Q. Centre has formed a 259-member high-level national committee, to frame the policies and guidelines for commemorating 75 years of India’s independence. Who is the head of this committee?

A) Rajnath Singh  

B) Amit Shah  

C) Narendra Modi  

D) Venkaiah Naidu  

Answer: C

- The celebrations will be held at national and international level in the form of ‘Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav’. The high-level committee will hold its first meeting on March 8, 2021.

- Before this, a National Implementation Committee was also formed under the chairmanship of Union Home Minister Amit Shah to guide the policies and programs to be undertaken by various Ministries.

Q. Which organisation released "The opportunity Index 2021" that revealed the Status of Indian Women in various fronts including gender based salary hikes?

A) Amazon  

B) LinkedIn  

C) Myntra  

D) UN Women  

Answer: B

- Linked In surveyed 10,000 working women in the Asia Pacific region and released "The Opportunity Index 2021", which revealed that 85% of Indian women felt missed out of salary hike or promotion because of their gender, while the number stands at 60% in Asia Pacific region. Shockingly 9 of 10 women revealed that they were negatively impacted by the pandemic.
Most Important Ranking and INDEX March 2021

Hurun Global Rich List 2021

- Edition : 10th Edition  ( 3228 billionaires from 2,402 companies and 68 countries.)
- TOP : Elon Musk
- Second : Jeff Bezos ( Amazon.com Inc )
- Third : Bernard Arnault ( the chief executive of LVMH Moët Hennessy – Louis Vuitton SE)

Ease of Living Index 2020

- Released by Housing and Urban Affairs Minister
- Top : Bengaluru
- Second : Pune
- Third : Ahmedabad
- A total of 111 cities under the Smart Cities Program, participated in the assessment exercise that was conducted in 2020.
- No city has been included from West Bengal because of the “data challenge”.

QS World University Rankings 2021

- TOP : Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT), United States ( its top position as the best university for the ninth year in a row.)
- Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay has emerged as the best institution. It is placed at 172 position. No institute of India is in top 100.
- Indian Institute of Science (185), Indian Institute of Technology, Delhi (193) are the only other universities from India to feature in top 200.

Municipal Performance Index (MPI) 2020

- Released by : The Ministry of Housing & Urban Affairs

Million plus population category
Indore has topped this list, followed by Surat and Bhopal.

**Less than a million category**

- *New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) emerged as the leader, followed by Tirupati and Gandhinagar.*

**About LinkedIn**

- LinkedIn Chief Executive Officer CEO: Ryan Roslansky.
- LinkedIn Headquarters: California, United States of America.

**Q. How much interest rate has been announced by EPFO for PF contributions?**

A) 8.0 %  
B) 8.5 %  
C) 9.0 %  
D) 9.5 %

**Answer:** B

- *Employees Provident Fund Organization (EPFO) has announced 8.5 % interest rates on PF contributions. The interest rate has been unchanged since 2012-13 and is the all time lowest. It was decided on the 228th Meeting of CBT EPF.*

**About EPFO**

- CEO of EPFO: Sunil Barthwal.
- EPFO Founded: 4 March 1952.
- EPFO Headquarters: New Delhi.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the Revenue Secretary of India to replace the incumbent Ajay Bhushan Pandey?**

A) Arun Goel  
B) Subhash Chandra  
C) Ajay Kumar  
D) Tarun Bajaj

**Answer:** D
About Tarun Bajaj:

- Tarun Bajaj, an old hand at the Finance Ministry, assumed charge as Economic Affairs secretary last May, at a time when India saw the worst growth contraction in history on account of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- Prior to taking over this post, he was Additional Secretary in the Prime Minister’s Office.
- Bajaj, a 1988-batch Haryana-cadre IAS officer, is not new to the functioning of the finance ministry as this is his third stint in the ministry.

