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MARCH - 14

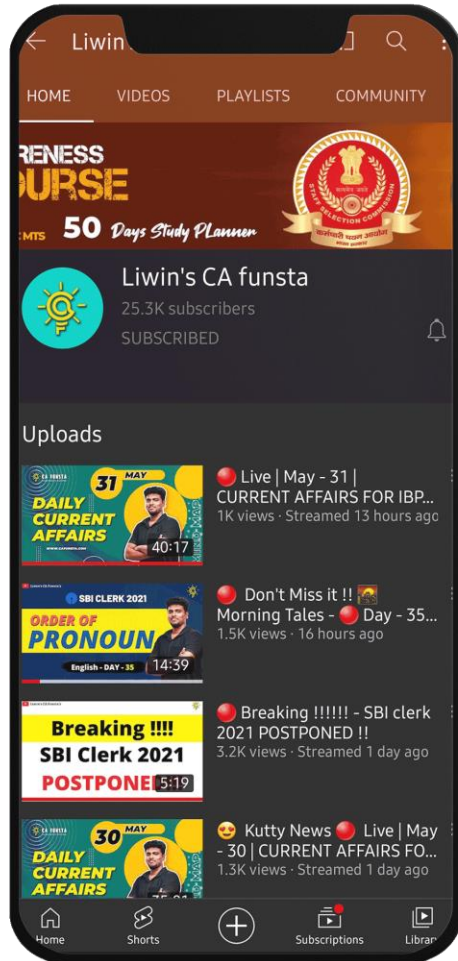


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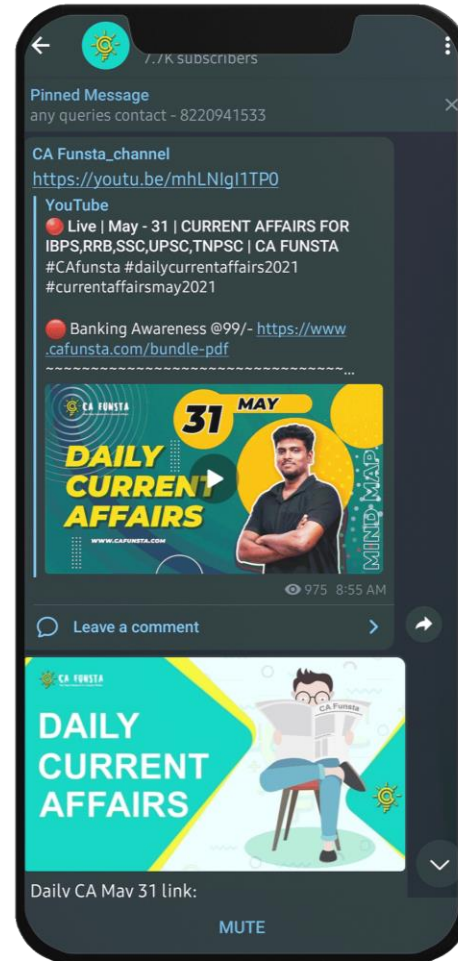
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Important Days



World Glaucoma Day 2022:

- Glaucoma is the second most common cause of preventable blindness in the world.
- It is a disease that causes damage to the optic nerve of the eyes, a nerve that connects to the brain, enabling us to see.
- This may be related to increased pressure in the eye known as intraocular pressure.
- It is estimated that in India there are about 11 million glaucoma patients above the age of 40.
- The disease present in the new-born is called 'congenital glaucoma,' in young age (3-10 years) it is called 'developmental glaucoma', and 'juvenile glaucoma' is termed to the group falling between 10-40 years of age.
- Annually, March 12 is observed as World Glaucoma Day.



Important Days



International Day Of Mathematics 2022:

- 14th March, every year is observed as the International Day of Mathematics which is a global event that celebrates mathematics and connects maths with all sorts of subjects, fields, and ideas.
- The first International Day of Mathematics was marked in March 2020.
- This day is also known as Pi Day, for its numeric representation of 3.14.
- March 14 (3.14) was informally celebrated as Pi Day by math lovers across the world.
- This day was officially marked as International Day of Mathematics in 2019 at UNESCO's 40th General Conference.





