



# DAILY

# CURRENT AFFAIRS



**September - 18**



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# QUIZ



**#244**

UNESCO adds 20 new sites to World Network of Biosphere Reserves, as of now how many biosphere reserves across the Globe?

A 131      B 534

C 727      D 981

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**C) 727**



# QUIZ



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## QUIZ

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## UNESCO's Man and the Biosphere Program adds 20 New Sites

- Total = 727 biosphere reserves
- UNESCO: Hq – Paris ,France
- Director-General : Audrey Azoulay

# Important Days



➤ **World Water Monitoring Day is observed on which date?**

- A) September 14
- B) September 17
- C) September 16
- D) September 15
- E) September 18



**Answer**

**E) September 18**

- The day was first instituted in the year 2003 to build public awareness and involvement in **protecting water resources around the world.**





# Important Days



## International Coastal Cleanup Day

- During the third Saturday in September, **International Coastal CleanUp Day** encourages people to rid beaches of the garbage plaguing beaches.
- Awareness is also spread about preserving and protecting the world's oceans and waterways.



# Important Days



## International Coastal Cleanup Day Theme

- The theme of International Coastal Clean-Up Day 2021: “Keep trash in the bin and not in the ocean”.



# Important Days



## International Equal Pay Day

- The International Equal Pay Day (IEPD) is observed annually on September 18 with an objective to raise awareness to promote action towards achieving equal pay for work of equal value.
- The first-ever (IEPD) was celebrated by United Nations in 2020. In November 2019, the UN General Assembly adopted a resolution proclaiming September 18 as International Equal Pay Day.



# Important Days



## World Bamboo Day



- It was observed by the **World Bamboo Organisation (WBO)**.



# Important Days



## World Bamboo Day: History

- World Bamboo Day was founded by Kamesh Salam as former president of the World Bamboo Organisation in 2009 at the 8th World Bamboo Congress held in Bangkok.
- The theme for the 12th edition of WBD 2021 is '#PlantBamboo: It Is Time To Plant Bamboo'



➤ 'Together for a Shared Future' unveiled as motto for \_\_\_\_\_?

- A) Beijing 2022 Games
- B) Kabul 2026 Games
- C) Tokyo 2029 Games
- D) Dushanbe 2058 Games
- E) New Delhi 2023 Games

**Answer**

**A) Beijing 2022 Games**



## Explanation

- The Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics unveiled its official motto, "Together for a Shared Future", during a ceremony at the city's Capital Museum.
- Chen Ning, director general of Beijing 2022's Culture and Ceremonies Department, said that the slogan was a commitment towards overcoming global challenges as a community with a shared future for mankind.
- The Games will be held from **Feb. 4-20**, with Beijing set to become the first city to host both the Summer and Winter Olympics.



➤ LIC launches mobile app \_\_\_\_\_ for use by Development Officers?

- A) 'PRANA'
- B) 'ICEGATE'
- C) 'PRAGATI'
- D) 'PROOF'
- E) 'WINDOW'

**Answer**

**C) 'PRAGATI'**





## Explanation

- Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) launched a new mobile app 'PRAGATI' (Performance Review Application, Growth And Trend Indicator) for use by its Development Officers.
- Pragati app will give various information which are updated in near real-time about the performance of their agency force in critical areas of business performance like premium collection, and agency activation, etc apart from monitoring team, LIC said in a statement.
- LIC has been taking a lot of customer centric and digital initiatives for ease of operations for its customers and field force, it said.



## Titbits

Life Insurance Corporation  
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra  
Chairman: M R Kumar



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who re-elected as the president of the National Rifle Association of India (NRAI)?

- A) Ravindhar Singh
- B) Karuna Singh
- C) Varun Singh
- D) Raj Singh
- E) Raninder Singh

**Answer**

**E) Raninder Singh**



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Alka Nangia Arora is appointed as CMD of \_\_\_\_?**

- A) CII
- B) CCI
- C) NTPC
- D) NHAI
- E) NSIC

**Answer**

**E) NSIC**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- Alka Nangia Arora, IDAS (91) assumed the additional charge of the post of Chairman cum Managing Director (CMD), **The National Small Industries Corporation Ltd. (NSIC) on 14th September, 2021.**
- Alka Nangia Arora is an **industry veteran with over 30 years of the experience** in diverse activities across the country.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- National Small Industries Corporation (NSIC), is an ISO 9001-2015 certified Government of India Enterprise under Ministry of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises (MSME).



# APPOINTMENTS



## Titbits

### NSIC

Expansion: National Small Industries Corporation  
Chairman-Cum-Managing Director: Alka Nangia Arora  
Headquarters: New Delhi  
Founded: 1955



# AWARDS



➤ Dharmendra Pradhan presents  
Kaushalacharya Awards 2021 to \_\_\_\_ skill trainers?

