



Smartkeeda

The Question Bank

TestZone

PRESENTS

CURRENT AFFAIRS

MOCKDRILL SERIES

- Excellent Content
- Unmatched Explanation
- Brilliant Analysis

UNIQUE FEATURES

- Monthly 700+ Important News
- 13 to 15 PDFs per Month
- Free Mock Tests based on Each PDF
- Unlimited re-attempt option
- Monthly Topic-wise PDFs

www.smartkeeda.com | testzone.smartkeeda.com



Friends!

We used **TESTZONE** and cracked Bank Exams

बैंक परीक्षाओ के लिए निश्चित रूप से
सर्वश्रेष्ठ मॉक टेस्ट सीरीज



Karishma Pradhan
SBI Clerk 2021



Mayank Jain
IBPS Clerk 2021



Aarvi Pareek
IBPS PO 2021



Rahul Raj
IBPS PO 2021



Manisha Arora
SBI Clerk 2021

It's Your Turn Now
Take A FREE Mock Test

A Crucial Piece of Advice!

We find several students discussing the issue of lack of time and digging out content regarding how to use every second of your time efficiently. Some of you must be thinking, we have 86400 seconds each day, so why should we worry about just a single one? **Does a single second hold that much importance? YES!** When it comes to competition, each & every second is very crucial.

The first question that might come to your mind is “Is that even possible to use each second of your time effectively?” or “Do I even have that much spare time?” Let's help you by looking over the top time drainers of your daily routine:

- On an average, a person spends 67 minutes per day eating and drinking beverages while watching their favorite TV series.
- Travelling is one of the most overlooked time drainers. CNBC claims that the average commute is a little over 50 minutes per day.
- 44% of people waste tons of time just sitting in the traffic, while others keep scrolling through their feeds.
- Digital Information World suggests that people spend 2 hours and 22 minutes on social media.
- More often unproductive chats on WhatsApp are the major time drainers where you waste your time on without even knowing how much time is spent.

Adding up all these, you spend nearly **4 hours** daily or 1/6th of your day doing a whole lot of **NOTHING!** Over the course of a week that amounts to over **28 hours** of wasted time, and more than **1460 hours** or **52,560,000 seconds** annually!! Scary! Isn't it?

But what if you could effectively utilize this time to validate the knowledge you just gained during your study sessions? How about competing with your friend in a live Current Affairs battle instead of just sitting and listening to the traffic horns? How about dominating the English language leaderboard instead of searching for a filter on Snapchat?

Time and tide wait for none! Team Smartkeeda perceived the importance of time and practice in your test preparation journey. We understood how each second can make a huge difference to your career. Therefore, we were determined to build an application that has the competence to save each second of your preparation time making you 100% productive. We worked diligently for 3-4 years to build an application with the single aim of making each second of your test preparation time, efficient.

Folks! We feel thrilled to present you the **Qudoo App**, India's first Education-Gaming-Social platform (EGS) for all major competitive Exams, which has the unique capability of making your breaks extremely productive and refilling.

If you use the **Qudoo App** for 11-21 days during your preparation, in between your breaks, like while travelling, having meals, or instead of using any other social media app, within a few days, you'll feel like you've developed a mechanism inside your head that has the capability to answer the questions within a fraction of seconds. Timer-based points in Qudoo quizzes will create a cognitive reserve inside your brain that will automatically let you develop strategies to solve the questions within seconds to beat the opponent.

We, team **Smartkeeda**, promise that with the effective use of the Qudoo app, you will be able to see a drastic change in your performance at exams including your **speed, accuracy, and percentile** within a couple of weeks with minimum effort. “KYUKI MAA-BAAP KI FIKRA KO FAKRA ME BADALNA HAI”, so every second counts!!

 **DOWNLOAD QUDOO APP: [Click Here!](#)**



Testzone presents
Full-Length Current Affairs Mock Test Series

January
MockDrill
PDF No. 2

(PDF in English)



Smartkeeda

Test Launch Date: 20th January, 2023

[Attempt Test No. 2 based on this PDF!](#)

DOWNLOAD:

[Other PDFs of Jan 2023](#) | [Dec 2022 Monthly Combo PDF](#)

INDEX

National & States Affairs	6
International Affairs	9
Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs	9
Sports & Games	12
Persons in News	12
Arts & Cultural Affairs	13
Science & Technology	13
Appointments & Resignations	14
Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes	16
Schemes & Initiatives	16
Obituaries	16
Meetings, Conferences & Summits	18
Ranks, Reports & Surveys	18
Amount & Agreements	19
MoUs, Collaborations & Partnership	19



Warning: Smartkeeda possesses all copyrights on its content. This doesn't allow anyone to use its content for commercial purposes. If any infringement is found, legal action will be taken against the individual or entity. If you want to use the content for commercial purposes, kindly write to us at admin@smartkeeda.com.

National & States Affairs

51. On January 3, Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA) has constituted a high-powered committee headed by Minister of State Nityanand Rai to “ensure protection of land and employment” for the people of Ladakh. The committee will also discuss measures for inclusive development and employment generation in the region and issues related to empowerment of Ladakh Autonomous Hill District Councils of Leh and Kargil. On August 5, 2019, the former State of Jammu and Kashmir was bifurcated into two UTs - J&K and Ladakh. After its special status was removed, the civil society and political groups in Ladakh have been demanding inclusion under the sixth schedule of the Constitution to protect land, employment and cultural identity of Ladakh. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- MHA – constituted a high-powered committee to “ensure protection of land and employment” for the people of Ladakh
- The committee is headed by – Nityanand Rai (MoS, MHA)
- J & K was bifurcated into two UTs (J&K & Ladakh) on August 5, 2019
- J & K: Capital – Srinagar | Lt. Governor – Manoj Sinha

