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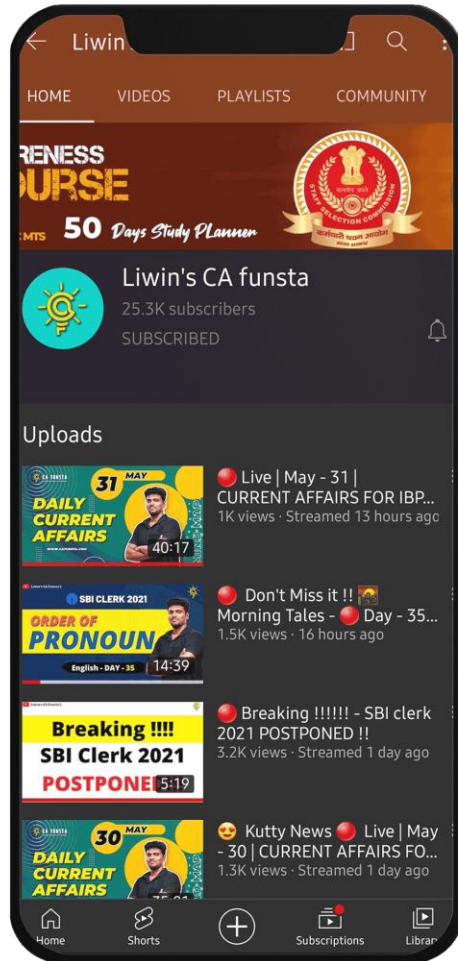
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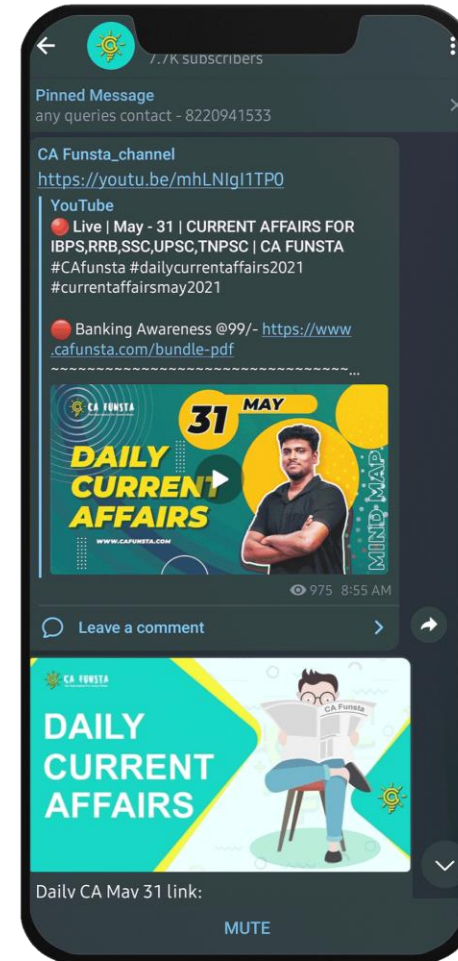
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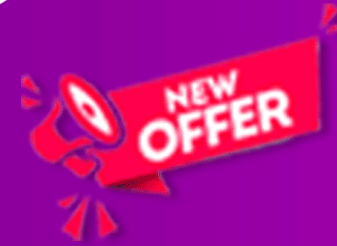
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Important Days



➤ Mauritius Day observed on _____?

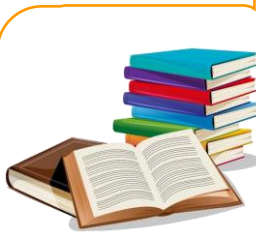
- A) 9 March
- B) 12 March
- C) 10 March
- D) 11 March
- E) None of these

Answer
B) 12 March

Mauritius



HAPPY
Independence Day



Important Days



Explanation

- DAY : **Mauritius Day**
- DATE : **12 March**
- OTHERS : **Mauritius Day is celebrated annually on 12 March to mark two key events that took place in the history of the country that is independence from Britain in 1968 and it became a republic in 1992.**



➤ RBI infused how many crore into banking system via VRR auction?

