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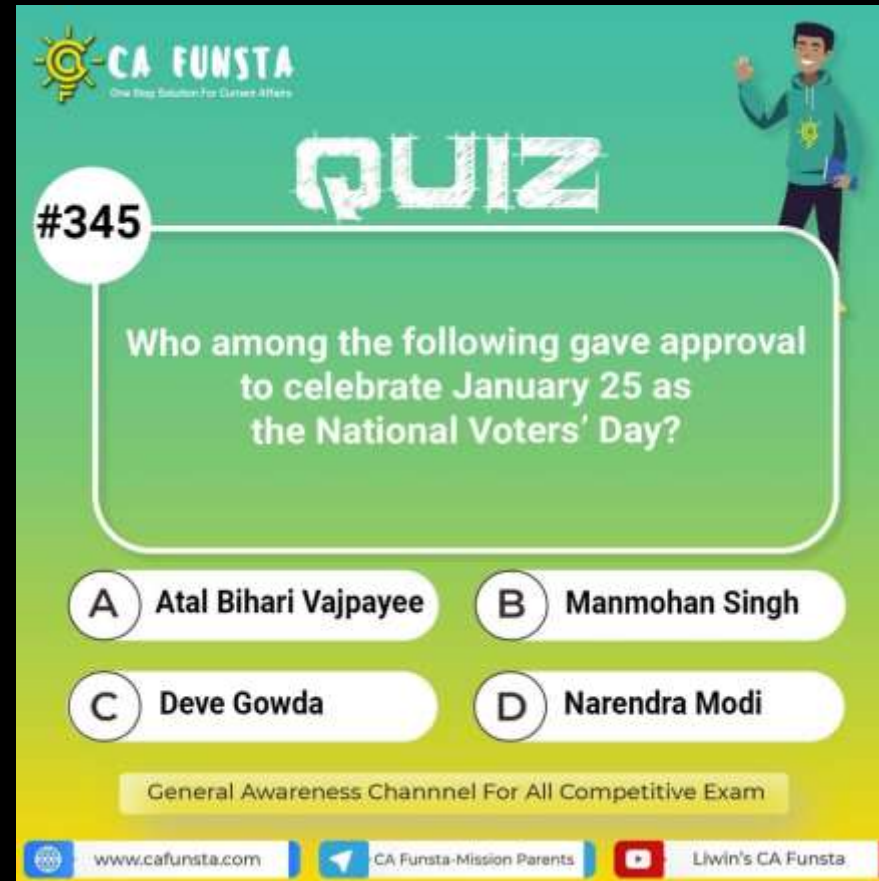
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# QUIZ



**#345**

Who among the following gave approval to celebrate January 25 as the National Voters' Day?

**A** Atal Bihari Vajpayee    **B** Manmohan Singh

**C** Deve Gowda    **D** Narendra Modi

General Awareness Channnel For All Competitive Exam

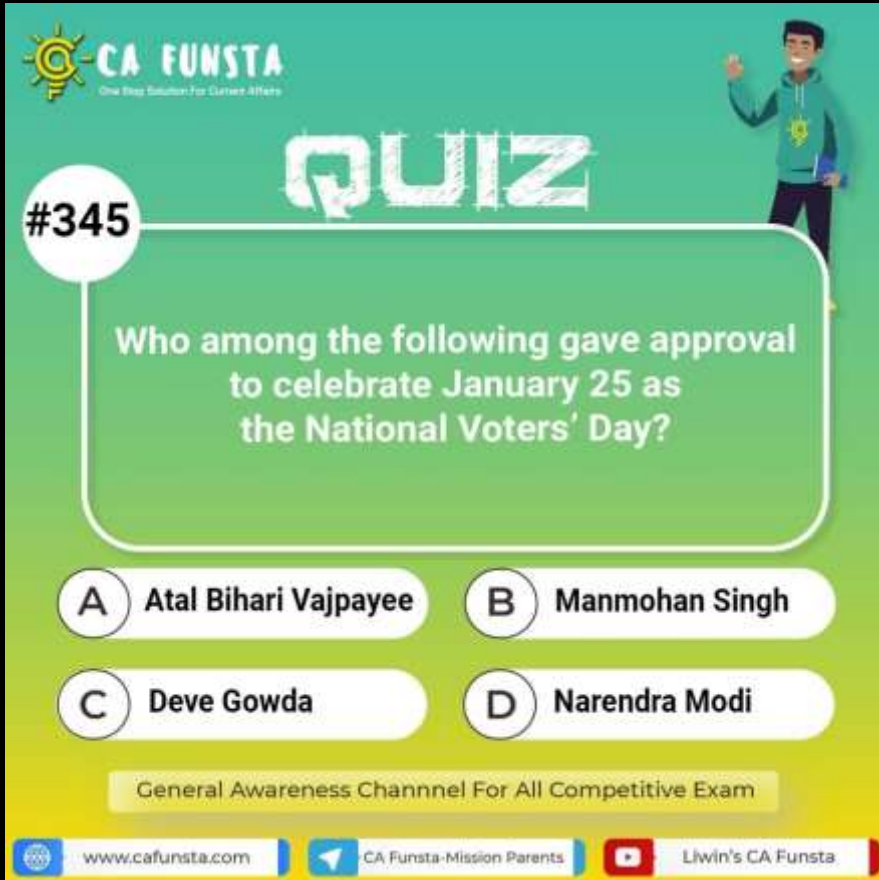
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**B. Manmohan Singh**



