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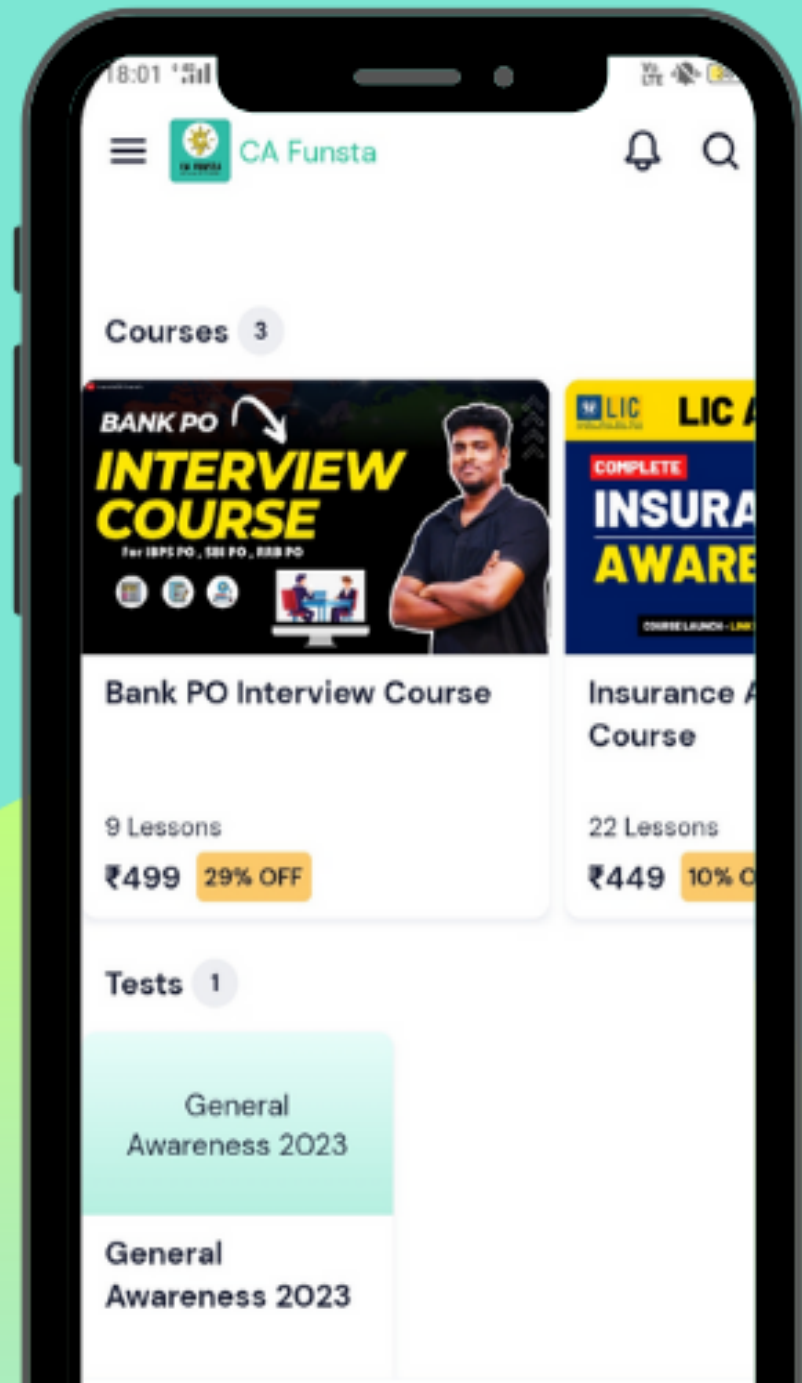
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# Important Days



**What date is observed as World Lion Day?**

- A) September 22
- B) July 15
- C) April 7
- D) August 10
- E) November 30

**Answer**  
**D) August 10**



# Important Days



## Explanation

- **World Lion Day** is observed on **August 10 each year**.
- World Lion Day was first established in **2013** by Big Cat Rescue, the world's largest accredited sanctuary dedicated to lions and it was co-founded by Dereck and Beverly Joubert, a husband-and-wife team who recognised the need to draw attention to the declining lion populations and the threats they were facing in the wild.
- In 2009, the Jouberts approached "**National Geographic**" and formed a partnership with them to come up with the Big Cat Initiative (B.C.I.).
- Later in 2013, they began the initiative to bring together both National Geographic and the Big Cat Initiative under a single banner to protect the remaining big cats living in the wild and since then, World Lion Day is observed annually on August 10 to raise awareness about the conservation issues faced by the lions and to celebrate the beauty and significance of these iconic big cats.

# Important Days



## World Biofuel Day

- On **August 10, World Biofuel Day** is marked to create awareness about the importance of non-fossil fuels as an alternative for the energy sector
- August 10 was chosen to mark World Biofuel Day as it was on this date in **1893** that German inventor Sir Rudolf Diesel successfully used peanut oil to operate a diesel engine.
- This discovery was exceptional as it opened a new path from fossil fuels to renewable and sustainable energy sources.
- **Since 2015**, the Ministry of Petroleum and Natural Gas in India has been observing World Biofuel Day.



