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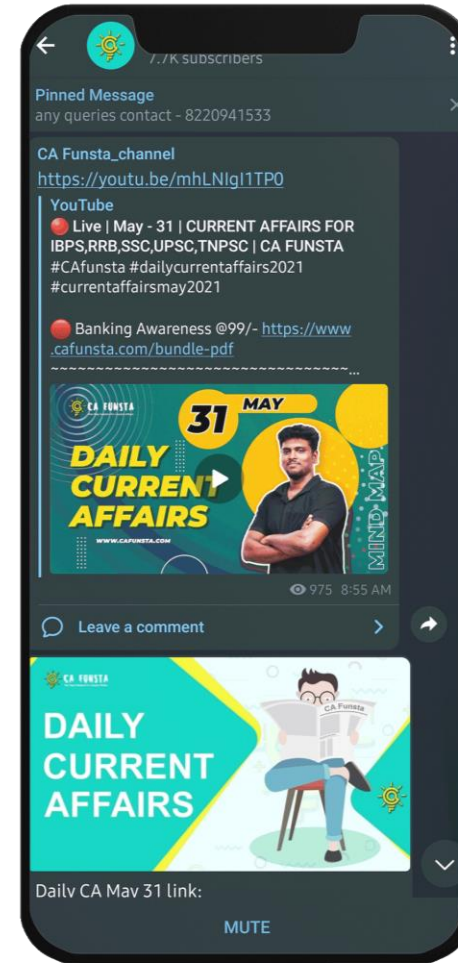MONTHLY MAGAZINE | ONE LINERS | STATIC GK

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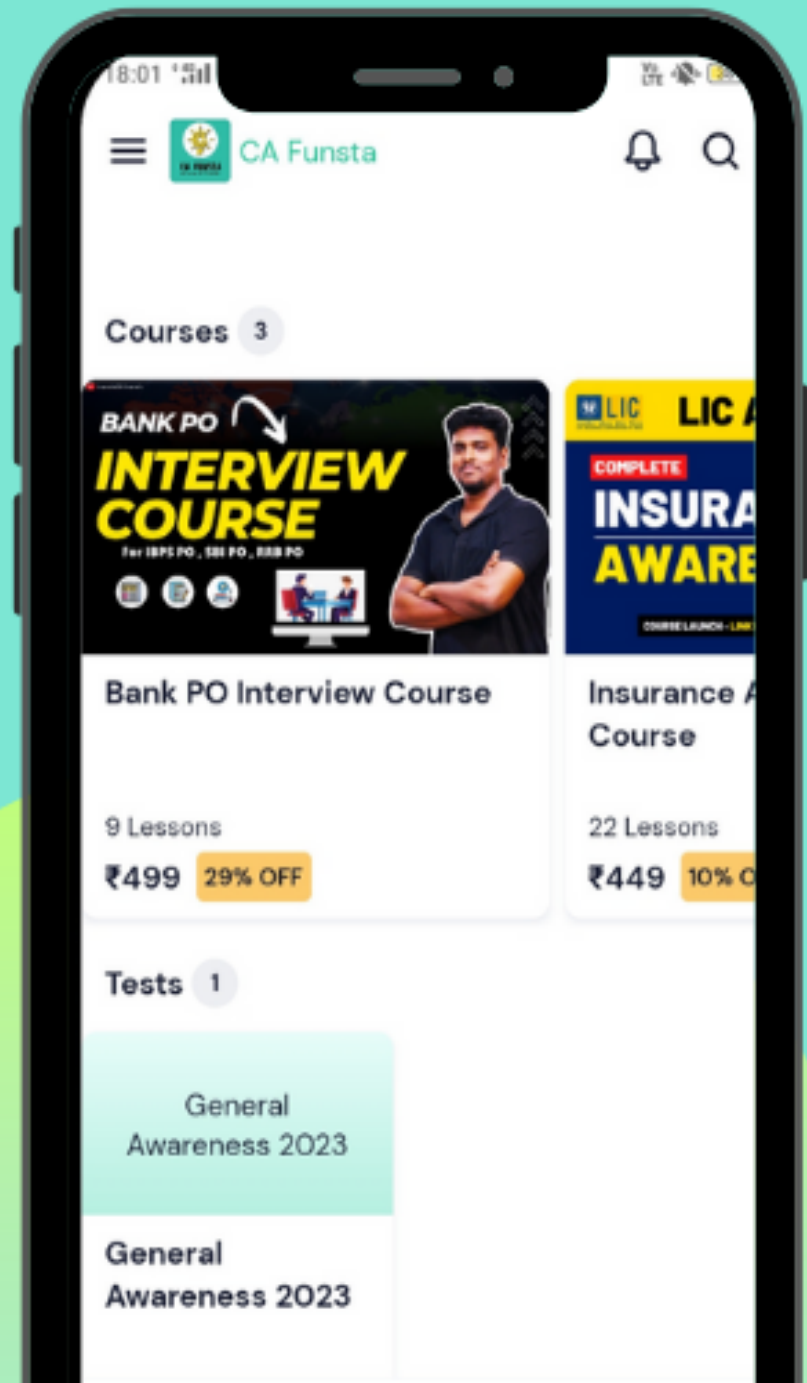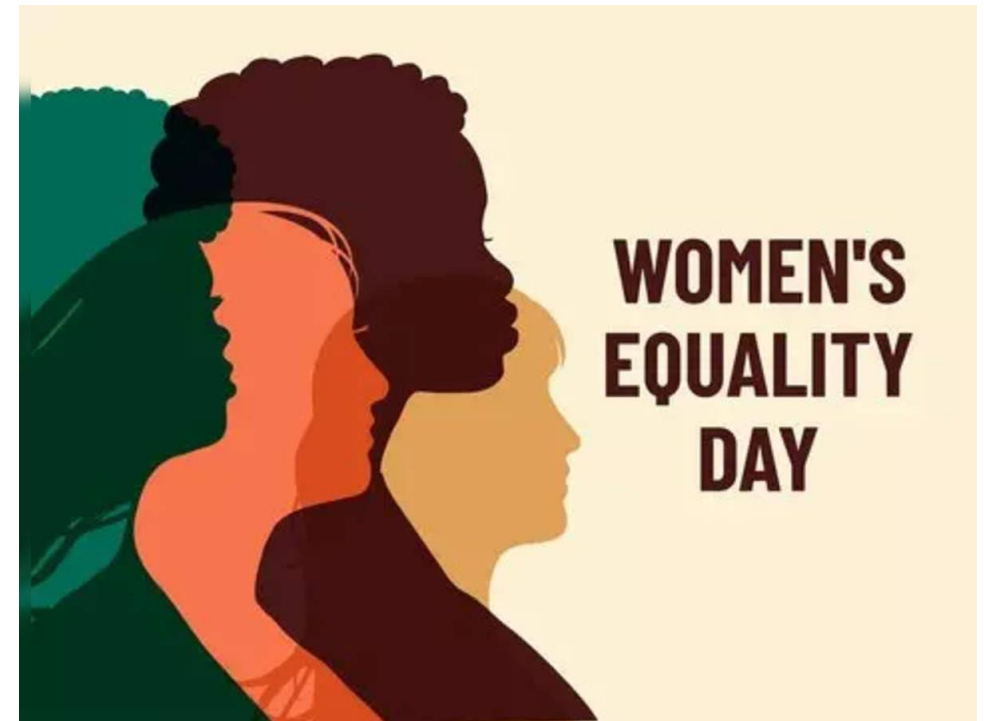
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When is Women's Equality Day observed?

