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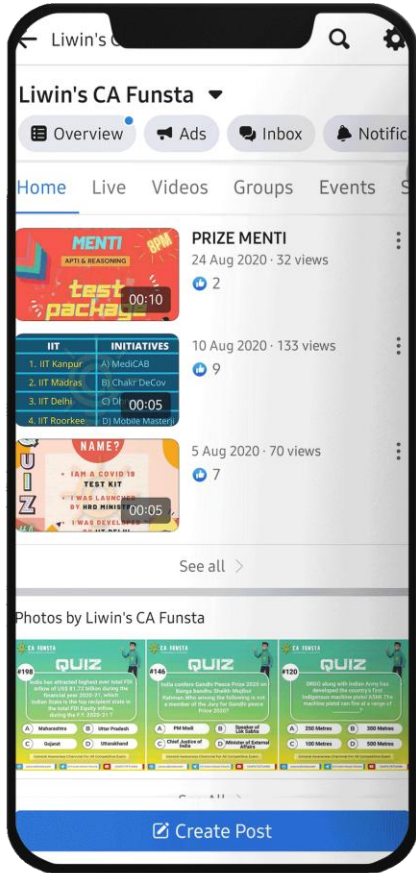
MARCH- 21



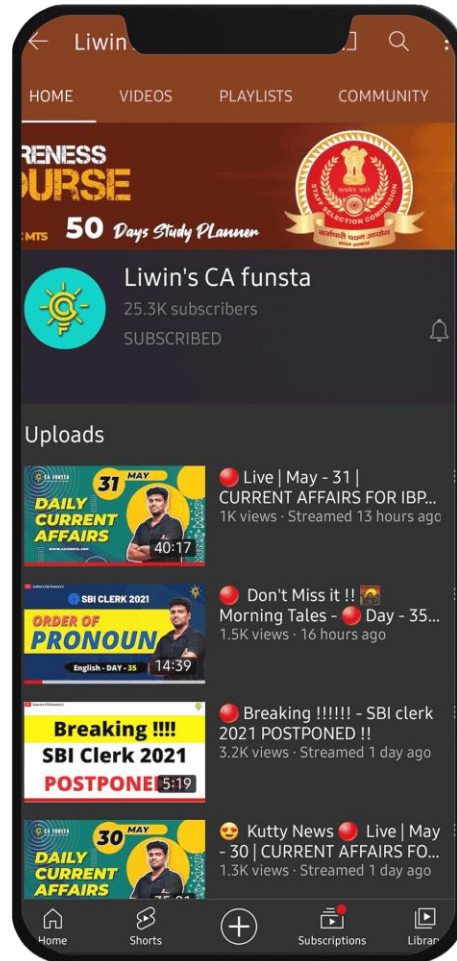
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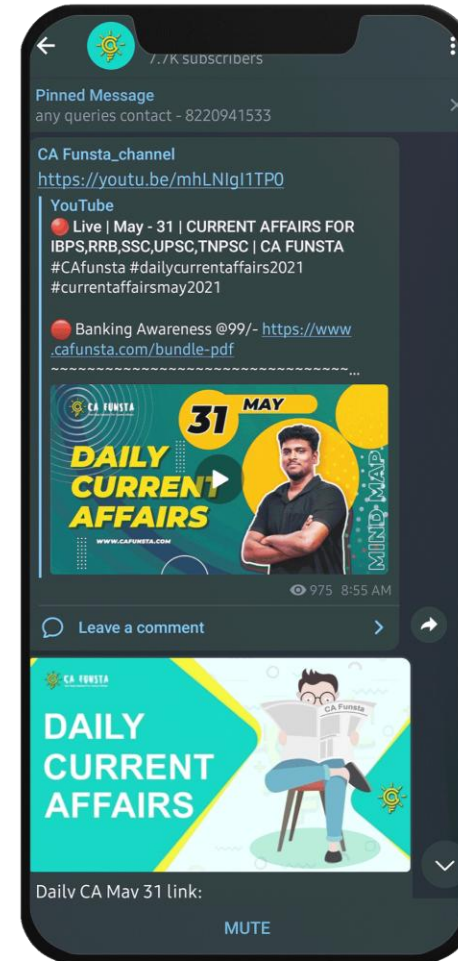
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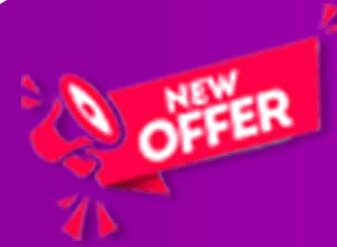
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# Important Days



➤ World Poetry Day celebrated on \_\_\_\_\_?