52. On January 4, the President of India, Smt Droupadi Murmu graced the inauguration of 18th National Jamboree of the Bharat Scouts and Guides at Pali, Rajasthan. With a membership of over 63 lakh Scouts and Guides, Bharat Scouts and Guides is one of the largest Scouts and Guides organizations in the world. President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated the ‘Samvidhan Udyan (Constitution Park)’ at Raj Bhavan, Jaipur, Rajasthan. She also graced the launch of the National Campaign on ‘RISE (Rising India through Spiritual Empowerment)’, organized by Brahma Kumaris at Mount Abu, Rajasthan. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- President Droupadi Murmu inaugurated/launched:
 - 18th ‘National Jamboree of the Bharat Scouts and Guides’ in Pali, Rajasthan
 - ‘Samvidhan Udyan (Constitution Park)’ in Jaipur, Rajasthan
 - National Campaign on ‘RISE (Rising India through Spiritual Empowerment)’ in Mount Abu, Rajasthan
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

53. On January 1, Kerala Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan inaugurated the “Indian Library Congress” at the Collectorate Ground in Kannur. The People’s Mission for Social Development and Library Council organized the event in association with Kannur University. The program was presided over by Dr V Shivdan, and Higher Education Minister Dr R Bindu announced 100 new libraries to be dedicated to the Kannur district. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Kerala CM – inaugurated the “Indian Library Congress” in Kannur
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

54. On January 2, Ashwini Vaishnav announced that the Sampark Kranti Express train between Ahmedabad and Delhi will be renamed as ‘Akshardham Express’ as a tribute to Pramukh Swami Maharaj. Pramukh Swami Maharaj, the spiritual guru of the BAPS Swaminarayan Sanstha. Pramukh Swami Maharaj was born on December 7, 1921 and became chief of the BAPS Swaminarayan sect in 1950. He died on August 13, 2016. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Sampark Kranti Express Train (Runs between Ahmedabad & Delhi) – renamed as ‘Akshardham Express’
- It has been renamed as a tribute to Pramukh Swami Maharaj who became chief of the BAPS Swaminarayan sect in 1950
- [Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw](#) | [Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh](#)

55. Most Central government offices are expected to go fully digital by the end of February 2023. Several security measures have been put in place to avoid any cybersecurity incidents such as the recent cyber and ransomware attack at the All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS) in Delhi. Cabinet Secretary Rajiv Gauba has directed all Central government ministries and departments to migrate to e-office 7.0, an in-house system developed by the National Informatics Centre (NIC), by February 2023. So far, 74 ministries and departments have migrated to e-office version 7.0. The e-office application is regularly audited for known vulnerabilities by third party agencies on the panel of Computer Emergency Response System (CERT-IN). [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Rajiv Gauba – directed all Central government ministries and departments to migrate to ‘e-office 7.0’ by Feb 2023
- ‘e-office 7.0’, an in-house system is developed by – NIC
- [HQs of NIC – New Delhi](#) | [Director General – Rajesh Gera](#) | [works under – MeitY](#) | [Established in – 1976](#)

56. Prime Minister Narendra Modi flagged off the MV Ganga Vilas, the world’s longest river cruise, in Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh. MV Ganga Vilas is the first-ever cruise vessel to be made in India and with 32 tourists from Switzerland, it began its maiden voyage from the temple town of Varanasi and reach Dibrugarh in Assam via Bangladesh in 51 days. The cruise is expected to run on a PPP model. The Inland Waterways Authority of India (IWAI) has signed an MoU with Antara Luxury River Cruises and JM Baxi River Cruises for this. The ‘Ganga Vilas Cruise’ is operated by Antara Luxury River Cruises. The voyage will cover a distance of 3,200 km and passengers will be able to visit over 50 tourist sites. The MV Ganga Vilas vessel is 62 metres in length, 12 metres in width and comfortably sails with a draft of 1.4 metres. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Narendra Modi – flagged off the world’s longest river cruise ‘MV Ganga Vilas’ at Varanasi, UP
- MV Ganga Vilas, first-ever made in India cruise vessel is operated by – Antara Luxury River Cruises
- 1st Journey – from Varanasi (UP) to Dibrugarh (Assam) via Bangladesh (51 days)
- [HQs of IWAI – Noida, Uttar Pradesh](#) | [Chairman – Sanjay Bandopadhyay](#)

57. On January 3, government announced that Indian state-run companies will continue to be exempt from the minimum public shareholding (MPS) norm that requires listed companies to maintain a 25% public shareholding. The exemptions from the MPS norm will be valid for a “specified period” even if there is a change in ownership or control after the exemption is granted. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Indian state-run companies will continue to be exempt from the MPS norm
- MPS norm requires listed companies to maintain a 25% public shareholding



58. On January 1, the Election Commission (EC) has launched 'Mission-929' to turnaround the relatively low voting percentage in 929 polling booths across Tripura. The Election Commission (EC) has set a target of 92% voter turnout in the assembly elections. All requisite arrangements such as ramps, wheelchairs and separate queues will be arranged at every polling station to felicitate senior citizens and persons with disability. The EC is also working on 'Mission Zero Poll Violence' to make the assembly elections peaceful. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- EC – launched 'Mission-929' to get 92% voter turnout in the assembly elections in 929 polling booths across Tripura
- The EC is also working on 'Mission Zero Poll Violence' to make the assembly elections peaceful
- Tripura: Capital – Agartala | CM – Manik Saha | Governor – Satyadev Narayan Arya

59. On January 2, A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court upheld by a 4:1 majority the decision taken by the central government six years ago in 2016 to demonetise currency notes of Rs 500 and Rs 1,000 denominations. The majority held that the Centre's notification dated November 8, 2016, was valid and satisfied the test of proportionality. Justice BV Nagarathna gave the dissenting judgement and held that though demonetisation was well-intentioned and well thought of, it has to be declared unlawful on legal grounds. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- SC bench upheld the decision taken by Central Govt in 2016 related to demonetisation of Rs 500 & Rs 1,000 notes
- Justice BV Nagarathna gave the dissenting judgement
- Present Chief of Justice of the Supreme Court of India – Justice Dhananjaya Y. Chandrachud (50th)
- Retirement age: Chief Justices & Judges of HC – 62 years | Chief Justice of India & judges of the SC – 65 years