- A) ₹72,890 crore
- B) ₹62,630 crore
- C) ₹82,650 crore
- D) ₹93,250 crore
- E) None of these

Answer

C) ₹82,650 crore



Explanation

- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) infused liquidity amounting to ₹82,650 crore into the banking system on Friday via the 14-day Variable Rate Repo (VRR) auction amid tightening liquidity.
- Against the notified ₹1 lakh crore under the VRR auction, banks borrowed ₹82,650 crore at a weighted average rate of 6.53 per cent.



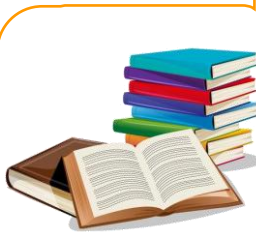
Titbits

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**

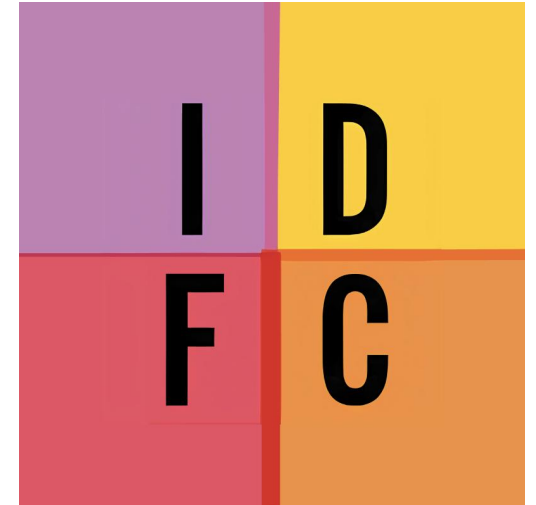


भारतीय रिज़र्व बैंक
RESERVE BANK OF INDIA



➤ Which mutual Fund will be rebranded as Bandhan MF?

- A) IDFC Mutual Fund
- B) AITYA BIRLA SUN LIFE MF
- C) Axis Asset Management Company Limited
- D) Kotak Mutual Funds
- E) None of these



Answer

A) IDFC Mutual Fund



Explanation

- **IDFC Mutual Fund is set to be launched as Bandhan Mutual Fund from March 13.**
- **As a result, the fund houses schemes will be renamed, with the word Bandhan replacing IDFC in each of them.**
- The new brand logo will also be unveiled, closely resembling the Bandhan Bank logo, but with additional colours and styling.
- **Regulators had objected to the use of Bandhan Bank logo for mutual fund operations.**
- Vishal Kapoor, CEO of AMC said, Our new name reflects our new sponsorship, and we are proud to now be a part of the Bandhan Group.



➤ Who sanctioned ₹1,000-crore loan to Shri Kshethra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project?

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



Answer
C) SIDBI



Explanation

- **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI) has sanctioned ₹1,000-crore loan to Karnataka-based Shri Kshethra Dharmasthala Rural Development Project (SKDRDP) under its PRAYAAS Scheme for direct credit to micro enterprises under partnership arrangements.**
- SIDBI has formulated the PRAYAAS Scheme to help microfinance clients upscale / diversify their business and need assistance in the range of ₹50,000 to ₹5 lakh, commonly known as **“Missing Middle Segment”**.
- The scheme aims to significantly improve access to finance and reduce interest rate **to aspiring borrowers and help in enterprise promotion.**
- SIDBI Chairman & Managing Director S. Ramann, observed that SIDBI’s mission through PRAYAAS is **to connect the micro segment entrepreneurs digitally and serve the ‘missing middle’ segment by making available affordable credit.**



Titbits

Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)

- Formed : **April 2, 1900**
- Headquarters : **Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh**
- Chairman : **Sivasubramanian Ramann**
- Parent department : **Ministry of Finance**



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who appointed as LIC's interim chairman for 3 months after MR Kumar's term ended?

- A) Siddhartha Mohanty
- B) Ram Chandra Paudel
- C) Rohit Jawa
- D) B Gopkumar
- E) None of these



Answer

A) Siddhartha Mohanty



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **The government on March 11 named Siddhartha Mohanty, currently serving as Managing Director and Chief Executive Officer, as the interim Chairman of the Life Insurance Corporation of India (LIC) with effect from March 14.**
- Mohanty will hold this position for a period of three months.
- According to a recent stock exchange filing by LIC, **the current chairman, MR Kumar, will not be receiving an extended term.**



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Life Insurance Corporation of India

- Founded : **1 September 1956**
- Headquarters : **Mumbai, India**
- Chairperson : **M R Kumar**



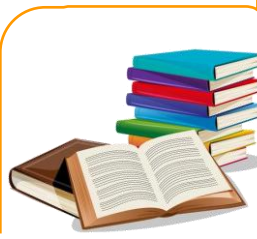
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



➤ World's first 3D-printed rocket set for inaugural flight from _____?