- A) 21 March
- B) 20 March
- C) 19 March
- D) 22 March
- E) None of these

**Answer**

**A) 21 March**



# Important Days



## Explanation

- DAY : **World Poetry Day**
- DATE : **21 March**
- OTHERS : **On 21st March, World Poetry Day is celebrated every year to recognise the unique ability of poetry to capture the creative spirit of the human mind. To celebrate this day on 21st March was adopted during UNESCO's 30th session in Paris in 1999.**



# SPORTS



➤ **Wicketkeeper-batsman Aasif Sheikh declared winner of 2022 CMJ Spirit of Cricket Award and he belongs to \_\_\_\_\_?**

- A) Nepal
- B) Bangladesh
- C) Afghanistan
- D) Pajistan
- E) None of these



**Answer**  
**A) Nepal**



## Explanation

- **AIR Nepalese Wicketkeeper-batsman Aasif Sheikh has been declared the winner of the 2022 Christopher Martin-Jenkins Spirit of Cricket Award.**
- The Award is presented every year by the Marylebone Cricket Club (MCC), UK in conjunction with the BBC.
- The CMJ Spirit of Cricket Award was created in 2013 by MCC and the BBC in memory of former MCC President and BBC Test Match Special commentator Christopher Martin-Jenkins (CMJ), who was passionate about promoting the spirit of the game.





# SPORTS



➤ ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship will begin at Bhopal in \_\_\_\_\_?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Madhya Pradesh
- D) Rajasthan
- E) None of these

**Answer**

**C) Madhya Pradesh**



## Explanation

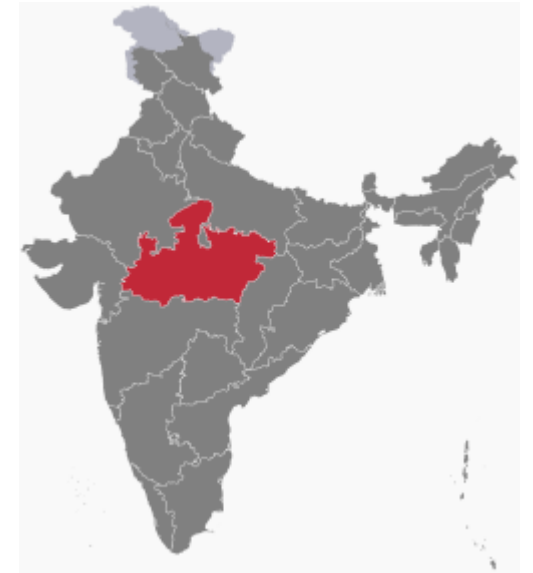
- **International Shooting Sports Federation- ISSF World Cup Shooting Championship is organised in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh from today to 27 March.**
- The official opening ceremony will be held on 21 March while competitions begin on 22 March at Madhya Pradesh State Shooting Academy.
- Madhya Pradesh Chief Minister Shivraj Singh Chouhan will formally inaugurate this event on 21 March.
- Around 325 shooters from 33 countries and more than 75 technical officials will participate in the World Cup Shooting Championship.
- The Championship is being organized in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh and the Rifle Federation of India.
- It is the 8th World Cup organised in India and the first international shooting tournament to be held outside New Delhi.



## Titbits

### Madhya Pradesh

- Capital: **Bhopal**
- CM: **Shivraj Singh Chouhan**
- Governor: **Mangubhai Patel**
- Language: **Hindi**
- National Park: **Kuno National Park**
- Wildlife Sanctuary : Bagdara Wildlife Sanctuary
- Ramsar Site: **Bhoj Wetlands, Sirpur Wetland**
- Tiger Reserve: **Panna Tiger Reserve**
- Power Station: **Satpura Thermal Power Station**
- RRB: **Madhya Pradesh Gramin Bank (BOI), Madhyanchal Gramin Bank (SBI)**
- UNESCO Site: **Khajuraho Group of monuments, Buddhist Monuments at Sanchi, Rock Shelters of Bhimbetka**



