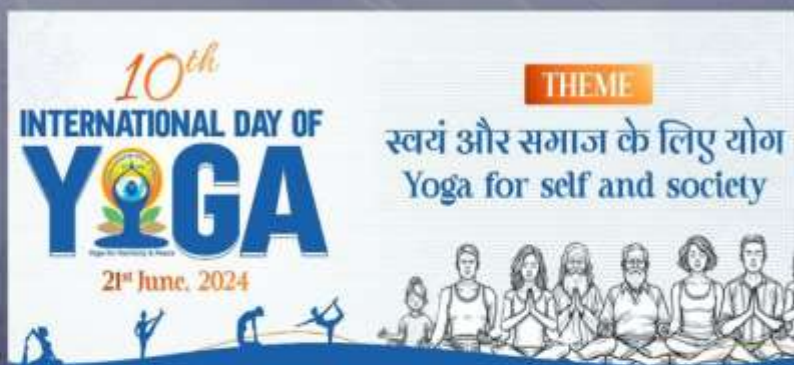
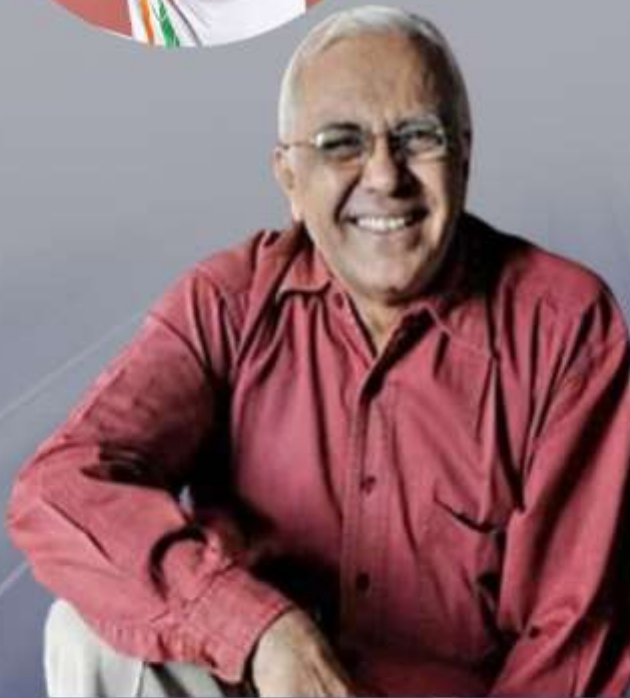


GK NOW WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS

16 June to 22 June 2024

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One Liner Weekly Current Affairs: 16 June to 22 June 2024

ART AND CULTURE CURRENT AFFAIRS	3
“THE GOLDEN THREAD,” WON THE GOLDEN CONCH AWARD FOR BEST DOCUMENTARY IN MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (MIFF)	3
VINOD GANATRA RECEIVES THE ‘NELSON MANDELA LIFETIME ACHIEVEMENT AWARD’ FOR HIS CONTRIBUTION TO FILMS	3
MUMBAI INTERNATIONAL FILM FESTIVAL (MIFF) ON 15 JUNE 2024	4
IMPORTANT DAYS CURRENT AFFAIRS	4
INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA ON JUNE 21, 2024	4
INTERNATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS	5
NORTH KOREA AND RUSSIA SIGN PACT TO PROVIDE ALL AVAILABLE MILITARY HELP IF OTHER IS ATTACKED	5
IAF PARTICIPATED IN EXERCISE RED FLAG 2024 AT EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, ALASKA FROM 4TH TO 14TH JUNE 2024	5
NATIONAL CURRENT AFFAIRS	6
NATIONAL TESTING AGENCY (NTA) POSTPONED THE JOINT CSIR-UGC-NET	6
10TH INTERNATIONAL DAY OF YOGA CELEBRATED ON 21 JUNE 2024	6
CHENAB RAIL BRIDGE: WORLD’S HIGHEST RAILWAY BRIDGE	7
GOVERNMENT CANCELLED THE UGC-NET JUNE 2024 EXAMINATION; ORDER CBI ENQUIRY	7
CABINET APPROVES MINIMUM SUPPORT PRICES (MSP) FOR KHARIF CROPS FOR MARKETING SEASON 2024-25	7
JAKE SULLIVAN, US NSA, MET WITH INDIAN NSA AJIT DOVAL	8
POLITY CURRENT AFFAIRS	8
NEW CRIMINAL LAWS WILL COME INTO FORCE ON JULY 1, 2024	8
SPORTS CURRENT AFFAIRS	9
NEERAJ CHOPRA WON THE GOLD MEDAL IN THE MEN’S JAVELIN THROW AT THE WORLD ATHLETICS CONTINENTAL GOLD TOUR	9
STATES CURRENT AFFAIRS	9
NEW RECRUITMENT POLICY IN UTTAR PRADESH TO ENSURE FAIR COMPETITIVE EXAMS	9
WEEKLY CURRENT AFFAIRS MCQ: 16 JUNE TO 22 JUNE 2024	11