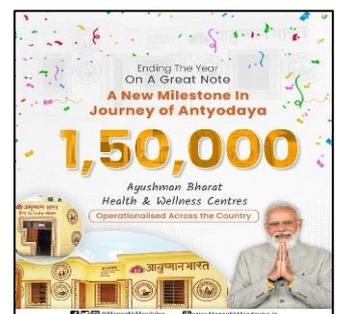
60. On January 3, NTPC Ltd commissioned India's first green hydrogen blending project. The green hydrogen blending has been started in the piped natural gas (PNG) network of NTPC Kawas township, Surat. The project is a joint effort of NTPC and Gujarat Gas Limited (GGL). This set-up is geared up to supply H₂-NG (natural gas) to households of Kawas township at Adityanagar, Surat. This feat is achieved by only a few select countries like UK, Germany, and Australia etc. This would bring India at the centre stage of the global hydrogen economy. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- NTPC Ltd – commissioned India's 1st Green Hydrogen Blending Project in Surat, Gujarat
- The project is a joint effort of = NTPC + GGL
- Gujarat: Capital – Gandhinagar | CM – Bhupendra Patel | Governor – Acharya Dev Vrat
- HQs of NTPC – New Delhi | CMD – Gurdeep Singh | Founded in – 1975

61. According to data released by Union Health Ministry, 1,50,000 Ayushman Bharat Health and Wellness Centres (AB-HWCs) have been operationalised before December 31. Ensuring the reach of healthcare services to the innermost regions of the nation through various initiatives, AB-HWCs have surpassed 8.5 Cr teleconsultations via e-Sanjeevani, wherein nearly 4 lakh teleconsultations take place on a daily basis. In light of expansion of AB-HWCs, the number of essential medicines has increased to 172 at the primary health centres and health wellness centres and 105 at sub health centres and health wellness centres, while essential diagnostics have been expanded to 63 at PHC-HWCs and 14 at SHC-HWCs. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Data released by Health Ministry:
 - 1,50,000 AB-HWCs have been operationalised before December 31, 2022
 - AB-HWCs have surpassed 8.5 Cr teleconsultations via e-Sanjeevni
 - Number of essential medicines has increased to 172 at the primary health centres & 105 at sub health centres
- Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Mansukh L. Mandaviya | Constituency – Palitana, Gujarat
- MoS in Ministry of Health & Family Welfare: Bharati Pravin Pawar

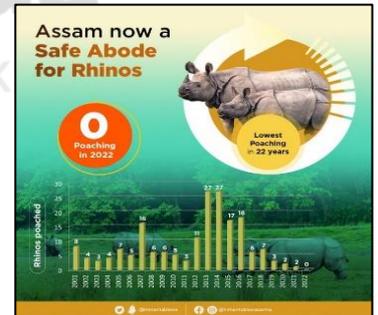
62. In January 2023, India took over the leadership of the Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU). Its Headquarters is located in Bangkok, Thailand. Vinaya Prakash Singh has been elected as the Secretary General of the union for a tenure of four years. Asian Pacific Postal Union (APPU) is an intergovernmental organization of 32 member countries of the Asia-Pacific region. APPU is the only restricted union of the Universal Postal Union (UPU) in the region, which is a specialized agency of the United Nations. Secretary General leads the activities of the union and is also the Director of the Asian Pacific Postal College (APPC) which is the largest inter-governmental postal training institute in the region. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Vinaya Prakash Singh – elected as the Secretary General of APPU & Director of APPC
- India – took over the leadership of the APPU in January 2023
- HQs of APPU – Bangkok, Thailand | Secretary General – Vinaya Prakash Singh

63. On January 1, Assam Chief Minister Himanta Biswa Sarma announced that no rhinos were poached in the state in 2022 and only 2 in 2021. Rhinos have been poached for their horn, which is prized in some cultures. The Indian rhinoceros (*Rhinoceros unicornis*) is found only in the Brahmaputra valley, parts of North Bengal, and parts of southern Nepal. The Indian rhino is listed as 'vulnerable' (better than endangered, worse than near threatened) in the IUCN Red List. In 2019, Assam constituted a Special Rhino Protection Force to keep a check on rhino poaching and related activities at Kaziranga National Park (KNP). World Rhino Day is observed on September 22. According to the WWF, there are around 3,700 Indian rhinos in the wild today. Assam's Kaziranga National Park (KNP) alone has 2,613 animals, according to a census carried out in March 2022. There are more than 250 other rhinos in the Orang, Pobitora, and Manas parks. One-horned Rhino is the state animal of Assam. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Himanta Biswa Sarma: No rhinos were poached in Assam in 2022 (only 2 in 2021)
- WWF: there are around 3,700 Indian rhinos in the wild | One-horned Rhino is the state animal of Assam
- Indian rhinoceros are found only in the Brahmaputra valley (North Bengal) & some parts of southern Nepal
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi
- HQs of WWF International – Gland, Switzerland | Director General – Marco Lambertini | Established in – 1961

64. Ministry of Railways has rolled out a five-pronged Energy Efficiency Plan to become carbon-neutral by 2030. The ministry is looking to reduce overall energy use with efficient operations and increase renewable energy usage. The policy is broadly centred around 5 action points - sustainable buildings, cloud-based data monitoring & management portal, energy efficiency in equipment & appliances, power quality & restoration, and capacity building & awareness. India, in its commitment to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, has set a target to become net zero by 2070. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Ministry of Railways – rolled out a five-pronged Energy Efficiency Plan to become carbon-neutral by 2030
- [Ministry of Railways: Ashwini Vaishnaw](#) | [Constituency – Odisha](#)
- [MoS in Ministry of Railways: Danve Raosaheb Dadarao & Darshana Vikram Jardosh](#)