- A) Florida
- B) Mexico
- C) Washington
- D) California
- E) None of these

Answer
A) Florida



Explanation

- The **world's first 3D-printed rocket is scheduled to blast off from Florida on the maiden flight of an innovative spacecraft billed as being less costly to produce and fly**
Liftoff of the Terran 1 rocket, built by California aerospace startup Relativity Space, had been set for Wednesday at Cape Canaveral, but last-minute propellant temperature issues forced a postponement.
- **The new launch window is from 1:00 pm to 4:00 pm (1800 GMT to 2100 GMT), though the company warned that weather conditions were a concern.**



ENVIRONMENT AND ENERGY



➤ India and which country inked critical minerals investment partnership?

- A) Australia
- B) Nepal
- C) Indonesia
- D) Bhutan
- E) None of these

Answer
A) Australia



Explanation

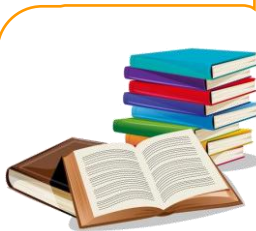
- **India and Australia joined hands in working towards investment in critical minerals such as Lithium and cobalt to develop supply chains between the two countries.**
- Coal and Mines Minister Pralhad Joshi and Minister for Resources and Northern Australia Madeleine King held bilateral talks and announced that they have identified five target projects (two lithium and three cobalt) on which to undertake detailed due diligence.



Titbits

Australia

- Capital : **Canberra**
- Currency : **Australian Dollar (AUD)**
- Monarch : **Charles III**
- Prime Minister : **Anthony Albanese**
- Language : **English**



DEFENCE



➤ India, France conduct maritime partnership exercise in _____?

- A) Arabian Sea
- B) Indian Ocean
- C) Atlantic Ocean
- D) Bay of Bengal
- E) None of these



Answer
A) Arabian Sea



Explanation

- **Indian Navy's indigenously built guided missile frigate, INS Sahyadri participated in a Maritime Partnership Exercise (MPX) with French Navy (FN) ships FS Dixmude, a Mistral Class Amphibious Assault Ship and FS La Fayette, a La Fayette Class Frigate, in the Arabian Sea.**
- The partnership exercise was **conducted on March 10-11.**
- The exercise witnessed a wide spectrum of evolutions at sea which included cross-deck landings, boarding exercises and seamanship evolutions.
- The seamless conduct of the exercise reaffirmed the interoperability and high level of cooperation between the two navies.
- INS Sahyadri is fitted with state-of-the art weapons and sensors, which makes her capable of detecting and neutralising air, surface and sub-surface threats.
- **The ship is a part of the Indian Navy's Eastern Fleet based at Visakhapatnam, under the operational control of FOCinC (East).**



DEFENCE



➤ Ministry of Defence signed a contract for procurement of how many Dornier-228 aircraft for IAF from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited at a cost of Rs. 667 crore?

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

Answer
C) 6



Explanation

- **Ministry of Defence has signed a contract for procurement of six Dornier-228 aircraft for the Indian Air Force (IAF) from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited, at a cost of 667 crore rupees.**
- The aircraft was used by IAF for transport role and communication duties.
- Subsequently, it has also been used for training of transport pilots of the IAF.
- **The present lot of six aircraft will be procured with an upgraded fuel-efficient engine coupled with a five bladed composite propeller.**
- Ministry of Defence in a statement said that the aircraft is ideally suited for short-haul operations from semi-prepared and short runways of the North East and island chains of India.
- The addition of the six aircraft will further bolster the operational capability of the IAF in the remote areas.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ India-US which edition of Commercial Dialogue meeting held in New Delhi & both countries sign MoU on semiconductor Supply Chain & Innovation Partnership?

