

## CURRENT AFFAIRS DECEMBER 21 2023

- In December 2023, Union Minister of Earth Sciences Kiren Rijiju launched '1st Indian Winter Expedition to Arctic' to expand India's scientific activities to other critical and core Arctic realms.  
The expedition is facilitated under \_\_\_\_\_ scheme of Ministry of Earth Sciences, through the aegis of the National Centre for Polar and Ocean Research (NCPOR), Goa.
  - **Polar Science and Cryosphere Research**
- According to the 'Migration and Development Brief 39: Leveraging Diaspora Finances for Private Capital Mobilization' released by World Bank in December 2023, \_\_\_\_\_ (country) tops remittance charts with an estimated inward remittance flow of USD 125 Billion in 2023.
  - **India**
- Name the disease that has recently (in Dec '23) recognised as the Neglected Tropical Disease (NTDs) by the World Health Organization (WHO).
  - **Noma**
- In December 2023, GoI and Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed a loan agreement for a \_\_\_\_\_ Japanese Yen loan to continue financing the construction of the 82-kilometre DelhiMeerut Regional Rapid Transit System (RRTS) corridor .
  - **37 Billion**
- Which bank has recently (in Dec '23) collaborated with Indian Oil Corporation Limited (IOCL) to launch a co-branded credit card?
  - **Kotak Mahindra Bank**
- Name the Insurance company that has recently (in Dec '23) introduced Smart Total Elite Protection (STEP) Term Plan", a non-linked, non-participating, individual pure-risk premium life insurance plan.
  - **Max Life Insurance**
- Which bank has recently (in Dec '23) launched industry-first community banking programs for the diamond industry?
  - **IndusInd Bank**

- Name the platform that has recently (in Dec '23) launched the new website & mobile application(app) with the tagline – 'Bharat Ka Money App'.
  - **CASHe**
- In December 2023, ICRA Limited upgraded its Gross Domestic Product (GDP) growth forecast for India for the fiscal year 2023-24 (FY24) to \_\_\_\_\_ from 6.2%.
  - **6.5%**
- Who has recently (in Dec '23) won Bhutan's National Order of Merit (NOM) Gold Medal for significant contribution to public healthcare services to Bhutan?
  - **Poonam Khetrapal Singh**
- Who is the present (as of Dec '23) Chairperson of National Commission for Minorities (NCM)?
  - **Iqbal Singh Lalpura**
- Which Mutual Fund company has recently (in Dec '23) launched an open-ended target maturity index fund tracking the CRISIL IBX Gilt Index – April 2033?
  - **Aditya Birla Sun Life Mutual Fund**
- Name the Ministry that has recently (in Dec '23) launched the 'Strategic Framework for Drowning Prevention' to promote preventive measures toward water safety for all to reduce the drowning incidents.
  - **Ministry of Health and Family Welfare**
- Which country won the 2023 edition of the Asian Cricket Council (ACC) U19 Asia Cup?
  - **Bangladesh**
- During the Kashi Tamil Sangamam event in Varanasi in December 2023, Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched \_\_\_\_\_, an artificial intelligence (AI)-based language translation tool designed to enable real-time translation of Indian languages.
  - **Bhashini**
- Australian cricketer \_\_\_\_\_ became the second Australian spinner after Shane Warne to pick 500 Test wickets in a Test Match.
  - **Nathan Lyon**