digital

Transformation through 5G Ecosystem?

- a. NITI AAYOG
- b. NASSCOM
- c. TRAI
- d. CDAC

6. The Gangetic Dolphin has been declared as the state aquatic animal of which state?

5. Which city will become the first solar

a. CHHATTISGARH

city of Uttar Pradesh?

a. LUCKNOW

b. AYODHYA

c. PRAYAGRAJ

d. JHANSI

- b. RAJASTHAN
- c. HARAYANA
- d. UTTAR PRADESH
- 3. Which of the following countries is hosting the 9th G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20)?
- a. INDIA
- b. PAKISTAN
- c. IRAN
- d. SRI LANKA

- 7. What is India's rank in Global Hunger Index 2023?
- a. 111
- b. 112
- c. 113
- d. 114

- 4. Who won the Nobel Prize in Economics in 2023?
- a. JON FOSSE(NORWAY)
- b. LOUIS E. BRUS(USA)
- c. ANNIE EMAUX(FRANCE)
- d. CLAUDIA GOLDIN(USA)

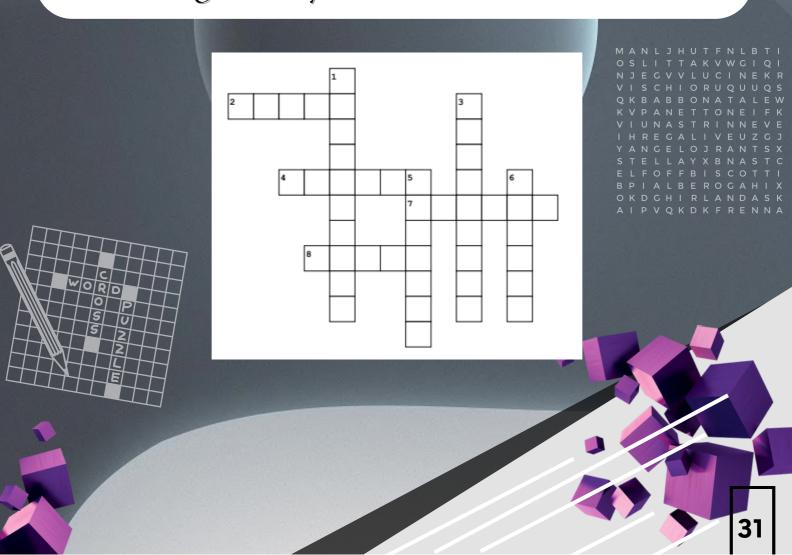
- 8. Which has become the only Indian Public Sector Enterprise (PSU) to feature in the Forbes 'World Best Employers 2023' list?
- a. BHEL
- b. NTPC
- c. ONGC
- d. NALCO

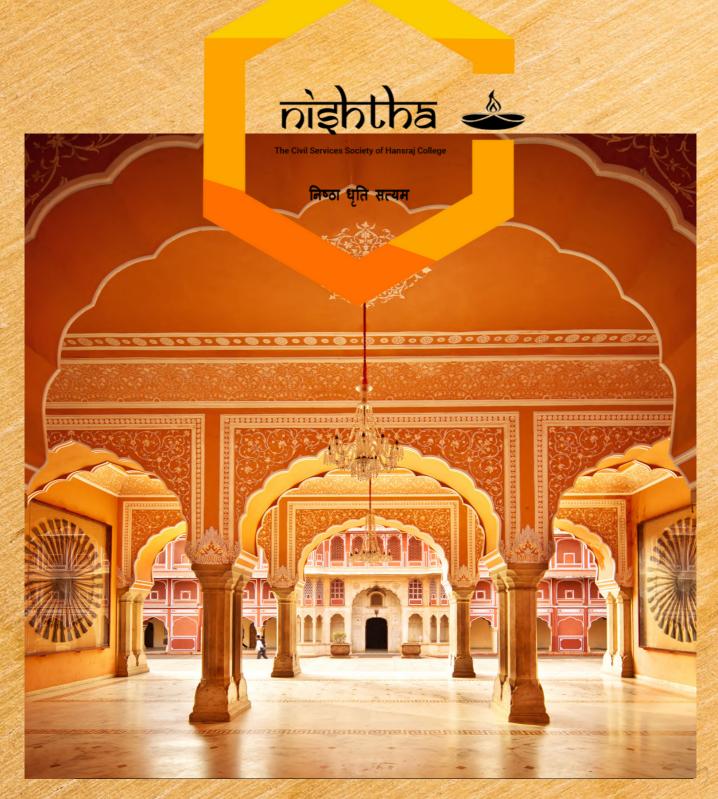
1:A Answers 5:B 2:C 6:D 3:A 7:A 8:B



Crossword

- 1. This cricket club owns Lord's cricket stadium
- 2. Indian dynasty which ruled over most of Southern Indian subcontinent from 4th to 14th century
- 3. A dance form also known as dance of peacock
- 4.UNESCO World heritage site and one of the largest rock cut temples in the world
- 5. The city in the US with the nickname the Atl
- 6. The largest insect in the world
- 7. A river flowing through London
- 8. The Largest artery in the heart





NISHTHA

THE CIVIL SERVICES SOCIETY OF HANSRAJ COLLGE