- A) 2nd
- B) 3rd
- C) 4th
- D) 5th
- E) None of these

Answer
D) 5th



Explanation

- The **India-US Fifth Commercial Dialogue meeting was held in New Delhi.**
- During the meeting, Union Commerce and Industry Minister Piyush Goyal and US Secretary of Commerce, Gina Raimondo acknowledged that **bilateral goods and services trade has almost doubled since 2014, surpassing 191 billion US dollars as recorded in 2022.**
- Both sides welcomed further steps **to enhance their commercial collaboration and tap into market potential across multiple sectors**, and also enable an environment for investment by small and medium-sized industries and startups.
- **Both Ministers recognized that small businesses and entrepreneurs are the lifeblood of the US and Indian economies.**
- There is a need to facilitate collaboration between the SMEs of the two countries while fostering innovation ecosystems that facilitate their post-pandemic economic recovery and growth.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



- Which edition of WFI-2023' will be organised by Ministry of Food Processing Industries from 3rd to 5th November 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi?

- A) 2nd
- B) 3rd
- C) 4th
- D) 5th
- E) None of these

Answer

A) 2nd



Explanation

- The second edition of 'World Food India, WFI-2023' will be organised by the Ministry of Food Processing Industries, from 3rd to 5th November this year at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi.
- The Curtain Raiser Event to WFI-2023 was held in New Delhi.
- During the event, Minister of Food Processing Industries, Pashupati Kumar Paras launched the website, publicity brochure and promotional video for WFI-2023.
- Mr. Paras emphasised that India is one of the fastest-growing economies with many investment opportunities, especially in the food processing sector.
- He outlined five pivotal elements of the WFI-2023 as Millets- 'Shree Anna-The Super Food of India', Innovation and Sustainability 'Green Food', White Revolution 2.0, making India an export hub and focus on technology and digitisation.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Who inaugurated G20-themed flower festival in Delhi's CP?

- A) Rajnath Singh
- B) Bhupender Yadav
- C) S. Jaishankar
- D) Narayan Rane
- E) None of these

Answer

B) Bhupender Yadav



Explanation

- Union Environment Minister **Bhupender Yadav** inaugurated a **two-day G20-themed flower festival of New Delhi Municipal Council (NDMC) at Central Park in Connaught Place.**
- Meanwhile, the **United Nations lauded India's G20 Presidency for highlighting a number of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), namely no poverty, zero hunger, good health and well-being, quality education, gender equality, clean water and sanitation.**
- Addressing the joint valedictory session of the 57th Capacity Building Programme of the Civil Servants of Bangladesh and Arunachal Pradesh, the UN Resident Coordinator Shombi Sharp said, "**In fact, India's G-20 Presidency has become SDG-20 Presidency as India is raising strong voice to close financial gaps.**"
- Sharp pointed out that four emerging economies -- **Indonesia, India, Brazil and South Africa** -- will be holding the G20 Presidency in a consequent manner to raise the issues of developing countries and to become the voice of the Global South after a long gap.



Titbits

Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change

- UNION MINISTER : **Shri Bhupender Yadav** (Rajasthan)



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Who inaugurated 118 Km long Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway project?

- A) Rajnath Singh
- B) Narendra Modi
- C) S. Jaishankar
- D) Narayan Rane
- E) None of these



Answer

B) Narendra Modi



Explanation

- Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** inaugurated the **Bengaluru-Mysuru expressway** at a public rally in the **Mandya district** of Karnataka.
- The **118 Km** long project has been developed at a total cost of around **Rs 8480 crores**.
- It will reduce the travel time **between Bengaluru and Mysuru** from around 3 hours to about 75 minutes.
- It will act as a catalyst for socio-economic development in the region.
- Addressing on the occasion, Union Minister **Nitin Gadkari** said that with this new road, travelling from Bengaluru to Mysuru will be possible in **1 hour**.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Which state govt. granted freehold status for residential projects developed by DAs, OSHB?