Lakshya finishes runners-up in German Open:

- World champions bronze medallist shuttler Lakshya Sen finished as runners-up in the German Open Super 300 after losing the final 18-21, 15-21 to Kunlavut Vitidsarn of Thailand.
- The young Indian sensation stunned the world no 1 and olympic champion Viktor Axelsen of Denmark in the semifinals.
- The Indian edged past his compatriot H S Prannoy in the quarterfinals.
- In the Round-16, he demolished world No. 5 and Tokyo Olympics bronze medallist Anthony Ginting of Indonesia 21-7, 21-9 in just 34 minutes of play.
- In the opening game, Vitidsarn took up early 3 point lead but Sen who looked calm in the beginning changed his pace and levelled it up 4-4 with his smash shots.



Lakshya finishes runners-up in German Open:

- The Thai shuttler then shifted a momentum into his favour as he bagged five consecutive points and head into the mid-game break with 11-6 lead.
- Post-break, Vitidsarn continued to earn points and extended his lead to 13-6.
- With his clever play Sen reduced score deficit to 15-16.
- A tough contest between the two shuttlers continued but in the end the Thai took the game 21-18 in 31 minutes of play.
- Vitidsarn continue to dominate the proceedings in the second game as he raced to 7-2 lead over Sen.



Lakshya finishes runners-up in German Open:

- The Thai shuttler succeeded in building pressure over the Indian and went on to breather with 11-5 lead.
- Post-break, Sen shifted his gear and reduced the gap in score to 9-11 with four points in a row.
- But the Thai was not ready to lose the grip and extended a lead to 16-11.
- Sen did managed to earn few points and decreased the gap in the scores but it was enough to save the match.





Shreyas Iyer named ICC 'Player of the Month':

- The 27 year old Fast-rising India batter Shreyas Iyer was voted the ICC 'Men's Player of the Month' for February, while New Zealand all-rounder Amelia Kerr bagged the honour among women.
- Iyer earned the award on the back of his brilliant white-ball exploits during the home series against the West Indies and Sri Lanka respectively last month.
- He pipped UAE's Vriitya Aravind and Nepal's Dipendra Singh Airee to claim the honour.
- He was even better in the T20I series against Sri Lanka, aggregating 204 runs without being dismissed across three innings at a highly impressive strike-rate of 174.36.



Shreyas Iyer named ICC 'Player of the Month':

- Kerr, the 21-year-old New Zealand all-rounder, was named the Women's POTM, following her supreme consistency with both bat and ball during the home white-ball series against India.
- After scoring 17 and returning 2/25 in New Zealand's 18-run win in the only T20I, Kerr showcased exemplary skills during the ODI leg to further establish herself as a world-class cricketer.
- She finished the top-run scorer in the ODI series with 353 runs at a staggering average of 117.67, while bagging seven wickets at an economy of 5.78.
- She was named the Player of the Match in the second and fourth ODI respectively.



OBITUARY



Oscar-winning actor William Hurt dead at age 71-Deadline:

- William Hurt, an Oscar-winning actor known for his roles in movies such as "Kiss of the Spider Woman" and "Broadcast News," died on Sunday at the age of 71.
- He had been diagnosed with terminal prostate cancer.
- He won three Academy Award best actor nominations for his roles in 1985's "Kiss of the Spider Woman", 1986's "Children of a Lesser God", and 1987's "Broadcast News".
- He won the Oscar for his portrayal of a homosexual man who shared a prison cell with a political prisoner in Brazil in "Kiss of the Spider Woman".



OBITUARY



Oscar-winning actor William Hurt dead at age 71-Deadline:

- Hurt received his fourth and final Academy Award nomination for Best Supporting Actor in "A History of Violence", a crime thriller released in 2005.
- He played General Thaddeus Ross in 2008's "The Incredible Hulk", a recurring role he would reprise in later superhero films based on Marvel Comics including "Captain America: Civil War," "Avengers: Endgame" and "Black Widow."