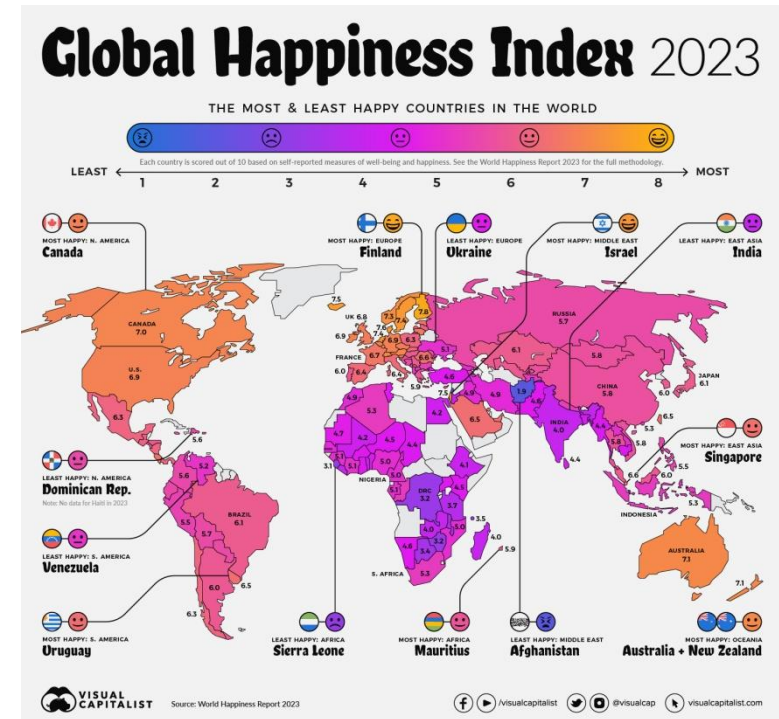
# RANKING



➤ Which country topped World Happiness rankings for sixth straight year?

- A) Finland
- B) India
- C) Japan
- D) China
- E) None of these

**Answer**  
**A) Finland**



# RANKING



## Explanation

- **The World Happiness Report unveiled by the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network showed Finland scores “significantly ahead of all other countries” in the ranking, followed by Denmark in the second place and Iceland in third.**
- World Happiness Report 2022: Click here for The top 10 happiest countries of the world.
- **“Income, health, having someone to count on, having a sense of freedom to make key life decisions, generosity, and the absence of corruption all play strong roles in supporting life evaluations,”.**
- Israel climbed up five steps from last year to take the fourth place, followed by the Netherlands.
- The US was in the 15th spot in the ranking that showed a large gap remaining between the top and bottom countries.
- Lebanon and Afghanistan came last, while Lithuania was among the biggest gainers, climbing up more than 30 places since 2017 to rank number 20 now.



# RANKING



➤ Which city topped the list of world's most expensive cities for business travel?

- A) New York
- B) Chennai
- C) Los Vegas
- D) Tokyo
- E) None of these

**Answer**

**A) New York**



# RANKING



## Explanation

- **New York remained the most expensive business trip destination in the world in 2022 as a post-pandemic surge in business travel and tourism drove up costs 8% from the prior year.**
- **The Big Apple took a bite out of business travelers at a rate of \$796 per day**, according to the consulting firm ECA International, which counted four-star hotels, meals, taxis, drinks and incidentals as part of its survey.
- The US dominated the ranking overall, with Washington DC and San Francisco both making the top five on the leaderboard, while Switzerland chimed in with Geneva and Zurich.
- Climbing inflation rates were a major factor in the increase in travel costs, while a pandemic-fueled drop in demand led to more affordable rates in places like China.



# BANKING AND FINANCE



➤ Which bank backed IndiaFirst Life Insurance gets Sebi nod to launch IPO?



