



Q. Consider the following statements with reference to the Kodaikanal Solar Observatory (KSO) :

1 It was established by the British in 1899.

2 The Observatory has one of the longest continuous daily records of the Sun in the world.

Which of the above statement(s) is/are correct?

a 1 Only

b 2 Only

c Both 1 and 2

d Neither 1 nor 2

Answer c

EXPLANATION

- Both the given statements are correct.
- The 125th anniversary of the iconic Kodaikanal Solar Observatory (KSO) was celebrated on 1 April 2024 by Indian Institute of Astrophysics (IIA), an autonomous institute of the Department of Science and Technology (DST), to remember the history of KSO, felicitate its scientists, and honour its legacy was a milestone for astronomy in India.
- Established on 1 April 1899 by the British, the Observatory has one of the longest continuous daily records of the Sun in the world, and this unique database has been digitized and is publicly available for astronomers from across the globe.
- Currently, KSO is operational as a field station under the Indian Institute of Astrophysics, which is an autonomous institution under the Department of Science and Technology. The KSO houses a digital repository of 1.2 lakh digitized solar images and thousands of other images of the Sun recorded every day since the start of the 20th century.



Q. The term “Havana Syndrome” was in the news recently, refers to -

- a** a set of mental health symptoms that are said to be experienced by United States intelligence and embassy officials in various countries.
- b** A condition in which a person has an extra chromosome or an extra piece of a chromosome.
- c** A genetic liver disease that causes high bilirubin levels.
- d** A genetic disorder passed from parents who suffered chemical attack in Havana, Cuba to their children.

Answer **a**

EXPLANATION

- Generally, the word ‘syndrome’ simply means a set of symptoms. Havana syndrome refers to a set of mental health symptoms that are said to be experienced by United States intelligence and embassy officials in various countries.
- It does not mean a unique medical condition, but rather a set of symptoms that are usually experienced together whose origins may be difficult to confirm.
- Havana syndrome typically involves symptoms such as hearing certain sounds without any outside noise, nausea, vertigo and headaches, memory loss, and balance issues.



Q. Who has been appointed as the first woman Prime Minister of Congo?

- a** Bintou Keita
- b** Judith Suminwa Tuluka
- c** Sama Lukonde
- d** None of the above

Answer **b**

EXPLANATION

- The Democratic Republic of Congo appointed Judith Suminwa Tuluka as the African nation's first woman Prime Minister.**
- President Felix Tshisekedi of the Democratic Republic of Congo made the appointment. He fulfilled a campaign promise and took an important step towards the formation of a new government after being re-elected late last year.**
- The authorities face a raft of challenges including a worsening conflict and humanitarian crisis in eastern regions and the management of Congo's considerable mineral wealth.**



Q. Who among the following has secured a British patent for an innovative Smart Dustbin equipped with Monitoring and Categorized Waste Disposal?

a Kamran Ali

b Mayank Dagar

c Siddharth Sharma

d Karman Singh

Answer d

EXPLANATION

- In Jammu and Kashmir, Lieutenant Governor Manoj Sinha met young innovator Master Karman Singh, at Raj Bhawan Jammu who has secured a British patent for an innovative Smart Dustbin equipped with Monitoring and Categorized Waste Disposal.
- Karman becomes one of the youngest recipients of the British patent in India, the achievement catapulting him into a different league of innovators altogether. Karman's invention represents a leap forward in urban waste management and the government's dream of establishing smart cities in the country.



Q. The Sixth Schedule of the Indian Constitution was in the news recently. Which one of the following state/UT is not covered under this Schedule?

- a Assam**
- b Ladakh**
- c Tripura**
- d Meghalaya**

Answer **b**

EXPLANATION

- Recently, noted environmentalist Sonam Wangchuk, sat on a hunger strike, demanding hunger strike, demanding statehood for Ladakh and its inclusion under the Sixth Schedule.**
- The Sixth Schedule provides autonomous powers in terms of administration of tribal areas in Assam, Meghalaya, Tripura, and Mizoram. Its provisions are present in Articles 244(2) and 275(1) of the Indian Constitution.**