RailTel ranks 124 in Fortune India Next 500 list:

- RailTel jumped 67 positions to rank 124th in the recently announced 'Fortune India Next 500 list of Year 2022' list.
- It was ranked 197 in the 2021 list of top midsize companies operating in India.
- RailTel is one of the largest neutral telecom infrastructure services providers in the country.
- Besides RailTel, there are five more private telecom players on the list.
- Apart from RailTel, IRCTC is the only Railway PSU featuring in the list, at the rank of 309.



RANKING



RailTel ranks 124 in Fortune India Next 500 list:

- Moreover, there are 10 (including RailTel) India government companies in the Fortune India 500 list 2022.
- RailTel is the only telecom PSU on the list.
- The Fortune India Next 500 is a ranking of the top 500 midsize corporations in India compiled, on the basis of the latest sales and gross revenue figures.
- The current list is based on the annual audited total income for the financial year 2020-21.
- RailTel's turnover during FY 2020-21 stood at Rs 1,411 crore with compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) during the last five years at 12 per cent.



★ Unemployment rate at 12.6 pc in April-June 2021: NSO survey:

- Unemployment rate for persons of age 15 years and above in urban areas dipped to 12.6 per cent in April-June 2021 from 20.8 per cent in the same month of the previous year, showed a 11th periodic labour force survey by the National Statistical Office (NSO).
- It also showed that unemployment rate among females (age 15 years and above) in urban areas also declined to 14.3 per cent in April-June 2021 from 21.1 per cent a year ago.
- It was 11.8 per cent in January-March 2021.
- Among males, the UR in urban area also dipped to 12.2 per cent in April-June 2021 compared to 20.7 per cent a year ago.
- It was 8.6 per cent in January-March 2021



Unemployment rate at 12.6 pc in April-June 2021: NSO survey:

- Labour force participation rate in CWS (current weekly status) in urban areas for persons of 15 years of age and above was 46.8 per cent in the April-June quarter of 2021, up from 45.9 per cent in the same period a year ago.
- It was 47.5 per cent in January-March 2021.



★ Ujjivan SFB launches digital on-boarding for its micro banking customers:

- Ujjivan Small Finance Bank has launched digital on-boarding facility for its micro banking customers.
- This would enable over 60 lakh customers of the bank to update their mobile number for their individual banking transactions through a new Paperless, Real time and Secure, OTP-based authentication, followed by a Biometric Authentication process, instantly, via Ujjivan SFB Assisted App.
- Customers can update the mobile number once every six months through this assisted platform and at any point in time by paying a visit to any branch of USFB or by approaching any field staff of the bank.



RBI unveils harmonised framework for microfinance lenders:

- The Reserve Bank of India has asked regulated entities (REs) lending to the microfinance segment to ensure that loans are collateral-free and not linked with a lien on the borrower's deposit account, repayment obligations are capped, interest rates are not usurious, and there is no pre-payment penalty.
- These clauses are part of the central bank's harmonised regulatory framework for regulated lenders, including scheduled commercial banks, small finance banks, NBFC-MFIs and NBFC-Investment and Credit Companies.





Tech Mahindra, Celonis tie-up to offer new solutions for digital transformation:

- Tech Mahindra announced it had partnered with execution management company Celonis to introduce new solutions to accelerate digital transformation for the IT major's customers.
- These will be done through the two organizations' fast-expanding business partnership that include Application Service Monitoring, a Digital Customer Service Accelerator (DCSA) and a Business Support Systems (BSS) Transformation Accelerator.
- These newly launched solutions will support customers' evolving digital transformation needs.
- Application Service Monitoring leverages Tech Mahindra's framework to enable dynamic, end-to-end process visualization.



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



ICICI Bank to acquire 5% stake in NARCL:

- ICICI Bank announced that it has signed an agreement for investment in National Asset Reconstruction Company Limited (NARCL) to acquire 5 per cent stake in the company with total cash consideration of up to Rs 137.5 crore in tranches.
- NARCL or bad bank is an asset reconstruction company, which was incorporated on July 7, 2021.
- Equity investment would be in tranches with first tranche of equity investment of Rs 70.45 crore expected to be completed by March 31, 2022.
- Shares of ICICI Bank on Friday traded 1.25 per cent higher at Rs 677.80 apiece on BSE during late trade.



