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Important Days



International Day of Argania is observed on which date?

- A) 11th May
- B) 10th May
- C) 12th May
- D) 13th May
- E) 14th May

Answer
B) 10th May



Important Days



Explanation

- The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed **10 May** the International Day of Argania.
- **First editon**: 2021
- **This year** – 3rd edition
- **Theme**: Socio-economic development & sustainability of the Argan ecosystem

OBITUARY



Who passed away recently and was a former vice-president, treasurer and executive committee member of All India Football Federation (AIFF)?

- A) PK Banerjee
- B) Chuni Goswami
- C) Sunil Chhetri
- D) Bhaichung Bhutia
- E) AR Khaleel

Answer
E) AR Khaleel



OBITUARY



Explanation

- The **former All India Football Federation (AIFF) vice-president, treasurer and executive committee member A.R. Khaleel** passed away.
- He founded Jawahar Union FC, a top club in Karnataka. Khaleel became a member of the **Bangalore District Football Association (BDFA) in 1953**, before taking over as **KSFA President in 1989** till 2018,

Which private sector bank has enabled the linkage of RuPay credit cards with Unified Payments Interface (UPI)?

- A) ICICI Bank
- B) Axis Bank
- C) HDFC Bank
- D) Kotak Mahindra Bank
- E) Yes Bank

Answer
B) Axis Bank



Explanation

- **Axis Bank** is the **sixth bank** to launch **Rupay credit cards on UPI** after Punjab National Bank, Union Bank of India, Indian Bank, HDFC Bank, and Canara Bank.
- You can link Axis Bank RuPay Credit Card with the UPI application by entering the credit card's last six numbers and expiry date. Customers can currently link their RuPay Credit Card on UPI on the BHIM, Mobikwik, and Paytm apps.

Titbits

Axis Bank

Hq : Mumbai, Maharashtra

CEO : Mr Amitabh Chaudhary

Tagline : Badhti Ka Naam Zindagi

With which organization has Federal Bank partnered to launch the electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility for its customers?

- A) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- B) National Securities Depository Limited (NSDL)
- C) National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)
- D) National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)
- E) Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI)

Answer

D) National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)



Explanation

- **Federal Bank** has partnered with **National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL)** to launch its customers' electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility.
- With this facility, Federal Bank's customers can now digitally obtain a Bank Guarantee, replacing the traditional paper-based process.
The e-BG facility facilitates the issuance, invocation, amendment, and cancellation of Bank Guarantees digitally, removing the need for physical printing of any document or request.
- The platform is safe, secure, and fast, making trade and business activities convenient. Eligible customers include individuals, sole proprietors, companies, partnership firms, government agencies, associations of people, and bodies of individuals.
- Currently, the service is available only in states where e-stamping is available.

Titbits

Federal Bank

Headquarters : Aluva, Kerala

CEO : Shri Shyam Srinivasan

Tagline : Your Perfect Banking Partner

NeSL

Abbreviation: National E-Governance Services Limited

Headquarters: JAGATPURI, DELHI

MD & CEO: Debajyoti Ray Chaudhuri

Found: 24th June 2016

Which bank has gone live with 'Direct Tax Collections' on behalf of the Government of India through the new Tax Information Network (TIN2.0) portal?

- A) State Bank of India
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) ICICI Bank
- D) RBL Bank
- E) Axis Bank



Answer

D) RBL Bank

Explanation

- **RBL Bank** has gone live with '**Direct Tax Collections**' on behalf of the Government of India through the new **Tax Information Network (TIN2.0) portal**.
- This is the second such offering from the Bank, following its empanelment by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) as an 'Agency Bank' to conduct banking business for the Central and State Governments.
- The Bank already offers customs duty collections through a direct interface via ICEGATE.
- This enhanced service will enable RBL Bank customers to make direct tax payments seamlessly via various digital channels and RBL Bank branches.

Titbits

RBL Bank

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
Interim MD and CEO : R Subramaniakumar
Tagline: Apno ka Bank

APPOINTMENTS



Who has been re-designated as the Chairman and Managing Director of Larsen & Toubro?