A) July 26
B) August 15
C) August 26
D) September 10
E) October 3

Answer
C) August 26

WOMEN'S EQUALITY DAY

Important Days

Explanation

- Every year on **August 26,** the world observes **Women's Equality Day.**
- This year's Women's Equality Day theme is **Embrace Equity**.

History:
- The 50th anniversary of the ratification of the Nineteenth Amendment to the United States Constitution, which guaranteed full woman suffrage, was **August 26, 1970**.
- On that anniversary, the National Organisation forWomen (NOW) urged women to participate in a statewide "strike for equality."
- More than 100,000 other women marched and demonstrated in more than 90 major cities and towns around the country, making the strike the greatest gender-equality protest in US history.
- Eventually, Women's Equality Day was established by Congress in **1971** to remember not only the passage of the Nineteenth Amendment but also the ongoing efforts of women to attain full equality.

International Dog Day

- It is celebrated every year on **August 26** in several countries.
- This day aims to recognise the important role that a dog plays in our lives.
- International Dog Day has been observed since **2004**, when a pet lover, Colleen Paige, celebrated the day as a way to raise awareness about dog shelters.

In which event did the Indian women's visually challenged cricket team win a gold medal?

A) IAAF World Championships
B) FIFA Women's World Cup
C) Paralympic Games
D) IBSA World Games
E) Commonwealth Games

Answer
D) IBSA World Games

Explanation

- The **visually challenged Indian women's cricket team** scripted history winning a **gold medal beating Australia by nine wickets at the IBSA World Games**
- The Games, due to take place from **18-27 August 2023**, will be held at **the University of Birmingham**, across the Edgbaston area and wider region.
- The first event took place at **Madrid, Spain in 1998**
- This year is **7th edition**

Which medal did Indian badminton player HS Prannoy win in the men's singles at the BWF World Badminton Championships 2023?