# QUIZ



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## QUIZ

**#345**

Who among the following gave approval to celebrate January 25 as the National Voters' Day?

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- The first ever National Voters Day was celebrated on January 25,2011, to encourage more young voters to take part in the electoral process.
- The Uniion Government led by the Prime Minister Manmohan Singh, approved a proposal tof the Law Ministry to this effect.



# Important Days



## World Leprosy Day 2022:

- World anti-Leprosy Day is observed on 30 January to focus attention and create awareness about the disease, and call for an end to leprosy-related stigma and discrimination.
- The day is chosen in the memory of Mahatma Gandhi, who took a keen interest in the eradication of leprosy and the plight of people affected by it.
- In 2022 69th World Leprosy Day is being observed.



# Important Days



## World Leprosy Day: History and Significance

- World Leprosy Day is observed annually in the whole world on the last Sunday of January.
- The day marks the public awareness of leprosy or Hansen's Disease.
- Several programmes are being organised across India to educate people to fight the stigma and discrimination against leprosy which is now completely curable with medical advancements.
- The core focus on this World Leprosy Day is on #United4Dignity #EndStigma #MentalWellbeing #BeatLeprosy.





## **Top-ranked Krejckikova, Siniakova win women's doubles:**

- Top-ranked Barbora Krejckikova and Katerina Siniakova took another major step in a partnership which began in junior ranks when they won the Australian Open women's doubles 6-7 (3), 6-4, 6-4 from unseeded Anna Danilina and Beatriz Haddad Maia.
- The Czech pair claimed their first Australian Open title to go with one Wimbledon and two French Open titles to move a step closer to a career Grand Slam in doubles. They also are Olympic champions.
- They were finalists in Melbourne last year but went down 6-2, 6-3 to Elise Mertens and Aryna Sabalenka. Krejckikova also had been in top form in the singles in Melbourne this year before unexpectedly falling to Madison Keys in the quarterfinals.





## ★ Unnati claims women's singles title, becomes youngest Indian to win Super 100 tournament:

- Teenager Unnati Hooda became the youngest Indian to win a Super 100 tournament as she beat compatriot Smit Toshniwal in straight games to claim the women's singles title in the USD 75,000 Odisha Open badminton tournament here.
- The 14-year-old Unnati produced an excellent performance to emerge triumphantly. In the mixed doubles final, India's MR Arjun and Treesa Jolly suffered a 16-21 20-22 defeat at the hands of Sri Lankan duo Sachin Dias and Thilini Hendadahewa in a match that lasted 36 minutes.
- Unnati won 21-18 21-11 to be crowned the Odisha Open champion for the first time.