- A) S N Subrahmanyam
- B) Ratan Tata
- C) Mukesh Ambani
- D) Adi Godrej
- E) Anand Mahindra

Answer

A) S N Subrahmanyam



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- Infrastructure major Larsen & Toubro announced that its **Non-Executive Chairman A M Naik** has decided to step down from the post.
- **S N Subrahmanyam**, who is the **Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director**, has been re-designated as the **Chairman and Managing Director** of the company with effect from October 1, 2023
- SN Subrahmanyam joined L&T in 1984 as a project planning engineer and has been the CEO and managing director of the company since July 1, 2017.

APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Larsen & Toubro Ltd

CMD: Sekharipuram Narayan Subrahmanyam

Headquarters: Mumbai

Founded: 7 February 1938

Which institutions have developed cutting-edge underwater sensor technology to support the development of next-gen sonar for the Indian Navy?

- A) IIT Bombay and ISRO
- B) IIT Delhi and BARC
- C) IIT Kharagpur and HAL
- D) IIT Madras and DRDO
- E) IIT Kanpur and BEL

Answer

D) IIT Madras and DRDO



Explanation

- Researchers from the **Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras)** have **partnered with Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)** scientists to develop cutting-edge sensor technology for underwater communications, which will be advantageous to defence applications, especially in the Indian Navy.
- The indigenous development of this technology enables the nation to fabricate the devices at a relatively lower cost than the internationally-available foundries where the cost of fabrication is high and the number of foundries is also limited.
- The '**Piezoelectric MEMS technology**' is required to develop high-performance thin films and convert 'piezo thin film' into state-of-the-art futuristic naval sensors and devices for underwater applications.
- The Piezo Thin Films are one of the vital components of piezo MEMS devices and are considered for acoustics and vibration-sensing applications.

Titbits

DRDO

Abbreviation: Defence Research and Development

Organisation

Founded: 1958

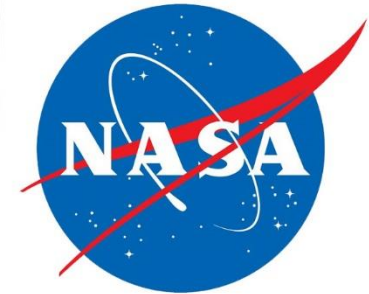
Headquarters : New Delhi, Delhi

Chairman : Samir V Kamat

Which organization has partnered with NASA to convert satellite data into high-resolution maps?

- A) IBM
- B) Microsoft
- C) Google
- D) Amazon
- E) Apple

Answer
A) IBM



Explanation

- **IBM** in collaboration with **NASA** unveiled a new geospatial foundation model designed to convert satellite data into high-resolution maps of floods, fires, and other landscape changes to reveal the planet's past and hint at its future.
- This geospatial offering is expected to be available for preview in the second half of this year. Potential applications of this platform would include helping to estimate climate-related risks to crops, buildings, and other infrastructure, valuing and monitoring forests for carbon-offset programmes, and developing predictive models to help enterprises create strategies to mitigate and adapt to climate change.
- This model would be part of IBM's watsonx.ai, a nextgen enterprise studio, expected to be generally available in July, for AI builders to train, test, tune, and deploy both traditional machine learning and new generation AI capabilities

Titbits

The International Business Machines Corporation(IBM)

CEO: Arvind Krishna

Headquarters: Armonk, New York, United States

Founded: 16 June 1911

What is the focus of the "Harit Sagar" Green Port Guidelines launched by the ministry of ports, shipping and waterways?

- A) Promoting the use of fossil fuels in port development
- B) Increasing the number of ports in India
- C) Achieving zero carbon emissions
- D) Reducing the efficiency of port operations
- E) None of the above

Answer

C) Achieving zero carbon emissions

Explanation

- The ministry of ports, shipping and waterways launched the “**Harit Sagar**” Green Port Guidelines, aimed at achieving zero carbon emissions by promoting eco-friendly practices in port development, operation, and maintenance.
- The guidelines emphasize the use of clean and green energy, such as green hydrogen, green ammonia, green methanol/ethanol, to reduce carbon emissions over defined timelines.
- The objective of the guidelines is to minimize waste through reduce, reuse, repurpose, and recycle to attain zero waste discharge from port operations while promoting monitoring based on Environmental Performance Indicators.

