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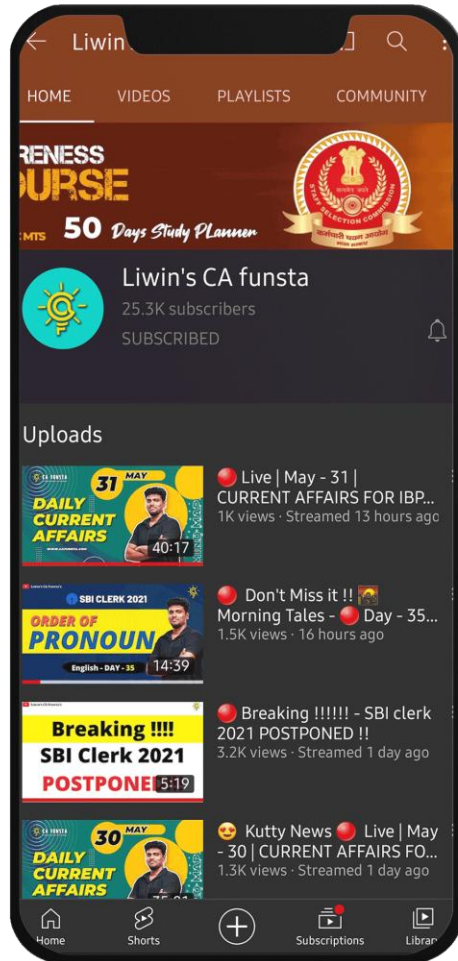
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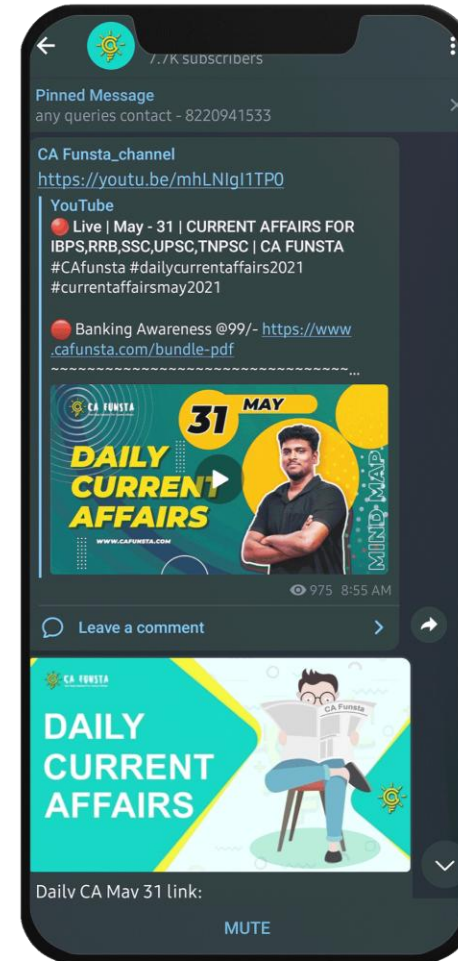
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Important Days



➤ International Mathematics Day 2023 Celebrated on _____?

- A) 14 MARCH
- B) 13 MARCH
- C) 12 MARCH
- D) 15 MARCH
- E) None of these



Answer

A) 14 MARCH



Important Days



Explanation

- DAY : **International Mathematics Day 2023**
- DATE : **14 MARCH**
- OTHERS : **International Day of Mathematics, also known as Pi Day, is an annual celebration observed on March 14th. The date is written in the format of month and date (MM/DD) to represent the value of Pi, which is 3.14.** The day is celebrated by mathematics enthusiasts and educators worldwide to recognize and appreciate the significance of mathematics in our lives.