A) Gold
B) Silver
C) Bronze
D) Platinum
E) None of the above

Answer
C) Bronze

Explanation

- Indian badminton player **HS Prannoy** finished with a bronze medal in the men's singles at the **BWF World Badminton Championships 2023 after losing his semi-final match in Copenhagen, Denmark**
- World No. 9 HS Prannoy lost 21-18, 13-21, 14-21 to **Thailand's Kunlavut Vitidsarn**
- HS Prannoy became only the **fifth Indian men's singles player** to win a medal at the BWF World Badminton Championships.
- Kidambi Srikanth remains the only Indian to reach the men's singles final (2021) of the global showpiece event.
- This is India's **14th medal at the World Championships.** This includes one gold, four silvers and nine bronze medals.
- **China** is the most successful team in the tournament's history, with 196 medals, including 69 gold, 48 silver and 79 silvers.
- **Prakash Padukone** is the first-ever Indian to have won an individual medal at the World Championships. He clinched a **bronze medal in 1983 in men's singles**.

Explanation

- After 28 years, Jwala and Ashwini brought back home a World Championship medal, clinching a bronze in the 2011 championships in women's doubles.
- PV Sindhu, India's two-time Olympic medalist, is the first-ever Indian player to secure a women's singles medal at the World Championships. After bronze medals in 2013 and 2014 and silver in 2017 and 2018, she reached the pinnacle in 2019, becoming the only Indian badminton world champion in all categories to date.
- Indian tennis great Saina Nehwal has two World Championships medals to her name in the women's singles category, a silver in 2015 and a bronze in 2017.
- Sai Praneeth won a bronze for India in the men's singles competition in the 2019 edition of the Championships.
- The former world number one Kidambi Srikanth secured a silver medal in the 2021 Championships in men's singles.

Explanation

- In the 2021 World Championships, Lakshya Sen secured a bronze medal in the men's singles competition.
- Last year, India's current world number two ranked men's doubles pair of Satwiksairaj Rankireddy and Chirag Shetty made history, becoming the first-ever men's pair from India to secure a medal at a World Championships, with a bronze medal.

Which bank has secured the title sponsorship rights for all BCCI matches for domestic and international cricket for the next three years for ₹4.2 crore per match?

A) HDFC Bank
B) ICICI Bank
C) IDFC First Bank
D) Axis Bank
E) State Bank of India

Answer
C) IDFC First Bank

Explanation

- **IDFC First Bank** has won the **title sponsorship rights for all BCCI matches** for domestic and international cricket for the next three years for ₹4.2 crore per match
- The Board of Control for Cricket in India had issued its invitation to tender for the rights earlier this month after **Mastercard** Inc. exited in **March as title sponsor for team India.**
- The base price was kept at ₹2.4 crore per match. The only other bidder was OTT service **SonyLIV**, which bid for ₹2.7 crore per match
- The agreement will cover 56 matches over three years, including 15 ODIs, an equal number of test matches and another 26 T20 matches.
- IDFC First Bank will be the title sponsor for international matches (both women and men), domestic cricket matches like Irani Trophy, Duleep Trophy and Ranji Trophy organized by BCCI and also all junior cricket (Under 19 and Under 23) matches held in India.
- The partnership will begin with the 3-match ODI series against Australia beginning next month

Explanation

- In September 2022, Mastercard temporarily took over from Paytm, which had signed a deal with BCCI for ₹326.80 crore in 2019.
- Paytm was to fork out ₹3.8 crore per match, about 58% above the earlier ₹2.4 crore deal, but in July 2022, it requested BCCI to assign the rights to Mastercard till March 2023. But MasterCard didn't renew the deal after March.

Titbits

IDFC first bank
Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
MD & CEO: Mr. V. Vaidyanathan
Tagline: Always You First
Board of Control for Cricket in India(BCCI)
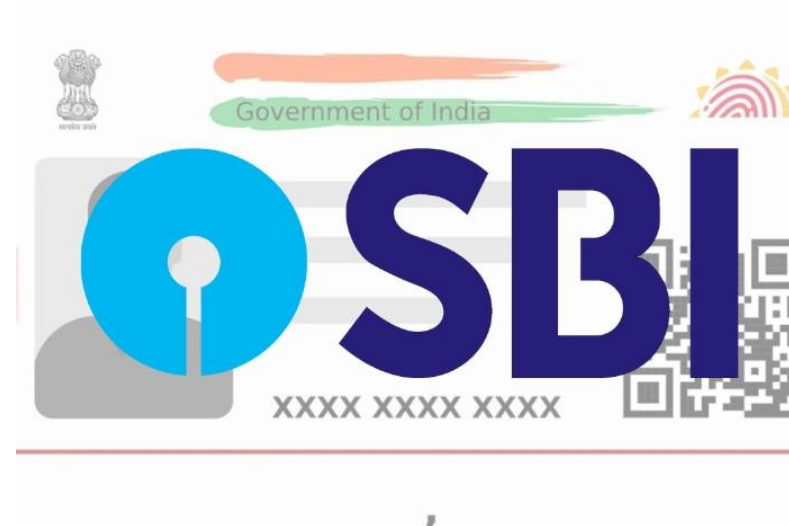Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra
Founded: December 1928
President: Roger Binny