Explanation

- Union minister for ports, shipping and waterways, Sarbananda Sonowal, launched the guidelines on in the presence of Union minister of state for ports, shipping and waterways and tourism, Shripad Y. Naik, and other officials.
- The guidelines provide a framework for major ports to draw out a comprehensive action plan for achieving quantified reduction in carbon emissions over defined timelines and to achieve Sustainable Developmental Goals (SDG).
- The award for the best **Absolute Performance for the year 2022-23** conferred to the **Deendayal Port, Kandla** for handling highest cargo of 137.56 MMT. The **Jawaharlal Nehru Port** received award for **achieving major milestone in Turn Around Time while Paradip Port got performance shield on Ship Berth Day Output**. The **Kamarajar Port** got recognized in **pre-berthing detention time while Cochin Port received performance shield in turn-around-time (non-container port)**.

Explanation

- The award for **best incremental performance** was bagged by **Paradip Port** for attaining the highest cargo growth rate of 16.56% last year. In the **incremental category another award** was conferred to **Mormugao Port** for best Ship Berth Day Output while award was conferred to **Kamarajar Port** for best Pre-Berthing Detention time.

Which ministry is organizing a national event for the launch of the Poshan Bhi, Padai Bhi scheme in New Delhi?

- A) Ministry of Education
- B) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
- C) Ministry of Women and Child Development
- D) Ministry of Rural Development
- E) Ministry of Human Resource Development

Answer

C) Ministry of Women and Child Development



Explanation

- The **Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD)** is organising a national event on the launch of its flagship **Poshan Bhi, Padai Bhi scheme** in New Delhi which will look at strengthening **Early Childhood Care and Education (ECCE)**, an important component of Mission Saksham Anganwadi and Poshan 2.0 (Mission Poshan 2.0) and envisaged under the National Education Policy.
- The event, which will be attended by over 800 Integrated Child Development Scheme (ICDS) functionaries from across states, will be chaired by Union Minister for Women and Child Development Smriti Irani.

Explanation

- The main objective of the event is to highlight the criticality of focusing on early childhood care and education.
- Poshan Bhi, Padhai Bhi program will provide for the mother tongue as primary teacher instruction medium, different types of teaching-learning material (visual aids, audio aids, audio-visual and bodily-kinesthetic aids) to Anganwadi Sewikas, and help build a Jan Andolan, to involve communities in strengthening of the services.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Women and Child Development; and Textiles.

Minister : Smriti Irani

Constituency : Amethi, Uttar Pradesh

What is the name of the scheme approved by the Uttarakhand government led by Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami?

- A) Chief Minister's Youth Empowerment Scheme
- B) Chief Minister's Skill Upgradation and Global Employment Scheme
- C) Chief Minister's Health and Wellness Programme
- D) Chief Minister's Agriculture Development Scheme
- E) Chief Minister's Infrastructure Development Scheme

Answer

B) Chief Minister's Skill Upgradation and Global Employment Scheme



Explanation

- Chief Minister **Pushkar Singh Dhami-led Uttarakhand government** approved '**Chief Minister's Skill Upgradation and Global Employment Scheme**'.
- The Scheme aims to groom youths of the state and make them ready for seeking jobs in foreign nations.
- Apart from grooming and upskilling, the government will also help aspiring youth in the procedures related to tickets, visas of the selected candidates.
- He also released an application has been developed on the '**Apuni Sarkar Portal**' to create a database related to youth seeking employment abroad.
- In the first phase, work will be done to connect the youth of the state with the employment opportunities available abroad in the fields of nursing and hospitality.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Uttarakhand

Capital : Dehradun(Winter), Gairsain(Summer)

CM : Pushkar Singh Dhami

Governor : Gurmit Singh

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Which state in India has become the first to launch a robotics policy framework?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Telangana
- C) Karnataka
- D) Tamil Nadu
- E) Andhra Pradesh



Answer
B) Telangana

Explanation

- **Telangana** has become the first state in the **country to launch a state robotics framework** with a vision to create a sustainable robotics ecosystem.
- This is aimed at promoting innovation, entrepreneurship, and research and development to position Telangana as a leader in the field of robotics.
- **Information Technology and Industries Minister KT Rama Rao** launched the robotics framework, the sixth such framework launched by the Emerging Technologies Wing of the ITE&C Department.
- It was in **2017** that Telangana set up a **first-of-its-kind dedicated vertical called the Emerging Technologies Wing.**