# OBITUARY



**Who recently passed away at the age of 72, and had previously served as the Chairman of Karnataka Bank Ltd?**

- A) Raghuram Rajan
- B) Arundhati Bhattacharya
- C) P. Chidambaram
- D) P Jayarama Bhat
- E) Nirmala Sitharaman

**Answer**

**D) P Jayarama Bhat**



# OBITUARY



## Explanation

- **P Jayarama Bhat (72)**, former **Chairman of Karnataka Bank Ltd**, passed away in Mangaluru
- He joined the services of Karnataka Bank as a Probationary Officer in January 1973 after briefly serving as a lecturer for three months.
- Since 1976, Bhat headed leading branches of the bank till his promotion to Chief Accountant at the head office in 1993. He became the Assistant General Manager in 1994, Deputy General Manager in 1996, and General Manager in 1998.
- In 2005, Jayarama Bhat was promoted as Chief General Manager of the bank.
- He was appointed as the first **Managing Director (MD) and Chief Executive Officer (CEO)** of Karnataka Bank on July 14 2009.

# OBITUARY



## Explanation

- Initially appointed for a period of three years, Bhat got two extensions up to July 13, 2018. However, he voluntarily opted to relinquish his post of MD and CEO in April 2017.
- Following this, Mahabaleshwara MS was appointed MD and CEO.
- He was appointed by RBI as **Non-executive Chairman of the Bank in April 2017 as 10th Chairman of the Bank and retired on November 13, 2021.**
- He served Karnataka Bank for a record number of over 48 years from April 1973 to November 2021.
- He was on the board of Universal Sompo General Insurance Company Ltd, a joint venture of Karnataka Bank, as a Nominee Director.
- He was also a Certified Associate of Indian Institute of Bankers (CAIIB).

# RANKING



**In the South Asia region, which rank does India hold for Internet Resilience?**

- A) 1st
- B) 2nd
- C) 3<sup>rd</sup>
- D) 4th
- E) 6th

**Answer**  
**E) 6th**

# RANKING



## Internet Resilience Index (IRI) – Developed by Internet Society - South Asian region

Rank	Country	%
1	Bhutan	58 percent
2	Bangladesh	51 percent
3	Maldives	50 percent
4	Sri Lanka	47 percent
5	Nepal	43 percent
6	India	43 percent

**What recent collaboration was announced between SBI Card and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)?**

- A) Launching a new joint credit card for international travel.
- B) Integration of SBI debit cards with the UPI platform.
- C) Introduction of a new digital wallet for online payments.
- D) Linking SBI credit cards on the RuPay platform with UPI.
- E) Initiating a cashback program for mobile payment users.

**Answer**

**D) Linking SBI credit cards on the RuPay platform with UPI.**



## Explanation

- SBI Card, the country's largest pure-play credit card issuer, and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) have announced the linking of SBI credit cards on the RuPay platform with the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).
- SBI Card customers will be able to make UPI transactions through their credit cards issued on RuPay.
- The functionality can be availed through registering the credit card with third-party UPI apps.
- This will further enhance the avenues for customers using SBI Card on the RuPay platform at UPI merchants, thus facilitating an enhanced, convenient, and seamless payments experience.
- Cardholders can enrol their active primary cards on UPI and make payments to merchants (P2M transactions) using their credit cards. This facility is free for customers.

## Titbits

### **SBI cards payment services ltd**

Headquarters : New Delhi, Delhi

MD & CEO : Rama Mohan Rao Amara

Next MD & CEO: Abhijit Chakravorty( From August  
12,2023)

Chairman: Mr. Dinesh kumar Khara



**What innovative feature has Tata AIA recently introduced in the insurance industry?**

- A) Instant Claim Processing via SMS
- B) Video Chat with Insurance Agents
- C) Premium Payment through Social Media
- D) AI-powered Policy Recommendations
- E) Mobile App for Policy Management

**Answer**

**C) Premium Payment through Social Media**



## Explanation

- To reinforce its value of 'Consumer Obsession', **Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA)** has introduced digital payments **via WhatsApp and Unified Payment Interfaces**.
- This industry-first feature provides an instant premium payment facility through WhatsApp and UPI-enabled payment options.
- The newly added payment option is **first-of-its-kind in the insurance industry**.
- The agile, seamless process allows consumers to pay premiums digitally and receive a quick premium payment confirmation and acknowledgement.
- In addition to being easy to use for both tech and non-tech-savvy consumers, it also offers a hassle-free premium payment experience.

