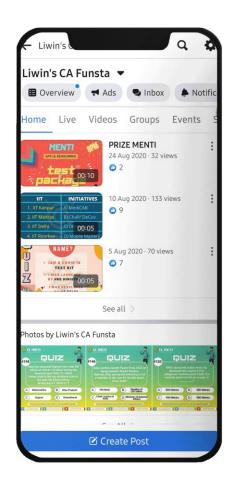
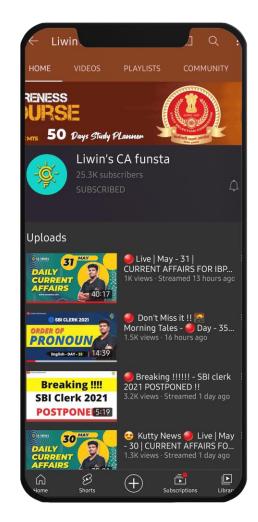
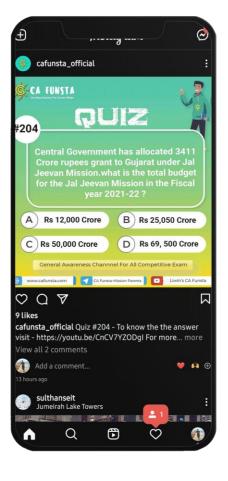


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Important Days



When is World Oceans Day celebrated every year?

- A) June 5
- B) June 6
- C) June 7
- D) June 8
- E) June 9

Answer D) June 8





Important Days



Explanation

- **World Oceans Day** is celebrated on **June 8** every year to remind us of the important role of the oceans in sustaining our livelihoods and the necessity to prevent them from destruction.
- The theme for World Oceans Day this year is "Planet Ocean: Tides are Changing."
- Global Ocean Day was introduced by the Oceans Institute of Canada at the 1992 Earth Summit of the UN Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). In **2008**, the UN General Assembly passed a resolution designating 8 June as World Oceans Day after 16 years.

Subscribe



Important Days



World Brain Tumor Day

- Every year on **June 8**, **World Brain Tumor Day** is committed to making awareness about brain tumours.
- This year, the theme is "Protect yourself, avoid stress."
- A brain tumour in the brain is a hallmark of abnormal growth. Tumours can fill in any piece of the brain or skull including the underside of the brain, defensive lining, brainstem and nasal cavity among others.
- First Edition: 2000



OBITUARY



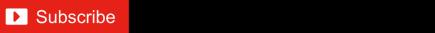
Gitanjali Aiyar passed away. She was related to which field?

- A) Businessman
- B) Writer
- C) Actor
- D) News Reader
- E) None of these

Answer D) News Reader



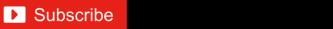
/Liwin's CA Funsta



OBITUARY



- **Gitanjali Aiyar**, one of India's first English female news presenters on Doordarshan, died.
- Aiyar joined Doordarshan in 1971.
- She won the award for best anchor four times.
- She also won the Indira Gandhi Priyadarshini Award for Outstanding Women in 1989.
- Besides presenting news programmes, Aiyar, a diploma holder from the National School of Drama, had also been apopular face in several print advertisements and even acted in Sridhar Kshirsagar's TV drama "Khandaan".
- She was also associated with the World Wildlife Fund (WWF).



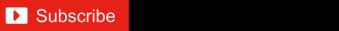
RANKING



According to Mercer's 2023 Cost of Living survey, which city is identified as the most expensive **Indian city for expats?**

- A) New Delhi
- B) Bengaluru
- C) Chennai
- D) Hyderabad
- E) Mumbai

Answer E) Mumbai



RANKING



- The Mercer's Cost of Living survey 2023 was conducted across **227 cities** from across five continents.
- Mercer's Cost of Living survey compares the cities on the cost of more than 200 items, including housing, food, transportation, clothing, utilities, household goods, and entertainment.
- Recently, Mumbai had outperformed Bengaluru and Delhi in terms of annual housing price growth in the 'Prime Global Cities Index Q1 2023' report by real estate consulting firm Knight Frank.
- Havana is the least expensive city due to currency devaluations last year along with the Pakistani cities of Islamabad and Karachi.
- Mumbai and Delhi are among the top 35 expensive cities in Asia for expatriates, out of those surveyed in 2023. However, Mumbai's ranking drops down one spot within Asian cities, to 27th position from the previous year (2022).



