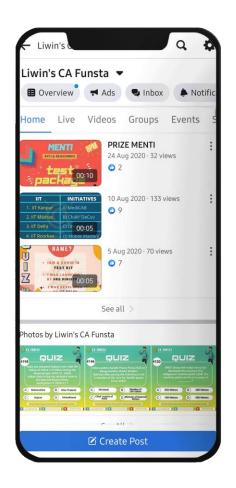
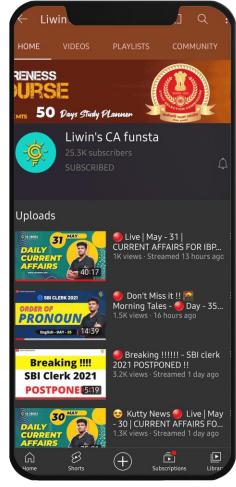
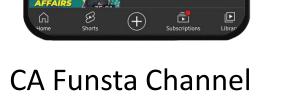


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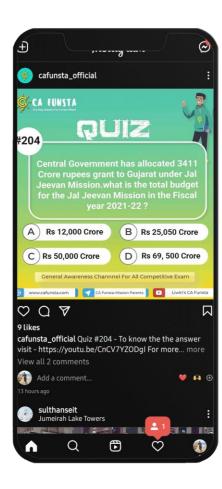






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SPORTS



➤ Which of the following state will host Asian Wrestling Ch'ship in 2023?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Punjab
- C) Kerala
- D) Karnataka
- E) None of these

Answer A) New Delhi









SPORTS

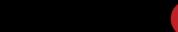


- The 2023 senior Asian Championship will be held in New Delhi from March 28 to April 2, announced the United World Wresting (UWW) which has also allowed a two-kilogram weight tolerance for wrestlers at Ranking Series events from the next year.
- The Asian Championship will be held in New Delhi for the second time in three years.
- The Indian capital had hosted the tournament in February 2020.
- The 2kg weight tolerance was approved by the UWW Bureau when it met to finalise the calendar for 2023.











> RBI found how many crores divergence in City Union Bank's FY22 gross NPA?

- A) ₹260 crore
- B) ₹259 crore
- C) ₹359 crore
- D) ₹289 crore
- E) None of these



Answer B) ₹259 crore









- City Union Bank, an old private sector lender, said the Reserve Bank of India found divergence in the bank's additional gross NPA for FY22 amounting to ₹259 crore.
- The RBI conducted an on-site Inspection for Supervisory Evaluation (ISE) for FY22







➤ Who will facilitate rupee trade with Russia after RBI gives approval?

- A) SBI
- B) UCO
- C) BOI
- D) IOB
- E) None of these

Answer A) SBI











- Before the arrangement for payments with Russia, the RBI allowed SBI to start overseas trade in rupee with Mauritius and Sri Lanka.
- State Bank of India (SBI) has changed its previous stance and will now facilitate rupee trade with sanctions-hit Russia, in line with its private sector peer HDFC Bank, said people aware of the matter.

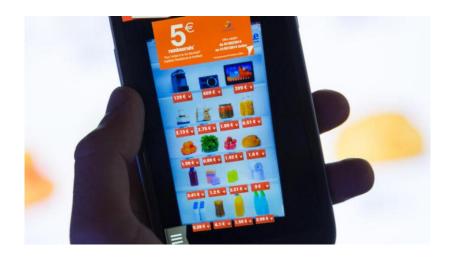


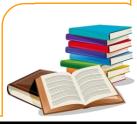




- Worldline ePayments India get RBI's in principle nod to act as _
 - A) payment aggregator
 - B) payment gateway
 - C) e-Rupee
 - D) Bitcoins
 - E) None of these

Answer A) payment aggregator









- Worldline ePayments India (WEIPL), a leader in digital payments, has received in-principle authorisation from the Reserve Bank Of India (RBI) to act as a payment aggregator (PA).
- A communication to this effect was received by WEIPL from the RBI on December 20.







