



Dikshant IAS - Daily Current Quiz

Date: 24/3/2024

1. 'Mushk Budiji', recently highlighted in the news, is an indigenous variety of which crop?

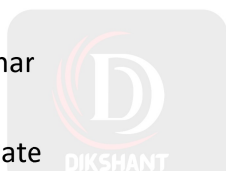
- (a) Rice
- (b) Wheat
- (c) Maize
- (d) Jowar

Ans: a

- A recent study unveils the secrets behind the unique aroma of Mushk Budiji, a native rice variety from the Kashmir Himalaya.
- Initially threatened by extinction due to low yield and rice blast disease, a revival initiative by SKUAST scientists since 2007 has led to its slow resurgence.
- In August 2023, Mushk Budiji was granted a Geographical Indication (GI) tag.
- This niche crop thrives under specific climatic conditions, securing its place in Kashmir's agricultural heritage.

2. Who has recently been appointed as the Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA)?

- (a) Kuldeep Singh
- (b) Kaliraj Mahesh Kumar
- (c) R.S.Krishnia
- (d) Sadanand Vasant Date



Ans: d

- The central government recently appointed new Director Generals for key agencies. Sadanand Vasant Date, a 1990 batch IPS officer from Maharashtra, now heads the National Investigation Agency (NIA).
- Rajeev Kumar Sharma, also from the 1990 batch but from Rajasthan cadre, will oversee the Bureau of Police Research & Development (BPRD).

3. According to the Brand Finance 2024 report, which brand holds the title of the world's strongest insurance brand?

- (a) Oriental General Insurance
- (b) Life Insurance Corporation of India
- (c) HDFC Life Insurance
- (d) Max Life Insurance

Ans: b



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- In the 2024 Brand Finance Insurance 100 report, Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) maintains its global dominance, solidifying its position as the strongest insurance brand with a stable brand value of Rs 816 billion.
- Cathay Life Insurance follows closely. Meanwhile, Chinese insurers like Ping An, China Life Insurance, and CPIC assert their dominance, with Ping An leading the pack with a significant increase in brand value to Rs 2799 billion, showcasing China's influence on the international insurance landscape.

4. Which country recently issued a warning following an anthrax outbreak in Laos?

- (a) Thailand
- (b) Indonesia
- (c) Vietnam
- (d) Singapore

Ans: a

- Thailand issues warning following an anthrax outbreak in Laos. Anthrax is a severe infectious disease caused by *Bacillus anthracis* bacteria, also known as malignant pustule or woolsorter's disease.
- It's naturally found in soil and affects both domestic and wild animals globally. Anthrax is zoonotic, transferring from animals to humans.
- The FDA has approved BioThrax and Cyfundus vaccines for prevention.

5. Tata Motors and HPCL recently announced plans to establish how many EV charging stations by the conclusion of 2024?

- (a) 5000
- (b) 3000
- (c) 6000
- (d) 1000

Ans: a

- TPEM and HPCL signed an MoU on March 27, 2024, to establish EV charging stations nationwide. The collaboration aims to install 5,000 chargers at HPCL pumps by December.
- With 21,500 petrol pumps across India, HPCL plans to enhance customer experience by collecting charger usage data.
- TPEM will leverage insights from over 1.2 lakh Tata EVs to strategically select charger locations.



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- This initiative marks a significant step towards promoting electric mobility in India.