## Explanation

- Tata AIA has adopted an Analytics-driven, Decile-based approach to improve its renewal premium collections.
- The company has enabled renewal premium collections via multiple Digital modes and enhanced its language capability to 5 Languages – **English, Hindi, Tamil, Gujarati and Bengali.**
- Communication drive via 'WhatsApp' and SMS services have been automated using Adobe-based campaign management system, enabling the Company to study behaviour and modify communication channels suitably.

## Titbits

### **Tata AIA Life Insurance**

Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra

CEO : Naveen Tahilyani

**Which bank in India has become the first to offer 24x7 Video Banking service?**

- A) State Bank of India
- B) HDFC Bank
- C) ICICI Bank
- D) AU Small Finance Bank
- E) Axis Bank

**Answer**

**D) AU Small Finance Bank**



## Explanation

- **AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) launched 24x7 video banking service.**
- The bank claims to be the pioneer in India to introduce video assisted branch-like experience, delivering a seamless banking experience at customers' fingertips, regardless of time or location (seven days a week).
- This service provides a virtual platform where customers can communicate with a video banker in real-time via video calls, like video conferencing

## Titbits

### **AU Small Finance Bank**

Headquarters: Jaipur, Rajasthan

MD & CEO : Mr. Sanjay Agarwal

Tagline: Chalo Aage Badhe

**Which company has partnered with PayNearby to enhance credit services accessibility in India through the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)?**

- A) PayCommerce Technologies India Pvt. Ltd.
- B) DigitalConnect Solutions Ltd.
- C) Protean eGov Technologies Limited
- D) PayConnect India Solutions
- E) OpenTech Financial Services Pvt. Ltd.

**Answer**

**C) Protean eGov Technologies Limited**





## Explanation

- **Protean eGov Technologies Limited (Protean)** has joined hands with **PayNearby**, a branchless banking and digital network, to make credit services more accessible and affordable for Indians across the country leveraging the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).
- This marketplace will be launched soon for last-mile borrowers and MSMEs. Once launched the marketplace will also allow for easy discovery of various lending products at affordable pricing to its borrowers.
- This initiative is expected to facilitate both individuals and businesses at the last mile with viable credit options.
- In this partnership, **Protean (previously NSDL e-Governance Infrastructure)** will serve as an ONDC technology service provider that facilitates availability of credit for last-mile borrowers across the country through PayNearby's Distribution-as-a-Service (DaaS) network.

# BANKING AND FINANCE



## Titbits

### PayNearby

Headquarters: Mumbai , Maharashtra

MD & CEO: Anand Kumar Bajaj

**What is the projected real GDP growth for the first quarter of FY25, as stated by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI)?**

- A) 5.2 per cent
- B) 6.6 per cent
- C) 7.8 per cent
- D) 8.9 per cent
- E) 4.3 per cent

**Answer**

**B) 6.6 per cent**

## Explanation

- The Reserve Bank of India has kept its real **GDP growth projection** unchanged at **6.5 per cent** even as it revised upwards the retail inflation from 5.1 per cent to 5.4 per cent.
- Real GDP growth for 2023-24 is projected at 6.5 per cent with Q1:2023-24 at 8.0 per cent; Q2 at 6.5 per cent; Q3 at 6.0 per cent; and Q4 at 5.7 per cent
- The real GDP growth for Q1FY25 has been projected at 6.6 per cent.
- **CPI inflation** has been revised upwards to **5.4 per cent** (from 5.1 per cent earlier) for 2023-24, Q2 at 6.2 per cent (5.2 per cent earlier), Q3 at 5.7 per cent (5.4 per cent) and Q4 at 5.2 per cent (unchanged).
- CPI inflation for Q1FY25 has been projected at 5.2 per cent.

## Explanation

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI) has** retained key policy **repo rate retained at 6.5 per cent**. This is the third meeting on the trot that the MPC decided to maintain the status quo on the repo rate.
- RBI will take steps to ensure greater transparency in interest rate reset of EMI-based floating interest loans. The borrowers to get options of switching to fixed rate loans or foreclosure of loans
- **The Reserve Bank** is planning to **artificial intelligence (AI) in UPI payments**. Near Field Communication (NFC) technology will be deployed in offline payments via in UPI-Lite
- RBI proposes to **enhance transactions limits for small value digital payments to ₹500 from ₹200 in UPI Lite**

## Explanation

- To absorb surplus liquidity generated by various factors, including return of ₹2000 notes to the banking system, RBI has asked banks to maintain an incremental Cash Reserve Ratio (ICRR) of 10 per cent on the increase in their deposits between May 19 and July 28.
- RBI Governor Shaktikanta Das has announced that the **cash reserve ratio (CRR)** remains unchanged at **4.5 per cent**
- According to RBI projections, current account deficit to remain eminently manageable during FY24
- Next meeting of the RBI rate setting panel (MPC) will be held October 4-6.
- The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) said a **digital public tech platform** is being developed by its wholly-owned subsidiary, **Reserve Bank Innovation Hub (RBIH)**, to enable the delivery of frictionless credit by facilitating the seamless flow of required digital information to lenders. The end-to-end digital platform will have an open architecture, open Application Programming Interfaces (APIs) and standards, to which all financial sector players can connect seamlessly in a 'plug and play' model. “