- A) 21
- B) 31
- C) 51
- D) 61
- E) 41

**Answer**

**E) 41**





## Explanation

- Union Education Minister and Skill Development Minister Shri Dharmendra Pradhan virtually presented Kaushalacharya Awards 2021 to 41 skill trainers for their exemplary contribution to the skill ecosystem.
- These 41 trainers are from several initiatives and training programmes of Skill India— Directorate General of Training (DGT), Apprenticeship, Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) and Entrepreneurship.



# AWARDS



## **Titbits**

Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship  
Minister: Shri Dharmendra Pradhan  
Constituency: Rajya Sabha MP, Madhya Pradesh



➤ **The Department of Space (DoS) has entered into a Framework MoU with \_\_\_\_\_ for access to ISRO facilities and expertise towards the development and testing of subsystems/systems of space launch vehicles?**

- 1) Agnikul Cosmos
- 2) Skyroot Aerospace
- 3) SpaceX
- A) Only 1
- B) Only 3
- C) Only 2
- D) Only 1 & 2
- E) Only 2 & 3



**Answer**

**D) Only 1 & 2**



## Explanation

- The MoU will enable the company to undertake multiple tests and access facilities at various ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation) center for testing and qualification of its single-piece 3D printed Semi Cryo engine and other systems.



➤ India and \_\_\_\_\_ held the third Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) on September 17?

- A) South Korea
- B) France
- C) El Salvador
- D) Spain
- E) Ireland

**Answer**

**C) El Salvador**



## Explanation

- India and El Salvador held the third Foreign Office Consultations (FOC) on September 17 and reviewed the whole gamut of bilateral relations in all fields including health, trade and investment, the Ministry of External Affairs (EAM) informed.



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

El Salvador

Capital: San Salvador

President: Nayib Bukele

Currency: United States dollar



➤ **Union Health Ministry and Which organization launched a USAID-supported 'City-to-City COVID-19 Vaccination Learning Exchange (CoVLEx) initiative?**

- A) HAL
- B) TRIFED
- C) MyGov India
- D) NHAI
- E) NITI Aayog

**Answer**

**E) NITI Aayog**





## Titbits

Health and Family Welfare & Chemicals and Fertilizers  
Minister: Mansukh L. Mandaviya  
Constituency: Rajya Sabha MP, Gujarat

NITI Aayog  
Abbreviation: National Institution for Transforming India Aayog  
Founded: 2015  
Hq: New Delhi, Delhi  
CEO: Amitabh Kant



➤ The government extended by \_\_\_\_ months till March 2022 the deadline to link PAN with biometric ID Aadhaar?

- A) 9
- B) 3
- C) 6
- D) 8
- E) 4

**Answer**

**C) 6**



➤ **Who launched countrywide free Telemedicine Consultation cum drugs facility on the occasion of birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi?**

- A) Devusinh Chauhan
- B) Jitendra Singh
- C) Bhagwanth Khuba
- D) Kiren Rijiju
- E) Nitin Gadkari

**Answer**

**B) Jitendra Singh**



## Explanation

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh launched countrywide free Telemedicine Consultation cum drugs facility on the occasion of birthday of Prime Minister Narendra Modi.
- The Minister also announced that “JIGYASA”, a student-scientist connect programme of the Ministry of Science and Technology, will be extended to cover schools in over 700 districts of India within one year.



## Titbits

Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and Minister of State in the Department of Space

Minister: Dr. Jitendra Singh

Constituency: Udhampur, Jammu and Kashmir



➤ **Famous Sirarakhong Chilli & Tamenglong Orange of which state receive GI tag?**

- A) Karnataka
- B) Kerala
- C) Jharkhand
- D) Manipur
- E) Telangana

**Answer**

**D) Manipur**



## Titbits

Manipur

Capital: Imphal

CM: N. Biren Singh

Governor: La Ganesan



➤ **The GST Council's 45th meeting was held in which place under the chairmanship of the Union Finance & Corporate Affairs Minister Smt. Nirmala Sitharaman?**

- A) Lucknow
- B) Guwahati
- C) Bhopal
- D) Indore
- E) Ranikhet

**Answer**

**A) Lucknow**





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Major recommendations on GST rate changes in relation to Goods [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

S. No.	Description	From	To
<b>GST rate changes</b>			
1.	Retro fitment kits for vehicles used by the disabled	Appl. rate	5%
2.	Fortified Rice Kernels for schemes like ICDS etc.	18%	5%
3.	Medicine Keytruda for treatment of cancer	12%	5%
4.	Biodiesel supplied to OMCs for blending with Diesel	12%	5%
5.	Ores and concentrates of metals such as iron, copper, aluminum, zinc and few others	5%	18%
6.	Specified Renewable Energy Devices and parts	5%	12%
7.	Cartons, boxes, bags, packing containers of paper etc.	12%/18%	18%



