



Q. Which country has devalued its currency, recently?

- a** China
- b** Pakistan
- c** Egypt
- d** Bangladesh

Answer **c**

EXPLANATION

- Egypt devalued its currency, allowing it to weaken around 35%, following a massive interest-rate hike by a country embroiled in its worst economic crisis in decades.**
- The move raised the key rate by 600 basis points to 27.25%, according to a statement by the central bank, which also said that unifying the nation's exchange rates is "crucial." The decision likely paves the way for an agreement with the International Monetary Fund on increasing Egypt's current \$3 billion loan to more than \$10 billion, including funds from other partners.**
- Devaluation is the deliberate downward adjustment of a country's currency value. The government issuing the currency can decide to devalue its currency. Devaluing a currency reduces the cost of a country's exports and can help shrink trade deficits.**



Q. Who has become the 14th player to play 100 Test matches for India?

- a** Virat Kohli
- b** Rohit Sharma
- c** Ravindra Jadeja
- d** R. Ashwin

Answer **d**

EXPLANATION

- Ravichandran Ashwin became just the 14th Indian to play 100 Test matches when he walked out for his side in the fifth and final Test against England at the HPCA Stadium in Dharamsala.
- During the third Test in Rajkot, Ashwin became only the second Indian bowler after Anil Kumble to clinch 500 Test wickets joining the elite club of bowlers such as Muthiah Muralitharan, Shane Warne, James Anderson, Stuart Broad, Kumble, Glenn McGrath, Courtney Walsh and Nathan Lyon.
- The 37-year-old, who made his Test debut in 2011, claimed 507 Test wickets. He has also scored 3309 runs in the format, including five centuries and 14 fifties, with a batting average of 26.47.



Q. The NITI for States (NFS) digital platform was launched by-

- a** Narendra Modi
- b** Rajnath Singh
- c** Piyush Goyal
- d** Ashwini Vaishnaw

Answer **d**

EXPLANATION

- In an effort to strengthen cooperation between the Centre and states in achieving growth objectives, Information Technology Minister Ashwini Vaishnaw unveiled the NITI for States (NFS) digital platform on 6th March 2024.
- Developed by the central think tank NITI Aayog, NFS serves as an integrated platform featuring 7,500 best practices from state governments and over a thousand case studies. This wealth of information, combined with the Aayog's support, can be utilised to devise tailored solutions for specific states.
- The platform aims to integrate data across states, centralising findings to inform future decisions by state governments based on data-driven insights. NFS includes curated training modules for government officials, focusing on enhancing behavioural, functional, and domain knowledge.



Q. The term 'Orans' was recently was in the news, is related to-

- a** Densely populated urban centers with historical significance
- b** Fragments of forest protected by communities due to religious beliefs and to meet the needs of the community (Sacred Groves)
- c** Large scale government managed wildlife sanctuary
- d** Area designated for industrial development

Answer **b**

EXPLANATION

- A recent state government notification has struck fear in Rajasthan community dwellers about losing access to forest produce and livelihoods. Communities, particularly those in western Rajasthan, are concerned about the state's proposal to classify orans (sacred groves) as deemed forests.
- As in all pastoral societies, village commons occupy a pivotal place in the lives of Rajasthan's livestock-dependent communities too. Locally called orans, these are lands where herders have been grazing their cows, sheep, and goats for centuries. Usually featuring a temple and a waterbody, these community-conserved pastures are rich in biodiversity.
- The Rajasthan 'Orans' are home to the endangered great Indian bustard (GIB), chinkara, and the Indian desert fox. The lands are under threat now as they are sought to be used for generating "green energy", solar in particular.



Q. The 'Kangri Pot' is declining due to the climate change, is related to-

a Himachal Pradesh

b Punjab

c Ladakh

d Jammu and Kashmir

Answer d

EXPLANATION

- In recent times there has been significant decline in the production of Kashmir's Kangri Pot due to climate change and increasing use of electric heaters. Kangri Pot is a portable earthenware pot encased in a wicker basket that serves as a movable heater.
- It is a traditional warming tool that predates the Mughal Empire in Kashmir. Historians suggest that it was introduced to Kashmiris by Italians during the Mughal era (1526-1757), but the claim lacks concrete evidence.
- Climate change has led to a decrease in production, with only 200 kangris made this year, affecting not just kangri-makers but also artisans and those dependent on this craft. Despite its cultural significance, the traditional kangri has also lost ground to the convenience of contemporary heating options like electric heaters, resulting in a shift in both the physical terrain and cultural customs.