APPOINTMENTS



Tata Sons Chairman N Chandrasekaran appointed Air India Chairman:

- N Chandrasekaran, chairman of Tata Sons, has been appointed as the chairman of Air India by the airline's board.
- Salt-to-software conglomerate Tata Group had on October 8 last year won the bid to acquire debt-laden state-run Air India by offering Rs 18,000 crore for it.
- The conglomerate had announced that former Turkish Airlines chairman Ilker Ayci will be the CEO&MD of Air India.





India's new ambassador to China Pradeep Kumar Rawat takes charge:

- India's new ambassador to China Pradeep Kumar Rawat assumed charge.
- Rawat succeeds Ambassador Vikram Misri, who was appointed as the Deputy National Security Advisor.
- An Indian Foreign Service (IFS) officer of the 1990 batch, Rawat was previously India's ambassador to the Netherlands.
- He has earlier served in Hong Kong and Beijing.
- Rawat served as the ambassador of India to Indonesia and Timor-Leste from September 2017-December 2020.





Axis Bank Bags IFR Asia's Asian Bank of the Year and India Bond House Award:

- Axis Bank, India's third-largest private sector bank has been awarded IFR Asia's Asian Bank of The Year, for its breadth of coverage and depth of expertise in the Asian investment banking space.
- The award acknowledges the bank's outstanding performance in equity and debt issuance, across all major products and segments.
- Axis Bank was the only local house to serve as a global coordinator for the record Rs. 183 Bn Paytm IPO, and was also the global coordinator for Macrotech Developers' Rs. 25 Bn IPO.
- As per Refinitiv data, Axis Bank ranks first in India in DCM with a 17.1% market share, which is twice that of its nearest challenger.



AWARDS



Axis Bank Bags IFR Asia's Asian Bank of the Year and India Bond House Award:

- In a bid to strengthen its ESG commitments, Axis Bank has worked on numerous significant deals such as the Renew Sun Waves' Rs. 10.02 Bn bond offering and, Vector Green Energy's offering, which was the first AAA-rated deal from the renewables sector.
- The bank also sold India's first sustainable AT1 issue, a USD 600 Mn perpetual non-call five issues priced at 4.1%, while acting as a joint global coordinator.
- This year, the bank has also won the 'Best DCM House in India' Award at the Finance Asia's Country Awards.



AWARDS



Axis Bank Bags IFR Asia's Asian Bank of the Year and India Bond House Award:

- Axis Bank has been No. 1 on the Bloomberg League Table ranking for 15 consecutive calendar years and has maintained its leadership position in the domestic Debt Capital Market.





HAL signs pact with SASMOS to work together in aerospace domain:

- Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) has signed an MoU with Bengaluru-based company SASMOS to work together on advanced electronics, electrical and fibre optic interconnections in the aerospace domain.
- HAL's subsidiary Naini Aerospace Limited (NAeL) was also a signatory to the MoU, SASMOS.
- The MoU is intended to explore business cooperation, especially in northern India, through the utilization of capacity and capabilities of NAeL to bring their expertise in fibre optics, electronics and electrical interconnected system in the aerospace domain through the support from HAL and SASMOS.





ISRO successfully tests solid booster stage for new SSLV:

- The Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) successfully carried out the ground testing of the newly developed solid booster stage (SS1) for its new launch vehicle Small Satellite Launch Vehicle (SSLV) at Satish Dhawan Space Centre, Sriharikota.
- It has given confidence to proceed with first developmental flight of SSLV (SSLV- D1).



★ Ministry formulates National Strategy and Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism:

- In order to create a robust framework and synergy amongst the Central Government Ministries, State Governments and Private Sector for promoting India as a Medical and Wellness Tourism destination, Ministry of Tourism has formulated a National Strategy and Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism.
- To provide dedicated institutional framework to take forward the cause of promotion of Medical Tourism, Ministry of Tourism has constituted a National Medical and Wellness Tourism Board with the Hon'ble Minister (Tourism) as its Chairman.



Ministry formulates National Strategy and Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism:

- Ministry of Tourism, releases global print, electronic and online media campaigns in important and potential markets overseas, under the 'Incredible India' brand-line, to promote various tourism destinations and products of the country.
- 'Medical Visa' has been introduced, which can be given for specific purpose to foreign travellers coming to India for medical treatment.
- 'E- Medical Visa' and 'E-Medical Attendant Visa' have also been introduced for 156 countries.