Art and Culture Current Affairs



“The Golden Thread,” won the Golden Conch Award for Best Documentary in Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF)

The closing ceremony of 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) took place in Mumbai, on 21 June 2024.

1. **Best Documentary Award:** “The Golden Thread,” an Indian documentary, won the Golden Conch Award for Best Documentary in the international category. Actress Poonam Dhillon presented the award to director Nishita Jain during the closing ceremony.
2. **Special Category Award:** In the ‘India in Amrit Kaal’ special category, Edmond Ranson received the Best Short Film award for “Life In Loom.”
3. **Best Debut Director:** Sreemoyi Singh won the Dadasaheb Phalke Chitranagari Award for Best Debut Director for her film “And, Towards Happy Alleys.”
4. **National Competition Winners:**
 - “6-A Akash Ganga” won the Silver Conch Award for Best Documentary.
 - “Salt” won the Silver Conch for Best Short Fiction.
 - “Nirjara” from NID Ahmedabad won the Silver Conch for Best Animation.
1. **International Competition Winners:**
 - “Zima” from Poland won the Silver Conch for Best Animation.
 - “Sour Milk” from Estonia won the Silver Conch for Best Short Fiction.



Vinod Ganatra receives the ‘Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award’ for his contribution to films

Vinod Ganatra has become the first Indian to receive the prestigious ‘Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award’ from South Africa for his contribution to films. He was honored with the award at the 7th Nelson Mandela Children’s Film Festival for his contributions to children’s cinema.

Ganatra has won 36 national and international awards, including the ‘Janakinath Gaur Award’ from Doordarshan for his children’s program ‘Baingan Raja.’ He is the only Indian filmmaker to receive the ‘Liv Ullmann Peace Prize’ in Chicago for his Gujarati film ‘Harun-Arun.’

Ganatra has served on the jury of over 100 national, regional, and international film festivals in the past three decades. He has edited and directed more than 400 documentaries and newsreels. He has produced 25 multilingual television programs for children and youth.



Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) on 15 June 2024

The 18th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) was inaugurated in Mumbai with a grand opening ceremony on 15 June 2024.

Minister of State for Information and Broadcasting L Murugan, and film celebrities Randeep Hooda, Madhur Bhandarkar, Sonali Kulkarni, and Divya Dutta attended the inauguration.

The FTII student short film “Sunflowers were the first ones to know,” which won the La Cinef Award at the 77th Cannes Film Festival, was screened at the opening ceremony.

The V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award for 2024 was presented to Subbiah Nallamuthu, an award-winning wildlife filmmaker.

MIFF 2024 will screen a total of 314 films from 59 countries in 61 languages. The festival will feature 8 world premieres, 5 international premieres, 18 Asia premieres, and 21 India premieres. For the first time, a documentary Film Bazaar is being organized this year.

A record 1,018 films were submitted for the competition sections, with 102 films selected by three Selection Committees of eminent film experts for the International and National competition sections.

MIFF screenings are being held not only in Mumbai but also in Delhi (Sirifort Auditorium), Chennai (Tagore Film Centre), Pune (NFAI auditorium), and Kolkata (SRFTI Auditorium).

Important Days Current Affairs



International Day of Yoga on June 21, 2024

Prime Minister Narendra Modi will participate in the 10th International Day of Yoga celebration in Srinagar on June 21, 2024. The theme for this year's International Day of Yoga is “Yoga for Self and Society.”

Yoga nurtures physical, mental, and spiritual growth while promoting societal harmony. The enthusiastic participation of millions in recent years reflects Yoga's profound impact on communities.

International Current Affairs



North Korea and Russia sign pact to provide all available military help if other is attacked

North Korea and Russia agreed to provide immediate military assistance if either faced armed aggression, under a newly signed pact during Putin's visit to North Korea on 20 June 2024.