RANKING



Rank	City
1	Hong Kong
2	Singapore
3	Zurich, Switzerland
147	Mumbai, India
169	New Delhi, India
184	Chennai, India
189	Bengaluru, India





What is the interest rate of Repo Rate?

- A) 6.50
- B) 6.40
- C) 6.30
- D) 6.20
- E) 6.10

Answer A) 6.50





- Inflation forecast for FY24 marginally lowered to 5.1 pc
- GDP growth projection retained at **6.5 pc** for FY24
- Growth for Q1 pegged at 8 pc; Q2 6.5 pc, Q3 6 pc, and Q4 5.7 pc
- Next meeting of MPC scheduled for August 8-10, 2023





Policy Rates		
Policy Repo Rate	6.50%	
Standing Deposit Facility Rate	6.25%	
Marginal Standing Facility Rate	6.75%	
Bank Rate	6.75%	
Fixed Reverse Repo Rate	3.35%	
Reserve Ratios		
CRR	4.50%	
SLR	18.00%	





RBI expands scope of e-RUPI digital voucher: Non-banking prepaid payment instruments companies can now issue vouchers

- With the aim of broadening the scope of the issuance of e-RUPI vouchers, the Reserve Bank of India Governor Shaktikanta Das announced that now non-bank companies can also issue e-RUPI vouchers.
- The e-RUPI vouchers are pre-paid digital tools that a beneficiary receives on phone in the form of an SMS or QR code.
- The e-RUPI prepaid digital voucher, developed by the National Payments Corporation of India
 (NPCI), was launched in August 2021 by Prime Minister Narendra Modi as a person-specific and
 purpose-specific cashless voucher with a cap of ₹ 10,000 and single-time redemption facility.
- Last year, the RBI increased the cap on the e-RUPI prepaid digital vouchers to ₹ 1 lakh
 from ₹ 10,000 and permitted its usage multiple times to facilitate digital delivery of various
 government schemes to the beneficiaries.
- e-RUPI is basically a digital voucher which a beneficiary gets on his phone in the form of an SMS
 or QR code. It is a pre-paid voucher, which he/she can go and redeem at any centre that accepts it.





RBI expands scope of e-RUPI digital voucher: Non-banking prepaid payment instruments companies can now issue vouchers

- This is a one time contactless, cashless voucher-based mode of payment that helps users redeem the voucher without a card, digital payments app, or internet banking access.
- Till now, purpose-specific e-RUPI vouchers are issued by 11 banks in partnership with the NPCI. The 11 banks are Axis Bank, Bank of Baroda, Canara Bank, HDFC Bank, ICICI Bank, Indian Bank, IndusInd Bank, Kotak Mahindra Bank, Punjab National Bank, State Bank of India and Union Bank of India.
- At present, purpose-specific e-RUPI digital vouchers are issued by banks. It is now proposed to expand the scope and reach of e-RUPI vouchers by (i) permitting non-bank prepaid payment instruments (PPI) issuers to issue e-RUPI vouchers; (ii) enabling issuance of e-RUPI vouchers on behalf of individuals; and (iii) simplifying the process of issuance, redemption, etc





RBI Permits Banks To Issue RuPay Prepaid Forex Cards

- In order to expand payment options for Indians travelling abroad, the Reserve Bank of India decided to allow issuance of RuPay Prepaid Forex cards by banks in India for use at ATMs, PoS machines and online merchants overseas.
- Further, RuPay Debit, Credit, and Prepaid Cards will be enabled for issuance in foreign jurisdictions, which can be used internationally, including in India.





Google Pay has introduced a new feature that enables users to set up UPI (Unified Payments Interface) using which identification number via National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?