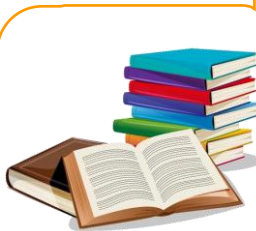
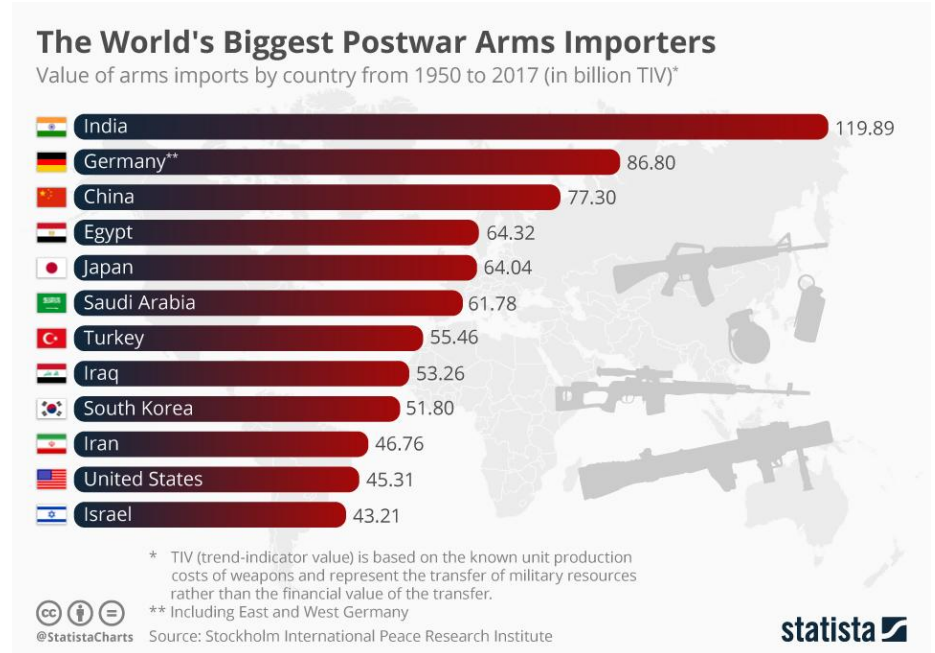
RANKING



➤ Which country remained world's top arms importer?

- A) India
- B) Australia
- C) USA
- D) Japan
- E) None of these

Answer
A) India



RANKING



Explanation

- **India remained the world's top arms importer, but its imports declined by 11 per cent between 2013-17 and 2018-22, according to a report released by Stockholm-based defence think-tank SIPRI.**
- The decline was linked to a complex procurement process, efforts to diversify arms suppliers and attempts to replace imports with local designs.
- The Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI) said **the five largest arms importers in the world during 2018-22 were India, Saudi Arabia, Qatar, Australia and China.**
- The five largest arms exporters were the United States, Russia, France, China and Germany.



BANKING AND FINANCE



- Who signed MoU with Warehousing Development & Regulatory Authority to promote financing against electronic negotiable warehousing receipt?

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

Answer
A) PNB



Explanation

- Leading public sector lender **Punjab National Bank and Warehousing Development & Regulatory Authority (WDRA)** have entered into a memorandum of understanding to promote financing against **electronic negotiable warehousing receipt (e-NWR)**.
- The partnership is aimed to provide information to farmers or depositors of agriculture produce about the benefits of e-NWR besides doing further outreach activities to improve agricultural pledge finance in India.
- The **main objective of WDRA is to implement Negotiable Warehouse Receipt (NWR) system in the country that would help farmers to store their produce in scientific storage godowns near their farms and to seek loans from banks against their NWR.**
- The e-NWR financing is being envisaged to be a game changer in shaping the rural economy by preventing distress sale by farmers and helping them in realising better price for their produce.



➤ Which Housing Finance's Rs 2,500 cr rights issue get Sebi's nod?

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



Answer
A) PNB



Explanation

- **PNB Housing Finance, an arm of state-owned Punjab National Bank, has received capital markets regulator Sebi's go ahead to raise up to Rs 2,500 crore through rights issue of shares.**
- The housing finance firm, which had filed draft papers with Sebi in December 2022 regarding the rights issue, obtained its '**observations**' on March 6, which is necessary for any company to launch the issue, an update the markets regulator showed.
- Going by the draft papers, PNB Housing will issue fully paid-up equity shares of the company by way of a rights issue to its existing shareholders for an amount not exceeding Rs 2,500 crore.



Titbits

Punjab National Bank (PNB)

- Founded : **19 May 1894**
- Headquarters : **Dwarka, Delhi**
- MD & CEO : **Atul Kumar Goel**



➤ Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency get 'Infrastructure Finance Company' status from _____?

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



Answer

A) RBI



Explanation

- The **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)** granted an '**Infrastructure Finance Company (IFC)**' status to **Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)**.
- It was earlier classified as an '**Investment and Credit Company (ICC)**'.
- With the IFC status, IREDA can now take higher exposure in RE financing.
- The IFC status will also help **the company access a wider investor base for fund mobilisation, resulting in competitive rates for fundraising.**
- The recognition of IREDA as an IFC will increase investors' confidence, enhance brand value, and generate a positive outlook in the market.
- The grant of IFC status is a recognition of IREDA's 36 years of infrastructure financing and development with focused development of Renewable Energy, the release stated further, adding that with the IFC status, **IREDA will keep contributing towards the government's target of 500 GW installed capacity of non-fossil fuels by 2030.**



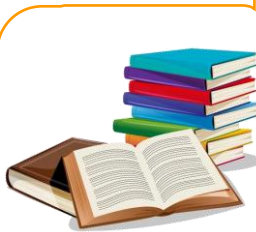
Titbits

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



BUSINESS AND ECONOMY



➤ Wholesale inflation dipped to _____ pc in Feb?