The agreement signifies a “comprehensive strategic partnership” between Russia and North Korea. The pact specifies that if either country faces armed invasion, the other will provide military and other assistance per Article 51 of the U.N. Charter and their national laws.

UN Charter Article 51: This article provides the right for collective self-defense actions by member countries.

Historical Context: This agreement revives a mutual defense agreement under a 1961 treaty between North Korea and the Soviet Union, which was annulled in 1990.



IAF participated in Exercise Red Flag 2024 at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska from 4th to 14th June 2024

An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent participated in Exercise Red Flag 2024 at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska from 4th to 14th June 2024.

Exercise Red Flag is an advanced aerial combat training exercise conducted four times a year by the US Air Force. This was the second edition of Exercise Red Flag 2024.

Participating forces included the Indian Air Force, [Republic of Singapore Singapore](#) Air Force, Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom, Royal Netherlands Air Force, German Luftwaffe, and the US Air Force.

The IAF participated with Rafale aircraft and personnel, including aircrew, technicians, engineers, controllers, and subject matter experts.

Red Flag simulates realistic combat settings with multiple scenarios, featuring a demarcation of forces into Red Force (Air Defence elements) and Blue Force (Offensive Composite elements).

National Current Affairs



National Testing Agency (NTA) postponed the Joint CSIR-UGC-NET

The National Testing Agency (NTA) postponed the June edition of the Joint CSIR-UGC-NET on June 21, 2024, amid controversies regarding irregularities in the NEET-UG and UGC-NET exams.

1. **Purpose of CSIR-UGC-NET:** The Joint CSIR-UGC-NET determines eligibility for junior research fellowships and admissions to PhD programs in science courses.
2. **New Law to Address Exam Malpractices:** The Central Government notified a stringent law to combat malpractices and irregularities in competitive exams. The new law includes severe penalties for offenders, with a maximum jail term of 10 years and fines up to ₹1 crore.



10th International Day of Yoga celebrated on 21 June 2024

The 10th International Day of Yoga was celebrated across India on 21 June 2024. The main function led by PM Modi was held at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.

The theme for this year is “Yoga for Self and Society,” emphasizing yoga’s role in individual well-being and societal harmony.

Indian Army personnel performed yoga in icy heights on the northern frontier and in Eastern Ladakh.

Indo-Tibetan Border Police (ITBP) personnel performed yoga at Muguthang Sub Sector in Sikkim at an altitude of more than 15,000 feet.

Border Security Force (BSF) personnel performed yoga at zero line at the Joint Check post at Attari, Amritsar.



Chenab Rail Bridge: World's highest railway bridge

Indian Railways conducted a successful trial run on 20 June 2024 across the newly constructed Chenab Rail Bridge.

Chenab Rail Bridge Height: The bridge stands at 359 meters (1,178 feet) above the Chenab River, making it the world's highest railway bridge.

Bridge Length and Significance: The Chenab Rail Bridge is 1,315 meters long and is a vital part of the Udhampur-Srinagar-Baramulla Rail Link (USBRL) project, aimed at connecting the Kashmir Valley with India's national railway network. Officials expect the entire USBRL project to be completed by the end of this year.



Government cancelled the UGC-NET June 2024 Examination; order CBI Enquiry

The government has cancelled the UGC-NET June 2024 Examination. The National Testing Agency (NTA) conducted the UGC-NET June 2024 Examination on 18 June 2024 in two shifts across different cities. A fresh examination will be conducted later, with information to be shared separately.

The University Grants Commission (UGC) received inputs from the National Cyber Crime Threat Analytics Unit of the Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C) under the Ministry of Home Affairs. The matter is being handed over to the Central Bureau of Investigation (CBI) for thorough investigation.

UGC-NET, which is a Test to **determine the eligibility of Indian nationals for 'Assistant Professor' as well as 'Junior Research Fellowship and Assistant Professor' in Indian Universities.**

Crop	MSP	1999-2000	2000-01	2001-02	2002-03	2003-04	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12	2012-13	2013-14	2014-15	2015-16	2016-17	2017-18	2018-19	2019-20	2020-21	2021-22	2022-23	2023-24	2024-25	
Wheat	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900	1900
Rice	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500	1500
Barley	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200	1200
Bajra	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000	1000
Soybean	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800	800
Mustard	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600	600
Groundnut	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400	400
Coarse cereals	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300	300
Oilseeds	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200	200
Other crops	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100	100

Cabinet approves Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25

The Union Cabinet chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on 19 June 2024, approved an increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Kharif crops for the Marketing Season 2024-25.