Ministry formulates National Strategy and Roadmap for Medical and Wellness Tourism:

- Ministry of Tourism provides financial Assistance under Market Development Assistance Scheme to Medical Tourism Service Providers accredited by National Accreditation Board for Hospitals & Healthcare Providers (NABH) for participation in Medical/ Tourism Fairs, Medical Conferences, Wellness Conferences, Wellness Fairs and allied Road Shows.



★ India's first 'World Peace Center' will be established in Gurugram:

- Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti organisation established by Ambassador of Peace, Eminent Jainacharya Dr Lokeshji will establish India's first World Peace Center in Gurugram, Haryana.
- The Haryana Government has allotted a plot to the organization in Sector 39 of Gurugram opposite Medanta Hospital and adjacent to Delhi-Jaipur Highway.
- Acharya Dr Lokeshji, the Founder of Ahimsa Vishwa Bharti.
- The organization would soon start the construction of the World Peace Center (WPC) on this plot.



India's first 'World Peace Center' will be established in Gurugram:

- The programs of Peace Education, prepared with the coordination of ancient knowledge and modern science, would be conducted for everyone such as students, teachers, youth, women, doctors, engineers, lawyers, traders, farmers etc.
- The Education Department is working in the field of physical and intellectual development, the World Peace Center will be dedicated to the mental, emotional and character development of the people.
- 'World Peace Center' will be a major world-class centre for personality building, where various dimensions such as Personality Development of Youth, Empowerment of Women and Sanskar Development in Children through Meditation, Yoga, Indian Culture and Jain lifestyle based scientific program.





Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Technology Park launched in IISc Bengaluru:

- An Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Technology Park (ARTPARK) with a seed money of Rs 230 crore was launched at the Indian Institute of Science (IISc) in Bengaluru.
- Of the Rs 230 crore, Rs 170 crore would be borne by the Centre and the rest by the Karnataka government.
- ARTPARK, intending to use futuristic technologies to connect the unconnected, would work on creating a globally leading Artificial Intelligence(AI) and Robotics Innovation ecosystem in the country.
- ARTPARK has been set up to effectively use technology, specifically 5G, AI and robotics, for the country's betterment.



Artificial Intelligence and Robotics Technology Park launched in IISc Bengaluru:

- The ARTPARK has the objective of channelising innovations to create a societal impact by executing ambitious mission-mode R&D projects in healthcare, education, mobility, infrastructure, agriculture, retail, and cyber-security aiming to solve problems unique to India.
- AI is expected to touch USD 15.7 trillion by 2030.





Spain to be theme country for 2023 edition of Kolkata book fair:

- Spain will be next year's theme country for International Kolkata Book Fair, organisers said at the conclusion of the 45th edition of the 14-day event was held in Central Park in Salt Lake near Kolkata.
- Books worth Rs 20 crore have been sold at the book fair, considered the world's biggest in terms of footfall.
- The net sales are expected to breach the Rs 22-crore-mark notched in the previous edition.
- Spain's ambassador to India, Jose Maria Ridao Dominguez, who was at the venue, expressed to make the European country the focal nation in the 46th edition of the book fair in 2023.