- A) Jammu and Kashmir
- B) Odisha
- C) Karnataka
- D) Tamil Nadu
- E) None of these

Answer
B) Odisha

LEASEHOLD properties allotted by **Development Authorities & OSHB** in residential projects will now be **FREEHOLD**

BEGINNING OF A NEW ERA
IN ALLOTMENT OF **LAND** FOR HOUSES

HISTORIC DECISION UNDER 5T BY GOVERNMENT OF ODISHA

- ▶ No **NOC** for selling of lands or houses allotted by DAs & OSHB in residential projects
- ▶ All **new plots and houses** in residential projects by DAs & OSHB will **now be freehold**
- ▶ No need to visit Govt. Offices for **transfer and transaction** of properties to third parties
- ▶ No need of NOCs from DAs & OSHB to obtain **bank loans**
- ▶ Much needed relief for **lakhs of households** now and **millions** in future

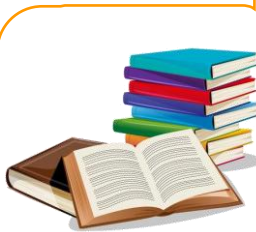
urbanodisha.gov.in @HUDDeptOdisha @Hudda_odisha



Explanation

- In a significant decision **Odisha government has granted permission for freehold status to land and houses allotted by the Development Agencies (DA) and Odisha State Housing Board (OSHB).**
- Official sources said **the decision will benefit more than a lakh people across the state.**
- There are **about 99 projects developed over 2797.492 acres of land in the entire state.**

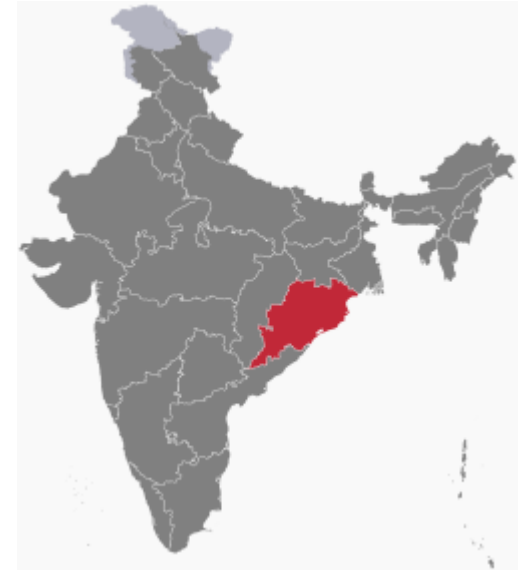
However, in the absence of any law for the conversion of such properties to freehold status, the allottees who were facing serious hardships, have been consistently demanding freehold status for such properties.



Titbits

Odisha

- Capital: **Bhubaneshwar**
- CM: **Naveen Patnaik**
- Governor: **Ganeshi Lal**
- Language: **Odia**
- National Park: **Bhitarkanika National Park**
- Wildlife Sanctuary: **Sunabeda Wildlife Sanctuary**
- Ramsar Site: **Bhitarkanika Magroves, Chilka Lake**
- Tiger Reserve: **Satkosia Tiger Reserve**
- Power Station: **Odisha Power Generation Corporation Limited**
- Dams: **Indravati (RIVER: Indravati)**
- RRB: **Odisha Gramya Bank (IOB), Utkal Grameen Bank (SBI)**
- UNESCO Site: **Sun Temple Konark**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



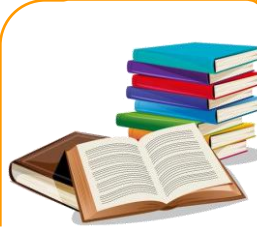
➤ Who inaugurated Youth-20 Consultation series in Pune?

- A) Rajnath Singh
- B) Anurag Singh Thakur
- C) S. Jaishankar
- D) Narayan Rane
- E) None of these



Answer

B) Anurag Singh Thakur



Explanation

- Union Minister for Youth Affairs **Anurag Singh Thakur** said that **young people are equal stakeholders in the present scenario.**
- While inaugurating the **fourth Y20 consultation meeting in Pune**, he said that the **Y20 Summit presents a unique platform for young minds to share their vision, values, and ideas, and develop solutions and recommendations which will be presented to G20 leadership.**
- India's role in this Summit is not limited to speaking, it also aims for youth to be heard and actively shape the global agenda.



Titbits

Ministry of Youth Affairs and Sports

- UNION MINISTER : **Shri Anurag Singh Thakur** (Hamirpur, Himachal Pradesh)



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Which state launched a Help Desk called Doda Online Services Terminal (DOST) for online services?