Appointment in NEWS

- Indian Economist Ligia Noronha Appointed As Assistant Secretary-General of United Nations
- Economic Affairs Secretary Tarun Bajaj gets additional charge of Revenue Secretary
- Indian-Origin Naureen Hassan appointed as First VP & COO of Federal Reserve Bank
- Mary Kom appointed chairperson of AIBA’s champions and veterans committee
- Manpreet Vohra Appointed as High Commissioner of India To Australia
- IPS Officer Kuldiep Singh given additional charge as Director General of CRPF
- Matam Venkata Rao takes charge as MD & CEO of Central Bank of India
- Vice Admiral Ajendra Bahadur Singh takes over as the Flag Officer Commanding-in-Chief of Eastern Naval Command
- Russian supermodel ‘Supernova’ Natalia Vodianova roped in as UNFPA goodwill ambassador

Q. Which company has acquired majority equity stake in SkyTran Inc?

A) RSBVL  
B) L & T  
C) GRSE  
D) TCS

Answer: A
**Reliance Strategic Business Ventures Limited Company (RSBVL)**

- Founded: 2019
- Subsidiaries: Nowfloats Technologies Pvt Ltd., Asteria Aerospace Pvt. Ltd., skyTran, Inc.

**Reliance IN NEWS**

- RIL Jio ranked as fifth strongest brand globally
- Reliance Industries Ltd will build what it claims to be the world’s largest zoo in Gujarat’s Jamnagar.
- Reliance Industries tops Fortune India 500 Ranking 2020
- Reliance buys Kishore Biyani’s Future retail for Rs 24,713 crore
- Reliance Industries becomes first Indian firm to cross $200 bn m-cap
- Reliance Industries ranks second biggest brand globally; Apple tops: FutureBrand Index 2020
- Reliance Industries becomes first Indian company to hit Rs. 12 lakh crore market cap
- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) Chairman Mukesh Ambani tops the Forbes India Rich List 2020
- RIL market cap hits ₹10 lakh crore, a first for an Indian company

**About Reliance Industries Limited (RIL)**

- Founded: 8 May 1973
- Founder: Dhirubhai Ambani
- Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra,
- CMD: Mukesh Ambani
- Owner: Mukesh Ambani (50.49%)

**Subsidiaries**

- Jio Platforms (67.03%)
- Jio Payments Bank (70%)

**Q.** An Indian origin financial services veteran, has recently been elected as the first Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the New York-based Federal Reserve Bank. Name the veteran

A) Danny Gaekwad  
B) Bhagi Nanda Sandilya  
C) Naureen Hassan  
D) Shashank Rai

**Answer: C**
Indian-origin Naureen Hassan has been appointed as the first Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of the New York-based Federal Reserve Bank, by the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System.

**Q. Who has been appointed as the 1st VP and COO of New York Federal Bank?**

A) Suvreen Chawla  
B) James Patrick  
C) Kiren Majumdar  
D) Naureen Hassan

**Answer: D**

- Indian-American, Naureen Hassan has been appointed as the 1st Vice President and Chief Operating Officer (COO) of New York Federal Bank. She will assume the post from 15th March, 2021.

**APPOINTED AS FIRST IN NEWS**

- Indian-Origin **Naureen Hassan** appointed as First VP & COO of Federal Reserve Bank
- **Hima Kohli** Appointed as First Woman Chief Justice of Telangana High Court
- **Ossouka Raponda** appointed as first woman Prime Minister of Gabon
- Delhi AIIMS’ Professor **Suresh Chandra Sharma** Appointed as First Chief of National Medical Commission
- Indian-origin global health expert **Anil Soni** appointed first CEO of The WHO Foundation
- **Sandeep Kataria** becomes first Indian to be appointed as global CEO of Bata
- **Krishnendu Majumdar** becomes first person of colour to be appointed BAFTA Chair

**About Federal Reserve Bank**

- CEO of the Federal Reserve Bank: John C. Williams.
- Federal Reserve Bank Chairperson: Jerome Powell.
- Federal Reserve Bank Founded: 23 December 1913.
- Federal Reserve Bank HQ: New York, United States.
Q. The New Delhi World Book Fair 2021 has been organised on virtual platform due to COVID-19 pandemic. What is the theme of this edition?