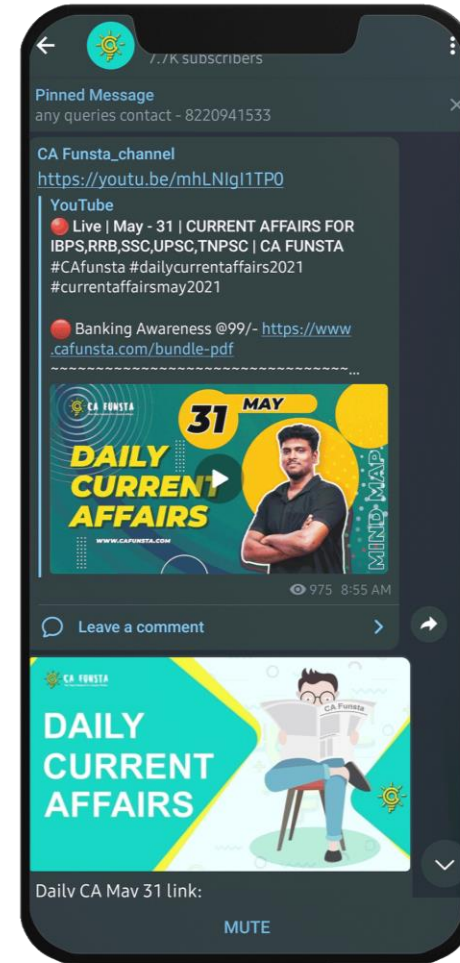
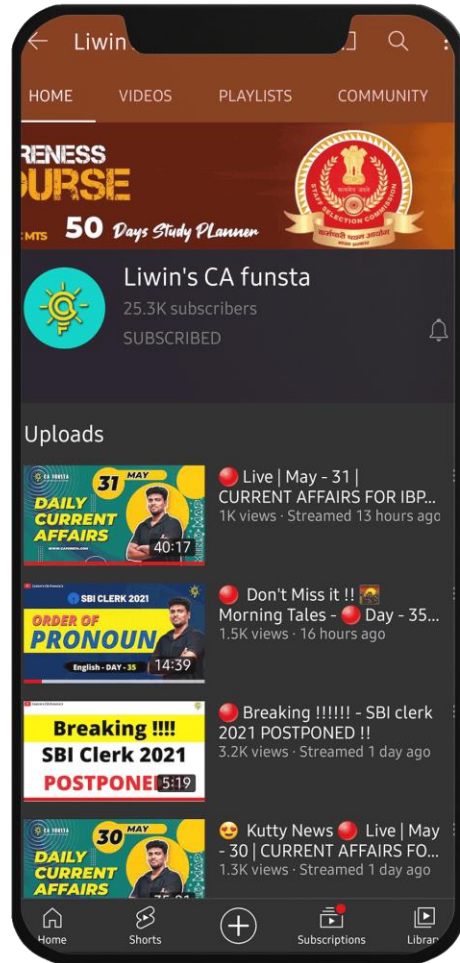
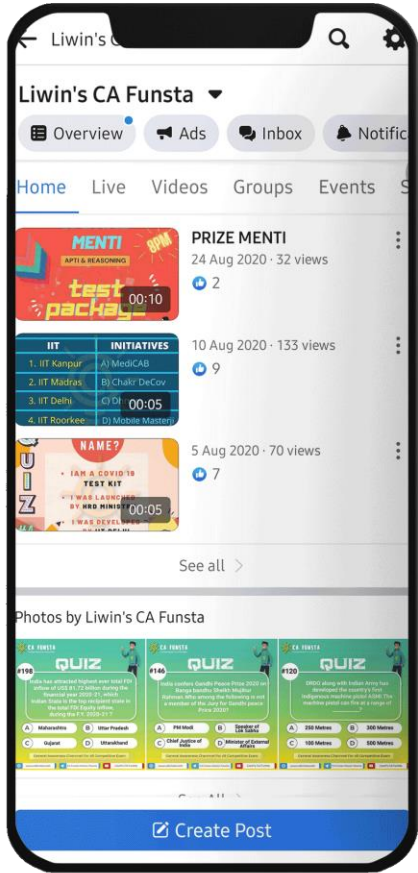


Spain to be theme country for 2023 edition of Kolkata book fair:

- It is a matter of great pride that Spain has been chosen as the focal country of the 46th edition of the International Kolkata Book Fair.
- This will foster people-to-people contacts and facilitate stronger cultural ties between India and Spain.



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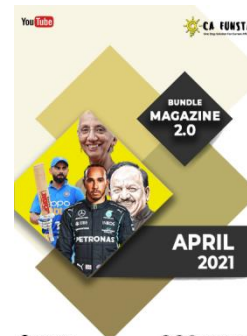
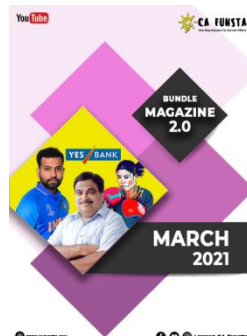
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