## **Unnati claims women's singles title, becomes youngest Indian to win Super 100 tournament:**

- Unnati, who entered the final after she surprised Indian Open finalist Malvika Bansod 24-22 24-22 in the last-four clash on Saturday, took 35 minutes to get the better of Toshniwal in the summit showdown of the women's singles at the Jawahar Lal Nehru Indoor Stadium.
- Toshniwal too pulled off an upset, knocking out Ashmita Chaliha, seeded five, 21-19, 10-21, 21-17, to set up the title clash with the 14-year-old Unnati.
- Unnati claimed the first game after making a comeback and riding on the momentum, she won the second game without much difficulty as Toshniwal had no answer to her opponent's aggressive approach.



## ★ Legends League Cricket 2022: All-round World Giants thump Asia Lions to win maiden title:

- The World Giants came out all guns blazing once again as it beat the Asia Lions by 25 runs to clinch the inaugural Legends League Cricket tournament in Muscat.
- In a high-octane final clash, the Giants posted a record 256 for five on the board after being sent in to bat by the Lions - courtesy a blistering 43-ball 94\* from Corey Anderson.
- The Lions got off to a fine start with Nuwan Kulasekara dismissing opener Phil Mustard (7) and Kevin O'Brien (2) in successive overs within the Powerplay.



## **Legends League Cricket 2022: All-round World Giants thump Asia Lions to win maiden title:**

- Kevin Pietersen was soon to follow after his rampaging cameo of 48 from 22 deliveries, reducing the Lions to 65 for three under seven overs.
- However, Anderson's counter-attacking approach blunted the Lions bowlers who conceded 22 sixes in the innings.





## **Netherlands' Ben Cooper announces retirement from international cricket aged 29:**

- Netherlands batter Ben Cooper announced his retirement from international cricket at the age of 29.
- The left-hand batter has featured in 70 international matches for the Netherlands, since making his debut back in 2013 against Canada in an ODI match.
- Cooper, who is the Netherlands' top run-scorer for the country in the shortest format of the game has scored 1,239 runs from 58 T20I matches. His average in T20Is is 28.16 and has a strike rate of 124.77.



## **Netherlands' Ben Cooper announces retirement from international cricket aged 29:**

- In ODIs, Cooper featured in 13 matches and scored 187 runs with an average of 18.7 and a strike rate of 90.4.
- His last game was at the T20 World Cup in the UAE, where the Netherlands failed to qualify for the Super 12s last year.



## **The Third T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind to be held in India:**

- World Blind Cricket Ltd reaffirms the hosting rights of the Third T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind to Cricket Association for the Blind in India, the Sports arm of Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled.
- The 23rd Annual General Meeting of World Blind Cricket Ltd was held today on January 29, 2022 virtually and representatives from 10 member countries took part in the 5-hour long meeting. Samarthanam Trust for the Disabled and Cricket Association for the Blind in India hosted the meeting and Mr Raymond Moxly General Secretary of WBC moderated the meeting.



## **The Third T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind to be held in India:**

- Mr Syed Sulthan Shah, President of World Blind Cricket Ltd welcomed the delegates from the member countries and appreciated the work done by them in promoting Blind Cricket.
- Dr Mahantesh G Kivadasannavar, President CABI, presented the report of India consisting of the domestic and International events which were held during 2021 – 22.
- The other member countries also presented their annual activity report to the delegates.
- Cricket Association for the Blind in India (CABI) was reaffirmed by the committee to host the Third T20 World Cup for the Blind in multi cities across India in the month of November 2022.





## **The Third T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind to be held in India:**

- Cricket Association for the Blind in India expects all the 10 member countries to participate as was done earlier in the second T20 World Cup.
- The third T20 world cup will witness a total of 48 matches which will be played across India with the Round Robin League cum Knock Out basis.
- CABI confirmed that Indian Men and Women Blind Cricket teams will participate in the World Blind Games, where Cricket is added for the first time. It is being organized by International Blind Sports Association (IBSA) which will be held from 18th to 27th of August 2023 at Birmingham, United Kingdom.



## **The Third T20 World Cup Cricket for the Blind to be held in India:**

- The Annual General meeting included discussions on promotion of Blind Cricket across the Globe, Challenges and the way forward to provide equal opportunities to blind Cricketers.



