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UTTAR PRADESH CURRENT AFFAIRS TODAY

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Special Supplement:
Indian Society

◆ Current Affairs Compilation

◆ Glimpse of Uttar Pradesh

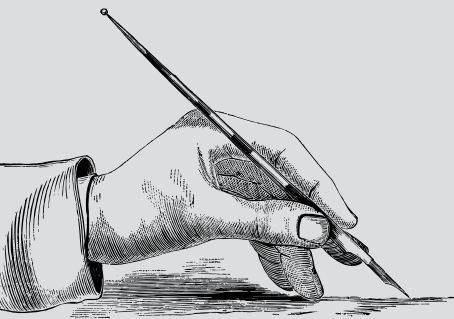
◆ Previous Years Questions

◆ Tabular Presentation of Facts

In News:

Open Network for Digital Commerce; NITI Aayog; Financial Services Institution Bureau; 14th BRICS Summit; 48th G-7 Summit; UN Oceans Conference 2022; Global Liveability Index 2022; Derecho; Mangarh Hillock; Fields Medals 2022; and much more....





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DEAR ASPIRANT,

25th July 2022 was a historic day in the history of Indian constitutional democracy. On this day, Smt. Draupadi Murmu was sworn in as the 15th President of the Republic of India. She is the first President to belong to a tribal community i.e., the Santhals. A woman belonging to a tribal and hinterland background rose to the highest constitutional post of the country is itself a proof that India's vibrant democracy has a strong constitutional foundation. It also shows that verve, vitality, grit and determination often define the life and persona of an individual, no matter what has been her/his family or financial background.

The rise of our President from an undistinguished to a distinguished personality is quite relatable to the life of civil services aspirants. While preparing for civil services surrounded by books and notes in a small dingy room, they live a life full of struggles. When they get selected in the coveted list of successful candidates, their life changes overnight. It is their patience, perseverance and smart hardwork with an icing of quality study materials that fructifies into their success.

We, at Drishti, constantly endeavour to provide you good quality study material that helps you tread your preparation journey smoothly. In this spirit, we present the latest edition of the Uttar Pradesh Drishti Current Affairs Today (UP DCAT). Inter alia, it comprises a special supplement on Indian Society.

We look forward to your feedback and suggestions.

With Best Wishes

(Dr. Vikas Divyakirti)

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CURRENT AFFAIRS

of National Importance

POLITY AND GOVERNANCE

Renunciation of Indian Citizenship

- The Ministry of Home Affairs stated that over 1.6 lakh Indians renounced their Indian citizenship in 2021.
- The Constitution does not define the term 'citizen' but details of various categories of persons who are entitled to citizenship are given in Part II (Articles 5 to 11).
- The Citizenship Act of 1955 prescribes five ways of acquiring citizenship, viz, birth, descent, registration, naturalisation and incorporation of territory.
- Broadly, there are three ways to renounce the citizenship of India:
 - **Voluntary Renunciation:** If an Indian citizen of full age and capacity wishes, he can relinquish citizenship of India by his will. When a person relinquishes his citizenship, every minor child of that person also loses Indian citizenship. However, when such a child attains the age of 18, he may resume Indian citizenship.
 - **By Termination:** The Constitution provides for single citizenship. It means a person can only be a citizen of one country at a time. If a person takes the citizenship of another country, then his Indian citizenship ends automatically. However, this provision does not apply when India is engaged in a war.
 - **Deprivation by Government:** The Government of India may terminate the citizenship of an Indian citizen on the ground of disrespect towards the Constitution; obtaining citizenship by fraud; unlawfully trading or communicating with the enemy during a war; being sentenced to 2 years of imprisonment within 5 years of registration or naturalization; living outside India for 7 years continuously.
- Citizenship is listed in the Union List under the Constitution and is thus under the exclusive jurisdiction of Parliament.

Citizenship (Amendment) Act, 2019

- The Act amended the law to fast-track citizenship for religious minorities, specifically Hindus, Sikhs, Buddhists, Jains, Parsis and Christians, from Afghanistan, Bangladesh and Pakistan who entered India prior to 2015.
- The requirement for them to stay in India for at least 11 years before applying for Indian citizenship has been reduced to five years.