A) National Education Policy-2020  
B) Books for Readers with Special Needs  
C) Vivid Bharat – Diverse India  
D) Indigenous Voices: Mapping India’s Folk & Tribal Literature

Answer: A

The Union Education Minister Ramesh Pokhriyal inaugurated the New Delhi World Book Fair 2021-Virtual Edition. It is the 29th edition of the annual event and for the first time the fair will be held virtually. The program has been organized by the National Book Trust (NBT) on the theme ‘National Education Policy-2020’

About National Book Trust

- National Book Trust Founded: 1 August 1957.
- National Book Trust President: Govind Prasad Sharma.

Q. M G George, was an Indian entrepreneur, who has passed recently. He was the Chairman of which company?

A) SBI Cards  
B) Bajaj Finserv Limited  
C) Muthoot Group  
D) Tata Group

Answer: C

Mr George became the managing director of Muthoot Group in 1979 and its chairman in 1993. Muthoot Finance Ltd is one the largest gold loan NBFCs in India, headquartered in Kochi, Kerala.

About The Muthoot Group

- Founder: Muthoot Ninan Mathai
- Founded: 1887
- Headquarters: Kochi
Recent Obituaries In NEWS

- Muthoot Group Chairman & Whole Time Director **M G George Muthoot** passes away at 71
- BJP Lok Sabha **MP Nandkumar Singh** Chauhan from Madhya Pradesh, Passes Away at 69
- Padma Shri Winning Eminent Malayalam Poet **Vishnunarayanan Namboothiri** passes away at 81
- Papua New Guinea’s first Prime Minister, **Michael Somare**, passes away at 84
- Former **TRAI Chairman Rahul Khullar** passes away
- Former Union Minister and Veteran Congress Leader **Captain Satish Sharma** passes away at 73
- Indo-Pak War Veteran Retired Major General **BK Mahapatra** Passes Away at 87
- Former Bihar-Jharkhand Governor & Jurist M Rama Jois, passes away at 88
- Bollywood actor **Rajiv Kapoor** passes away
- Padma Shri Winning Theatre Director and Founder of **Rang Vidushak, Bansi Kaul** passes away at 71
- India Tennis Legend and Davis Cup **Coach Akhtar Ali** passes away at 81

**Q. Who has been signed in as the brand ambassador of Candid powder?**

A) Rohit Sharma  
B) Virat Kohli  
C) MS Dhoni  
D) Rishabh Pant  

**Answer: A**

- **Rohit Sharma has been signed in as the brand ambassador of Candid powder by Glenmark Pharma. Candid powder is the market leader in its category.**

**Brand ambassador in India (Recently Appointed)**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sourav Ganguly</th>
<th>Edtech startup Classplus</th>
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<tr>
<td>Akshay Kumar</td>
<td>Dabur Chyawanprash</td>
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<td>Name</td>
<td>Company/Project</td>
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<td>Sonu Sood</td>
<td>Spice Money</td>
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<td>Kuldeep Handoo</td>
<td>Fit India movement</td>
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<td>AR Rahman</td>
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<td>Chacha Chaudhary</td>
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<td>Yuvraj Singh</td>
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<td>Sonu Sood</td>
<td>Acer India</td>
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<td>Virat Kohli</td>
<td>Great Learning</td>
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<td>Suresh Raina</td>
<td>9Stacks</td>
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<td>Name</td>
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<td>Sachin Tendulkar</td>
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<td>Bhuvneshwar Kumar and Smriti Mandhana</td>
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<td>Kiara Advani</td>
<td>Myntra</td>
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<td>Rohit Sharma</td>
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<td>Harbhajan Singh</td>
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<td>Suresh Raina and Harmanpreet Kaur</td>
<td>WTF Sports</td>
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<td>Brett Lee</td>
<td>SportsAdda</td>
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<td>Sukhbir Singh</td>
<td>Luxury Ride</td>
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<td>Sourav Ganguly and Sunil Chhetri</td>
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<td>Pankaj Tripathi</td>
<td>Bihar Khadi</td>
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<td>Sonu Sood</td>
<td>Gargo International</td>
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<td>Rohit Sharma</td>
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<td>Ajinkya Rahane</td>
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<td>Devgan</td>
<td>Aarogya Setu App</td>
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<td>Rohit Sharma</td>
<td>CricKingdom</td>
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Viswanathan Anand | World Wide Fund India Environment
---|---
MS Dhoni | PokerStars India
PV Sindhu | BWF’s ‘I am badminton’ campaign
Shafali Verma | PepsiCo
Rishabh Pant | JSW Steel
Shardul Thakur | TATA Power
Virat Kohli | iQOO Smart Phone & Blue Star
Kareena Kapoor | Puma
Amitabh Bachchan | IDFC First Bank
Suniel Shetty | NADA
Rohit Sharma | La Liga & Trusox