# OBITUARY



## **Padma Shri Baba Iqbal Singh breathes his last at 95:**

- Social worker and Padma Shri awardee, Baba Iqbal Singh, passed away at the age of 95.
- He had been ill and in hospital for a month



# OBITUARY



## Who was Baba Iqbal Singh?

- Baba Iqbal Singh was born as Iqbal Singh Kingra in Bharyal Lehri village in Punjab's Gurdaspur on May 1, 1926.
- He studied at the University of Agriculture in Faisalabad, Pakistan and graduated in 1949. Later, he earned a Master's degree in agriculture science.
- He started his career as a civil servant in Himachal Pradesh's department of agriculture.
- After retiring from the service as director 1986, he moved to Baru Sahib in Himachal Pradesh's Sirmour district and started Akal Academy.



# OBITUARY



## Who was Baba Iqbal Singh?

- In the beginning, the makeshift school had only five students.
- Eventually, Baba Iqbal Singh established 129 low-cost schools and two private universities in Himachal Pradesh, Punjab, Haryana, Uttar Pradesh and Rajasthan.
- The idea behind establishing low-cost educational institutions in rural and far-flung areas was to enable students from these parts of the country to contribute to the development of the nation.
- He was awarded the Padma Shri for his contributions in the field of social work in 2022.





## **Kerala Named 'The Most Welcoming Region,' Followed by Goa And Puducherry: Survey**

- Drawing upon more than 232 million verified reviews from real travellers, leading digital travel platform Booking.com announces the recipients of its tenth annual Traveller Review Awards, including the 2022 Most Welcoming Places on Earth
- Booking.com revealed the top five Most Welcoming Regions in India according to its Traveller Review Awards 2022.
- Kerala has topped the list once again as the 'Most Welcoming Region' in India followed by Goa and Puducherry.
- Palolem, Agonda, Mararikulam, Thekkady and Varkala are the top five 'Most Welcoming Cities' in India.



# RANKING



## Kerala Named 'The Most Welcoming Region,' Followed by Goa And Puducherry: Survey

- The awards also highlight hotels as the most welcoming accommodation type by Indians followed by homestay, resort, guesthouse and apartments.
- From iconic architectural wonders to pristine natural beauty, the 2022 Most Welcoming Places on Earth span the globe and offer travellers a range of memorable travel experiences.
- The 2022 Most Welcoming Regions on Earth include Gorenjska (Slovenia) followed by Taitung County (Taiwan) and Tasmania (Australia).



# RANKING



## Kerala Named 'The Most Welcoming Region,' Followed by Goa And Puducherry: Survey

- Booking.com also revealed the top 3 Most Welcoming Cities on Earth which include Matera (Italy), Bled (Slovenia) and Taitung City (Taiwan).
- In terms of places to stay, Italy leads the pack with the most accommodations being recognized with a 2022 award (162,272), followed by Spain (93,130) and France (89,186).
- India (9062) ranked ahead of Colombia (8082), New Zealand (7355), Taiwan (7350), and Chile (7267).





## 2022's Most Welcoming Cities and Regions in India:

- Looking at the properties receiving the Traveller Review Awards 2022, Booking.com has also revealed the Most Welcoming Cities and Regions in India for travellers to experience the best in hospitality and friendliness whenever it's safe again to do so.
- Three out of five destinations from Kerala are a part of the Most Welcoming Cities in India.
- From Palolem (Goa) and Agonda (Goa) to Mararikulam (Kerala) and Thekkady (Kerala), these places reveal the love for coastal getaways by Indian travellers.



# RANKING



## 2022's Most Welcoming Cities and Regions in India:

- While South India dominated the most welcoming regions list in India, Himachal Pradesh also made it to the top five Most Welcoming Regions in India in 2022.
- Most Welcoming Cities in India Most Welcoming Regions in India.
  - ✓ Palolem (Goa) Kerala
  - ✓ Agonda (Goa) Goa
  - ✓ Mararikulam (Kerala) Puducherry
  - ✓ Thekkady (Kerala) Rajasthan
  - ✓ Varkala (Kerala) Himachal Pradesh



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



## **Reliance arm acquires 29.63% stake in SWREL:**

- Reliance Industries Limited (RIL) announced that it has completed the acquisition of 29.63% of the total paid-up equity share capital of Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Ltd (SWREL).



