



Q. Which of the following city of Bihar has emerged as the world's most polluted metropolitan area?

- a Patna
- b Hajipur
- c Ara
- d Begusarai

Answer **d**

#### EXPLANATION

- ☑ Bihar's Begusarai has emerged as the world's most polluted metropolitan area while Delhi was identified as the capital city with the poorest air quality, according to a new report.
- ☑ Begusarai stood out as the most polluted metropolitan area globally with an average PM2.5 concentration of 118.9 micrograms per cubic meter. The city did not even figure in the 2022 rankings.
- ☑ With an average annual PM2.5 concentration of 54.4 micrograms per cubic meter, India had the third worst air quality out of 134 countries in 2023 after Bangladesh (79.9 micrograms per cubic metre) and Pakistan (73.7 micrograms per cubic metre), according to the World Air Quality Report 2023 by Swiss organization IQAir.



**Q. World Sparrow Day is celebrated on-**

- a** 19th March
- b** 20th March
- c** 21st March
- d** 22nd March

**Answer** **b**

**EXPLANATION**

- World Sparrow Day is held every year on 20th March, with full intent on spreading awareness about the significance of the presence of sparrows for our ecosystem and biodiversity.**
- In 2024, the theme for World Sparrow Day is “Sparrows: Give them a tweet-chance!”, “I Love Sparrows” and “We Love Sparrows”.**
- The first World Sparrow Day was celebrated on March 20, 2010. In India, The Nature Forever Society began the drive of observing World Sparrow Day, stressing on the significance of saving house sparrows and other usual birds.**



**Q. Who among the following has been awarded with the Saraswati Samman 2023?**

**a** Shyamji Verma

**b** Seema Kushwaha

**c** Prabha Varma

**c** Sangeeta Azad

**Answer** **c**

### **EXPLANATION**

- Renowned Kerala poet and litterateur Prabha Varma has bagged the 'Saraswati Samman-2023' for his work 'Roudra Sathwikam', according to a statement.**
- The award instituted by the KK Birla Foundation in 1991 is recognized as the "most prestigious and the highest literary award in the country".**
- One of the most important voices of contemporary Malayalam literature, 64-year-old Varma's poems reflect a confluence of tradition and modernity.**



**Q. The term 'Pushpak' was in the news recently, is a-**

- a** An isolated hill with steep sides and a small flat top
- b** A hydropower dam project in Tibet
- c** Reusable launch vehicle (RLV) of ISRO
- d** An online portal to improve air connectivity

**Answer** **c**

### EXPLANATION

- The Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) is gearing up to conduct the second landing test of the Reusable Launch Vehicle, Pushpak.
- The RLV Pushpak is a winged technology demonstrator developed by the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) to explore and validate technologies essential for achieving a fully reusable launch vehicle.
- Pushpak represents a significant step towards developing low-cost access to space. By focusing on reusability, ISRO aims to reduce the costs of space missions by up to 80%, making space exploration more sustainable and accessible for research and commercial purposes.



**Q. Consider the following statements with respect to the Signals Technology Evaluation and Adaptation Group (STEAG):**

**a** It is a joint collaboration between the Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and NASA.

**b** The objective is to observe neutrinos from the most violent astrophysical sources in our universe.

**Which of the above given statement(s) is/are incorrect?**

**a** 1 only

**b** 2 only

**c** Both 1 and 2

**d** Neither 1 nor 2

**Answer** **c**

### EXPLANATION

- Both the given statements are incorrect.
- In line with the principles of Self-reliant India and Start Up India in the field of defence, the Indian Army has formed a specialized technology unit to conduct research and development of future communication technologies like Artificial Intelligence, 5G, 6G, Machine Learning, Quantum technologies for defence.
- This organization will make India self-reliant in the field of defence because till now some countries have monopoly on technology, but now India can also become a 'game changer' through this organization.