International Affairs

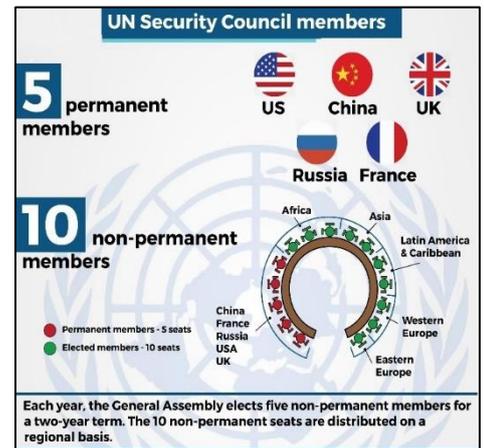
65. On January 1, Sweden took over the Presidency of the Council of the European Union for 6 months. The presidency of the Council of the European Union is responsible for the functioning of the Council of the European Union, which is the co-legislator of the EU legislature alongside the European Parliament. Before this, the presidency was held by Czech Republic. The Czech Republic's second Presidency of the Council of the European Union was held between 1 July and 31 December 2022. Czech Republic previously held the presidency from 1 January until 30 June 2009. Three successive presidencies are known as presidency trios. The current trio (2022-2023) is made up of France (January-June 2022), Czech Republic (July-December 2022) and Sweden (January-June 2023). [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Sweden – took over Presidency of Council of the European Union on January 1 for 6 months (from – Czech Republic)
- [Sweden – Stockholm – Krona](#) | [PM – Ulf Kristersson](#)

66. On January 4, Five newly elected Non-permanent members - Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique and Switzerland - began their journey to serve on the United Nations Security Council (UNSC) for the term 2023-2024. In a tradition that Kazakhstan started in 2018, the five countries' ambassadors installed their national flags alongside those of other members outside the council chambers. China, France, Russia, the UK and the US are permanent, veto-wielding members of the group. The UNSC's 10 other Non-permanent members are elected by the 193-nation General Assembly (UNGA) for staggered, two-year terms. The five latest Non-permanent members replaced India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico and Norway. Their terms ended on December 31. The other current two-year members are Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana and United Arab Emirates. Moreover, Japan assumed the presidency of the UNSC for the month January 2023. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- 5 newly elected Non-permanent members of UNSC – Ecuador, Japan, Malta, Mozambique, Switzerland
- They replaced India, Ireland, Kenya, Mexico, Norway | Existing 5 members – Albania, Brazil, Gabon, Ghana, UAE
- The UNSC has 10 Non-permanent members & 5 permanent members (China, France, Russia, UK, US)
- Japan – assumed the UNSC Presidency for the month January 2023
- [HQs of UNSC – New York, US](#) | [Presidency in January – Japan](#) (December - India | February - Malta)

67. On January 1, China rolled off the first semi high speed, hydrogen-powered train in the Asian Region with its own independent intellectual property rights. It has been developed in collaboration with the Chengdu Railway Group and CRRC Changchun. The hydrogen-powered train uses the key core technology from the “Fuxing” high-speed train. It also has a built-in “hydrogen-power” system that gives the vehicle’s battery life a powerful and long-lasting power source, enabling it to go 600 kilometres on a single charge. World’s first Hydrogen-powered train had begun its passenger services in Germany since August 2022. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- China – rolled off the first semi high speed, hydrogen-powered train in the Asian Region
- Germany – launched world’s first Hydrogen-powered train in August 2022
- China – Beijing – Renminbi | President – Xi Jinping

Banking, Finance, Insurance & Economic Affairs

68. On January 3, the Reserve Bank of India has approved a proposal of SBI Funds Management to acquire 9.99% equity shares in Equitas Small Finance Bank through various schemes managed by it. The approval by RBI is subject to compliance with the relevant regulations issued by RBI and SEBI and is valid for one year till January 2, 2024. [\(Read more\)](#)

Smart Points:

- RBI – approved a proposal of SBI Funds Management to acquire 9.99% equity shares in Equitas SFB
- HQs of Equitas SFB – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | MD & CEO – Vasudevan Pathangi Narasimhan
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

69. On January 4, Dhanlaxmi Bank launched all new retail internet banking, ‘DhanDelight’, and retail mobile banking app, ‘DhanSmart’. The new services are built on omni channel platform having various features covering different banking needs of customers. The products will enhance customer convenience and is a landmark in the digital landscape of the bank. DhanDelight and DhanSmart have the latest information system security features to provide secure banking. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Dhanlaxmi Bank – launched all new retail internet banking, ‘DhanDelight’ & retail mobile banking app, ‘DhanSmart’
- HQs of Dhanlaxmi Bank – Thrissur, Kerala | MD & CEO – J. K. Shivan

70. On January 5, IndusInd Bank, British Airways Executive Club and Qatar Airways Privilege Club announced a partnership to introduce a multi-branded credit card, powered by Visa. The multi-branded credit card is slated to be launched in the first quarter of the financial year 2023-24. This credit card will be available in the Infinite variant of Visa, and will offer best-in-class rewards and benefits to elevate international travel experience of customers. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- IndusInd Bank + British Airways Executive Club + Qatar Airways Privilege Club = partnership to introduce Credit Card
- The multi-branded credit card will be powered by Visa
- HQs of IndusInd Bank – Pune, Maharashtra | MD & CEO – Sumant Kathpalia | Tagline – “We Make You Feel Richer”