- A) Passport number
- B) Social Security Number
- C) PAN (Permanent Account Number)
- D) Aadhaar card number
- E) Driving License number

Answer D) Aadhaar card number







- Google Pay has introduced UPI verification via Aadhaar card.
- The new feature will allow customers to register for Unified Paytments Interface (UPI) without the need of debit card, according to The Hindu.
- The move is supported by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).
- Customers who want to activate UPI through Aadhaar should have a valid phone number linked to their bank and registered with the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI).





Who won the 2023 Royal Society of Literature (RSL) Christopher Bland Prize for their debut novel 'The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho'?

- A) J.R.R. Tolkien
- B) Roald Dahl
- C) George Orwell
- D) Jane Austen
- E) Paterson Joseph

Answer E) Paterson Joseph







- Author Paterson Joseph is the winner of the 2023 Royal Society of Literature (RSL) Christopher Bland Prize for his debut novel 'The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho'.
 The RSL Christopher Bland Prize is an annual award that is given to a debut writer for their work of fiction or non-fiction, who is first published at the age of 50 or over.
- The winner receives a prize money of £10,000.
- This is the fifth year of the award.
- 'The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius Sancho' is a historical fiction novel that tells the lesser-known story of Charles Ignatius Sancho, who was the first Black man to vote in England. The story was initially written and performed by Joseph as a one-man show in 2018.
- The jury for RSL Christopher Bland Prize 2023 were: Lemn Sissay (chair), Meena Kandasamy and Simon Savidge.







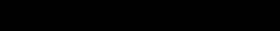
Who has been awarded the Spinoza Prize?

- A) Joyeeta Gupta
- B) Kazuo Ishiguro
- C) William Shakespeare
- D) Roald Dahl
- E) Amartya Sen

Answer A) Joyeeta Gupta

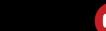
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- Indian-origin professor Joyeeta Gupta has been awarded the Spinoza Prize 2023, the highest distinction in Dutch science, for her scientific work focusing on a "just and sustainable world".
- Gupta, Professor of Environment and Development in the Global South at the University of Amsterdam since 2013, was chosen by the Dutch Research Council (NWO) selection committee for her "incredibly broad and interdisciplinary" research.
- Gupta, who is the **twelfth researcher from the University of Amsterdam** to receive the award.
- Gupta is co-chair of the Earth Commission, founded by Future Earth and supported by the Global Challenges Foundation.
- She was lead author of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) between 1988 and 2014, which shared the **2007 Nobel Peace Prize** with former US Vice President Al Gore.
- It was established in 1995
- Prize Money: 1.5 million euros with bronze statue of Spinoza





Who has won the 2023 Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management from UNESCO?

- A) Jagdish Bakan
- B) Maria Rodriguez
- C) Ahmed Khan
- D) Liu Wei
- E) Isabella Martinez

Answer A) Jagdish Bakan







- Jagdish Bakan, Wildlife Warden and District Forest Officer (DFO) of Ramanathapuram district, has won the 2023 Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management from the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (Unesco).
- He is first Indian to won this award.
- Mr. Bakan has been chosen for the award for his work in the Gulf of Mannar Biosphere Reserve — which is endowed with rich marine biodiversity, including several species of fish, coral, birds, sea turtles, crustaceans — will be presenting the case study at the 35th session of the International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere Reserves Programme organised by the Unesco in Paris from June 12 to 15.
- The award which is bestowed once in two years in memory of Dr Michel Batisse was instituted in 2005 by the International Coordinating Council of the Man and the Biosphere (MAB) Programme of UNESCO.
- Prize money: \$12,000





Which organization has partnered with ISRO to develop crew recovery models for the **Gaganyaan Mission?**

- A) Tata Elxsi
- B) NASA
- C) SpaceX
- D) Boeing
- E) European Space Agency (ESA)

Answer A) Tata Elxsi







- Tata Elxsi has partnered with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO)
 for the upcoming Gaganyaan Mission.
- The leading global engineering company has designed and developed the crew module recovery models (CMRM) for the recovery team training of the space mission.
- ISRO's Gaganyaan project envisions a demonstration of human spaceflight capability by launching the crew into a 400-kilometre orbit for a three-day mission and safely bringing them to Earth by landing in Indian sea waters.
- One of the key requirements of this project is the safe recovery of the crew, which must be carried out with minimum lapse of time.
- Currently, two Recovery-Models (CMRM and the ground support fixture (GSF)) have been delivered to Naval training teams at Kochi and Visakhapatnam to train the recovery teams.





