

Date: 4/3/2024

- 1. "Aditi Yojana", which was in the news recently, is related to which one?
- a) Defense sector
- b) Sports area
- c) Women empowerment
- d) Disabled and youth upliftment

Ans: a)

- During 'DefConnect 2024' held in New Delhi on 04 March 2024, Defense Minister of India launched ADITI (Accelerating Development of Innovative Technologies - ADITI) scheme to encourage innovations in critical and strategic defense technologies.
- Under this scheme, start-ups in defense technology are eligible to receive grant-in-aid up to Rs 25 crore for research, development and innovation efforts.
- "ADITI Scheme" of Rs 750 crore for the period 2023-24 to 2025-26 comes under the Innovation for Defense Excellence (IDEX) framework of the Department of Defense Production (DDP) of the Ministry of Defence.

2. Consider the following statements with reference to "INS Jatayu".

 This base of the Indian Air Force has recently been established in North-East India to deal with the insurgent challenges from across the border.
Border Security Force (SSB) will be the lead agency for this project.

Which of the above statements is/are correct?

- a) only 1
- b) only 2
- c) Both 1 and 2
- d) none of these

Ans: d)

• Both the statements are wrong.



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- Recently "INS Jatayu" was established as the second naval base of the country at Minicoy in Lakshadweep. The navy's first base on the Indian islands, INS Dweeprakshak at Kavaratti, was commissioned in 2012. Hence statement 1 is not correct.
- Indian Air Force (IAF) will be the lead agency for this project. Hence statement 2 is not correct.
- Minicoy Island is located at the intersection of critical sea lines of communication (SLOC) such as the Eight Degree Channel and the Nine Degree Channel, making it susceptible to marine pollution due to heavy maritime traffic. In such a situation, establishing INS Jatayu will strengthen India's military capability in the Indian Ocean.
- The Eight Degree Channel separates the Indian island of Minicoy from the Maldives.
- The Nine Degree Channel separates Minicoy Island from the Lakshadweep Archipelago.

3. What is not correct about International Forest Day?

a) It is celebrated every year on 21 March to spread awareness about the importance of all types of forests.

b) March 21 was chosen by the United Nations as the International Day of Forests because it coincides with the spring equinox and autumnal equinox in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.

c) The theme of International Day of Forests 2024 is "Forests and Innovation: New solutions for a better world".

d) According to the United Nations, forests are home to 60 percent of all known amphibian species.

Ans:d)

• According to a recent United Nations report, forests are home to 80 percent of all known amphibian species. Hence statement d is not correct.



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History of International Forest Day

- In the year 1971, the General Assembly of the European Agricultural Confederation proposed that we should celebrate a day dedicated to forests.
- March 21 was chosen by the United Nations as International Day of Forests because it coincides with the spring equinox and autumnal equinox in the Northern and Southern Hemispheres.
- The theme of International Day of Forests 2024 is "Forests and Innovation: New solutions for a better world".
- The Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland have jointly launched the "AIM4Forests" initiative, a five-year programme.

4. Recently the Jal Shakti Ministry has signed an agreement with 12 technical education institutes for basin management of how many rivers?

- a) 5
- b) 6
- c) 7
- d) 4

Ans: b)

- The Ministry of Jal Shakti has partnered with 12 technical education institutions to collaborate on academic and research initiatives for basin management of six rivers: Narmada, Godavari, Mahanadi, Krishna, Kaveri and Periyar under the National River Conservation Plan.
- Water Minister Gajendra Singh Shekhawat highlighted the successful efforts in cleaning the Ganga, leading to UNESCO recognition for the Namami Gange Mission.
- Emphasizing river conservation as a people's movement, Prime Minister Narendra Modi's "Artha Ganga" principle links it to livelihoods, and calls for increased inter-state cooperation.



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5. Who won the Player of the Year award in Hockey India Awards 2023 held in New Delhi?

- a) Hardik Singh
- b) Rupinder Pal Singh
- c) Kothajit Singh
- d) Birendra Lakra

Ans: a)

• Hardik Singh and Salima Tete have won the Balbir Singh Sr. Award for Player of the Year at the Hockey India Annual Awards 2023.