71. On January 4, Aegon Life Insurance has launched iTerm Prime Insurance plan catering to the need of self-employed individuals with a special 10% discount on first-year premium. iTerm Prime offers a minimum sum assured of ₹25 lakhs, with no upper limit on a consumer's requirement, making it accessible to a large swathe of the population with different insurance needs. The product can be purchased on Aegon Life's website and through its partners. The product also offers a 'Special Exit Value' option that allows the policyholder to get all premiums back when they turn 55 years old. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Aegon Life Insurance – launched 'iTerm Prime' insurance plan for self-employed individuals
- iTerm Prime – offers a minimum sum assured of ₹25 lakhs with no upper limit
- HQs of Aegon Life – Mumbai, MH | MD & CEO – Satishwar Balakrishnan

72. On January 4, ICICI Bank introduced digital solutions for exporters, a comprehensive set of banking and value-added services on a single platform. The set of solutions offer facilities such as instant disbursement of Export Packing Credit (Insta EPC) and Trade APIs. Insta EPC provides export finance instantly, while Trade APIs enable smooth handling of export transactions directly from exporters' ERP systems, thereby providing greater convenience. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

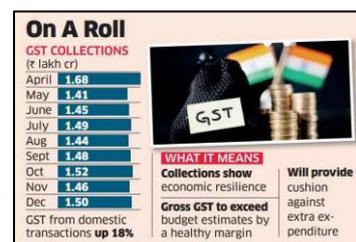
- ICICI Bank – introduced digital solutions such as 'Insta EPC' & 'Trade APIs' for exporters on a single platform
- HQs of ICICI Bank – Mumbai | MD & CEO – Sandeep Bakhshi | Taglines – "Hum Hain Na!" & "Khayal Apka"

73. On January 5, the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) received an application from Bhubaneswar-based Annapurna Finance Pvt Ltd for an 'on-tap' license to start Universal Banks in the private sector. The application was received in the quarter ended December 2022. Besides, 7 entities had applied under the guidelines for 'on tap' licensing for setting up small finance banks. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- RBI received an application from Annapurna Finance (Bhubaneswar) for 'on-tap' license to start Universal Banks
- HQs of RBI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | Governor – Shaktikanta Das (25th) | Established on – 1st April, 1935
- Total Deputy Governors (4) – Mahesh Kumar Jain | T. Rabi Sankar | Michael D. Patra | M. Rajeshwar Rao

74. India's goods and services tax (GST) receipts in December 2022 rose 15% year-on-year to Rs 1.49 Lakh Crore (\$18.07 billion). The gross GST revenue collected during December 2022 is Rs 1,49,507 crore, of which CGST is Rs 26,711 crore, SGST is Rs 33,357 crore, IGST is Rs 78,434 crore and Cess is Rs 11,005 crore. During December 2022, revenues from import of goods was 8% higher and the revenues from domestic transaction were 18% higher than the revenues from these sources during December, 2021. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- India's GST receipts in Dec 2022 rose 15% year-on-year to Rs 1.49 Lakh Crore (\$18.07 billion)
- During Dec 2022, revenues from import of goods was 8% higher & revenues from domestic transaction were 18% higher



Sports & Games

75. The first-ever “ABB FIA Formula E World Championship Race” (2023 Hyderabad E-Prix) in India is set to be held in Hyderabad on February 11, 2023. Hyderabad race on February 11 will be the fourth race of the season. The event is climate-friendly as it is a net zero carbon sport. A total of 11 teams with 22 cars would be racing in the event. The world’s fastest, lightest, most powerful and efficient electric race car, ‘Gen3’, will be coming to Hyderabad on February 11. Private firm Ace Nxt Gen is the official promoter of the Formula E Race in India in partnership with Formula E and the Telangana government. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- The first-ever ABB FIA Formula E World Championship Race in India – to be held in Hyderabad (in Feb 2023)
- Total 11 teams with 22 cars would be racing in the event | Official promoter of the event – Ace Nxt Gen
- The world’s fastest, lightest, most powerful and efficient electric race car – ‘Gen3’
- Telangana: Capital – Hyderabad | CM – K. Chandrashekar Rao | Governor – Tamilisai Soundararajan

76. On January 5, Australia’s legendary woman cricketer Belinda Clark became the first female cricketer to be immortalised with a sculpture in the Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG) precinct. Clark’s bronze statue has been installed at the entrance to the SCG’s Walk of Honour. She was Australia’s captain for 12 years and in 101 games and also led Australia to triumph in the 1997 and 2005 World Cups. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Belinda Clark (Australia) – became the first female cricketer to get bronze statue at Sydney Cricket Ground (SCG)

77. On January 6, 16-year-old M. Pranesh clinched the title in the Rilton Cup, the first tournament of the FIDE Circuit, and became India’s 79th Chess Grandmaster. To become a GM, a player has to secure three GM norms and cross the live rating of 2,500 Elo points. Tamil Nadu player Pranesh topped the charts in the tournament, which brought together 136 players representing 29 national federations. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- M. Pranesh (Tamil Nadu) – became India’s 79th Chess Grandmaster
- He won the ‘Rilton Cup’ title in Stockholm, Sweden

Persons in News

78. On January 2, Captain Shiva Chouhan became the first woman officer to be operationally deployed at Kumar Post in the Siachen Glacier. Siachen Glacier is located at an altitude of 15,632 feet. She was born in Udaipur, Rajasthan. Kumar Post is named after late Colonel Narinder ‘Bull’ Kumar (retd.), who was instrumental in the Indian Army launching ‘Operation Meghdoot’ and securing the dominating heights of Siachen Glacier in 1984. On April 13, 1984, India launched ‘Operation Meghdoot’ to capture the 76.4 km-long glacier on the Saltoro ridge. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Captain Shiva Chouhan (Rajasthan) – 1st woman officer to be operationally deployed at Kumar Post in Siachen Glacier
- Siachen Glacier – located at an altitude of 15,632 feet
- Rajasthan: Capital – Jaipur | CM – Ashok Gehlot | Governor – Kalraj Mishra