Election to the Office of the Vice-President of India

- Recently, the Election Commission announced the Vice-Presidential election to be held in August 2022.
- **Electoral College:** As per Article 66 of the Constitution, the Vice-President is elected by the members of the Electoral College that consists of:
 - Elected members of Rajya Sabha,
 - Nominated members of Rajya Sabha, and
 - Elected members of Lok Sabha.
- The Vice-President is the second highest constitutional office in India. He/She serves for a five-year term, but can continue to be in office, irrespective of the expiry of the term, until the successor assumes office. The Vice-President is the ex-officio Chairperson of the Council of States (Rajya Sabha)
- The Vice-President may resign from office by submitting resignation to the President of India. The resignation becomes effective from the day it is accepted.
- The Vice-President can be removed from office by a resolution of the Council of States (Rajya Sabha), passed by a majority of its members at that time and agreed to by the House of the People (Lok Sabha). A resolution for this purpose may be moved only after notice of at least a minimum of 14 days has been given of such an intention.



CURRENT AFFAIRS

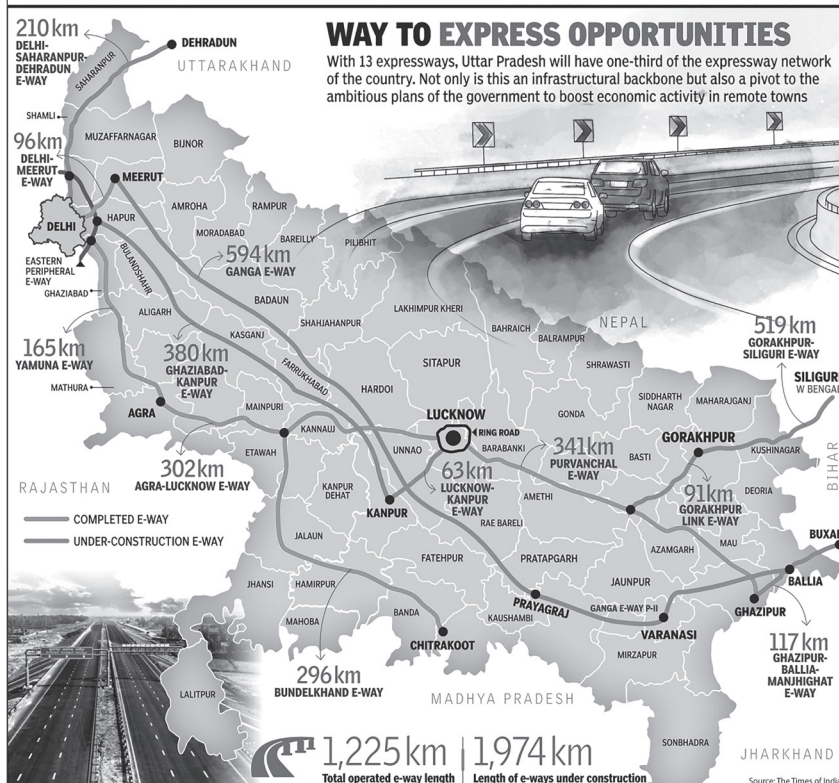
from Uttar Pradesh

Bundelkhand Expressway

- The Bundelkhand Expressway was inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi which is designed to set the wheel of development rolling in the region and state.
- The striking features of the e-way are:
 - The 296-km-long four lane Bundelkhand Expressway will be the sixth e-way in Uttar Pradesh.
 - It is the fastest built expressway in the state.
 - It begins near Bharatkoop at Jhansi-Prayagraj National Highway number 35 in Chitrakoot and ends near Kudrail village in Etawah along the Agra-Lucknow Expressway.
 - It covers **six districts** – Etawah, Auraiya, Jalaun, Mahoba, Banda and Hamirpur and has been constructed over **eight rivers** – Bagen, Ken, Shyama, Chandawal, Birma, Yamuna, Betwa and Sengar.
 - Arrangements have been made for water conservation by building rainwater harvesting pits at 500m along the entire stretch of the e-way.
 - It promotes greenery as plantation of more than seven lakh saplings has been planned.
 - It will serve as the lifeline of business activity in the region as two nodes of UP-Defence Corridor are falling along the e-way.
 - Home to several interesting tourist attractions, Bundelkhand Expressway will work to boost tourism in the region.
- It promises to change the fate of the people in the region infamous for its backwardness, poverty and migration.