Explanation

- The robotics framework is a comprehensive roadmap that outlines the state's vision for the development of the robotics ecosystem in the state and contributing to the growth of the industry in the country. The framework has been developed by the Emerging Technologies Wing in collaboration with the All India Robotics Association and inputs from academia, industry experts and stakeholders.
- The state will set up a separate body called the **Telangana Robotics Innovation Center** (TRIC) which will be responsible for the implementation of this framework and will be the nodal point to implement the key pillars of the framework.
- The state government also signed MoUs with five organisations, including academic institutions, industry associations, and incubators. They are IIT Hyderabad, ART PARK IISC, GMR Hyderabad International Airport Ltd (GHIAL), AgHub (PJ TSAU), and the All India Robotics Association (AIRA).

Explanation

- The state government is planning to organise a Global Robotics Summit to showcase its growing robotics ecosystem and attract investments from across the world. The summit will provide a platform for startups, researchers, and industry leaders to showcase their work, network with potential partners and investors, and explore new business opportunities.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Telangana

Capital : Hyderabad

CM : K. Chandrashekar Rao

Governor : Tamilisai Soundararajan

Who launched the SAKSHAM Learning Management Information System (LMIS) of MoHFW?

- A) Narendra Modi
- B) Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- C) Shri Rajesh Bhushan
- D) Dr. Randeep Guleria
- E) Dr. Soumya Swaminathan

Answer

C) Shri Rajesh Bhushan

Explanation

- **Shri Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary** launched the **SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management)**, a Learning Management Information System (LMIS) of **MoHFW**.
- This digital learning platform has been developed by the National Institute of Health & Family Welfare (NIHFW), **New Delhi**.
- SAKSHAM is a dedicated and unified platform for providing online training and medical education to all health professionals in the country. This digital learning platform will ensure inclusive capacity building of health professionals from primary health centres located in rural and remote areas all the way up to tertiary care and corporate hospitals in metropolitan cities.

Explanation

- Currently SAKSHAM: LMIS is hosting more than 200 public health and 100 clinical courses through online mode. Health professionals can register themselves for these courses on the portal through url: <https://lmis.nihfw.ac.in/> and get the certification after undergoing requisite training and qualifying the required assessment criteria

What is the name of the painting talent hunt launched by MyGov in collaboration with the Ministry of Culture?

- A) Rangoli Mahotsav
- B) Chitra Kala Utsav
- C) Yuva Pratibha
- D) Kala Sangam
- E) Chitrakari Abhiyan

Answer
C) Yuva Pratibha



Explanation

- With an aim to promote India's rich heritage and culture at the grassroots level on a national scale by identifying and recognising the new art talent in various painting styles, MyGov in collaboration with Ministry of Culture is launching 'YUVA PRATIBHA – Painting Talent Hunt' under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.
- Painting Talent Hunt is a unique opportunity for citizens across the country to display their artistic talent and skills to gain national recognition.
- If one thinks he/she wants to be New India's emerging artist, illustrator, miniaturist or portrait maker, can participate in the **'YUVA PRATIBHA - Painting Talent Hunt'** and showcase creativity and craftsmanship on the various themes:
 - Heritage & Cultural
 - Valour & Patriotism
 - Public Heroes & Leaders
 - Nature & Environment

Explanation

- **Reward & Recognition:**
 - 1st Winner: ₹ 1,00,000/- + Trophy + Certificate
 - 2nd Winner: ₹ 75,000/- + Trophy + Certificate
 - 3rd Winner: ₹ 50,000/- + Trophy + Certificate
 - Following 17 Contestants in the finale will be rewarded with a Cash Prize of ₹10,000 /- each.

Titbits

Culture , Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region

Minister:G. Kishan Reddy

Constituency: Secunderabad, Telangana

What is the Motor Vehicle Aggregator Scheme 2023 announced by the Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) aimed at?