Arts & Cultural Affairs

79. On January 3, Tamil Nadu Governor R.N. Ravi inaugurated Octave 2023 festival which was organised by the South Zone Cultural Centre, Thanjavur, in Chennai. It is a festival celebrating the culture of northeastern India. This family of eight northeastern States makes up for 4% of our population and 8% of geography. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- R.N. Ravi – inaugurated northeastern cultural festival, ‘Octave 2023’, in Chennai
- Tamil Nadu: Capital – Chennai | CM – Muthuvel Karunanidhi Stalin | Governor – Ravindra Narayan Ravi

Science & Technology

80. On January 3, Scientists from South Korea have developed a new water purification system that can quickly and efficiently filter out microplastics. The polymer used is relatively inexpensive with excellent adsorption performance and good photothermal properties. In an experiment, over 99.9% of contaminants were taken out of the water in just 10 seconds. Microplastics have inundated the world, finding their way into the human food chain. While some traditional carbon-based filters can filter out microplastics, they have limitations, the adsorption rate is slow and they are not energy-efficient. The Korean team’s breakthrough system requires lower levels of energy, making it ideal for solar-based use. This is particularly useful for developing countries where power supply is inconsistent. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- South Korea – developed a new water purification system that can efficiently filter out microplastics in 10 seconds
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol

81. On January 3, Bengaluru-based Space sector start-up Digantara launched its second satellite namely ‘Pushan-Alpha’ as a rideshare onboard SpaceX’s ‘Transporter-6’ mission. The Pushan-Alpha observations will help complement Digantara’s ‘ROBI’ (ROBust Integrating proton fluence meter) mission, the world’s first commercial space-based space weather monitoring system onboard ISRO’s PSLV-C53 launched on June 30, 2022. The Pushan-Alpha mission has a three-fold objective - to extend radiation measurements to the sun synchronous orbit; to assess mid to high energy particle radiation from the South Atlantic Anomaly; and to investigate any co-relation of atmospheric drag and particle environment for enhanced orbit and debris modelling. Digantara is an Indian Space Technology Company incubated at Indian Institute of Science (IISc). The Pushan-Alpha mission is named after the Hindu solar deity considered as the god of journeys and protector of travellers. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Digantara (Bengaluru) – launched its 2nd satellite ‘Pushan-Alpha’ as a rideshare onboard SpaceX’s ‘Transporter-6’ mission
- ‘Pushan-Alpha’ observations will help complement Digantara’s ‘ROBI’ mission
- ROBI mission – world’s first commercial space-based space weather monitoring system
- HQs of Digantara – Bengaluru, Karnataka | CEO – Anirudh Sharma
- HQs of SpaceX – California, U.S. | Founder & CEO – Elon Musk | Founded in – 2002

Appointments & Resignations

82. On January 3, Telecom infrastructure company Indus Towers appointed Prachur Sah as managing director and chief executive officer of the company. The position had been vacant since the resignation of Bimal Dayal in July 2022. Prior to his appointment as MD and CEO of Indus Towers, Sah led the oil and gas vertical of Vedanta, Cairn. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Prachur Sah – appointed as MD & CEO of Indus Towers (succeeding - Bimal Dayal)
- HQs of Indus Towers – Gurgaon, Haryana | MD & CEO – Prachur Sah

83. On January 5, Prasanna Kumar Motupalli was appointed as Chairman and Managing Director (CMD) of the state-run NLC India Ltd (NLCIL). The Appointments Committee of the Cabinet has approved Motupalli’s appointment till the date of his superannuation that is June 30, 2026. Motupalli, Executive Director of NTPC Ltd, is presently working as Managing Director in Gujarat State Electricity Corporation Limited on deputation basis. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Prasanna Kumar Motupalli – appointed as CMD of NLC India Ltd (NLCIL)
- HQs of NLC India Ltd – Chennai, Tamil Nadu | CMD – Prasanna Kumar Motupalli

84. On January 6, South Korean consumer electronics major LG electronics appointed Hong Ju Jeon as the Managing Director of its India business. Former MD of LG Electronics India Young Lak Kim has been promoted to the position of Executive Vice President and will be joining as Korea Sales & Marketing Head. Before this, Jeon was in charge of the Gulf region as subsidiary President of LG. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Hong Ju Jeon – appointed as MD of India business of South Korea-based LG electronics (succeeding - Lak Kim)
- South Korea – Seoul – Korean Republic won | President – Yoon Suk-yeol



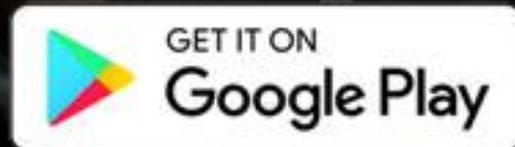
SCAN TO
DOWNLOAD APP

Smartkeeda प्रस्तुत करता है

भारत का पहला

EGS

Education-Gaming-Social-Platform



Play Quizzes in

QUANT | REASONING | ENGLISH | GS | CURRENT AFFAIRS | LAW

Useful for Exams

- BANK & INSURANCE
- SSC & RAILWAYS
- TEACHING EXAMS
- LAW EXAMS
- UPSC
- DEFENCE EXAMS
- STATE EXAMS
- CUET

इस खेल में कोई वित्तीय जोखिम नहीं है और इसकी आदत लग जाए तो अच्छा है।

Awards, Rewards, Recognition & Prizes

85. On January 1, Guyana's President Mohamed Irfaan Ali is among 21 recipients of the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA). Other recipients include US-based businessman Darshan Singh Dhaliwal, and DBS Bank CEO Piyush Gupta. Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award is the highest honour conferred on overseas Indians during the Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention, which was held between January 8-10, 2022 in Indore. Irfaan Ali was also be the chief guest at the convention. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Irfaan Ali (Guyana's President) – is among 21 recipients of the 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Samman Award (PBSA)
- 17th Pravasi Bharatiya Divas Convention – held in Indore, Madhya Pradesh
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal | CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan | Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