- This is the 6th e-way of the state. The other five are Yamuna Expressway, Noida-Greater Noida Expressway, Agra-Lucknow Expressway, Delhi-Meerut Expressway and Purvanchal Expressway.
- The list of upcoming expressways in UP includes Gorakhpur Link Expressway, Ganga Expressway, Lucknow-Kanpur Expressway, Ghaziabad-Kanpur Expressway, Gorakhpur-Siliguri Expressway, Delhi-Saharanpur-Dehradun Expressway and Ghazipur-Ballia-Manjhiat Expressway.
- Data from the Union ministry of road transport and highways shows that UP has the country's largest network of expressways. Haryana follows next to UP with five expressways.

A Faster Route To Progress Opens





SHORT TAKES

REPORTS AND INDICES

NIRF Rankings 2022

- Recently, the Ministry of Education released the 7th edition of National Institutional Ranking Framework (NIRF) Rankings 2022.
- It assesses the performance based on five parameters:
 - Teaching, Learning and Resources (TLR)
 - Research and Professional Practice (RP)
 - Graduation Outcomes (GO)
 - Outreach and Inclusivity (OI)
 - Peer Perception
- IIT-Madras, IISc-Bangalore, and IIT-Bombay are the country's top three higher education institutions
- IISc-Bangalore tops the category of university.
- Miranda House College retains the first position amongst colleges.
- Among engineering institutions, IIT-Madras remained number one.
- Indian Institute of Management (IIM) Ahmedabad was ranked first followed by IIM-Bangalore in Management category.
- All India Institute of Medical Sciences, New Delhi occupies the top slot in Medical category.
- Jamia Hamdard tops the list in Pharmacy.
- IISc-Bangalore was ranked the best research institution followed by IIT Madras.

Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D)

- Recently, the Department of School Education and Literacy released the Centre's first-ever Performance Grading Index for Districts (PGI-D) for 2018-19 and 2019-20.
- The PGI-D grades the districts into 10 grades. The highest achievable grade is 'Daksh' and it is followed by 'Utkarsh' (81% to 90%), 'Ati Uttam' (71% to 80%), 'Uttam' (61% to 70%), 'Prachesta-1' (51% to 60%) and 'Prachesta-2' (41% to 50%) and 'Akanshi-3'.

- Three districts Sikar, Jhunjhunu, and Jaipur figured in 'Utkarsh' grade from Rajasthan performed the best in the assessment.
- Rajasthan has the highest districts (24) in this grade, followed by Punjab (14), Gujarat (13), and Kerala (13).
- The districts with the lowest scores are South Salmara-Mankachar (Assam), Alirajpur (Madhya Pradesh), North Garo Hills & South Garo Hills in Meghalaya, and Khowai (Tripura).

India Innovation Index 2021

- Recently, the NITI Aayog released the India Innovation Index 2021.
- The index inspects the innovation capacities and ecosystems across states, at the sub-national level.
- Karnataka, Manipur and Chandigarh have topped in their respective categories as per the report.

Harnessing Green Hydrogen Report

- Recently, NITI Aayog released a report "Harnessing Green Hydrogen – Opportunities for Deep Decarbonisation in India".
- Key highlights of the report:
 - Green Hydrogen is crucial for decarbonisation of sectors such as fertilizers, refining, methanol, maritime shipping etc.
 - Facilitate investment through demand aggregation and dollar-based bidding for green hydrogen.
 - Give tax breaks like reduction or exemption of GST and custom duties on green hydrogen production.
 - Green Hydrogen corridors should be developed across the country based on state grand challenge.
 - Promote export of green hydrogen and green hydrogen-embedded products through a global hydrogen alliance.
- Green hydrogen is hydrogen generated by renewable energy or from low-carbon power. It is the hydrogen produced through the electrolysis of water with



GK POINTER

Important Institutions/Offices in Uttar Pradesh

Institution/Office	Head	Remarks
Chief Secretary	Durga Shankar Mishra	Promoted through IAS
Uttar Pradesh Public Service Commission	Sanjay Shrinet	Constitutional body under Articles 315 to 323
Chief Justice of Allahabad High Court	Rajesh Bindal	Constitutional provisions under Articles 214 to 231
Chief Information Commissioner	Bhavesh Kumar Singh	Statutory body under Right to Information Act, 2005
Lokayukta	Sanjay Mishra	Statutory body under UP Lokayukta Act, 1975
State Election Commissioner	Manoj Kumar	Constitutional provision under Article 243-K regarding State Election Commission
State Human Rights Commission	Justice Bala Krishna Naryana	Statutory body under Protection of Human Rights Act, 1993
State Women Commission	Vimla Batham	Statutory body under State Women Commission Act, 2013
State Minority Commission	Ashfaq Saifi	Statutory body under UP Commission for Minorities Act, 1994
State Commission for Backward Classes	Jaswant Saini	Statutory body under State Commission for Backward Classes Act, 1996
State Commission for Protection of Child Rights	Devendra Sharma	Statutory body under National Child Rights Protection Act, 2005