- For recovery team training, CMRMs designed and fabricated by Tata Elxsi, simulated the mass, centre of gravity, outer dimensions, interfaces, and externals of the actual Crew Module.
- The project marked Tata Elxsi's foray into the mechanical design for space, as
 this is the first time ISRO has outsourced the mechanical design and
 development work for a critical system to an external partner.
- Tata Elxsi has also emerged as the preferred partner for similar ISRO projects.





Titbits

ISRO

Abbreviation: Indian Space Research Organisation

FoundedL 1969

Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka

Chairman: S. Somanath

Tata Elxsi

CEO: Manoj Raghavan

Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka





Which countries participated in the first edition of the Maritime Partnership Exercise in the **Gulf of Oman?**

- A) India, France, and UAE
- B) India, France, UAE, and Oman
- C) India, France, UAE, and Saudi Arabia
- D) India, France, UAE, and Qatar
- E) India, France, UAE, and Bahrain

Answer A) India, France, and UAE







Explanation

- The first edition of India, France and UAE Maritime Partnership Exercise commenced in the Gulf of Oman.
- INS Tarkash and French Ship Surcouf both with integral helicopters, French Rafale aircraft and UAE Navy Maritime Patrol Aircraft are participating in the exercise.
- The maiden exercise aims to enhance trilateral cooperation between the three navies and pave way for adopting measures towards addressing traditional and non-traditional threats in the maritime environment. The exercise will also enhance collaboration in ensuring safety of mercantile trade and freedom of navigation at high seas in the region.

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Titbits

France

President: Emmanuel Macron

Capital: Paris

Currency: Euro, CFP franc

United Arab Emirates (UAE)

President- Sheikh Mohammed bin Zayed Al Nahyan

Prime Minister- Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al

Maktoum

Capital- Abu Dhabi

Currency- United Arab Emirates Dirham

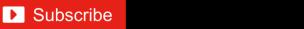




Which countries were elected to the United Nations Security Council for two-year terms starting on Jan. 1, 2024?

- A) Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, and South Korea
- B) Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, and Sweden
- C) Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, and South Korea
- D) Angola, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, and South Korea
- E) Angola, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, and Sweden

Answer A) Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Slovenia, and South Korea

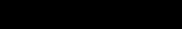




Explanation

- The United Nations General Assembly elected Algeria, Guyana, Sierra Leone, Slovenia and South Korea to the United Nations Security Council for twoyear terms starting on Jan. 1, 2024
- The five elected nations will replace Albania, Brazil,
 Gabon, Ghana and the United Arab Emirates.
- The Security Council is the only U.N. body that can make legally binding decisions such as imposing sanctions and authorizing use of force.
- It has five permanent veto-wielding members:
 Britain, China, France, Russia and the United States.

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Titbits

Guyana

Capital: Georgetown

Currency: Guyanese Dollar

Prime Minister: Mark Phillips

President: Mohamed Irfaan Ali

Algeria

Capital: Algiers [El Djazaïr]

Currency: Algerian Dinar

President: Abdelmadjid

Tebboune

Prime Minister: Ayman

Benabderrahmane

United Nations Security Council(UNSC)

Founded: 24 October 1945 Headquarters: New York, United States

Sierra Leone

capital: Freetown

currency: Sierra Leonean Leone

President: Julius Maada Bio

Slovenia

Capital: Ljubljana

President: Nataša Pirc Musar

Currency: Euro

South Korea

Capital: Seoul

Currency: South Korean won

President: Yoon Suk Yeol

Prime Minister: Han Duck-soo





What is the purpose of the monitoring group established by India and the US?