86. On January 4, the Assam government announced to confer the highest state civilian award 'Assam Baibhav' on Mumbai-based medical practitioner Dr Tapan Saikia for his contribution towards cancer treatment. Krishna Roy for art and culture, Gilbert Sangma and Nayanmoni Saikia for sports, Dr Binoy Kumar Saikia for science and Dr Sashidhar Phukan for healthcare and public service will receive the 'Assam Saurav' award. A total of 15 eminent personalities have been selected for conferring the 'Assam Gaurav' award this year. Moreover, the Assam Cabinet also approved the 'Assam City Gas Distribution Policy 2022' for promotion of city gas distribution network. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Assam government announced to confer the State Civilian Awards:
 - 'Assam Baibhav' award – to Dr Tapan Saikia
 - 'Assam Saurav' award – to Krishna Roy, Gilbert Sangma, Nayanmoni Saikia, Binoy Kumar Saikia, Sashidhar Phukan
 - 'Assam Gaurav' award – to 15 eminent personalities
- [Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi](#)

Schemes & Initiatives

87. Scientists have discovered a new species of dwarf boa or snake (*Tropidophis cacuangoae*) in the Ecuadoran Amazon and named it after an Indigenous activist. The second part of the name honors early 20th century Indigenous rights activist Dolores Cacuango. Two specimens were found in the Colonso Chalupas National Reserve and in the private Sumak Kawsay Park, both in Ecuador. The team's findings were published in the European Journal of Taxonomy. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- 'Tropidophis Cacuangoae', dwarf boa or snake – discovered in Ecuadoran Amazon, Ecuador
- [Ecuador – Quito – US Dollar | President – Guillermo Lasso](#)

88. On January 1, Himachal Pradesh Chief Minister Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu announced to set up the CM's Sukhashray Sahayata Kosh with an outlay of Rs 101 Crore. The scheme aims to provide the facility of higher education to needy children and destitute women. The state government will bear the expenditure on skill development education, higher education, and vocational training of such children in engineering colleges. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Himachal Pradesh – to set up the “CM’s Sukhashray Sahayata Kosh” with an outlay of Rs 101 Crore
- The scheme aims to provide the facility of higher education to needy children and destitute women
- [HP: Capital – Shimla & Dharamshala](#) | [CM – Sukhvinder Singh Sukhu](#) | [Governor – Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar](#)

89. On January 4, Madhya Pradesh government launched “Chief Minister’s Residential Land Rights Scheme” (Mukhyamantri Aavaseya Bhoomi Adhikaar Yojana). Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will distribute free leases of residential land to selected beneficiaries. Applications of 14 lakh people were received from all over the state. Out of these, 10,500 eligible beneficiaries of Tikamgarh district were given residential plots worth Rs 120 Cr. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- MP – launched “Chief Minister’s Residential Land Rights Scheme” (Mukhyamantri Aavaseya Bhoomi Adhikaar Yojana)
- [Madhya Pradesh: Capital – Bhopal](#) | [CM – Shivraj Singh Chouhan](#) | [Governor – Mangubhai Chhaganbhai Patel](#)

Obituaries

90. On January 3, Shyamal Ghosh, who played as a defender in the Indian football team in the 1970s, passed away. He was 71. Shyamal Ghosh his first major break at Mohun Bagan in 1972. He made his India debut against Thailand at the Merdeka Cup in 1974. In 1977, he was made the captain of the East Bengal side. Shyamal Ghosh was presented with East Bengal’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016. He won the Santosh Trophy thrice. As a coach, Shyamal Ghosh handpicked Bhaichung Bhutia to play for East Bengal in 1993 when he was just 17. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Shyamal Ghosh – Former Football Player – passed away
- Awards: East Bengal’s Lifetime Achievement Award in 2016 & Santosh Trophy (Thrice)

91. On January 3, Eminent Rabindra Sangeet exponent Sumitra Sen of West Bengal passed away. She was 89. The West Bengal government had awarded her ‘Sangeet Mahasamman’ in 2012. Her memorable songs that regaled Rabindra Sangeet lovers for over four decades include Megh Bolechhe Jabo Jabo, Tomari Jharnatalar Nirjone, Sakhi Bhabona Kahare Bole and Achhe Dukho Achhe Mrityu. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Sumitra Sen – Eminent Rabindra Sangeet exponent – passed away
- Awards: ‘Sangeet Mahasamman’ by West Bengal Govt in 2012
- [West Bengal: Capital – Kolkata](#) | [CM – Mamta Banerjee](#) | [Governor – CV Ananda Bose](#)

Meetings, Conferences & Summits

92. On January 5, Union Health Minister Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya chaired a High-level Meeting to review the status of Kala-Azar disease in the 4 endemic states of Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand, and West Bengal. The meeting was also presided over by Union Minister of State for Health and Family Welfare, Dr. Bharati Pravin Pawar. India is committed to eliminating Kala Azar from the country by 2023. 632 (99.8%) endemic blocks have already achieved elimination status. Kala Azar is also known as Visceral Leishmaniasis or Dum Dum Fever. Kala-Azar is a protozoan parasitic disease, spread by sandfly bites. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Dr. Mansukh Mandaviya – chaired a High-level Meeting to review the status of 'Kala-Azar' disease
- 4 endemic states for 'Kala Azar' – Bihar, Uttar Pradesh, Jharkhand & West Bengal | It is spread by Sandfly bites
- India is committed to eliminating Kala Azar (Visceral Leishmaniasis or Dum Dum Fever) from the country by 2023

Ranks, Reports & Surveys

93. A bird survey conducted at the Silent Valley National Park in the last week of December identified 141 species, of which 17 were new. So far, 175 species of birds have been spotted in Silent Valley. The survey held on December 27, 28 and 29 marked the 30th anniversary of the first bird survey in Silent Valley in 1990. The survey was held in association with the Kerala Natural History Society. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Bird Survey conducted at the Silent Valley National Park (Kerala) – identified total 141 species (17 new)
- First Bird Survey in Silent Valley NP was conducted in 1990
- Kerala: Capital – Thiruvananthapuram | CM – Pinarayi Vijayan | Governor – Arif Mohammad Khan