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Major recommendations on GST rate changes in relation to Goods [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

S. No.	Description	From	To
GST rate changes			
8.	Waste and scrap of polyurethanes and other plastics	5%	18%
9.	All kinds of pens	12%/18%	18%
10.	Railway parts, locomotives & other goods in Chapter 86	12%	18%
11.	Miscellaneous goods of paper like cards, catalogue, printed material (Chapter 49 of tariff)	12%	18%



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Major recommendations on GST rate changes in relation to Goods [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

S. No.	Description	From	To
GST rate changes			
12.	IGST on import of medicines for personal use, namely Zolgensma for Spinal Muscular Atrophy i. Viltepso for Duchenne Muscular Dystrophy ii. Other medicines used in treatment of muscular atrophy recommended by Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Department of Pharmaceuticals.	12%	Nil



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Major recommendations on GST rate changes in relation to Goods [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

S. No.	Description	From	To
GST rate changes			
13.	IGST exemption on goods supplied at Indo-Bangladesh Border haats	Appl. rate	Nil
14.	Unintended waste generated during the production of fish meal except for Fish Oil	Nil (for the period 1.7.2017 to 30.9.2019)	



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Major GST changes in relation to rates and scope of exemption on Services [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

No.	Description	From	To
1.	Validity of GST exemption on transport of goods by vessel and air from India to outside India is extended upto 30.9.2022.	-	Nil
2.	Services by way of grant of National Permit to goods carriages on payment of fee	18%	Nil
3.	Skill Training for which Government bears 75% or more of the expenditure [ presently exemption applies only if Govt funds 100%].	18%	Nil
4.	Services related to AFC Women's Asia Cup 2022.	18%	Nil



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Major GST changes in relation to rates and scope of exemption on Services [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

No.	Description	From	To
5.	Licensing services/ the right to broadcast and show original films, sound recordings, Radio and Television programmes [ to bring parity between distribution and licencing services]	12%	18%
6.	Printing and reproduction services of recorded media where content is supplied by the publisher (to bring it on parity with Colour printing of images from film or digital media)	12%	18%



## Major GST changes in relation to rates and scope of exemption on Services [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

No.	Description	From	To
7.	Exemption on leasing of rolling stock by IRFC to Indian Railways withdrawn.		
8.	E Commerce Operators are being made liable to pay tax on following services provided through them		
	i. transport of passengers, by any type of motor vehicles through it [w.e.f. 1 <sup>st</sup> January, 2022]		
	ii. restaurant services provided through it with some exceptions [w.e.f. 1 <sup>st</sup> January, 2022]		



## Major GST changes in relation to rates and scope of exemption on Services [w.e.f 1.10.2021 unless otherwise stated]

No.	Description	From	To
9.	Certain relaxations have been made in conditions relating to IGST exemption relating to import of goods on lease, where GST is paid on the lease amount, so as to allow this exemption even if (i) such goods are transferred to a new lessee in India upon expiry or termination of lease; and (ii) the lessor located in SEZ pays GST under forward charge.		





## Titbits

Finance & Corporate Affairs  
Minister: Nirmala Sitharaman  
Constituency: Rajya Sabha MP, Karnataka



➤ **Vi (Vodafone-Idea) has partnered with the which state State Disaster Management Authority and Celtick to launch the first cell broadcast-based Public Warning System to alert citizens on a real-time basis on disasters?**

- A) Karnataka
- B) Kerala
- C) Jharkhand
- D) Andhra Pradesh
- E) Telangana

**Answer**

**D) Andhra Pradesh**



➤ **Who virtually attends the meeting of G-20 Agriculture Ministers?**

- A) Devusinh Chauhan
- B) Jitendra Singh
- C) Narendra Singh Tomar
- D) Kiren Rijiju
- E) Nitin Gadkari

**Answer**

**C) Narendra Singh Tomar**



## Explanation

- Union Minister of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare, Shri Narendra Singh Tomar participated in the G-20 Agriculture Ministerial meeting **organized by Italy**, the country which holds the Presidency of G20. Addressing the session on the topic "**Research as a driving force behind sustainability**", Shri Tomar said that agricultural research has played an important role in tackling the problem of food security, improving the income of farmers and agriculturists and sustainable use of natural resources for the subsistence of the people.
- Research contributes significantly to the three aspects of food security – **availability, access and affordability**.