- A) Bank of Baroda
- B) Axis Bank
- C) PNB
- D) IOB
- E) None of these

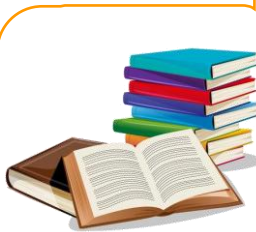


बैंक ऑफ़ बड़ौदा  
*Bank of Baroda*



**Answer**

**A) Bank of Baroda**





## Explanation

- **Bank of Baroda promoted IndiaFirst Life Insurance Company (IndiaFirst Life) has received capital markets regulator Sebi's approval to float Initial Public Offering (IPO).**
- **The IPO comprises a fresh issue of up to Rs 500 crore along with an offer for sale (OFS) of up to 14,12,99,422 equity shares** by the promoters and existing shareholders of the company.
- Bank of Baroda will sell 8,90,15,734 equity shares, whereas Union Bank of India will sell 1,30,56,415 equity shares in the OFS.
- Carmel Point Investments India would offload 3,92,27,273 equity shares during the primary stake sale.



## Titbits

### Bank of Baroda

- Founded : **20/07/1908**
- HQ : **Vadodara, Gujarat**
- Chairman : **Hasmukh Adhia**
- MD & CEO : **Sanjiv Chadha**
- Tagline : **India's International Bank**



# BANKING AND FINANCE



➤ PSU banks' gross NPA declined from 14.6% in Mar 2018 to \_\_\_\_\_% in Dec 2022?

- A) 4.23%
- B) 6.85%
- C) 5.53%
- D) 6.72%
- E) None of these

**Answer**  
**C) 5.53%**



## Explanation

- **The government has taken various reforms following which asset quality of public sector banks has improved significantly with gross NPA ratio declining from the peak of 14.6 per cent in March 2018 to 5.53 per cent in December 2022, Parliament was informed.**
- **All PSBs are in profit with aggregate profit being Rs 66,543 crore in 2021-22, and that further increased to Rs 70,167 crore in first nine months of current financial year, Minister of State for Finance Bhagwat K Karad said in a written reply to Lok Sabha.**
- **At the same time, resilience has increased with provision coverage ratio of PSBs rising from 46 per cent to 89.9 per cent in December 2022, he said, adding capital adequacy ratio of PSBs improved significantly from 11.5 per cent in March 2015 to 14.5 per cent in December 2022.**



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who appointed as CMD of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)?

- A) Ashwani Kumar
- B) Ram Chandra Paudel
- C) Lalit Kumar Gupta
- D) Tablesh Pandey
- E) None of these

**Answer**

**C) Lalit Kumar Gupta**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- The **Appointments Committee of the Cabinet (ACC)** has approved the appointment of **Lalit Kumar Gupta** as **Chairman and Managing Director (CMD)** of **Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)**, a PSU under the Ministry of Textile.
- According to an order issued from the Department of Personnel & Training (DoPT), Gupta has been appointed as CMD of CCI with effect from the date of his assumption of charge of the post for a period of five years, or till the date of his superannuation, or until further orders, whichever is the earlier.
- Gupta was recommended for the post of CMD of CCI by the PESB panel.
- Presently, he is serving as Director (Finnane) in the same organisation.



# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



➤ India's first Night Sky Sanctuary in \_\_\_\_\_ will boost Astro tourism?

- A) Ladakh
- B) chennai
- C) Pune
- D) Aluva
- E) None of these



**Answer**  
**A) Ladakh**



## Explanation

- Union Minister **Jitendra Singh** said the **Ladakh leaders** that **India's first Night Sky Sanctuary** being set up in **Ladakh** will give a fillip to **Astro tourism** in the **Union Territory** and generate revenue as well as livelihood.
- "On behalf of the Department of Science and Technology and CSIR, we will request Prime Minister **Narendra Modi** to inaugurate the **Night Sky Reserve** at an early date,".





# DEFENCE



➤ Africa-India joint exercise AFINDEX- 2023 commenced in \_\_\_\_\_ ?

- A) Delhi
- B) chennai
- C) Pune
- D) Aluva
- E) None of these

**Answer**  
**C) Pune**



## Explanation

- The **second edition of the Africa-India Field Training Exercise (AFINDEX- 2023)** between India and **23 nations of the African continent** commenced at **Foreign Training Node, Aundh, Pune**.
- According to the official statement, **100 Participants from Botswana, Cameroon, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, Lesotho, Malawi, Morocco, Niger, Nigeria, Republic of Congo, Rwanda, Seychelles, Senegal, Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Zimbabwe**, are attending this unique field training exercise.
- The participants were addressed by **Lt Gen Rakesh Kapoor, Corps Commander, Desert Corps**.