- A) To boost high-tech trade and tech partnership
- B) To enhance military cooperation
- C) To address climate change issues
- D) To facilitate cultural exchange programs
- E) To promote agricultural collaboration

Answer

A) To boost high-tech trade and tech partnership







- India and the United States have agreed to set up a monitoring group to review progress in deepening cooperation in the bilateral high-tech trade and technology partnership.
- The decision was taken at the inaugural meeting of India-US Strategic
 Trade Dialogue (IUSSTD) in Washington D.C led by Foreign Secretary,
 Vinay Mohan Kwatra and co-led by Alan Estevez, Under Secretary for
 Industry and Security in the US Department of Commerce and Victoria
 Nuland, Under Secretary of State for Political Affairs in the US Department
 of State.
- Both sides reviewed the relevant bilateral export control regulations with the objective of building and diversifying resilient supply chains for these strategic technologies.
- They reviewed ongoing cooperation in multilateral export control regimes and agreed to share best practices.





- The two sides agreed to enhance awareness among the industry, academia and other stakeholders about the export control regimes through workshops and other activities.
- The dialogue is a key mechanism to take forward the strategic technology and trade collaborations envisaged under the India-US initiative on Critical and Emerging Technologies (iCET).
- IUSSTD focussed on ways in which both governments can facilitate the development and trade of technologies in critical domains such as semiconductors, space, telecom, quantum, Artificial Intelligence, defence, bio-tech and others.





Titbits

United States of America(USA)

Capital: Washington D.C

Currency: US Dollar

President: Joe Biden





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Where was the New Generation Ballistic Missile 'Agni Prime' successfully flight-tested by the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)?

- A) Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha
- B) Andaman and Nicobar Islands
- C) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- D) Kolkata, West Bengal
- E) Chennai, Tamil Nadu

Answer A) Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island, Odisha







- **New Generation Ballistic Missile 'Agni Prime'** was successfully flight-tested by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.
- It is a canisterised missile that can be launched at short notice and has a range between 1,000 km and 2,000 km.
- This was the first pre-induction night launch conducted by the users after three successful developmental trials of the missile, validating the accuracy and reliability of the system.





Titbits

DRDO

Abbreviation: Defence Research and Development

Organisation

Founded: 1958

Headquarters : New Delhi, Delhi

Chairman: Samir V Kamat





Which organizations launched the Amrit Generation Campaign: Naye Bharat Ke Sapne?

- A) Meta and Ministry of Women and Child Development
- B) Facebook and Ministry of Women and Child Development
- C) Google and Ministry of Women and Child Development
- D) Twitter and Ministry of Women and Child Development
- E) Instagram and Ministry of Women and Child Development

Answer A) Meta and Ministry of Women and Child **Development**





- Meta and Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Union Minister for the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), launched the Amrit Generation campaign, an initiative to empower and engage the youth of India by encouraging them to express their aspirations and dreams for the future.
- The Amrit Generation campaign invites young people from across the country to showcase their creativity and share their aspirations by creating Reels on Instagram and Facebook, Participants are encouraged to explore their ambitions and what they aspire to become when they grow up, fostering a sense of community and inspiring others in the process
- Fifty entries from the campaign will be selected and invited to New Delhi for a unique opportunity to interact with senior policymakers and industry leaders, providing valuable insights into their respective fields and offering guidance on how to achieve their dreams.
- The selected young Indians will also get an opportunity to visit the Meta office in Gurugram and learn from industry leaders and creators on leveraging the potential of a creator economy.





Titbits

Meta Platforms, Inc

CEO: Mark Zuckerberg

Headquarters: Menlo Park, California, United States

Women and Child Development, Minority Affairs

Minister: Smriti Irani

Constituency: Amethi, Uttar Pradesh





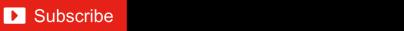
The Bar Council of India (BCI) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with which organizations for an exchange programme of lawyers and law students?