# APPOINTMENTS



**Who has received official approval from the Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) for the role of managing director & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company?**

- A) Rajesh Kumar
- B) Amit Jhingran
- C) Sanjay Gupta
- D) Ananya Verma
- E) Neha Singh

**Answer**  
**B) Amit Jhingran**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- **The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI)** has given its official approval for the appointment of **Amit Jhingran** as the **managing director & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company**.
- The exact date when Amit Jhingran will assume office as the managing director & CEO is yet to be disclosed.
- He started as a probationary officer in August 1991 and has held various positions in international banking, retail banking, and branch management.
- Currently, he serves as the chief general manager of the Hyderabad Circle. Previously, he was the CEO of SBI, Chicago.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Titbits

### **SBI Life Insurance**

Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra

CEO: Mahesh Kumar Sharma

Next CEO: Amit Jhingran

**Who has NewSpace India Limited partnered with to commission GSAT-24?**

- A) Bharti Airtel
- B) Tata Play
- C) Amazon Web Services
- D) SpaceX
- E) Google Cloud

**Answer**  
**B) Tata Play**



## Explanation

- **NewSpace India Limited (NSIL)** has collaborated with **Tata Play** and **launched GSAT-24 satellite**, aligned to 'Make in India' vision of the Government of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi. Tata Play commenced the use of this satellite, now in its orbital position.
- The inauguration ceremony was held at Tata Play's Broadcast Centre in New Delhi.
- The **GSAT-24 is a 24-Ku band communication satellite** launched by the Government of India only to cater to the requirement of Tata Play's DTH application needs.
- The NSIL, incorporated in March 2019, is a Central Public Sector Enterprise (CPSE) under the Department of Space (DOS) and is the commercial arm of DOS.
- The entire satellite capacity on-board GSAT-24 is leased to its committed customer Tata Play.

## Titbits

### **Tata Play**

MD & CEO: Harit Nagpal

Headquarters: Santacruz, Mumbai, Maharashtra

### **NewSpace India Limited**

Headquarters: Bengaluru, Karnataka

CMD: Shri.Radhakrishnan Durairaj

Founded: 6 March 2019

# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



**For which country has India extended support amounting to USD 246,852.71 for a project aimed at bolstering early flood warning services to communities?**

- A) Indonesia
- B) Thailand
- C) Nepal
- D) Sri Lanka
- E) Suriname

**Answer**  
**E) Suriname**



## Explanation

- **India** has extended support amounting to **USD 246,852.71** for project aimed at bolstering early flood warning services to communities in **Suriname**.
- The support extended by the **India-UN Development Partnership Fund** is in direct response to a request from the Government of Suriname, as part of their efforts to enhance resilience against flooding resulting from excessive rainfall, as per a release issued by India's Permanent Mission to UN.
- The **India-UN Development Partnership Fund**, initiated by the Government of India in June **2017**, stands as a beacon of support for projects in developing nations that contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goals.

## Explanation

- Guided by the principles of South-South cooperation, the Fund places paramount importance on national ownership and leadership, equality, sustainability, capacity development at the local level, and mutual benefit.
- The Government of India has pledged a total of USD 150 million over the next decade for the Fund. To date, the Fund has successfully supported 75 development projects spanning 56 countries

# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Suriname

Capital: Paramaribo

Currency: Suriname Dollar

President: Chan Santokhi



**Which organizations have signed an MoU to address medical waste management in Indonesia?**

- A) UNICEF and WHO
- B) UNESCO and IAEA
- C) UNDP Indonesia and India's eGov Foundation
- D) UNHCR and WFP
- E) UNFPA and UNAIDS

**Answer**

**C) UNDP Indonesia and India's eGov Foundation**

## Explanation

- **UNDP Indonesia and India's eGov Foundation** have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to tackle the critical challenge of **infectious medical waste management in Indonesia**.
- The collaboration aims to leverage eGov Foundation's Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) - DIGIT, to implement a cohesive solution at speed and scale.
- This momentous partnership between UNDP Indonesia and eGov Foundation stems from close collaboration and engagement with diverse stakeholders with a shared commitment to drive sustainable and efficient waste management practices in the country.

## Explanation

- The joint effort aims to bring visibility and accountability to the end-to-end management of infectious medical waste across nearly 13,000 health facilities nationwide in Indonesia.
- As part of the partnership, Indonesia will adopt the eGov Foundation's open-source foundational system DIGIT Sanitation platform, specifically designed to accommodate contextualisation and the reuse of components across various waste streams and geographies.
- This platform approach empowers Indonesia to extend its digitalisation efforts at speed and scale beyond infectious medical waste and encompass other waste streams like faecal sludge, solid waste, and chemical waste.