# APPOINTMENTS



## **Govt extends tenure of IPO-bound LIC's chairman for 1 year:**

- The government has extended the tenure of chairman of IPO-bound Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) by one more year with a view to facilitating the smooth listing of the insurance behemoth, sources said.
- Besides, the government has also extended the tenure of one of the managing directors, Raj Kumar, for one year.
- With the extension, M R Kumar will continue as chairman of LIC till March 2023, the sources said.
- This is the second extension for the LIC chairman. Last year in June, he was given a nine-month extension in a view of LIC's proposed initial public offering towards the end of the current financial year.



# APPOINTMENTS



## **Govt extends tenure of IPO-bound LIC's chairman for 1 year:**

- The government had extended the term of M R Kumar from June 30, 2021, till March 13, 2022, the date when he completes three years, the sources said.
- The government is looking to list LIC during the current financial year in line with the Budget announcement.
- In her Budget Speech, Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman had said the initial public offering (IPO) of LIC will be floated in 2021-22 as part of the ambitious Rs 1.75-lakh crore disinvestment target.



# APPOINTMENTS



## **Govt extends tenure of IPO-bound LIC's chairman for 1 year:**

- The government owns a 100 percent stake in LIC. Once listed, it is likely to become the country's biggest company by market capitalization with an estimated valuation of Rs 8-10 lakh crore.
- Meanwhile, the government has significantly increased the authorized capital of LIC to Rs 25,000 crore from Rs 100 crore to facilitate the listing.



# APPOINTMENTS



## ★ Sergio Mattarella re-elected as Italy's President with wide majority:

- Italian President Sergio Mattarella was elected to a second term, Lower House Speaker Roberto Fico announced, after the parliament gathered in a joint session and concluded its eighth round of voting.
- Mattarella was reconfirmed with a broad majority, namely 759 votes in favour from a total of 983 lawmakers and regional representatives actively taking part in the ballot, Xinhua news agency reported.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Titbits

Italy

Prime Minister: Mario Draghi

Capital: Rome

Currency: Euro





## ★ Indian Army's Northern Command launches national integration song 'Pyaara JammuKashmir':

- The Northern Command of the Indian Army launched a national integration song called "Pyaara JammuKashmir".
- The song "Pyaara JammuKashmir" is based on the natural beauty, cultural heritage, and diversity of Jammu and Kashmir.
- The song has been composed by three singers: Sonu Nigam, Javed Ali, and Harshdeep Kaur.





# January 30 Overall Review



# IMPORTANT DAYS

World Leprosy Day

January 30



# Sports

## **Unnati Hooda**

The youngest Indian to win a Super 100 tournament

## **Barbora Krejcikova and Katerina Siniakova**

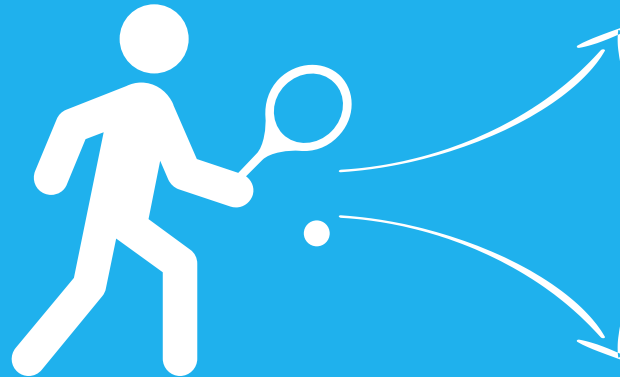
The Australian Open women's doubles

## **Ben Cooper**

Netherlands' player announces retirement from international cricket aged 29

## **Legends League Cricket 2022**

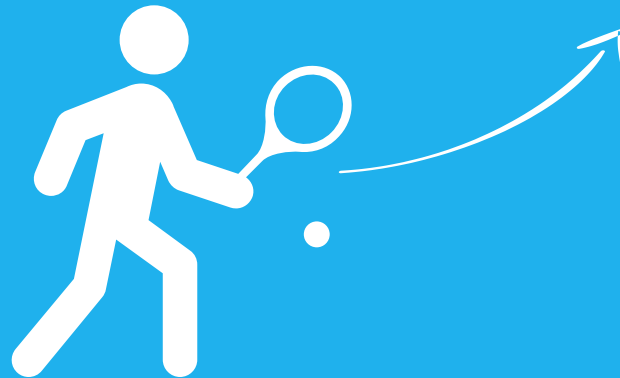
All-round World Giants thump Asia Lions to win maiden title