Important Institutions/Offices of Central Government

Institution/Office	Head
Cabinet Secretary of India	Rajiv Gauba
Principal Secretary to PM	P. K. Mishra
Advisor to PM	Amit Khare, Tarun Kapoor
Defence Secretary	Ajay Kumar
Foreign Secretary	Vinay Mohan Kwatra
Home Secretary	Ajay Kumar Bhalla
Finance Secretary	T. V. Somanathan
Revenue Secretary	Tarun Bajaj
National Security Advisor	Ajit Doval
Chairman of the National Safety Council	S. N. Subrahmanyam
Principal Scientific Advisor (PSA)	Ajay Kumar Sood
Chief Economic Advisor	Anantha Nageshwaran



Glimpse of Uttar Pradesh

INDIAN SOCIETY

SALIENT FEATURES OF INDIAN SOCIETY

Introduction

- Covering a span of almost five thousand years since the existence of its first civilisation, the Indian society is extremely old and complex in nature.
- It is primarily characterized by the existence of varying castes, faith, ethnicity, communities, tribal identity, etc., which together produce a unique culture prevalent not only in India but almost across the entire Indian subcontinent.
- Traditionally, social relations were often based on caste, ethnic group, race, etc. with extended family, village community and caste system being the three primary societal structures.
- However, there are great contrasts between traditional India and the modern high-tech and Westernized India.
- In the earlier days, Indian society was dominated by a large number of poor people with a small elite characterized by flamboyant maharajas, and a middle class made up largely of civil servants.
- Though these classes largely exist today, except the middle class which is more diverse and larger, and the small elite comprising of industrialists and high-tech entrepreneurs as well as large landowners.
- The most important features of Indian society are: caste, tribe, family, kinship, religion, village, etc. These features give our society a unique identity.

Caste

- The caste system in India is an important part of the ancient Hindu tradition and dates back to 1200 BCE.
- Basically, caste refers to people belonging to the same breed. An individual is born into a caste, and this status is usually permanent.

- Society is divided into several small social groups called castes. One will belong to which caste is decided on the basis of their birth into a particular caste. Each caste has its own traditional social status, occupation, customs, rules and regulations.
- Though the elements of castes are found outside India as well, it is only in India that such numerous castes are found.

Characteristics of the Caste System

- **Hierarchy:**
 - There is a hierarchical arrangement of caste according to different degrees of dominance and subordination. It implies that there are some castes which are considered superior to the others.
 - The Brahmins in India are placed on the apex of the social ladder, followed by the Kshatriyas and the Vaishyas. At the bottom of the ladder are the Shudras.
- **Restrictions on Interaction:**
 - The members of one caste cannot mix or move freely with the members of the other castes. Every caste abides by well-established customs and well-defined norms of interaction.
- **Social and Religious Disabilities:**
 - The caste system is an important feature of the Hindu society, however, with the lapse of time, the rigidities of caste have largely diluted.
 - In the Hindu caste system, the Brahmins are the most privileged caste and the Shudras are at the bottom of the hierarchy.
 - Apart from Shudras, there are also people who are called untouchables, who are outside the caste system and are considered to be ritually impure.
 - Earlier, people belonging to this category were kept entirely outcaste to the extent that they were not allowed to dwell in the cities or purchase