Q. The “Business Kisht Suraksha” is an insurance product launched by which company to protect the balance sheet of MFIs, financial institutions and banks in the event of a catastrophe or natural disaster?

A) Tata AIG General Insurance  
B) ICICI Lombard General Insurance  
C) Bajaj Allianz General Insurance  
D) HDFC ERGO General Insurance

Answer: D

- HDFC ERGO General Insurance has launched a product called “Business Kisht Suraksha”, to provide a unique cover to MFIs, financial institutions and banks in the event of a catastrophe or natural disaster.
About HDFC ERGO

- HDFC ERGO CEO: Ritesh Kumar.
- HDFC ERGO Headquarters: Mumbai.

Q. Which state has launched night safaris in 3 national parks?

A) Uttar Pradesh    C) Andhra Pradesh
B) Madhya Pradesh   D) Himachal Pradesh

Answer: B

Madhya Pradesh has launched night safaris in 3 national parks for attracting more tourists. The 3 national parks offering night safaris are Kanha, Pench and Bandhavgarh National Park.

Q. How many scholars have been awarded the Indian Science Research Fellowship (ISRF) 2021?

A) 72    C) 63
B) 40    D) 51

Answer: B

Forty scholars from six countries have been awarded with Indian Science Research Fellowship (ISRF) 2021.

Q. Name the Indian economist who has been appointed as the Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the UNEP

A) Prakash Lohia    C) V. Sundramoorthy
B) Arora Akanksha   D) Ligia Noronha

Answer: D
Leading Indian economist Ligia Noronha has been appointed as the Assistant Secretary-General and Head of the New York Office of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP).

Q. **YIELD** is an online tool to enable retail investors direct access to the debt instruments to buy and sell bonds as well as debentures in the secondary market. Which company has launched this product?

A) Muthoot Finance  
B) Hero FinCorp  
C) Axis Securities  
D) Bajaj Finance

**Answer: C**

- **Axis Securities has launched a first-of-its-kind initiative called ‘YIELD’, that will allow retail investors direct access to the debt instruments, YIELD is an online platform to buy and sell bonds as well as debentures in the secondary market.**

**Axis Bank in NEWS**

- PhonePe Partners With Axis Bank On UPI Multi-Bank Model
- Axis Bank Launches Aura Credit Card With Health, Wellness Benefits
- Axis Bank Launches ‘Axis Bank Rupi Business Credit Card’ For MSMEs
- Axis Bank Launches ACE Credit Card In Partnership With Google Pay
- Axis Bank Tie-Up With Vistara To Launch Co-Branded Forex Card
- Axis Bank Introduced ‘Liberty Savings Account’ For The Indian Youth
- Axis Bank Launches Hiring Initiative Named ‘Gig-A-Opportunities’
- Axis Bank Launches Automated Voice Assistant ‘AXAA’

**About AXIS Bank**

- Axis Bank Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra.
- Axis Bank Tagline: Dil Se Open.
- Axis Bank MD and CEO: Amitabh Chaudhry.
Q. The Employees’ Provident Fund Organisation (EPFO) comes under the administrative control of which ministry?

A) Ministry of Commerce and Industry  
B) Ministry of Labour and Employment  
C) Ministry of Statistics and Programme Implementation  
D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment

Answer: B

Employees’ Provident Fund is a statutory body established by the Employees’ Provident Fund and Miscellaneous Provisions Act, 1952 and is under the administrative control of the Ministry of Labour and Employment.