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



- India and which country signed two agreements regarding loan for Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed railway project & cooperation in Japanese language?

- A) Japan
- B) France
- C) UAE
- D) Singapore
- E) None of these

**Answer**  
**A) Japan**



## Explanation

- Foreign Secretary **Vinay Mohan Kwatra** said **India and Japan signed two documents on the sidelines of the bilateral talks between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and Japanese Prime Minister Fumio Kishida.**
- The agreements include Renewal of Memorandum of Cooperation in Japanese language, and Exchange of notes on **JICA loan for 300 billion Yen on Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed railway project.**
- Briefing media in New Delhi this afternoon, Mr Kwatra said Prime Minister Modi expressed his desire with Prime Minister Kishida to declare the next year as the year of Youth Exchanges between the two countries.
- He said Mr Kishida formally invited Mr Modi to G7 Hiroshima Summit.



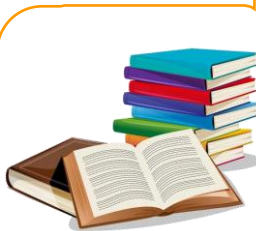
# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Japan

- Capital : **Tokyo**
- Currency : **Japanese Yen**
- Emperor : **Naruhito**
- Prime Minister : **Fumio Kishida**
- Language : **Japanese**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



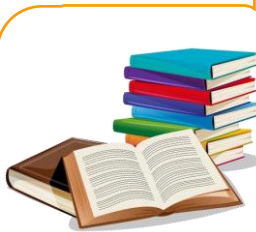
➤ Asia's biggest International Food and Hospitality Fair began in \_\_\_\_\_?

- A) Delhi
- B) chennai
- C) Pune
- D) Aluva
- E) None of these

**Answer**  
**A) Delhi**



14-18 March | 2023  
Pragati Maidan, New Delhi



## Explanation

- **Aahar 2023 organized with the support of the Union Ministry of Food Processing Industries, Agriculture and Processed Food Products Export Development Authority (APEDA), and other bodies, will focus on unveiling the potential of the hospitality sector and exhibiting technologies, products and services to domestic and international buyers.**
- Aahar is India's largest four-day culinary show where hoteliers and restaurateurs, caterers and distributors come to source the best in culinary, hospitality and equipment and also gauge the market trends.
- This year WACS-certified jury members from India and abroad will also judge the proficiency of over 500 chefs at the fair's main event called, Culinary Art India.
- While prominent chefs will demonstrate some of their best recipes, the others will get an opportunity to display their expertise and talent.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Who addressed Aviation Summit 2023 by CAPA India?

- A) Narendra Singh Tomar
- B) Anurag Singh Thakur
- C) Dr Mansukh Mandaviya
- D) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
- E) None of these



**Answer**

**D) Jyotiraditya M. Scindia**





## Explanation

- Minister of Civil Aviation and Steel Shri **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia** **highlighted the various aspects of the development of the Indian aviation industry while addressing the CAPA India's Aviation Summit 2023.**
- Shri Scindia said that there was a time when the airports were devoid of a single passenger and here, we are when we have already crossed figures of 4.56 lakh domestic passengers in a day.
- **India will have more than 140 million passengers in FY 2024 alone,** he added.
- In the **six years from FY 2014 to FY 2020 the number of domestic passengers has more than doubled from 120 million to about 275 million at a CAGR of 14.5 % and had there been no COVID outbreak we would have reached a CAGR of about 18-20 %.**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Who flagged off Bharat Gaurav Train to North East from Delhi Safdarjung?

- A) Narendra Singh Tomar
- B) Dr. Jitendra Singh
- C) Dr Mansukh Mandaviya
- D) Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi
- E) None of these