**What recent action was taken by the Karnataka Cabinet to address cyber crimes and safeguard data privacy?**

- A) Launching a digital literacy campaign
- B) Establishing a cybersecurity training institute
- C) Implementing a new taxation policy
- D) Approving a cyber security policy
- E) Introducing a blockchain-based identity system

**Answer**

**D) Approving a cyber security policy**

## Explanation

- The **Karnataka Cabinet** approved the **cyber security policy** aimed at curbing cyber crimes in the state and promoting data privacy
- It also gave administrative approval for the **Centre of Excellence for Aerospace and Defence at a cost of Rs 391 crore at Visvesvaraya Technological University (VTU) campus** here, for research and studies
- The cabinet has also approved escalation in the cost of construction of Super Specialty Hospital coming up in the premises of Belagavi Medical College to Rs 187 crore. Earlier, the cost of the project was 140 crore.

## Explanation

- Also administrative nod for Rs 30.74 crore was given to have vehicle tracking and panic button system, along with centralised control room, for Karnataka State Road Transport Corporation vehicles.
- It was also decided to procure sunflower oil instead of palm oil for preparation of nutritious food at Anganwadis; the procurement will be made at an estimated cost of Rs 66.04 crore.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### **Karnataka**

Capital : Bengaluru

CM : Siddaramaiah

Governor : Thaawarchand Gehlot

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



**According to Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh, what recent government decision has been made regarding space activities in India?**

- A) Launching a new satellite communication network
- B) Setting up a space research center in Karnataka
- C) Initiating a Mars exploration mission
- D) Approving a new spaceport in Tamil Nadu
- E) Collaborating with international agencies for lunar research

**Answer**

**D) Approving a new spaceport in Tamil Nadu**



## Explanation

- Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh informs that **the government** has approved the establishment of a **new spaceport** in **Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu** for carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) developed by ISRO
- Government has set up the **Indian National Space Promotion and Authorization Centre (IN-SPACE)** as a single-window agency for promotion and authorization of space activities. The **budget allocations** for **IN-SPACE: 2021-22 Rs. 10 Cr, 2022-23 Rs. 33 Cr, 2023-24 Rs. 95 Cr**
- The **Laser Interferometer Gravitational Wave Observatory – India (LIGO-India)** project has been approved by the Government of India at an estimated cost of **Rs. 2600 Crore**, with Department of Atomic Energy as the Lead Agency.

**What recent initiative was launched by the Chief Minister of Gujarat to enhance the tracking of lion movement by the forest department?**

- A) Wildlife Conservation Awareness Program
- B) Lion Protection Task Force
- C) Lion Roaming Surveillance System
- D) Forest Guard Training Program
- E) Mobile App for Lion Movement Tracking

**Answer**

**E) Mobile App for Lion Movement Tracking**

## Explanation

- On the occasion of **World Lion Day**, **Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel** launched a mobile application that will help the state forest department track the movement of lions through the information shared by common people using the app.
- The application named '**Sinh Suchna**' was launched at an event held in Gandhinagar.
- The CM also announced setting up a **lion safari park** near **Una town in Gir Somnath district to ease the burden on Gir National Park at Sasan-Gir**.
- Using the 'Sinh Suchna' app, common people can directly inform the state forest department about the movement of lions in their area so that timely steps can be taken. This mobile will help us in locating lions in real time and also help the authorities in avoiding human-animal conflicts

## Explanation

- The central government under Prime Minister Narendra Modi has approved a budget of Rs 2,900 crore under 'Project Lion' for the conservation of Asiatic Lions, which are found only in Gujarat
- Gir forest is the only abode of Asiatic lions in the world.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Gujarat

Capital : Gandhinagar

CM : Bhupendra Patel

Governor : Acharya Dev Vrat

**What recent announcement was made by the Supreme Court to enhance entry procedures for advocates, visitors, interns, and others?**

- A) Introduction of Virtual Court Proceedings
- B) Launch of a Legal Research Database
- C) Implementation of Online Case Filing
- D) Establishment of a Visitor Management System
- E) Launch of the 'SuSwagatam' Portal for Online Registration and E-passes

**Answer**

**E) Launch of the 'SuSwagatam' Portal for Online Registration and E-passes**

## Explanation

- The **Supreme Court** announced the launch of portal '**SuSwagatam**', which would enable advocates, visitors, interns and others to register themselves online and get e-passes to enter the apex court.
- The 'Suswagatam' portal was tested as a pilot project since July 25, 2023 and has received positive feedback from the users

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



**On which occasion did Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launch the "Mo Jungle Jami" scheme for the development of tribal people?**

- A) World Environment Day
- B) International Day of Senior Citizens
- C) World Tribal Day
- D) International Day for the Eradication of Poverty
- E) National Tribal Festival