- A) Regulating public transportation services in Delhi
- B) Regulating cab aggregators and delivery service providers
- C) Encouraging the use of electric vehicles in Delhi
- D) Providing subsidies to private vehicle owners in Delhi
- E) Promoting carpooling and ride-sharing services in Delhi

Answer

B) Regulating cab aggregators and delivery service providers

Explanation

- The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) announced the Motor Vehicle Aggregator Scheme 2023, which is aimed at regulating cab aggregators and delivery service providers.
- This scheme prioritises the safety of passengers and ensures timely grievance redressal, while also promoting the use of electric vehicles (EVs) and reducing pollution levels in the city
- A draft of the scheme was approved by the CM on Wednesday and sent to the Lieutenant-Governor for approval.
- The Motor Vehicle Aggregator Scheme 2023 will apply to any person or entity that manages a fleet of motor vehicles through digital or any other means to ferry passengers or connects a driver offering to deliver a product with a seller, e-commerce entity or consignor.
- The scheme follows a 'polluter pays' principle, which will make the per vehicle licence fee for a conventional vehicle significantly higher than an EV.

Titbits

Culture , Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region

Minister:G. Kishan Reddy

Constituency: Secunderabad, Telangana

What is the name of the initiative launched by Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy?

- A) Jaganannaku Chebudam
- B) Jaganmohan Jayate
- C) Jagan Ki Baat
- D) Jagan Seva Samarthan
- E) Jagan Krishi Vikas

Answer

A) Jaganannaku Chebudam



Explanation

- **Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy** launched "**Jaganannaku Chebudam**" (Let's tell Jagan brother), an improvised version of "**Spandana**", a platform for resolving people's grievances.
- He also launched **1902**, a toll-free grievance redressal helpline number as part of this scheme.
- Under "Jaganannaku Chebudam", the State government will proactively reach out to people, gather their grievances in a focused manner and address them on mission mode.
- District Collectors, Commissioners, Secretaries and all the other officials involved in this programme would focus on resolving people's grievances on a priority basis.
- People can dial 1902 to register their grievances. On sharing the grievance, a unique YSR (your service request) identity would be generated and regular updates would be shared via text messages on the status of their application.

Titbits

Andhra Pradesh

Capital : Visakhapatnam (executive), Amaravati
(legislative), Kurnool (judicial)
CM: Y. S. Jaganmohan Reddy
Governor : Sri S. Abdul Nazeer

QUICK RECALL



- **The United Nations General Assembly proclaimed 10 May the International Day of Argania**
- **The former All India Football Federation (AIFF) vice-president, treasurer and executive committee member A.R. Khaleel passed away**
- **Axis Bank is the sixth bank to launch Rupay credit cards on UPI**
- **Federal Bank has partnered with National E-Governance Services Limited (NeSL) to launch its customers' electronic Bank Guarantee (e-BG) facility**
- **RBL Bank has gone live with 'Direct Tax Collections' on behalf of the Government of India through the new Tax Information Network (TIN2.0) portal.**
- **S N Subrahmanyam, who is the Chief Executive Officer & Managing Director, has been re-designated as the Chairman and Managing Director of L & T.**
- **IIT Madras, DRDO Develop Cutting-Edge Underwater Sensor Technology; Will Support Development Of Next-Gen Sonar For Indian Navy.**
- **IBM partners NASA to convert satellite data into high resolution maps**
- **Union Minister Shri Sarbananda Sonowal launches 'Harit Sagar' the Green Port Guidelines 2023**



QUICK RECALL



- **The Ministry of Women and Child Development (WCD) is organising a national event on the launch of its flagship Poshan Bhi, Padai Bhi scheme in New Delhi**
- **Chief Minister Pushkar Singh Dhami-led Uttarakhand government approved 'Chief Minister's Skill Upgradation and Global Employment Scheme'.**
- **Telangana has become the first state in the country to launch a state robotics framework**
- **Shri Rajesh Bhushan, Union Health Secretary launched the SAKSHAM (Stimulating Advanced Knowledge for Sustainable Health Management), a Learning Management Information System (LMIS) of MoHFW.**
- **MyGov in collaboration with Ministry of Culture is launching 'YUVA PRATIBHA – Painting Talent Hunt' under the aegis of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav.**
- **The Government of National Capital Territory of Delhi (GNCTD) announced the Motor Vehicle Aggregator Scheme 2023**
- **Andhra Pradesh Chief Minister Y S Jagan Mohan Reddy launched "Jaganannaku Chebudam" (Let's tell Jagan brother), an improvised version of "Spandana", a platform for resolving people's grievances.**



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