Amount & Agreements

94. On January 4, Under the instructions of Union Minister of Commerce and Industry Piyush Goyal, financial aid worth Rs 28.11 Crore has been allocated to 28,112 Flue Cured Virginia (FCV) tobacco farmers who have incurred crop loss due to the Mandous cyclone in Andhra Pradesh. A special interest-free crop loan of Rs 10,000 has been extended to each member of Tobacco Board's Growers' Welfare Schemes of Andhra Pradesh. Mandous is an Arabic word meaning 'Treasure box'. The cyclone was named by the UAE. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Financial aid worth Rs 28.11 Cr is allocated to Mandous cyclone-affected tobacco farmers in Andhra Pradesh
- Special interest-free crop loan of Rs 10,000 is extended to each member of Tobacco Board's Growers' Welfare Schemes
- Cyclones Mandous (meaning 'Treasure box') – named by the UAE



95. By January 3, the Indian government and the Asian Development Bank (ADB) signed loan agreements totalling \$1.22 billion for developing infrastructure in various Indian states. The agreements would cover projects for improving the power sector and highways in the northeastern states of Tripura (\$220 million loan) and Assam (\$300 million loan), metro rail connectivity in Chennai (\$350 million loan), and improvement of key economic areas in Maharashtra (\$350 million loan).

[{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Indian Govt + ADB = signed loan agreements totalling \$1.22 billion for developing infrastructure in various Indian states
- \$1.22 billion = Tripura (\$220 million) + Assam (\$300 million) + Chennai (\$350 million) + Maharashtra (\$350 million)
- HQs of ADB – Mandaluyong, Philippines | President – Masatsugu Asakawa | Members – 68 | Established in – 1966

MoUs, Collaborations & Partnerships

96. On January 4, an MoU for collaborative and sponsored research projects was signed between Hindustan Copper Limited (HCL) and Indian Institute of Technology (Indian School of Mines), Dhanbad, at HCL Corporate Office in Kolkata, West Bengal. The first technical collaboration with IIT (ISM), Dhanbad, is a momentous occasion for HCL, the only copper miner in India.

[{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- HCL + IIT (ISM) Dhanbad (Jharkhand) = an MoU for collaborative & sponsored research projects
- HQs of HCL – Kolkata, West Bengal | CMD – Arun Kumar Shukla

97. On January 6, Kewal Kiran Clothing Ltd (KKCL) announced its strategic partnership with Board of Control for Cricket in India (BCCI) as the Indian Cricket Team's Official Partner, showcasing its flagship brand 'KILLER' on Team India jersey. KKCL will keep the brand Killer logo on Team India's Kit until 31st May 2023. [{Read more}](#)



Smart Points:

- Kewal Kiran Clothing (brand 'KILLER') – partnered with BCCI & became the Official Sponsor of Indian Cricket Team
- HQs of BCCI – Mumbai, Maharashtra | President – Roger Binny | Secretary – Jay Shah | Founded in – 1928

98. On January 5, Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Microsoft signed an MoU to work together to fuel the growth of space technology startups in India. The partnership would help empower space tech start-ups across the country with technology tools and platforms, go-to-market support and mentoring to help them scale and become enterprise-ready. Through this tie-up, the space tech startups identified by ISRO would be onboarded onto the Microsoft for Startups Founders Hub platform. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- ISRO + Microsoft = an MoU to work together to fuel the growth of space technology startups in India
- HQs of ISRO – Bengaluru, Karnataka | Director – S. Somanath | Formed on – August 15, 1969
- HQs of Microsoft – Washington, US | Chairman & CEO – Satya Nadella | Founded in – 1975



99. On January 5, Indian Army signed an agreement with the Assam government to offer Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) at 8 medical college and hospitals in the state. Memorandum of Agreements were signed between the Indian Army authorities and 8 government medical colleges and hospitals. This understanding will facilitate the cashless and capless treatment of almost 1.12 lakh beneficiaries. Unlike other schemes, this scheme covers all types of diseases. The Assam Cancer Care Foundation (ACCF), which is an Assam government and TATA Trust initiative, has also been empanelled with ECHS. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- Indian Army + Assam = MoUs to offer Ex-Servicemen Contributory Health Scheme (ECHS) at 8 medical college/hospitals
- HQs of Indian Army – New Delhi | Chief – Lt. Gen. Manoj Pande | Vice Chief – Lt. General Baggavalli Somashekar Raju
- Assam: Capital – Dispur | CM – Himanta Biswa Sarma | Governor – Jagdish Mukhi

100. On January 5, the International Hockey Federation (FIH) signed a partnership with the JSW Group for the upcoming “FIH Odisha Hockey Men’s World Cup 2023” (15th edition) in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela to be held from January 13-29, 2023. The group supports and promotes Olympics in India and has created an Olympic Training Institute in the Inspire Institute of Sport as well as has Olympic training centres across India. [{Read more}](#)

Smart Points:

- FIH + JSW Group = partnership for the “FIH Odisha Hockey Men’s World Cup 2023” (15th edition)
- It is scheduled to be held in Bhubaneswar-Rourkela from January 13-29, 2023
- HQs of FIH – Lausanne, Switzerland | President – Mohammad Tayyab Ikram | CEO – Thierry Weil | Founded in – 1924
- HQs of JSW Group – Mumbai, Maharashtra | CMD – Sajjan Jindal



Smartkeeda
The Question Bank





Smartkeeda

The Question Bank

Presents

Testzone

India's Leading Test Series Platform

All Banks Exams

2022-2023

12 Months Plan

@Just

Rs. **629**

To get 10% Off use code **FEST22**

- ✓ Brilliant Test Analysis
- ✓ Excellent Content
- ✓ Unmatched Explanation

Buy Now

Testzone.smartkeeda.com