DISTRICTS OF UTTAR PRADESH

S. No.	District	As per Census 2011					As per India State of Forest Report (ISFR) 2021	
		Area (Sq. Km.)	Population (Lakhs)	Density	Sex-Ratio	Literacy (%)	Forest Cover (Sq. Km.)	% of District Area
1	Maharajganj	2,952	26.85	910	943	62.8	427.76	14.49
2	Kushinagar	2,905	35.64	1,227	961	65.2	35.40	1.22
3	Gorakhpur	3,321	44.40	1,337	950	70.8	79.06	2.38
4	Deoria	2,540	31.01	1,221	1,017	71.1	15.21	0.60
5	Azamgarh	4,054	46.14	1,138	1,019	70.9	49.31	1.22
6	Mau	1,713	22.06	1,288	979	73.1	11.00	0.64
7	Ballia	2,981	32.40	1,087	937	70.9	22.15	0.74
8	Jaunpur	4,038	44.94	1,113	1,024	71.5	69.43	1.72
9	Ghazipur	3,377	36.20	1,072	952	71.8	29.00	0.86
10	Bhadohi (Sant Ravidas Nagar)	1,015	15.78	1,555	955	69.0	3.71	0.37
11	Varanasi	1,535	36.77	2,395	913	75.6	17.91	1.17
12	Chandauli	2,541	19.53	769	918	71.5	553.48	21.78
13	Mirzapur	4,405	24.97	567	903	68.5	746.11	16.94
14	Sonbhadra	6,905	18.62	270	918	64.0	2,436.75	35.29
15	Siddharth Nagar	2,895	25.59	884	976	59.2	43.38	1.50
16	Balrampur	3,349	21.48	642	928	49.5	537.41	16.05
17	Gonda	4,003	34.34	858	922	58.7	121.84	3.04
18	Basti	2,688	24.64	917	963	67.2	31.58	1.17
19	Sant Kabir Nagar	1,646	17.15	1,042	972	66.7	14.40	0.87
20	Faizabad	2,341	24.71	1,056	962	68.7	89.42	3.82
21	Ambedkar Nagar	2,350	23.98	1,020	978	72.2	41.16	1.75
22	Sultanpur	4,436	37.97	856	983	69.3	208.13	4.69
23	Amethi	This is a newly carved district from Sultanpur in 2010. Required data for Amethi is not available in Census 2011.						
24	Rae Bareli	4,609	34.05	739	943	67.3	93.69	2.03
25	Pratapgarh	3,717	32.09	863	998	70.1	121.44	3.27

Contd...

Districts Profiles

Saharanpur

- **Formation:** Saharanpur district was created by British in 1803.
- **Location:** The district is bounded on west by the state of Haryana, on north & east by the state of Uttarakhand, and on south by Shamli and Muzaffarnagar districts.
- **History:**
 - In this region, Ambakheri, Bargaon, Naseerpur and Hulas were the centres of Harappan culture.
 - Muhammad Bin Tughlaq reached this area to crush the rebellion of Shiwalik Kings in 1340. He ordered that the place should be known as 'Shah-Harunpur' by the name of Sufi saint Shah Harun Chishti who was living on the banks of Paondhoi river.
 - Akbar was the first Mughal ruler who established civil administration in Saharanpur and made it Saharanpur-Sarkar under Delhi province and appointed a Governor.
 - The Jagir of Saharanpur was honoured to Raja Sah Ranveer Singh who founded the city of Saharanpur.
 - Saharanpur passed to the British in 1803. In 1857 rebellion, Maulana Nanautavi and Maulana Rashid Ahamad Gangohi actively participated and the centre of activities was Shamli.
 - Later, they established a school in Deoband in 1867. It became popular by the name of Darul Uloom.
- **Geography:**
 - **Rivers:** Apart from the Yamuna, other important rivers in Saharanpur are Solani, Hindon, Ratmau and Nagdev.
 - **Agro Climatic Zone:** Western Plain Zone
 - **Soil:** The soil type is sandy, sandy loam and clay loam.
 - **Major Agricultural Products:** Important crops cultivated in Saharanpur are paddy, wheat, sugarcane, groundnut, urd, maize, gram, lentil, mustard, pea.
- **Economy:**
 - Important industries of district include wood carving industry, sugar and paper industries and cigarette industry.

- Wood work of Saharanpur is world famous and is exported in many Western countries including USA, UK, Singapore, Sweden, and Kuwait.
- There are 2 large enterprises in Saharanpur: ITC Ltd. and Star Paper Mills Ltd.
- A sizeable number of shoe units are functional here in unorganized sector. Some units are exporting their footwear to Europe.
- **Places of Interest:** Famous places to visit in Saharanpur are Nau Gaza Peer, Darul Uloom Deoband, Bala Sundari Devi Temple, Shakti Peeth Shakumbhri, Baba Bhuradev Temple.
- **Administrative Division:** Saharanpur
 - Saharanpur division consists of three districts namely – Saharanpur, Shamli and Muzaffarnagar.