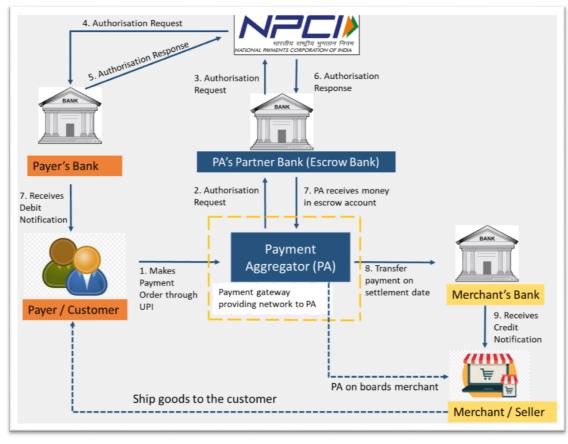


Fig 1: End to end non-bank payment aggregator transactional flow

The blue dotted lines in the fig. do not form part of payment system, but forms an important part of legal basis in merchant on-boarding process and shipment of goods to the customers in a PA business model.

Source: Author











Titbits

Reserve Bank of India (RBI)

- Founded: **01/04/1935**
- RBI Act,1934
- HQ: Mumbai
- Chairman: Shaktikanta Das
- 1926 Hilton Young Commission
- 1937 Calcutta to Mumbai
- 1949 Nationalisation















➤ Who will phase out buybacks through the exchange route?

- A) SEBI
- B) IRDAI
- C) SIDBI
- D) RBI
- E) None of these

Answer A) SEBI









- Stock market investors can cheer since companies will be able to utilise more funds for share buyback offers now.
- Listed companies use buybacks as a means to improve value for shareholders.
- Market regulator SEBI said it would allow listed companies to utilise 75 per cent of their surplus funds for share buybacks instead of 50 per cent earlier.
- This would simply mean that the acceptance ratio in the buyback offers will rise.
- Each year, companies announce thousands of crore worth of buyback offers.
- SEBI has said that these buybacks would be slowly phased out from the secondary market exchange platforms and conducted on a separate window.
- This is to ensure transparency in the tender process.







Titbits

Securities and Exchange Board of India

Formed : April 12, 1988

: Mumbai, Maharashtra Headquarters

: Madhabi Puri Buch Chairman

Parent department : Ministry of Finance









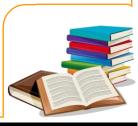


> Indian economy likely to grow at over _____percent in FY23 by Panagariya?

- A) 6%
- B) 7%
- C) 8%
- D) 9%
- E) None of these

Answer B) 7%



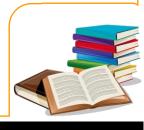






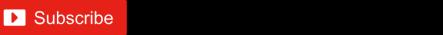
Explanation

- The Indian economy is likely to grow at over 7 per cent in the current fiscal year, former Niti Aayog vice chairman Arvind Panagariya said, while observing that the growth rate should sustain next year too provided the forthcoming Budget does not have any negative surprises.
- Panagariya further said recessionary fears have been around for a while but so far neither the US nor the EU has gone into recession.
- "From the viewpoint of India, in terms of headwinds originating abroad, the worst is probably behind us," he told PTI.



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➤ Who launched India's first gas price index?

- A) IEX
- B) ONGC
- C) BPCL
- D) ONGC
- E) None of these

Answer A) IEX











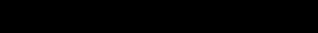
Explanation

- The Indian Gas Exchange (IGX), promoted by the Indian **Energy Exchange (IEX), announced the launch GIXI** – the first ever, nationwide price index to reflect benchmark natural gas price for India.
- Launching the IGX Gas Price Index, Tarun Kapoor, former petroleum secretary and advisor to Prime Minister of India, said, "The domestic natural gas market is growing at a fast pace, in line with the PM's vision of achieving 15% share of natural gas in India's energy mix.
- More volume trading on the exchanges, especially by the CGD sector, fertiliser and power sector companies, will further open up the gas market in India.
- I congratulate IGX for achieving significant volume growth over the last two years, and reflecting the openness of the Gas market in India."

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AWARDS



Which edition of Pride of Nation Awardees Felicitated by Nitin Gadkari?

- A) 4th
- B) 5th
- C) 6th
- D) 7th
- E) None of these

Answer B) 5th











AWARDS



- The 5th edition of the 'Pride of Nation Awards' was held on December 16, 2022, at the DG NCC Auditorium, Delhi Cantt., as part of the Vijay Diwas Celebration.
- Instituted by Veterans India, Pride of Nation awards hold its place amongst the most prestigious awards in India and is given to the people who have made a notable contribution in their fields and in the process made India proud.
- The awards were dignified by Nitin Gadkari, Minister of Road Transport and Highways of India, as the Chief Guest.