- A) Bar Council of Australia & Law Society of Australia
- B) Bar Council of England and Wales & Law Society of England and Wales
- C) Bar Council of Canada & Law Society of Canada
- D) Bar Council of Scotland & Law Society of Scotland
- E) Bar Council of Ireland & Law Society of Ireland

Answer

B) Bar Council of England and Wales & Law Society of England and Wales







- The Bar Council of India (BCI) entered into a Memorandum of Understanding with the Bar Council of England and Wales & Law Society of England and Wales for an exchange programme of lawyers and law students for the mutual exchange of training and learning amongst each other's jurisdiction.
- Under the MoU, the Bar Council of India has been authorized to recommend some young lawyers to the Law Society and to the Bar Council of England & Wales to provide opportunities for training and learning in International Law Firms, good Law Offices and in **English Law Courts.**
- In a historic meeting held in London in the Meeting Hall of the Law Society of England and Wales this MoU was signed by the Chairman of the Bar Council of India, the President of the Bar Council of England and Wales as well as President of Law Society of England and Wales





Titbits

Bar Council of India(BCI)

Founded: 1961

Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi

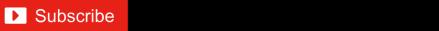
Chairperson: Manan Kumar Mishra



QUICK RECALL



- World Oceans Day is celebrated on June 8; Every year on June 8, World Brain Tumor Day;
- Gitanjali Aiyar, one of India's first English female news presenters on Doordarshan, died.
- Mumbai is the most expensive Indian city for expatriates and has been ranked at 147 in the Mercer's 2023 Cost of Living survey
- RBI announces monetary policy, keeps repo rate unchanged at 6.5%
- Google Pay has introduced UPI verification via Aadhaar card.
- Author Paterson Joseph is the winner of the 2023 Royal Society of Literature (RSL)
 Christopher Bland Prize for his debut novel 'The Secret Diaries of Charles Ignatius
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- Jagdish Bakan, Wildlife Warden and District Forest Officer (DFO) of Ramanathapuram district, has won the 2023 Michel Batisse Award for Biosphere Reserve Management from UNESCO
- Tata Elxsi has partnered with the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) for the upcoming Gaganyaan Mission



QUICK RECALL



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- New Generation Ballistic Missile 'Agni Prime' was successfully flight-tested by Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO) from Dr APJ Abdul Kalam Island off the coast of Odisha.
- Meta and Smt. Smriti Zubin Irani, Union Minister for the Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD), launched the Amrit Generation campaign
- BCI Signs MoU With Bar Council Of England & Wales For Mutual Exchange **Program Of Lawyers & Law Students**





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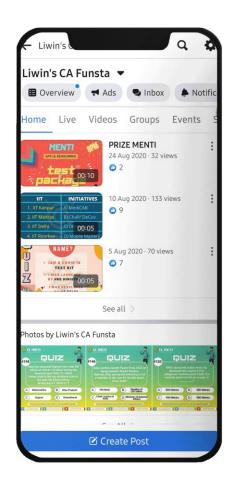
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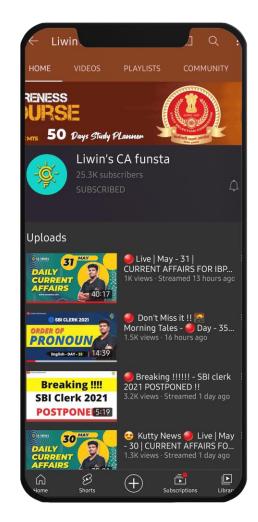
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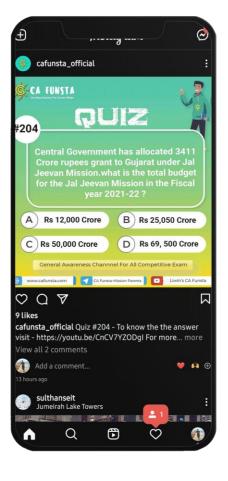
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