## Titbits

Agriculture and Farmers Welfare  
Minister: Narendra Singh Tomar  
Constituency: Morena, Madhya Pradesh





# September 18 Overall Review





# IMPORTANT DAYS

September 18

World Bamboo Day

September 18

The International Equal Pay Day

September 18

International Coastal Cleanup Day

September 18

World Water Monitoring Day



# Sports

## Olympics

'Together for a Shared Future'  
unveiled as motto for Beijing  
2022 Games

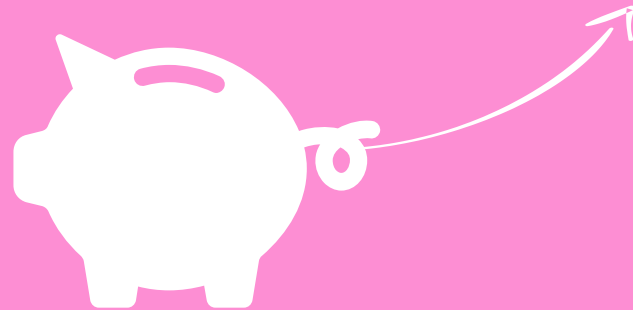






# BANKING AND FINANCE

Mobile app 'PRAGATI' for use  
by Development Officers



**LIC**



# APPOINTMENTS

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**Alka Nangia Arora**

Chairman & Managing Director  
National Small Industries  
Corporation



**Raninder Singh**

NRAI president  
for fourth time



# AWARDS

## Haryana

Awards for outstanding implementation of NQAS in CHC & PHC categories



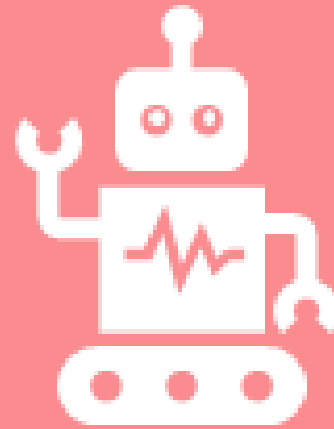
## Dharmendra Pradhan

Kaushalacharya Awards 2021 to 41 skill trainers



# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

Access to ISRO facilities,  
expertise to test rocket systems



**Department of Space +  
Agnikul Cosmos +  
Skyroot Aerospace**



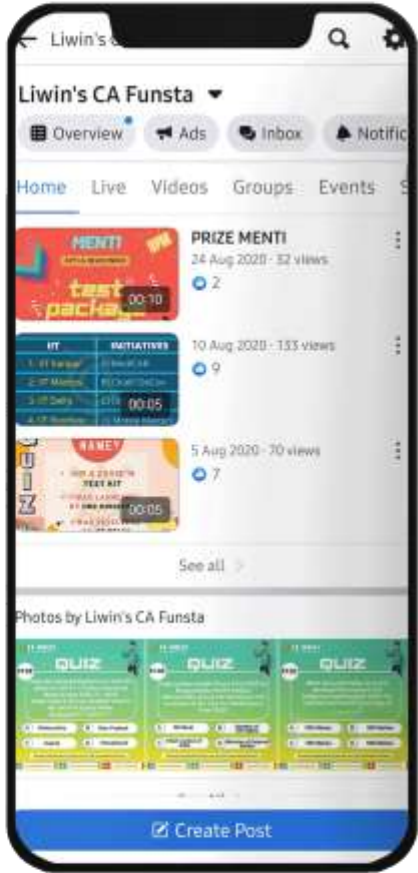
# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

Third Foreign Office Consultations

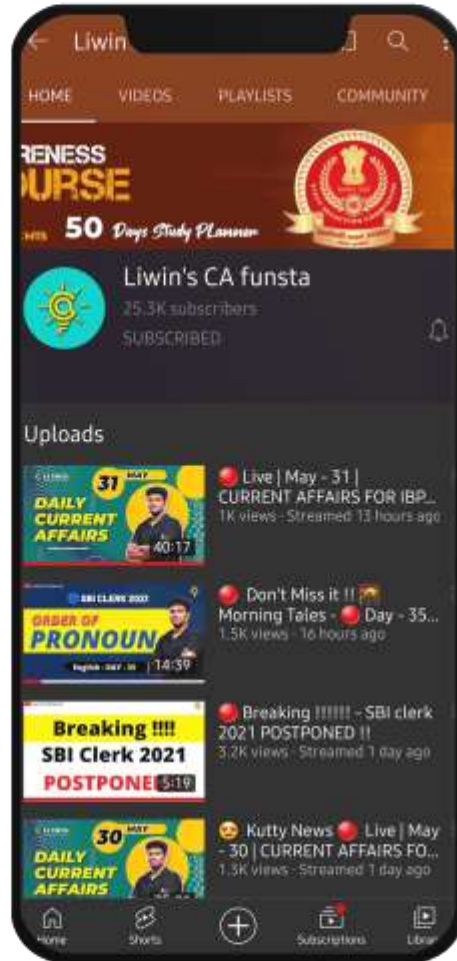
**India +  
El Salvador**



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