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



ISRO planned to launch first human space flight mission in _

- A) 2023
- B) 2024
- C) 2025
- D) 2026
- E) None of these

Answer B) 2024









SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



- Gaganyaan, India's first human space mission, is set to launch in 2024.
- Minister Jitendra Singh stated in a written response to a question in the Lok Sabha that the unmanned 'G1 mission' will launch in the fourth quarter of 2023, the second unmanned 'G2 mission' will launch in the second quarter of 2024, and the final human space flight 'H1 mission' will launch in the fourth quarter of 2024.
- Individuals for astronaut designation on human space flight missions have been picked, ccording to the minister, and are undertaking mission-specific training in Bengaluru.
- The Rs. 10,000 crore project aims to take a three-person Indian crew into orbit for five to seven days before returning them safely to Earth.
- In 2018, Prime Minister Narendra Modi referenced the Gaganyaan project during his Republic Day speech from the Red Fort





SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Titbits

<u>ISRO</u>

Formed : 15 August 1969

: Sreedhara Panicker Somanath Chairman

Headquarters: Bangalore, India











➤ Which edition of India-Maldives Joint Staff Talks held in New Delhi to further bolster bilateral defence cooperation?

- A) 4th
- B) 5th
- C) 6th
- D) 7th
- E) None of these

Answer C) 6th













- 6th Joint Staff Talks (JST) between India and the Maldives were held in New Delhi on December 20, 2022.
- The meeting was conducted in a friendly, warm and extremely cordial atmosphere.
- Discussions focused on the ongoing and new initiatives under the ambit of existing bilateral defence cooperation mechanism of all the three services and further strengthening the engagements.







> 17th round of India and which of the following country Corps Commander Level meeting held?

- A) Russia
- B) USA
- C) China
- D) UAE
- E) None of these

Answer C) China









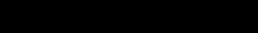
Explanation

- The 17th round of India- China Corps Commander Level Meeting was held at Chushul-Moldo border meeting point on the Chinese side on 20th December 2022.
- Building on the progress made after the last meeting on 17th July 2022, the two sides exchanged views on the resolution of the relevant issues along the LAC in the Western Sector in an open and constructive manner.
- They had a frank and in-depth discussion, keeping in line with the guidance provided by the State Leaders to work for the resolution of the remaining issues at the earliest which would help in restoration of peace and tranquility along the LAC in the Western Sector and enable progress in bilateral relations.

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Titbits

China

: Beijing Capital

: Renminbi (CNY) Currency

• President : Xi Jinping

: Chinese • Language











Which of the following askd Spice Jet to take down its 'red-hot girls' tweet?

- A) National Commission for Women
- B) Dept.of Animal Husbandry
- C) National Commission for Men
- D) Dept.of children developement
- E) None of these



Answer A) National Commission for Women







- The National Commission for Women has asked Spice Jet to take down a post describing women flight attendants as "red hot girls".
- NCW Chairperson Rekha Sharma has written a letter to the director of the airlines this regard.
- The budget carrier had shared a picture of veteran actor Dharmendra, traveling on one of its flights, with the crew.
- The NCW objected to the airline's tweet which read "Garam-Dharam with our red-hot girls."



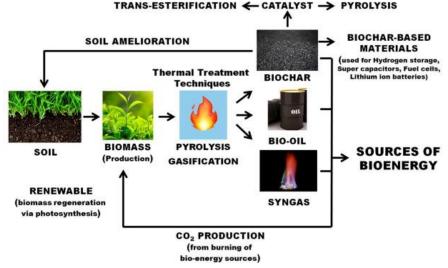






Which of the following ministry initiated National Bio Energy Programme to utilize surplus biomass for power generation?

- A) Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry
- B) Road Transport and Highways Ministry
- C) Electronics and IT Ministry
- D) New and Renewable Energy Ministry
- E) None of these



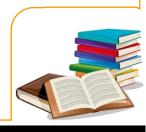
Answer D) New and Renewable Energy Ministry

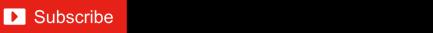






- The Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) has notified the National Bioenergy Programme on 2nd November, 2022.
- The programme has been recommended for implementation in two phases with a total budget outlay of Rs 1715 Crore and a budget outlay of Rs 858 Crore has been allocated for the Phase-1.
- This programme has a provision of Central Financial Assistance (CFA) for various components related to Power generation, Biogas/BioCNG generation and Briquette/Pellet manufacturing, wherein Biomass is one of the major feedstock material, which primarily shall be sourced from rural areas.
- The National Bioenergy Programme shall not only promote the utilization of surplus biomass but also provide an additional source of income for rural households.