**Answer**

**D) Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi**



## Explanation

- **This special tour offers tour opportunity to India's North East covering Assam, Arunachal Pradesh, Nagaland, Tripura and Meghalaya.**
- The much sought-after train tour "North East Discovery: Beyond Guwahati" departed today from Delhi Safdarjung Railway Station on a 14 nights/15 days itinerary.
- State of the art Deluxe AC Tourist Train with AC I & AC II class will accommodate total 156 tourists.
- The places covered are Guwahati, Sivasagar, Jorhat & Kaziranga in Assam, Unakoti, Agartala & Udaipur in Tripura, Dimapur & Kohima in Nagaland and Shillong & Cherapunji in Meghalaya.
- Smt. Meenakshi Lekhi, Minister of State for External Affairs and Culture, Government of India, flagged off Bharat Gaurav Train "**North East Discovery: Beyond Guwahati**", specially designed tour to cover the North eastern states of India, from Delhi Safdarjung station.
- On this occasion, Smt Lekhi said, "**This train holds special significance as it is getting started on the eve of Chaitra Navratri/Gudi Padwa.**"
- **I extend my greetings to all. It is indeed a gift for all of us."**
- She thanked Hon'ble Prime Minister for his vision and initiatives to improve Railways.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Who inaugurated Asia's largest 4-metre International Liquid Mirror Telescope at Devasthal in Uttarakhand in the presence of the Governor of Uttarakhand Lt. Gen (Retd.) Gurmeet Singh?

- A) Narendra Singh Tomar
- B) Dr. Jitendra Singh
- C) Dr Mansukh Mandaviya
- D) Rajeev Chandrasekhar
- E) None of these

**Answer**

**B) Dr. Jitendra Singh**

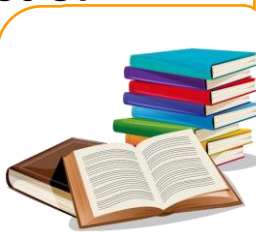


# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Explanation

- Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) Science & Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) Earth Sciences; MoS PMO, Personnel, Public Grievances, Pensions, Atomic Energy and Space, **Dr. Jitendra Singh inaugurated Asia's largest 4-metre International Liquid Mirror Telescope at Devasthal in Uttarakhand in the presence of the Governor of Uttarakhand Lt. Gen (Retd.) Gurmeet Singh.**
- Speaking after the launch, Dr Jitendra Singh said, **it is primarily the patronage, promotion and prioritization from Prime Narendra Narendra Modi that has enabled and emboldened the scientific fraternity to successfully try new initiatives, one after the other, in the field of science, technology and innovation, which are being rated as world class.**
- Not only PM Modi has given us the motivation to move ahead but also given the freedom to explore hitherto lesser explored areas like Space which has been opened up for private players or India's oceans whose vast resources are waiting to be unfolded.
- **Today's landmark event, said the Minister, places India at a different and a much higher level of capabilities to study the mysteries of the skies and astronomy, and to share the same with the rest of the world.**



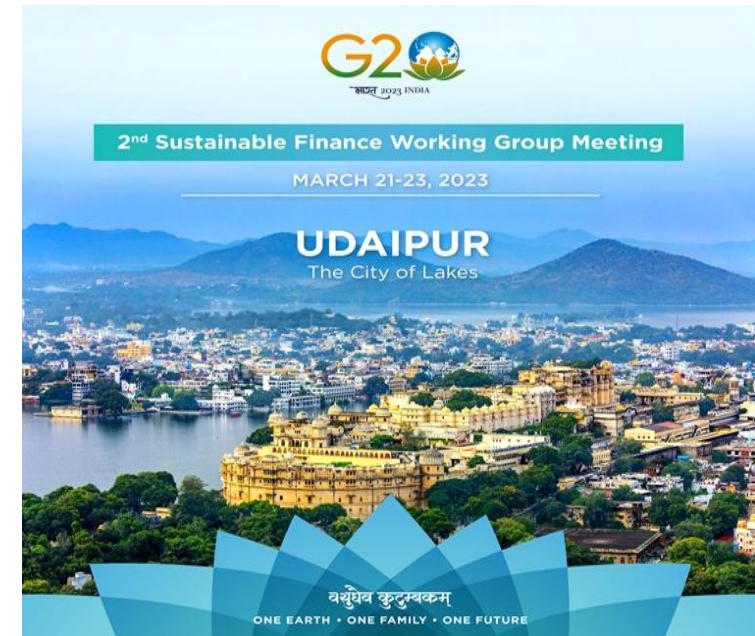
# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ Second Sustainable Finance Working Group meeting under India's G20 Presidency began at \_\_\_\_\_ ?

