



**Q. Who among the following has been appointed as the judicial member of the Lokpal of India?**

- a** AM Khanwilkar
- b** Archana Ramasundaram
- c** Mahender Singh
- d** Ritu Raj Awasthi

**Answer** **d**

### **EXPLANATION**

- Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi was sworn in as judicial member of the Lokpal of India . Shri Pankaj Kumar and Shri Ajay Tirkey took oath as member of the Lokpal. The oath was administered by Justice A. M. Khanwilkar, Chairperson, Lokpal of India on 27th March 2024.
- The new appointments took place as two existing Judicial Members namely Justice P. K. Mohanty and Justice Abhilasha Kumari and three Members namely Shri D. K. Jain, Smt. Archana Ramasundaram and Shri Mahender Singh have completed their tenure in Lokpal on 26th March 2024.
- Shri Justice Ritu Raj Awasthi, before joining as Judicial Member, Lokpal of India, was serving as the Chairperson of 22nd Law Commission of India. Before that, he was Chief Justice of Karnataka High Court.



29-03-2024

**DAILY MCQ'S**

**70<sup>th</sup> BPSC  
PRELIMS EXAM**

**Q. The strategic Nimmu-Padam-Darcha road is situated in-**

- a** Ladakh
- b** Arunachal Pradesh
- c** Uttarakhand
- d** Jammu and Kashmir

**Answer** **a**

#### **EXPLANATION**

- Border Roads Organisation (BRO) connected the strategic Nimmu-Padam-Darcha road in Ladakh on March 25, 2024. This 298-km road will connect Manali to Leh through Darcha and Nimmu on Kargil – Leh Highway. The road is now the third axis apart from Manali-Leh and Srinagar-Leh which connects Ladakh to the hinterland.**
- The Nimmu-Padam-Darcha road derives its strategic importance from the fact that it is not only shorter vis-a-vis the other two axes, but crosses only one pass; Shinkun La (16,558 feet) on which tunnel work is about to commence by the BRO.**
- This will result in the road having all weather connectivity to the Ladakh region. The connectivity will strengthen the defence preparedness and provide a boost to the economic development in the Zaskar valley.**



**Q. The Investment Facilitation for Development (IFD) Agreement is an initiative of -**

- a World Bank**
- b International Monetary Fund**
- c World Trade organization**
- d Asian Development Bank**

**Answer c**

### **EXPLANATION**

- One of the significant developments at the 13th Ministerial Conference (MC13) of the World Trade Organization (WTO) in Abu Dhabi was the non-adoption of the agreement on investment facilitation for development (IFD).**
- Despite opposition from countries such as India, negotiations for an IFD agreement at the WTO were launched in 2017 on a plurilateral basis by 70 countries. This was done through a process known as the Joint Statement Initiative.**
- The IFD agreement was finalized in November 2023. As of now, around 120 of 166 WTO member countries (more than 70% of the membership) back the IFD agreement. This agreement aims to create legally binding provisions to facilitate investment flows.**



**Q. Who has been appointed the head of the National Investigation Agency (NIA), recently?**

**a** Rajeev Kumar Sharma

**b** Sadanand Vasant Date

**c** Ajay Anand

**d** Abhinav Sharma

**Answer** **b**

### EXPLANATION

- In a significant reorganization within India's security apparatus, the Centre has announced pivotal appointments in key agencies, giving charge of the new Director General of the National Investigation Agency (NIA) to distinguished IPS officer Sadanand Vasant Date, his batchmate Rajeev Kumar as chief of BPR&D and their one-year-old junior Piyush Anand as head of the NDRF.
- Mr. Date, a 1990-batch Indian Police Service (IPS) officer of Maharashtra cadre, has been appointed as the new Director General of the NIA for a tenure up to his superannuation on December 31, 2026, or until further orders as the incumbent chief of the anti-terror agency, Dinkar Gupta, will retire on March 31.



**Q. Recently 'Yaoundé Declaration' was in discussion, it is related to-**

- a** Cyber Security
- b** Artificial Intelligence
- c** Maritime Security
- d** Malaria Disease

**Answer** **d**

### **EXPLANATION**

- In a historic gathering in Cameroon's capital Yaounde, African health ministers, global malaria partners, funding agencies, scientists, civil society organizations and other principal malaria stakeholders pledged to end malaria deaths, especially given the tools and systems available.
- The Yaounde Declaration aimed at "unwavering commitment" in the fight against malaria, drawing upon a rich tapestry of global commitments and regional strategies, which includes commitment by African heads of state to allocate 15 per cent of their annual budgets to strengthening the health sector.