Titbits

Ministry of New and Renewable Energy

• UNION MINISTER : Shri Raj Kumar Singh (Arrah, Bihar)









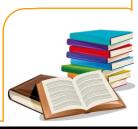


Which of the following ministry held AI Pe Charcha to discuss importance of access to quality datasets for AI?

- A) Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry
- B) Road Transport and Highways Ministry
- C) Electronics and IT Ministry
- D) New and Renewable Energy Ministry
- E) None of these

Answer C) Electronics and IT Ministry











Explanation

- Data occupies the position of a fundamental building block for harnessing the potential of Artificial Intelligence and other emerging technologies.
- Focused on this thought, the National eGovernance
 Division (NeGD) under the Ministry of Electronics and IT
 (MeitY) recently organized an AI Pe Charcha (AI
 Dialogue) wherein the panellists discussed the
 importance of and approaches for enabling access to
 quality datasets for AI.
- The session was chaired by Shri Abhishek Singh, President & CEO, NeGD and had speakers from diverse backgrounds leading to an engaging session for Government officials, Al enthusiasts, Al practitioners, youth, and those who want to understand the role of data in catalyzing the Al innovation ecosystem.

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Titbits

Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology

UNION MINISTER : **Shri Ashwini Vaishnav**(Odisha)











Which of the following state set to host first International Beach Festival?

- A) TamilNadu
- B) Punjab
- C) Kerala
- D) Karnataka
- E) None of these

Answer C) Kerala









Explanation

- The 'Spice Coast' in the far north of Kerala, better known as North Malabar, will bask in myriad colours and the pomp and splendour of the cultural extravaganza titled 'Bekal International Beach Festival' from December 24.
- Chief Minister Pinarayi Vijayan will inaugurate the 10-day first international beach festival, that captures the wholeness and the essence of the district's cultural and artistic uniqueness and displays the rich cultural diversity and grandeur of the country, at the majestic Bekal Beach Park.







Titbits

Kerala

- •Capital: **Thiruvananthapuram**
- •CM: Pinarayi Vijayan
- Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan
- •Language: Malayalam
- •National Park: **Eravikulam National Park**
- •Wildlife Sanctuary: Idukki Wildlife Sanctuary
- •Ramsar Site: **Asthamudi Wetland, Sasthamkotta Lake**,

Vembanad Kol Wetland

- •Tiger Reserve: Periyar Tiger Reserve
- Power Station: Kakkad Hydroelectric Project
- Dams: Malampuzha Dam (River: Bharathapuzha River)
- •RRB: Kerala Gramin Bank (Canara Bank)
- UNESCO Site: Western Ghats











➤ Who among the following will inaugurate National Youth Festival in Hubballi-Dharwad on Jan 12?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Nitin Jairam Gadkari
- C) Amit Shah
- D) Rajnath Singh
- E) None of these

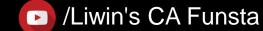
Answer
A) Narendra Modi







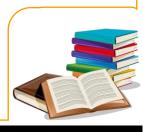






Explanation

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi will inaugurate the National Youth Festival in the twin cities of Hubballi and Dharwad on **January 12**, Karnataka Chief Minister Basavaraj Bommai.
- The youth festival will mark the birth anniversary of Swami Vivekananda.
- Around **7,500 representatives from all states will participate in** the youth festival, Bommai.
- The chief minister held a meeting with officials for the event's smooth conduct.
- Instructions have been issued to make available proper boarding and lodging facilities for the delegates and to prepare the platforms, the statement said.
- "We are thankful to PM Modi and Union Youth Empowerment Minister Anurag Thakur for giving an opportunity to Karnataka to host this youth festival".



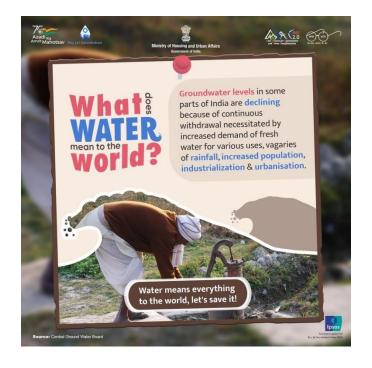




Which of the following ministry started ground survey of Pey Jal Survekshan under AMRUT 2.0?