Q. India will be observing 75th year of Independence in which year?

A) 2022  
B) 2021  
C) 2023  
D) 2024

Answer: A

➢ The 75 years of India’s Independence will be observed on 15 August 2022.

Q. India’s 1st Transgender Community Desk has been opened in ______.

A) Kerala  
B) Rajasthan  
C) Karnataka  
D) Telangana

Answer: D

➢ India’s 1st Transgender Community Desk has been opened in Gachibowli, Telangana. It will act as a focal point for grievance redressal for the transgender community.
Q. J & K administration has launched _____ app under the National Health Mission.

A) MANOHAR  
B) CHANDRA  
C) PRABHA  
D) ANMOL

Answer: D

J & K administration has launched ANMOL application under the National Health Mission. The app will assist the Auxiliary Nursing Midwives (ANMs) in carrying out their work easily.

Q. Which e-Commerce company has partnered with UN Women to launch storefront for women sellers?

A) Amazon  
B) Flipkart  
C) Shopclues  
D) Snapdeals

Answer: A

- Amazon India has partnered with UN Women to launch storefront for women sellers in India. The proposed storefront will offer products like handmade crafts, healthy snacks, organic products etc.

Amazon in News:

- Andy Jassy set to replace Jeff Bezos as Amazon CEO in July
- Amazon signs Amitabh Bachchan for its Alexa voice assistant
- Amazon tops Brand Finance Global 500 2020 report; Tata Group top Indian brand
- Amazon founder Jeff Bezos commits USD 1 bn investment in India to digitise small businesses

About Amazon:

- CEO: Jeff Bezos (May 1996–)
- Founder: Jeff Bezos
- Founded: 5 July 1994, Bellevue, Washington, United States
- Headquarters: Seattle, Washington, United States
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Question</th>
<th>Options</th>
<th>Answer</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Q. In which state is the “Bakhira Sanctuary” located?</td>
<td>A) Uttar Pradesh</td>
<td>D) Vienna, Austria</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>B) Madhya Pradesh</td>
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<td>C) Gujarat</td>
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<td>D) Assam</td>
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<td>Answer: A</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. “Bir Tikendrajit International Airport” is located in which state?</td>
<td>A) Sikkim</td>
<td>D) Uttarakhand</td>
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<td>B) Manipur</td>
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<td>C) Mizoram</td>
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<td>D) Punjab</td>
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<td>Answer: B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. Where is the headquarters of the “Organization of the Petroleum</td>
<td>A) Nairobi, Kenya</td>
<td>D) Athlete</td>
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<tr>
<td>Exporting Countries” (OPEC) located?</td>
<td>B) Basel, Switzerland</td>
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<td></td>
<td>C) Jakarta, Indonesia</td>
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<td>Answer: B</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. When do we celebrate “World Forestry Day” ?</td>
<td>A) March 21</td>
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<td>B) May 7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. “Pinjore Heritage Festival” is celebrated in which state?</td>
<td>A) Rajasthan</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B) Bihar</td>
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<td></td>
<td>C) Haryana</td>
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<td>Answer: C</td>
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<tr>
<td>Q. William Jones Cup is related with which sports?</td>
<td>A) Chess</td>
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<td></td>
<td>B) Basketball</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td>C) Tennis</td>
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<td></td>
<td>D) Athlete</td>
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<td>Answer: B</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
C) April 19  Answer: B
D) July 11

Answer: A

Q. Bhaichung Bhutia is related to which sports?
A) Cricket
B) Hockey
C) Badminton
D) Football

Answer: D

Q. Lucknow is situated on the banks of which river?
A) Yamuna
B) Gomti
C) Krishna
D) Ganges

Answer: B

Q. “Jharsuguda Thermal Power Plant” is located in which state?
A) Karnataka
B) Odisha
C) Tamil Nadu
D) Andhra Pradesh

Answer: B

All the Best for Your Exam
Suggestions & Feedback are welcomed
DreamBigInstitution@Gmail.com

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