# Sports

## India

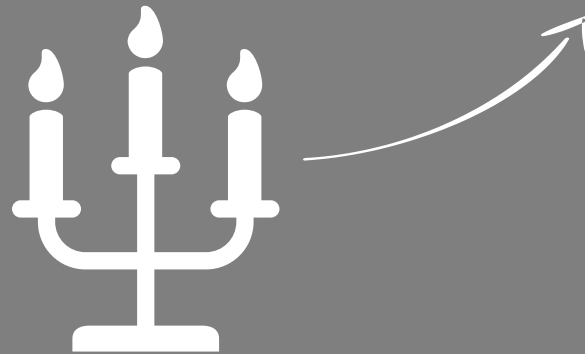
The Third T20 World Cup Cricket  
for the Blind



# Obituary

## **Baba Iqbal Singh**

Social worker and  
Padma Shri awardee



# Ranking

Kerala Named  
'The Most Welcoming Region,'  
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**Booking.com**



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS

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Acquires 29.63% stake in  
Sterling and Wilson Renewable Energy Ltd  
(SWREL)

**Reliance Industries Limited**





# APPOINTMENTS

**Sergio Mattarella**

Italy's President

**M R Kumar**

Govt extends tenure of IPO-bound LIC's chairman for 1 year

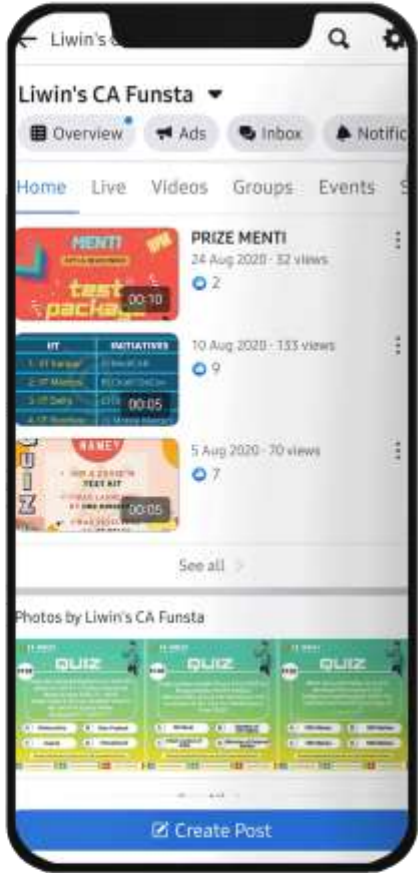


**National  
integration song  
'Pyara  
JammuKashmir'**

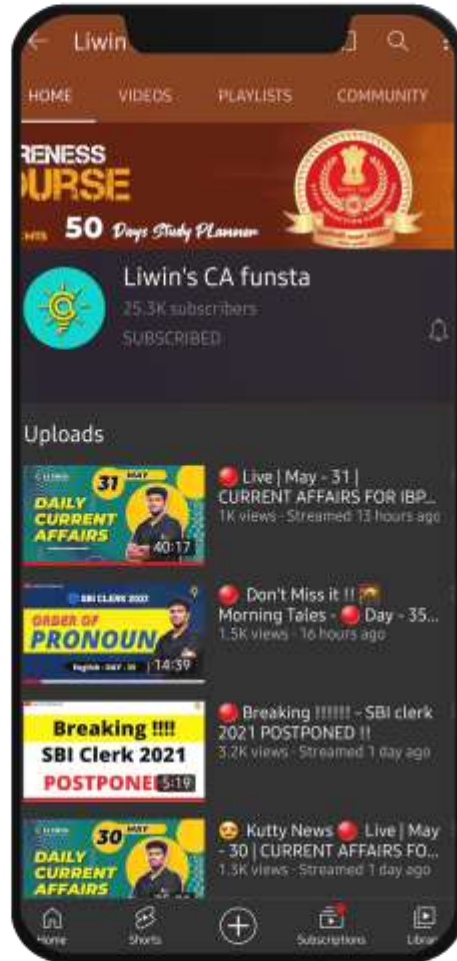
**Indian  
Army's  
Northern  
Command**

**National  
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