The MSP increase aims to ensure remunerative prices for growers. The highest absolute MSP increases are for nigerseed (Rs. 983 per quintal), sesamum (Rs. 632 per quintal), and tur/arhar (Rs. 550 per quintal). The Paddy (Common) has been fixed Rs. 2300 per quintal, increase of Rs 117 from the Rs 2183 in Season 2023-24.

[The Full list of Cabinet approves Minimum Support Prices \(MSP\) for Kharif Crops for Marketing Season 2024-25](#)



Jake Sullivan, US NSA, met with Indian NSA Ajit Doval

Jake Sullivan, US National Security Advisor, met with External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar and Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval in [New Delhi](#) on 17

June 2024. Comprehensive discussions were held on a broad range of bilateral, regional, and global issues.

Sullivan and Doval attended the second annual meeting of the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET). They reviewed the entire spectrum of Indo-US strategic ties. The US-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET) was announced by President Biden and Prime Minister Modi in May 2022. The initiative aims to elevate and expand the strategic technology partnership and defense industrial cooperation between the governments, businesses, and academic institutions of the two countries.

Polity Current Affairs



New criminal laws will come into force on July 1, 2024

New criminal laws Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita, Bharatiya Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam will come into force on July 1, 2024. IPC, CrPC, and Indian Evidence Act are being replaced after consultation and Law

Commission of India reports. Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) and judicial academies are providing training.

Bharatiya Nagrik Suraksha Sanhita will have 531 sections, with 177 provisions changed, nine new sections, 39 new sub-sections, and 44 new provisions and clarifications added. The police custody under general criminal laws is increased from 15 days to 90 days, depending on the offense.

Bharatiya Nyaya Sanhita will have 358 sections, with 20 new crimes added, increased imprisonment for 33 crimes, higher fines for 83 crimes, and mandatory minimum punishment

in 23 crimes. Community service penalty introduced for six crimes, and 19 sections repealed or removed.

Bharatiya Sakshya Adhiniyam will have 170 provisions, with 24 provisions changed, two new provisions, six sub-provisions added, and six provisions repealed or deleted.

Sports Current Affairs



Neeraj Chopra won the gold medal in the men's javelin throw at the World Athletics Continental Gold Tour

Olympic and World Champion Neeraj Chopra won the gold medal in the men's javelin throw at the World Athletics Continental Gold Tour at the Paavo Nurmi Stadium in Turku, Finland, on June 18, 2024.

Chopra's best effort was 85.97 meters, topping an eight-man field. He began with a throw of 83.62 meters. Local favorite Oliver Helander temporarily took the lead with an 83.96-meter throw in the second round. Chopra reclaimed the top spot with his best throw of 85.97 meters on his third attempt.

States Current Affairs



New Recruitment Policy in Uttar Pradesh to Ensure Fair Competitive Exams

The Uttar Pradesh government is planning new policies to ensure fair recruitment exams due to alleged irregularities in competitive exams.

Key points of the new policies include:

1. **Appointment of Agencies:** Four agencies will conduct the recruitment examinations.
2. **Exam Location Restrictions:** Candidates must take exams outside their home board area, with exceptions for disabled individuals and women.
3. **Phased Exams for Large Numbers:** Exams with more than four lakh candidates will be conducted in two phases.
4. **OMR Sheet Scanning:** Scanning of OMR sheets will be done by the Commission and the Board to prevent result rigging.
5. **Examination Centers:** Two categories of examination centers will be established:
 - **Category 1:** Government Inter Colleges, Medical Colleges, and Engineering Colleges.



- **Category 2:** Aided schools.
Centers will not be set up in schools and colleges without financial support.
- 1. **Police Exam Controversy:** The UP Police Recruitment and Promotion Board canceled the constable recruitment exam due to a leaked question paper, affecting over 48 lakh candidates. Following this, the chairperson of the Board, Renuka Mishra, was sacked and replaced by Rajeev Krishna.
- 2. **Investigation of Irregularities:** An order has been issued to investigate alleged irregularities in the Review Officer/Assistant Review Officer (RO/ARO) exams.

These measures are aimed at restoring the integrity of the recruitment process in the state.

Weekly Current Affairs MCQ: 16 June to 22 June 2024

Q: What is the primary reason for the Uttar Pradesh government implementing new policies for recruitment exams in June 2024?