- A) Jammu and Kashmir
- B) Odisha
- C) Karnataka
- D) Tamil Nadu
- E) None of these

Answer

A) Jammu and Kashmir



Explanation

- In Jammu and Kashmir, district administration Doda in Jammu division launched a Help Desk called Doda Online Services Terminal (DOST) for online services.
- Our Jammu Correspondent reports that this was done to follow the Government of J&K's directive to completely switch to digital service delivery.
- **The launch happened through the ADBHUT Doda portal as part of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav. Worth to mention, DOST will provide assistance and training to the applicants/general public.**
- A fully trained team will be available on all working days from 8 AM to 2 PM at the DC office Complex in Doda to help with applying for online services, which include all kinds of services provided by Government offices/departments in the district.



Titbits

Jammu and Kashmir

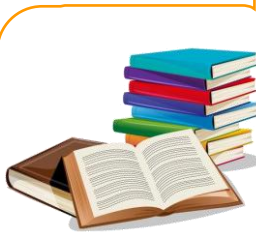
- Capital: **Srinagar, Jammu**
- Lieutenant Governor: **Manoj Sinha**
- Language: **Kashmiri, Dogri, Urdu, Hindi, English**
- National Park: **Dachigam National Park**
- Wildlife Sanctuary: **Gulmarg Wildlife Sanctuary.**
- Ramsar Site: **Hokera Wetland, Surinsar-Mansar Lakes, Wular Lake**
- Power Station: **Baglihar Stage- I Hydroelectric Project**
- Dams: **Baglihar Dam (River: Chenab)**
- RRB: **Ellaquai Dehati Bank (SBI), J&K Grameen Bank (J&K Bank)**



QUICK RECALL



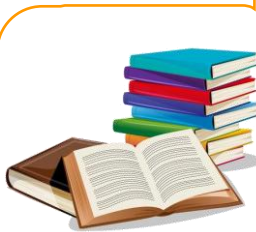
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- ❖ Siddhartha Mohanty appointed as LIC's interim chairman for 3 months after MR Kumar's term ended
- ❖ World's first 3D-printed rocket set for inaugural flight
- ❖ India, Australia ink critical minerals investment partnership
- ❖ India, France conduct maritime partnership exercise in Arabian Sea
- ❖ Ministry of Defence signs a contract for procurement of 6 Dornier-228 aircraft for IAF from Hindustan Aeronautics Limited at a cost of Rs. 667 crore



QUICK RECALL



- ❖ India-US 5th Commercial Dialogue meeting held in New Delhi today; both countries sign MoU on semiconductor Supply Chain & Innovation Partnership
- ❖ 2nd edition of WFI-2023' to be organised by Ministry of Food Processing Industries from 3rd to 5th November 2023 at Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
- ❖ Union Min Bhupender Yadav inaugurates G20-themed flower festival in Delhi's CP
- ❖ PM Modi inaugurates 118 Km long Bengaluru-Mysuru Expressway project
- ❖ Odisha govt. grants freehold status for residential projects developed by DAs, OSHB
- ❖ Union Minister Anurag Singh Thakur inaugurates Youth-20 Consultation series in Pune
- ❖ J&K: District administration Doda in Jammu division launches a Help Desk called Doda Online Services Terminal (DOST) for online services