- A) Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry
- B) Road Transport and Highways Ministry
- C) Electronics and IT Ministry
- D) New and Renewable Energy Ministry
- E) None of these

Answer A) Housing and Urban Affairs Ministry





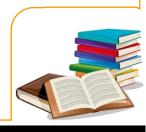






Explanation

- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has kickstarted the ground survey of Pey Jal Survekshan from 15th December 2022.
- The Pey Jal Survekshan under Atal Mission for Rejuvenation and Urban Transformation (AMRUT) 2.0 was launched by Minister of Housing and Urban Affairs, Shri Hardeep Singh Puri, on 09th September, 2022 to assess the service level compliance of the city with respect to quality, quantity, and coverage of water supply, sewerage and septage management, extent of reuse & recycle of used water and conservation of water bodies in 500 (485 after merger) AMRUT cities.
- The Survey will serve as a monitoring tool and an accelerator for the AMRUT Mission while also fostering healthy competition among cities.
- Ministry has engaged a third-party agency, IPSOS to conduct the Survekshan.
- Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) has conducted capacity building workshops on Pey Jal Survekshan toolkit and web portal for all the participating Urban Local Bodies (ULBs).
- Water utility services, used water utility services, water bodies, Non-Revenue
 Water (NRW) estimation, best practices and innovation are the key focus areas.







Titbits

Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs

Union minister : Shri Hardeep Singh Puri (UttarPradesh)









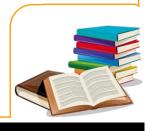
QUICK RECALL



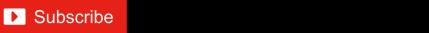
- **❖ Delhi to host Asian Wrestling Ch'ship in 2023**
- **❖RBI finds ₹259-cr divergence in City Union Bank's FY22** gross NPA
- **❖SBI** to facilitate rupee trade with Russia after RBI gives approval
- **❖** Worldline ePayments India gets RBI's in principle nod to act as payment aggregator
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Panagariya

- **❖**IGX launches India's first gas price index
- **❖**5th Edition Pride of Nation Awardees Felicitated by Nitin Gadkari







QUICK RECALL



- **❖ISRO** plans to launch first human space flight mission in 2024
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- **❖17th round of India- China Corps Commander Level** meeting held
- **❖NCW** asks Spice Jet to take down its 'red-hot girls' tweet
- Ministry of New and Renewable Energy initiates National Bio Energy Programme to utilize surplus biomass for power generation
- **❖** MeitY holds AI Pe Charcha to discuss importance of access to quality datasets for Al
- **❖** Kerala set to host first International Beach Festival
- **❖** 'PM to inaugurate National Youth Festival in Hubballi-Dharwad on Jan 12'
- **❖ Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs starts ground** survey of Pey Jal Survekshan under AMRUT 2.0







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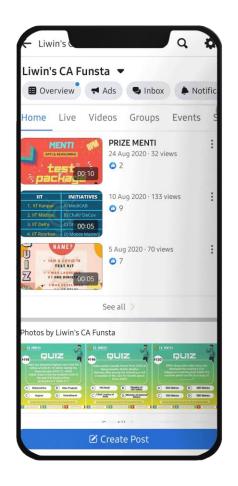
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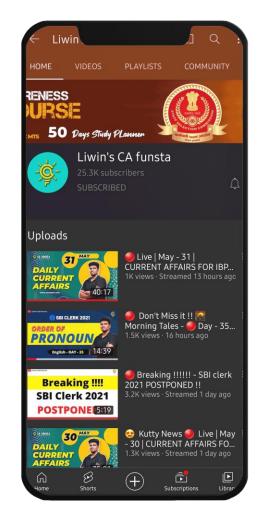
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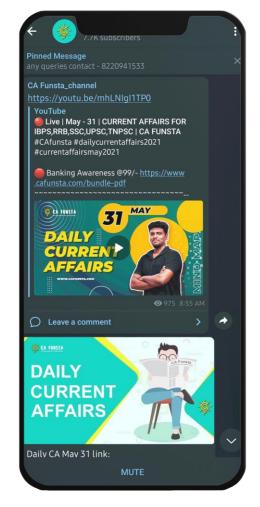
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