**Answer**  
**C) World Tribal Day**





## Explanation

- **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik** launched a scheme to aid the development of forest-based livelihood for people.
- **'Mo Jungle Jami Yojana' (My forest land scheme)** was unveiled on the occasion of the International Day of the World's Indigenous Peoples.
- The objective of the scheme is to safeguard the knowledge of indigenous people and ensure the protection of the forest ecosystem.
- Odisha is a leading province in providing forest land rights, the chief minister said that so far 4.5 lakh tribals and forest-dwelling families have been given forest land rights.
- More than 4,000-gram sabhas have been given collective rights. Meanwhile, Mulanivasi United Forum, an apex body of 50 different tribal, Dalit and social organisations, held a rally in the state capital, demanding the inclusion of certain groups in the list of tribals of Odisha.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Odisha

Capital : Bhubaneswar  
Chief Minister - Naveen Patnaik  
Governor - Ganeshi Lal

Which government launched the "Indira Gandhi Smartphone Yojana," a free smartphone scheme?

- A) Maharashtra government
- B) Uttar Pradesh government
- C) Rajasthan government
- D) Kerala government
- E) Tamil Nadu government

**Answer**

**C) Rajasthan government**



## Explanation

- **Ashok Gehlot** led-Rajasthan government launched the **Indira Gandhi Smartphone Yojana**, the free smartphone scheme that was announced in **the Rajasthan Budget this year**.
- Under the scheme, at least 13 million women will receive smartphones with free data for internet and voice calls. The first phase, however, will begin with distributing smartphones to four million women.
- The 2023 yojana will take place between **August 10 to August 20**.
- The launch came during Rahul Gandhi's rally in Mangarh Dham in the Banswara district of Rajasthan.
- The smartphone will be distributed to 13 million women, while the official website states 13.5 million.

## Explanation

### Who is eligible for the scheme?

- To be eligible to receive a free smartphone, the applicant must be a resident of Rajasthan.
- The family's annual income of the applicant's family must not exceed Rs 2.5 lakh.
- No family member of the applicant should be engaged in government employment
- The applicant should be associated with a Chiranjeevi Yojana.

### Applicants who can apply for this include:

- Students from 9th class and above
- Widowed women/single women pension
- Female head of the family who completed 100 days of employment in MNREGA
- Female head of the household who has completed 50 days of employment under the Urban Employment Guarantee Scheme

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Gujarat

Capital : Gandhinagar

CM : Bhupendra Patel

Governor : Acharya Dev Vrat

**Which institution signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Goa for a knowledge partnership focused on evidence-based policy formulation and impact?**

- A) Indian Institute of Technology Bombay
- B) Indian Institute of Management Bangalore
- C) Indian School of Business's Bharti Institute of Public Policy
- D) Tata Institute of Fundamental Research
- E) All India Institute of Medical Sciences Delhi

**Answer**

**C) Indian School of Business's Bharti Institute of Public Policy**



## Explanation

- The **Indian School of Business's Bharti Institute of Public Policy**, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Government of Goa** to commence a knowledge partnership with a focus on evidence-based policy formulation and impact in the State.
- As a knowledge partner, **Bharti Institute** will facilitate furthering the State government's objectives to improve the social and economic prosperity indicators through evidence-based public policy interventions, capacity-building workshops, and citizen-centric governance-based initiatives.
- The MoU was signed by Government of Goa Planning, Statistics & Evaluation Director Vijay B Saxena and ISB Bharti Institute of Public Policy Executive Director Prof. Ashwini Chhatre in the presence of Goa Chief Minister Pramod Sawant.



## Explanation

- Bharti Institute will collaborate with the Goa Institute of Public Administration and Rural Development to conduct workshops for officials of state services and also develop the Goa Open Data Portal in collaboration with the Department of Information Technology, Goa, that will serve as a 'one-stop destination' for open data to access and interact with, for citizens, aiming towards digital governance.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Goa

Capital :Panaji

CM: Pramod Sawant

Governor : PS Sreedharan Pillai

**What is the recent significant order that Dhaksha Unmanned Systems, a subsidiary of Coromandel International, has received?**

- A) 200 laptops for Indian Army
- B) 200 fighter jets for Indian Air Force
- C) 200 drones for Indian Army
- D) 200 tanks for Indian Army
- E) 200 submarines for Indian Navy

**Answer**

**C) 200 drones for Indian Army**

## Explanation

- **Drone manufacturer Dhaksha Unmanned Systems**, a subsidiary of Coromandel International, bagged an order to supply **200 medium-altitude logistics drones** and accessories to the **Indian Army**.
- Recently, **Dhaksha** has also bagged a **400-drone contract** from agri inputs cooperative **IFFCO for supply of agri-spraying drones**.
- These are planned to be delivered over the course of next 12 months.
- Dhaksha's orders for the current year have exceeded Rs 165 crore including the order from the Defence and IFFCO.