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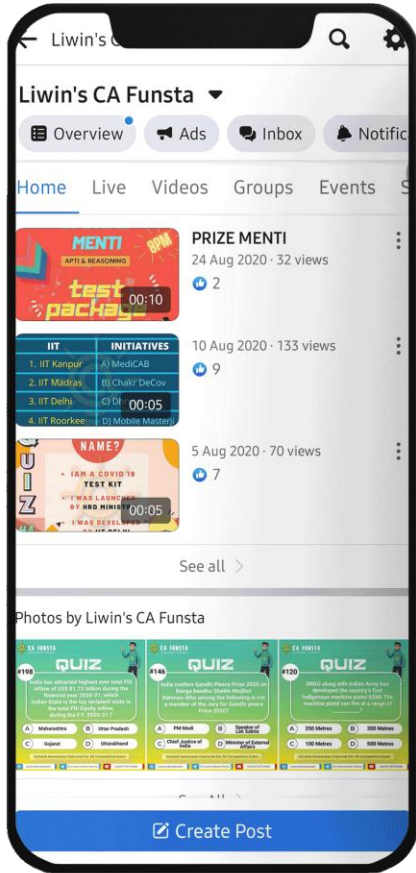
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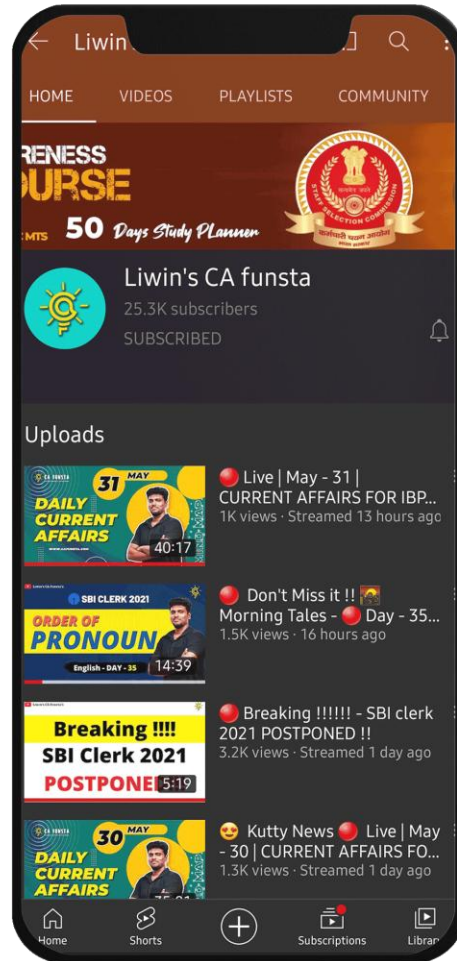
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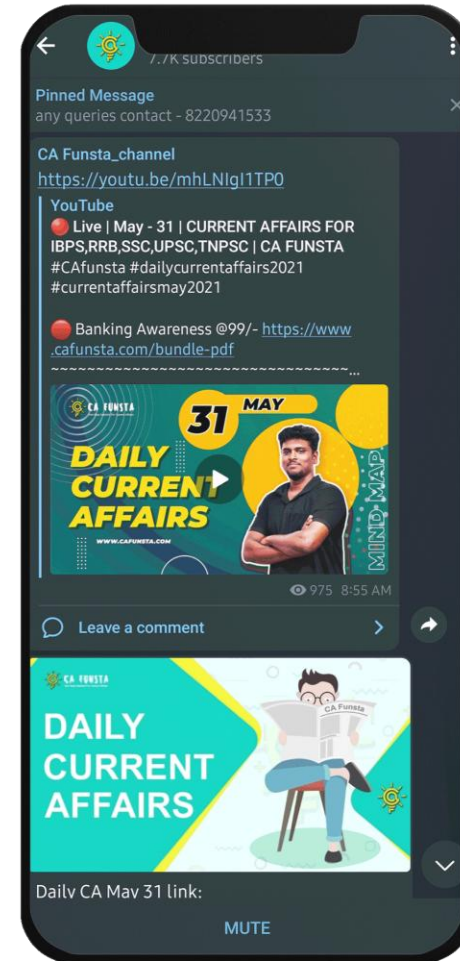
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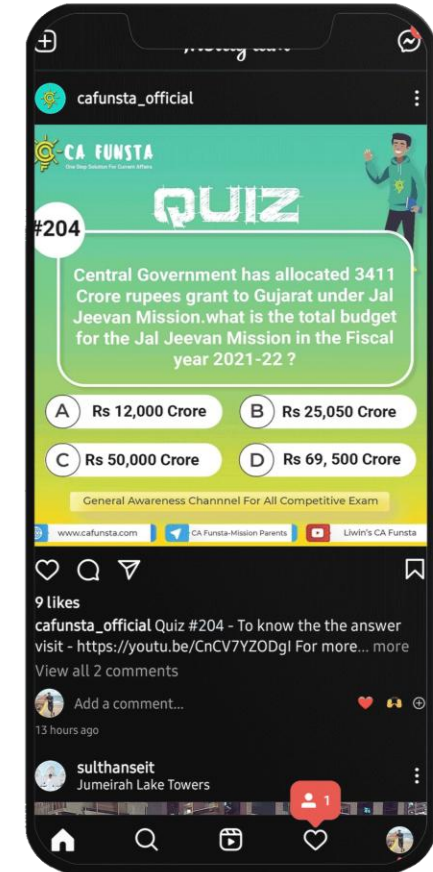
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