Shamli

- **Formation:** Shamli district was carved out of Muzaffarnagar district in 2011.
- **Location:** It is bounded on east by Muzaffarnagar, in north by Saharanpur, in south by Baghpat and on west by the state of Haryana.
- **History:**
 - Former names of Shamli were Shyama Wali and Shyama Nagari. According to mythological story, Lord Krishna took the way of district at the time of going to Kurukshetra war from Hastinapur. He then blessed the place (now Hanuman-Dham) by worshipping Shri Hanuman before going on his way to Kurukshetra.
 - According to available evidence, Maratha soldiers developed this area as a cantonment, and revolutionaries in the Indian freedom movement used it as a safe hideout.
 - According to some stories, this town was constructed by Kunti's son Bheem Sen.
- **Geography:**
 - **Rivers:** Yamuna river makes its western boundary along with the state of Haryana.
 - **Agro Climatic Zone:** Mid-western Plain Zone
 - **Soil:** The soil is mainly sandy, loamy and silty.
 - **Major Agricultural Products:** Important field crops cultivated in Shamli include wheat, rice, pulses, oilseeds, millets.



○ Economy:

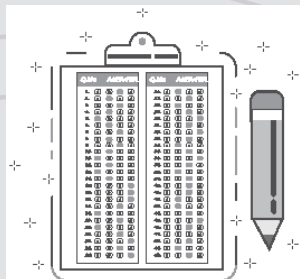
- The district has remained at the centre of the successful Green Revolution that helped India become self-sufficient in food production.
- Shamli is famous for Sugar/Jaggery.
- In addition to sugar mills, food processing units, there is a flourishing industry of wheel rims, spokes axle, hub, etc.

- **Places of Interest:** Important places to visit in Shamli include Hanuman Tila, Jain Temple, Gurudwara (Shamli), Peer Bidouli, Karn Ka Talab.

- **Administrative Division:** Saharanpur

Baghpat

- **Formation:** Baghpat district was carved out of Meerut district in 1997.



PRACTICE QUESTIONS

Based on Previous Years Prelims

SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY

1. Which one of the following diseases is not transmitted by tiger mosquitoes?
(a) Yellow fever
(b) Dengue
(c) Chikungunya
(d) Japanese Encephalitis
2. The disease caused by deficiency of protein in children is
(a) Marasmus
(b) Pellagra
(c) Beriberi
(d) Rickets
3. Photosynthesis using the invisible part of the sunlight is done by some
(a) Trees
(b) Algae
(c) Bacteria
(d) Fungi
4. The mirror used by a dentist to examine the teeth of patients is
(a) Concave
(b) Convex
(c) Plane
(d) Cylindrical
5. Wireless communication is reflected to the earth's surface by
(a) Troposphere
(b) Stratosphere
(c) Ionosphere
(d) Exosphere
6. What type of electromagnetic radiation is used in the remote control of a television?
(a) Infrared
(b) Ultraviolet
(c) Visible
(d) None of the above
7. The radiation that is absorbed by ozone present in the atmosphere is
(a) Infrared
(b) Visible
(c) Ultraviolet
(d) Microwave
8. Which one of the following gases is used for the purification of drinking water?
(a) Sulphur dioxide
(b) Chlorine
(c) Fluorine
(d) Carbon dioxide
9. The group of stars arranged in a definite pattern is called
(a) Milky way
(b) Constellation
(c) Andromeda
(d) Solar system
10. Refrigeration helps in food preservation by
(a) the killing of germs (bacteria)
(b) reducing the rate of biochemical reaction
(c) destroying the enzyme action
(d) sealing food with a layer of ice
11. Sound above what level (in decibels) is considered hazardous noise pollution?
(a) 30 dB
(b) 40 dB
(c) 60 dB
(d) 80 dB
12. Which one of the following statements is not correct regarding the amino acid, tyrosine, present in protein-rich foods?
(a) It can help increase energy levels.
(b) It can cope with emotional and environmental stress.
(c) It can combat depression.
(d) It can protect against free radicals responsible for ageing.
13. Air pressure is lowest in
(a) Winter season
(b) Spring season
(c) Autumn season
(d) Summer season



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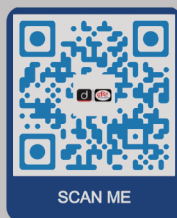
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