- A) New Delhi
- B) Uttar Pradesh
- C) Gujarat
- D) Rajasthan
- E) None of these

**Answer**  
**D) Rajasthan**



## Explanation

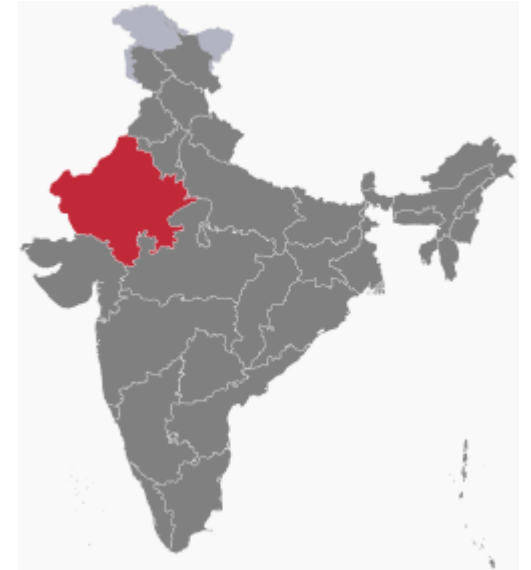
- The **Second G20 Sustainable Finance Working Group (SFWG)** meeting kicked off today at Udaipur in Rajasthan with a call to identify mechanisms for mobilisation of **timely and adequate resources for climate finance.**
- On the first day of the meeting some insightful presentations are being made and detailed deliberations are going on takeaways from previous meetings.
- On the sidelines of the meeting, a G20 Workshop to support sustainable investment is also taking place.
- **Over 90 delegates from various countries who are members of the G20 as well as those who have been invited by the Indian Presidency** along with International Organisations are participating in this mega event.



## Titbits

### Rajasthan

- Capital: **Jaipur**
- CM: **Ashok Gehlot (14th)**
- Governor: **Kalraj Mishra (22nd)**
- Language: **Hindi**
- National Park: **Keoladeo National Park**
- Wildlife Sanctuary: **Gajner Wildlife Sanctuary**
- Ramsar Site: **Keoladeo Ghana National Park, Sambar Lake**
- Tiger Reserve: **Sariska Tiger Reserve.**
- Power Station: **Chhabra Thermal Power Plant**
- Dams: **Alnia Dam (River: Alnia)**
- RRB: **Baroda Rajasthan Kshetriya Gramin Bank (BOB), Rajasthan Marudhara Gramin Bank (SBI)**
- UNESCO Site: **Keoladeo National Park, The Jantar Mantar, Hillforts of Rajasthan, Jaipur City**

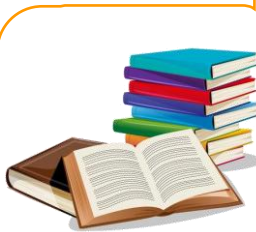




# QUICK RECALL



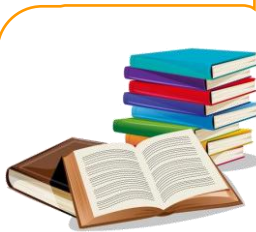
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- ❖ New York tops the list of world's most expensive cities for business travel
- ❖ BoB-backed IndiaFirst Life Insurance gets Sebi nod to launch IPO
- ❖ PSU banks' gross NPA declines from 14.6% in Mar 2018 to 5.53% in Dec 2022
- ❖ Lalit Kumar Gupta appointed as CMD of Cotton Corporation of India (CCI)
- ❖ India's first Night Sky Sanctuary in Ladakh will boost Astro tourism



# QUICK RECALL



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- ❖ India, Japan sign two agreements regarding loan for Mumbai-Ahmedabad high speed railway project & cooperation in Japanese language
- ❖ Asia's biggest International Food and Hospitality Fair begins in Delhi
- ❖ Jyotiraditya Scindia addresses Aviation Summit 2023 by CAPA India
- ❖ Smt. Meenakashi Lekhi flags off Bharat Gaurav Train to North East from Delhi Safdarjung
- ❖ Dr Jitendra Singh inaugurates Asia's largest 4-metre International Liquid Mirror Telescope at Devasthal in Uttarakhand in the presence of the Governor of Uttarakhand Lt. Gen (Retd.) Gurmeet Singh
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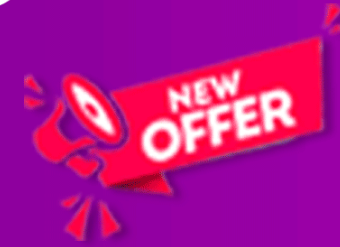