- A) 3.85 per cent
- B) 2.95 per cent
- C) 4.56 per cent
- D) 5.75 per cent
- E) None of these

Answer

A) 3.85 per cent



Explanation

- **India's wholesale inflation dipped to 3.85 per cent in February 2023** from 4.73 per cent in the previous month, data released by Commerce Ministry showed.
- **"Decline in the rate of inflation in February, 2023 is primarily contributed by fall in prices of crude petroleum and natural gas, non-food articles, food products, minerals, computer, electronic and optical products, chemicals and chemical products, electrical equipment and motor vehicles, trailers and semi-trailers,"**.
- The month over month change in WPI for the month of February 2023 stood at 0.20 pc as compared to January 2023, the data showed.



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who appointed LIC MD?**

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



Answer

D) Tablesh Pandey



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)** said it has elevated **Tablesh Pandey**, executive director of the company, as its managing director.
- His appointment is effective from April 1, 2023, according to a regulatory filing.
- Pandey will replace present managing director B C Patnaik.
- LIC presently has four managing directors.



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Life Insurance Corporation of India

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



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who roped in as brand ambassadors of IBA Women's World Championships 2023?

- A) Mary Kom
- B) Farhan Akhtar
- C) P T Usha
- D) Only A & B
- E) Only A & C

Answer

D) Only A & B



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- The Boxing Federation of India (BFI) unveiled the title sponsor for the IBA Women's World Championships 2023 and legendary **boxer MC Mary Kom and Bollywood star Farhan Akhtar were also announced as the brand ambassadors of the event, scheduled from March 15 to 26 at the Indira Gandhi Sports Complex in New Delhi.**
- India is hosting the event for the third time in the history and the country is set to be gripped by boxing fever as several top-notch pugilists are headlining the Championships, as per a press release from BFI.



DEFENCE



➤ France-led how many nation naval exercise La Perouse kicks off in Indian Ocean?

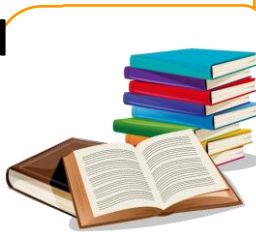
- A) 4
- B) 5
- C) 6
- D) 7
- E) None of these

Answer
B) 5



Explanation

- **France-led 5-nation naval exercise (India, US, Australia, Japan and France) La Perouse kicked off its third edition in the Indian Ocean.**
- **"France-led 5-nation naval exercise La Perouse has kicked off in the Indian Ocean. Ships of India, United States, Australia & Japan Navies have joined the French Navy helicopter & shared commitment to rules-based Indo-Pacific,"** tweeted French Ambassador Emmanuel Lenain.
- **La Perouse Exercise is a multilateral naval exercise aimed at improving interoperability between navies and fostering mutual understanding and cooperation between participating nations.**
- **The exercise provides an excellent platform for participating nations to hone their operational and tactical skills in a multinational environment, better understand each other's maritime methodologies and enhance their ability to operate together.**
- **The exercise also aims at deepening military-to-military relations between India and France, Russia and the United States.**



DEFENCE



➤ Navies of India, Australia, Japan, US, France and UK will participate in which Exercise?

- A) La Perouse
- B) Naseem-al-Bahr
- C) EASTERN BRIDGE
- D) Ex SAMPRITI
- E) None of these