## Explanation

- Coromandel has **51% stake** in the drone manufacturer. “
- Chennai-based **Dhaksha** has a technology collaboration with **Anna University** and is the only player in the country to receive type certificates from DGCA for three drone models in medium and small categories for agriculture and surveillance applications.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### **Dhaksha Unmanned Systems**

Headquarters: Chennai , Tamil Nadu

CEO: Ramanathan Narayanan

**What is the purpose of the special initiative launched by the government for the north-eastern region?**

- A) Promote tourism in the region
- B) Improve agricultural practices
- C) Enhance healthcare facilities
- D) Develop a skill-centric and industry-ready ecosystem
- E) Strengthen cultural heritage preservation

**Answer**

**D) Develop a skill-centric and industry-ready ecosystem**



## Explanation

- In order to create a robust skill-centric and industry-ready ecosystem in North-Eastern Region (NER), **Union Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Minister for Culture, Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) G. Kishan Reddy and MoS Rajeev Chandrasekhar** launched a **special initiative -- Transforming Lives, Building Futures: Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in North-East in New Delhi.**



## Explanation

- The Special Initiative of Transforming Lives- Building Futures: Skill and Entrepreneurship Dev in North-East will include:
  - 2 Lakh skill training under Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY)
  - 30,000 Apprenticeship Engagement under National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS)
  - 20,000 to be skilled under Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS)
  - Quality enhancement of ITIs under skill strengthening for industrial value enhancement (STRIVE)
  - Strengthening of Polytechnics
  - Special projects will be taken up for the special needs of the North-East region under SANKALP.
  - Skill India International Centre to be set up to promote overseas job opportunities.

## Explanation

- Around **2.5 lakhs youth of the NER** will be provided with industry-relevant skill training programmes through a wide array of schemes and initiatives, including **Pradhan Mantri Kaushal Vikas Yojana (PMKVY), National Apprenticeship Promotion Scheme (NAPS) and Jan Shikshan Sansthan (JSS) as part of the initiative.**
- Centre has earmarked a substantial fund of **Rs 360 crore** to facilitate inclusive development, nurture entrepreneurial talent, and propel the socio-economic growth of the region.
- To fuel further growth, concerted efforts are being made to provide vocational education and skill development programs to cater to the demand for skilled professionals across sectors, including agriculture, tourism, handicrafts, and information technology.

# QUICK RECALL



- **World Lion Day is observed on August 10 each year. On August 10, World Biofuel Day is observed**
- **P Jayarama Bhat (72), former Chairman of Karnataka Bank Ltd, passed away in Mangaluru**
- **India ranks 6th in the South Asia region for Internet Resilience**
- **SBI Card and the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) have announced the linking of SBI credit cards on the RuPay platform with the Unified Payments Interface (UPI).**
- **To reinforce its value of 'Consumer Obsession', Tata AIA Life Insurance (Tata AIA) has introduced digital payments via WhatsApp and Unified Payment Interfaces.**
- **AU Small Finance Bank (AU SFB) launched 24x7 video banking service.**



# QUICK RECALL



- **Protean eGov Technologies Limited (Protean) has joined hands with PayNearby, a branchless banking and digital network, to make credit services more accessible and affordable for Indians across the country leveraging the Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC).**
- **The Reserve Bank of India has kept its real GDP growth projection unchanged at 6.5 per cent**
- **The Insurance Regulatory and Development Authority of India (IRDAI) has given its official approval for the appointment of Amit Jhingran as the managing director & CEO of SBI Life Insurance Company.**
- **NewSpace India Limited (NSIL) has collaborated with Tata Play and launched GSAT-24 satellite, aligned to 'Make in India' vision of the Government of Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi**

# QUICK RECALL



- **India has extended support amounting to USD 246,852.71 for project aimed at bolstering early flood warning services to communities in Suriname.**
- **UNDP Indonesia and India's eGov Foundation have signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) to tackle the critical challenge of infectious medical waste management in Indonesia.**
- **The Karnataka Cabinet approved the cyber security policy aimed at curbing cyber crimes in the state and promoting data privacy**
- **Union Minister Dr Jitendra Singh informs that the government has approved the establishment of a new spaceport in Kulasekarapattinam, Tamil Nadu for carrying out the launches of the Small Satellite Launch Vehicles (SSLV) developed by ISRO**
- **On the occasion of World Lion Day, Gujarat Chief Minister Bhupendra Patel launched a mobile application that will help the state forest department track the movement of lions through the information shared by common people using the app.**