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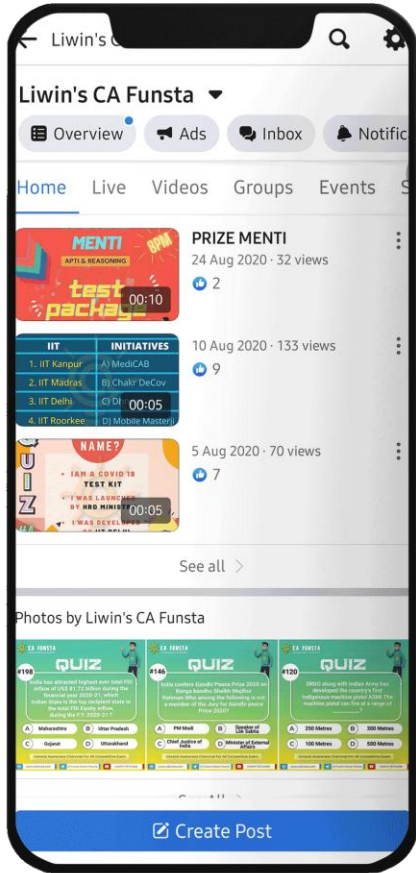
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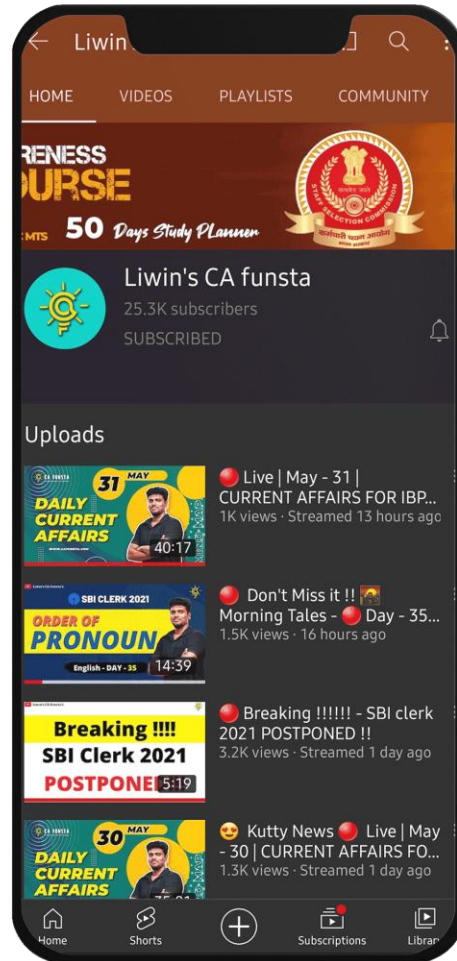
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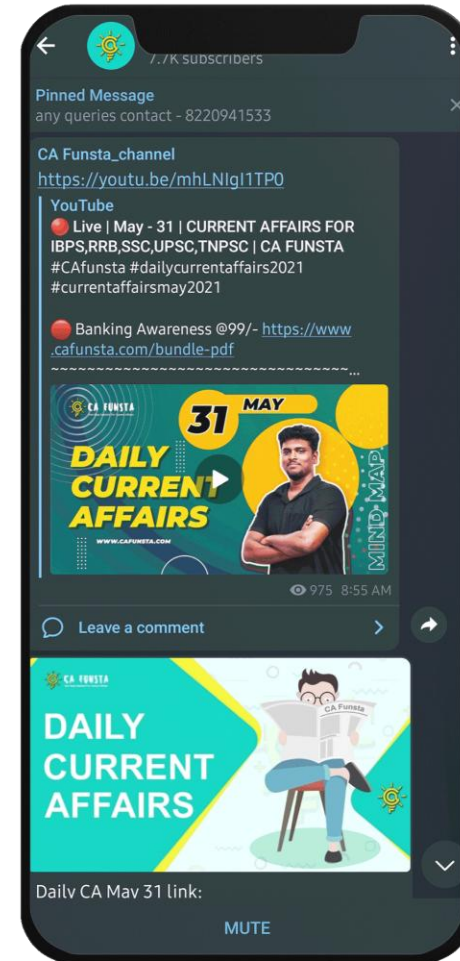
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