Answer

A) La Perouse

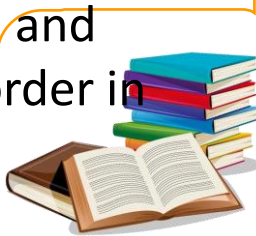


DEFENCE



Explanation

- **Personnel, ships and integral helicopters of the Royal Australian Navy, French Navy, Indian Navy, Japanese Maritime Self-Defence Force, Royal Navy and the United States Navy will participate in Exercise La Perouse.**
- **The third edition of the multilateral exercise La Perouse will be conducted in the Indian Ocean Region from March 13-14.**
- The biennial exercise La Perouse is conducted by the French Navy and aims **to enhance maritime domain awareness and optimise maritime coordination amongst the participating navies in the Indo-Pacific region.**
- The two-day exercise provides an opportunity for like-minded navies to develop closer links in planning, coordination and information sharing for seamless maritime operations, according to the press release.
- Exercise La Perouse will include complex and advanced naval operations, including surface warfare, anti-air warfare, air defence exercises, cross-deck landings and tactical manoeuvres.
- **Indian Navy's indigenously built guided missile frigate INS Sahyadri and fleet tanker INS Jyoti will participate in the third edition of the multilateral exercise.**
- Participation of the Indian Navy in the exercise demonstrates the high levels of synergy, coordination and inter-operability between the friendly navies, and their commitment to a rules-based international order in the Indo-Pacific region.



DEFENCE



➤ Defence Ministry signed contract of over how many crores for Normal Refit of Sindhukirti Submarine at Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam?

- A) 700 crore rupees
- B) 600 crore rupees
- C) 900 crore rupees
- D) 800 crore rupees
- E) None of these

Answer

C) 900 crore rupees



DEFENCE



Explanation

- The **Defence Ministry has signed a contract of over 900 crore rupees for the Normal Refit of Sindhukirti Submarine at Hindustan Shipyard Limited, Visakhapatnam to achieve Aatmanirbhar Bharat.**
- Sindhukirti is Diesel Electric Submarine.
- The Ministry said, after completion of the refit, **Sindhukirti will be combat-worthy and will join the active submarine fleet of the Indian Navy.**
- This refit has been offloaded to develop an alternate repair facility for submarines and is a further step towards undertaking Medium refit with Life Certification at Hindustan Shipyard Limited.
- **The project involves more than 20 Micro Small and Medium Enterprises and will lead to employment generation of one thousand man-days per day for the project duration.**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Which state govt approved one-year extension to job scheme for children of freedom fighters?

- A) Goa
- B) Kerala
- C) Gujarat
- D) Rajasthan
- E) None of these

Answer
A) Goa



Explanation

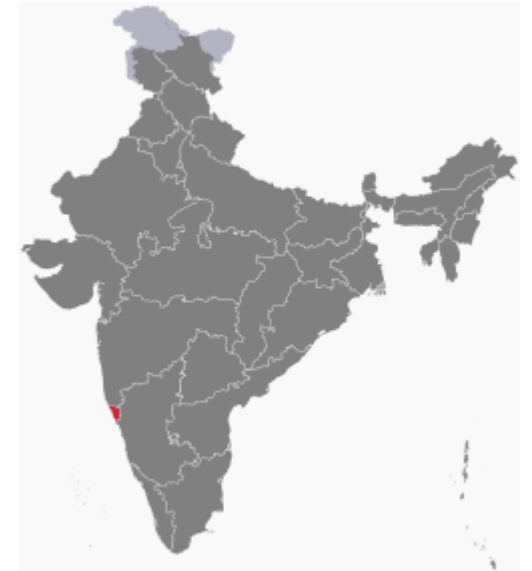
- The **Goa cabinet gave nod to extend the scheme providing government jobs to children of freedom fighters for a year.**
- Chief Minister Pramod Sawant told reporters that all 90 applications of the children of freedom fighters pending with the state government will be disposed of within a year and applicants will be employed by June this year.
- We have extended the scheme by another year but this would be the final extension.
- **Sawant said since he took over as the chief minister (in 2019), 270 applicants have been given government jobs, while 90 are remaining.**



Titbits

Goa

- Capital : **Panaji**
- CM : **Pramod Sawant**
- Governor : **PS Sreedharan Pillai**
- Language : **Konkani**
- National Park : **Mollem National Park**
- UNESCO Site : **Churches and Convents of Goa**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Asia's first woman loco pilot operated Vande Bharat Express and she is _____?

- A) Surekha Yadav
- B) Harmanjot Singh
- C) Arushi Kotwal
- D) Lakshmi Rai
- E) None of these

Answer

A) Surekha Yadav



Explanation

- **Asia's first woman loco pilot Surekha Yadav has added another feather to her cap as she became the first female to operate the newly-introduced semi-high speed Vande Bharat Express train.**
- She piloted the semi-high speed train between Solapur station and Chhatrapati Shivaji Maharaj Terminus (CSMT) in Mumbai.
- **The train departed Solapur station at right time on March 13 and reached CSMT five minutes before the scheduled arrival**, adding that on completion of a more than 450-km long journey, Yadav was felicitated at platform number 8 at CSMT.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Total of how many languages of India included in 8th Schedule to Constitution of India?