# QUICK RECALL



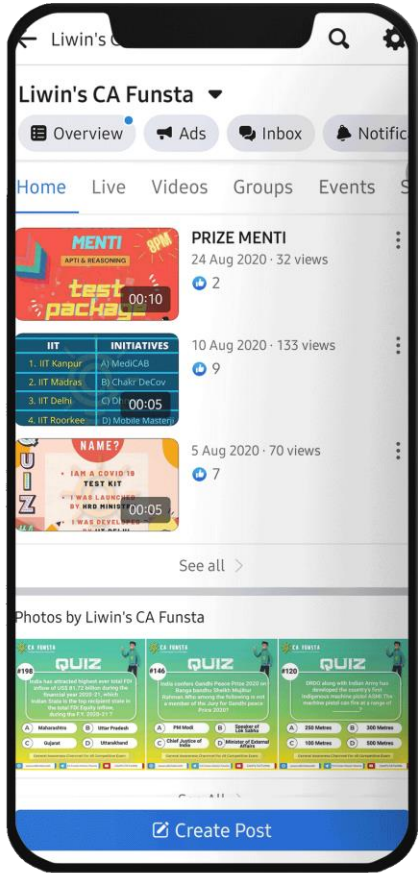
- **The Supreme Court announced the launch of portal 'SuSwagatam', which would enable advocates, visitors, interns and others to register themselves online and get e-passes to enter the apex court.**
- **Odisha Chief Minister Naveen Patnaik launched a scheme to aid the development of forest-based livelihood for people.**
- **Ashok Gehlot led-Rajasthan government launched the Indira Gandhi Smartphone Yojana, the free smartphone scheme that was announced in the Rajasthan Budget this year.**
- **The Indian School of Business's Bharti Institute of Public Policy, signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Government of Goa to commence a knowledge partnership with a focus on evidence-based policy formulation and impact in the State.**

# QUICK RECALL

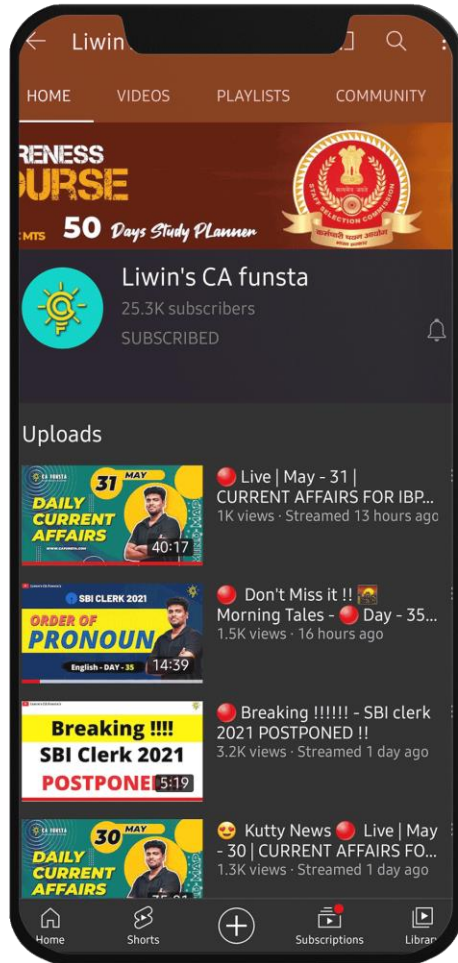


- **Drone manufacturer Dhaksha Unmanned Systems, a subsidiary of Coromandel International, bagged an order to supply 200 medium-altitude logistics drones and accessories to the Indian Army**
- **In order to create a robust skill-centric and industry-ready ecosystem in North-Eastern Region (NER), Union Minister for Education and Skill Development and Entrepreneurship, Dharmendra Pradhan and Union Minister for Culture, Tourism and Development of North Eastern Region (DoNER) G. Kishan Reddy and MoS Rajeev Chandrasekhar launched a special initiative -- Transforming Lives, Building Futures: Skill Development and Entrepreneurship in North-East in New Delhi.**

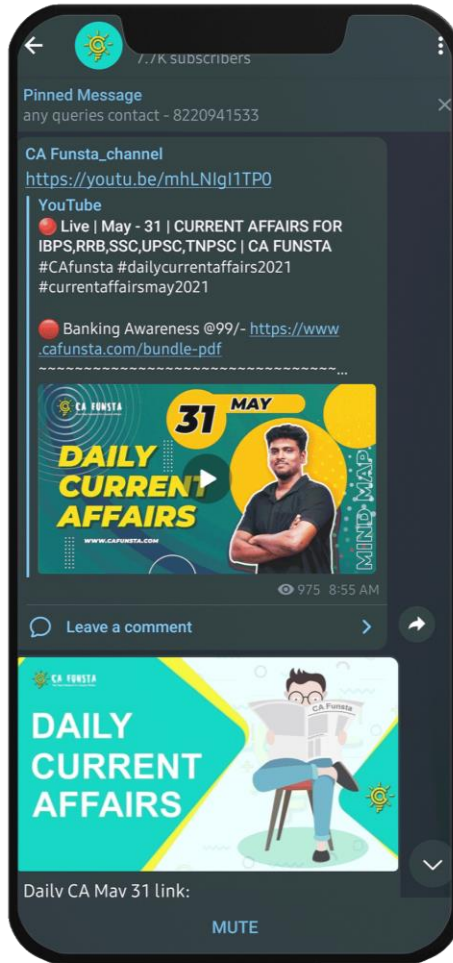
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