- A) To increase the number of candidates
- B) To ensure exams are conducted in a free and fair manner
- C) To reduce the duration of exams
- D) To lower the exam fees

Ans : B) To ensure exams are conducted in a free and fair manner

The Uttar Pradesh Police constable recruitment exam was cancelled due to a leaked question paper, affecting over 48 lakh candidates.

Q: Which Indian documentary won the Golden Conch Award for Best Documentary in the international category at the 18th Mumbai International Film Festival?

- A) Life in Loom
- B) And, Towards Happy Alleys
- C) The Golden Thread
- D) 6-A Akash Ganga

Ans : C) The Golden Thread

“The Golden Thread,” an Indian documentary, directed by director Nishita Jain won the Golden Conch Award for Best Documentary in the international category during closing ceremony of 18th Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) took place in Mumbai, on 21 June 2024.

Q: What is the purpose of the Joint CSIR-UGC-NET exam?

- A) To determine eligibility for undergraduate admissions
- B) To determine eligibility for junior research fellowships and PhD admissions in science courses
- C) To assess eligibility for government jobs
- D) To qualify for medical school admissions

Ans : B) To determine eligibility for junior research fellowships and PhD admissions in science courses

National Testing Agency (NTA) postponed the June 2024 exam of the Joint CSIR-

UGC-NET on June 21, 2024, amid controversies regarding irregularities in the NEET-UG and UGC-NET exams.

Q: What did North Korea and Russia agree to provide under their newly signed pact during Putin visit to North Korea on 20 June 2024?

- A) Economic assistance
- B) Military assistance
- C) Diplomatic support
- D) Humanitarian aid

Ans : B) Military assistance

North Korea and Russia agreed to provide immediate military assistance if either faced armed aggression.

Q: Article 51 of the U.N. Charter, provides for the right of:

- A) Economic sanctions
- B) Collective self-defense actions
- C) Environmental protection
- D) Humanitarian intervention

Ans : B) Collective self-defense actions

North Korea and Russia signed “comprehensive strategic partnership” under **UN Charter Article 51** to provide all available military help if other is attacked

Q: How high is the Chenab Rail Bridge above the Chenab River?

- A) 250 meters
- B) 300 meters
- C) 359 meters
- D) 400 meters

Ans : C) 359 meters

Chenab Rail Bridge stands at 359 meters (1,178 feet) above the Chenab River, making it the world’s highest railway bridge.

Q: Where was the main function for the 10th International Day of Yoga held in 2024?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Leh
- C) Srinagar
- D) Lucknow

Ans : C) Srinagar

The main function led by PM Modi was held at Sher-i-Kashmir International Conference Centre (SKICC) in Srinagar, Jammu and Kashmir.

Q. What is the new MSP for Paddy (Common) for the Marketing Season 2024-25?

- A) Rs. 2183 per quintal
- B) Rs. 2300 per quintal
- C) Rs. 2203 per quintal
- D) Rs. 2625 per quintal

Answer: B) Rs. 2300 per quintal

Union Cabinet on 19 June 2024, approved an increase in the Minimum Support Prices (MSP) for all mandated Kharif crops for the Marketing Season 2024-25.

Q.: What is the purpose of the UGC-NET exam conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA) ?

- A) University Grants Commission (UGC)
- B) Indian Cyber Crime Coordination Centre (I4C)
- C) National Testing Agency (NTA)
- D) UPSC

Answer: C) National Testing Agency (NTA)

The government has cancelled the UGC-NET June 2024 Examination. The National Testing Agency (NTA) conducted the UGC-NET June 2024 Examination on 18 June 2024

Q.: What is the purpose of the UGC-NET exam conducted by National Testing Agency (NTA) ?

- A) To determine eligibility for undergraduate admissions in Indian universities
- B) To determine eligibility for 'Assistant Professor' and 'Junior Research Fellowship and Assistant Professor' in Indian universities
- C) To evaluate the performance of Indian university staff
- D) To certify the quality of higher education institutions in India

Answer: B) To determine eligibility for 'Assistant Professor' and 'Junior Research Fellowship and Assistant Professor' in Indian universities

Q: Who won the Gold medal in the men's javelin throw at the World Athletics Continental Gold Tour in Finland on June 18, 2024?

- a) Johannes Vetter
- b) Thomas Röhler
- c) Magnus Kirt
- d) Neeraj Chopra

Answer: d) Neeraj Chopra

Neeraj Chopra is Olympic and World Champion in the men's javelin throw

Q.: When do we celebrate the International Day of Yoga every year?