- A) 21
- B) 22
- C) 23
- D) 24
- E) None of these

1-অসমীয়া (Assamese)	2-বেঙ্গালি (Bengali)	3-ગુજરાતી (Gujarathi)	12-ଓଡ଼ିଆ (Oriya)	13-ਪੰਜਾਬੀ (Punjabi)	14-संस्कृतम् (Sanskrit)
4-हिंदी (Hindi)	5-ಕನ್ನಡ (Kannada)	6-کَاشْمِیَرِی (Kashmiri)	15-سنڌي (Sindhi)	16-தமிழ் (Tamil)	17-తెలుగు (Telugu)
7-कोंकणी (Konkani)	8-മലയാളം (Malayalam)		18-اردو (Urdu)	19-बड़ो (Bodo)	20-সাঁওতালি (Santali)
9-মৈথিলি (Manipuri)	10-मराठी (Marathi)	11-नेपाली (Nepali)	21-मैथिली, मधिली (Maithili)	22-डोगरी (Dogri)	



Answer
B) 22



Explanation

- **A total of 22 languages of India are included in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution of India. In a written reply in Lok Sabha, Minister of State of Home Affairs Nityanand Rai that 14 languages were initially included in the Constitution on 26th January 1950.**
- He said Bodo, Dogri, Maithili, and Santhali were included in the list of languages in the Eighth Schedule on 7 January 2004.
- **There have been demands from time to time for the inclusion of 38 languages in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution, including Sambalpuri/Kosali, Garhwali and Kumaoni.**
- The minister informed that many of these languages are spoken in several states; therefore, their use is not restricted by State boundaries.
- He said at present there are no fixed criteria for any language to be considered for inclusion in the Eighth Schedule to the Constitution.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ First international conference on Shared Buddhist Heritage will begin in _____?

- A) Chennai
- B) New Delhi
- C) Guwahati
- D) Pune
- E) None of these

Answer
B) New Delhi



Explanation

- The **first international conference on Shared Buddhist Heritage will commence in New Delhi.**
- It is being organised with a focus on India's civilisational connect with the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation (SCO) nations 2023.
- The **two-day conference aims at re-establishing trans-cultural links and seeking out commonalities, between Buddhist art of Central Asia, art styles, archaeological sites and antiquity in various museum collections of the SCO countries.**
- The event, under India's leadership of SCO, will bring together Central Asian, East Asian, South Asian and Arab countries on a common platform to discuss Shared Buddhist Heritage.
- **The SCO countries comprise of Member States, Observer States and Dialogue Partners, including China, Russia and Mongolia.**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS

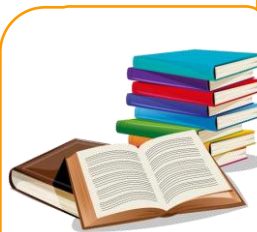


➤ First Senior Officials Meeting of SAI20 Engagement Group concluded in _____?

- A) Chennai
- B) Aluva
- C) Guwahati
- D) Pune
- E) None of these

Answer

C) Guwahati



Explanation

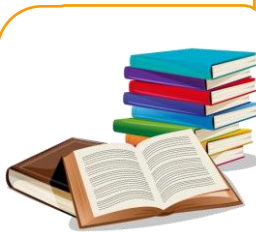
- Comptroller and Auditor General of India, **Girish Chandra Murmu stressed on the need for collaboration for developing and strengthening accountability frameworks in the Blue Economy and Responsible Artificial Intelligence.**
- In his valedictory address as chair for **the first Supreme Audit Institutions 20 (SAI20) Senior Official Meeting today in Guwahati**, Mr. Murmu appreciated the wealth of knowledge gained during the deliberations on the priority areas of Blue Economy and Responsible Artificial Intelligence.
- The CAG informed that the delegates from the SAI20 member broadly agreed to the Zero draft of the Communique and provided their valuable thoughts and suggestions to bring out an inclusive, decisive, and action-oriented Communique for the SAI20 summit scheduled to be held in Goa in June this year.



QUICK RECALL



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- ❖ India remains world's top arms importer
- ❖ PNB signs MoU with Warehousing Development & Regulatory Authority to promote financing against electronic negotiable warehousing receipt
- ❖ PNB Housing Finance's Rs 2,500 cr rights issue gets Sebi's nod
- ❖ Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency gets 'Infrastructure Finance Company' status from RBI
- ❖ Wholesale inflation dips to 3.85 pc in Feb
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- ❖ MC Mary Kom, Farhan Akhtar roped in as brand ambassadors of IBA Women's World Championships 2023



QUICK RECALL



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