- a) June 11
- b) June 21
- c) July 21
- d) June 1

Ans : b) June 21

10th International Day of Yoga celebration on June 21, 2024,

Q: What is the theme for this year's International Day of Yoga?

- a) Yoga for Peace
- b) Yoga for Health
- c) Yoga for Self and Society
- d) Yoga for the World

Ans : c) Yoga for Self and Society

PM Modi will participate in the 10th International Day of Yoga celebration in Srinagar on June 21, 2024

Q: Who is the first Indian to receive the prestigious 'Nelson Mandela Lifetime Achievement Award' from South Africa for his contribution to films?

- a) Satyajit Ray
- b) Vinod Ganatra
- c) Mira Nair
- d) Shyam Benegal

Ans : b) Vinod Ganatra

He was honored with the award at the 7th Nelson Mandela Children's Film Festival for his contributions to children's cinema.

Q: Who is the US National Security Advisor (NSA)?

- A) Antony Blinken
- B) Jake Sullivan
- C) Lloyd Austin
- D) Kamala Harris

Ans : B) Jake Sullivan

Jake Sullivan, US National Security Advisor, met with External Affairs Minister Dr. S Jaishankar and Indian National Security Advisor Ajit Doval in New Delhi on 17 June 2024

Q: What annual meeting did Jake Sullivan attended with and Ajit Doval during India visit in June 2024?

- A) Indo-US Defense Summit
- B) Annual Trade and Economic Dialogue
- C) Second annual meeting of the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET)
- D) Global Climate Change Conference

Ans : C) Second annual meeting of the initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET)

Sullivan and Doval attended the second annual meeting of the initiative on

Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET). They reviewed the entire spectrum of Indo-US strategic ties.

Q: What is the purpose of the US-India initiative on Critical and Emerging Technology (iCET)?

- A) To promote cultural exchanges between the two countries
- B) To elevate and expand the strategic technology partnership and defense industrial cooperation
- C) To negotiate trade agreements
- D) To address climate change issues

Ans : B) To elevate and expand the strategic technology partnership and defense industrial cooperation

The initiative aims to elevate and expand the strategic technology partnership and defense industrial cooperation between the governments, businesses, and academic institutions of the two countries.

Q: When will the new criminal laws Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, Bharatiya Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam come into force?

- A) January 1, 2024
- B) April 1, 2024
- C) July 1, 2024
- D) October 1, 2024

Ans : C) July 1, 2024

New criminal laws Bharatiya Nyay Sanhita, Bharatiya Suraksha Sanhita, and Bharatiya Sakshya Adhinyam will come into force on July 1, 2024.

Q: What laws are being replaced by the new criminal laws on July 1, 2024?

- A) Constitution of India
- B) IPC, CrPC, and Indian Evidence Act
- C) Consumer Protection Act
- D) Right to Information Act

Ans : B) IPC, CrPC, and Indian Evidence Act

IPC, CrPC, and Indian Evidence Act are being replaced after consultation and

Law Commission of India reports. Bureau of Police Research and Development (BPRD) and judicial academies are providing training.

Q: Which cities, apart from Mumbai, are hosting MIFF screenings this year?

- A) Bangalore, Hyderabad, Ahmedabad, and Jaipur
- B) Delhi, Chennai, Pune, and Kolkata
- C) Delhi, Bangalore, Pune, and Chennai
- D) Hyderabad, Kolkata, Chennai, and Ahmedabad

Ans : B) Delhi, Chennai, Pune, and Kolkata

The 18th edition of the Mumbai International Film Festival (MIFF) was inaugurated in Mumbai on 15 June 2024.

Q: Who received the V. Shantaram Lifetime Achievement Award for 2024?

- A) Madhur Bhandarkar
- B) Randeep Hooda
- C) Subbiah Nallamuthu
- D) Divya Dutta

Ans : C) Subbiah Nallamuthu

Subbiah Nallamuthu, is an award-winning wildlife filmmaker.

Q: What is the name of the advanced aerial combat training exercise conducted four times a year by the US Air Force, which saw participation from the Indian Air Force, Republic of Singapore Air Force, Royal Air Force of the United Kingdom, Royal Netherlands Air Force, German Luftwaffe, and the US Air Force in June 2024?

- A) Exercise Air Show
- B) Exercise Friend Force
- C) Exercise Green Sea
- D) Exercise Red Flag

Ans : D) Exercise Red Flag

An Indian Air Force (IAF) contingent participated in Exercise Red Flag 2024 at Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska from 4th to 14th June 2024.