State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced a facility that allows customers to enrol in social security schemes by providing which identification document?

A) Passport
B) Voter ID
C) PAN Card
D) Aadhaar Card
E) Driving License

Answer
D) Aadhaar Card

Explanation

- The country's largest lender **State Bank of India (SBI)** has introduced a **facility** to allow customers to **enrol in social security schemes by just furnishing an Aadhaar card.**
- Chairman Dinesh Khara, unveiled an innovative Customer Service Points (CSP) functionality that enables hassle-free enrolment for social security schemes through Aadhaar.
- Customers visiting CSPs will need only their Aadhaar cards to enrol in schemes such as Pradhan Mantri Jeevan Jyoti Bima Yojana, the Pradhan Mantri Suraksha Bima Yojana, and the Atal Pension Yojana
- The aim of the new feature is to empower every section of society by removing barriers to accessing financial security

Titbits

State Bank of India
Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra
Chairman :   Dinesh Kumar Khara
Tagline : With You all the way, Pure Banking Nothing
Else, The Nation Bank on Us, The Banker to Every
Indian, A Bank of the Common Man

Which company recently launched the BLAZE payments technology platform solution?

A) Infosys
B) TCS
C) Financial Software and Systems (FSS) Pvt Ltd
D) Wipro
E) HCL Technologies

Answer
C) Financial Software and Systems (FSS) Pvt Ltd

FSS
POWERING
PAYMENTS

Explanation

- Payments technology solutions provider **Financial Software and Systems (FSS) Pvt Ltd** has launched **BLAZE**, a future-ready payments technology platform solution to serve banks
- BLAZE has been designed to meet the growing need for scalability and security among financial institutions.
- Using the BLAZE architecture, the FSS Payment Gateway can process more than 5,000 transactions per second and it is expected to offer significant efficiency in terms of speed and scalability.
- BLAZE enables banks to deliver higher transactions per second to align with the growing digital commerce adoption in the country, a company statement said on Sunday.
- With the launch, FSS expects to create a substantial impact on the rapidly evolving payments landscape. Currently, BLAZE is accessible to customers in India, the Middle East, and Africa.

Airtel Payments Bank, Mastercard Center, and Frontier Markets have launched an initiative called "She Leads Bharat: Udyam" to support and empower how many women-owned small businesses?

A) 10,000
B) 50,000
C) 100,000
D) 250,000
E) 500,000

Answer
C) 100,000

Explanation

- **Airtel Payments Bank, Frontier Markets and the Mastercard Center** for Inclusive Growth have announced the launch of '**She Leads Bharat: Udyam'**, an initiative to elevate 1,00,000 women-owned small businesses with resources, tools and opportunities to grow and diversify their incomes.

- **She Leads Bharat: Udyam** is a first-of-its-kind initiative that brings together the private sector, social enterprise, and philanthropy in the banking, financial services, and insurance sector to demonstrate a digital-first model designed to unlock ways for women-owned small businesses to increase their incomes.

- This initiative will be funded by the Mastercard Impact Fund, while Mastercard will bring the catalytic capital and global expertise of its Center for Inclusive Growth to unlock tools, resources, and networks for the women-owned small businesses.

- In this first phase, the initiative will enable **1,00,000 women-owned small businesses** in Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh to learn and earn via Frontier Markets' proprietary, flexible Meri-Saheli platform.

Explanation

- 10,000 of these women small business owners will be further enabled to grow their business by becoming Airtel Payments Bank Business Correspondents (BCs) and unlock additional revenue streams.
- This is aligned with the bank's vision of 'Empowering India with Accessible and Inclusive Banking.'

Titbits

Airtel payments bank
Hq : New Delhi, India.
CEO : Anubrata Biswas
Tagline : Banking Is Now At Your Fingertips India's
First Payment Bank

What was the percentage decline in foreign direct investment (FDI) into India during the April-June period of this fiscal year?

A) 22%
B) 34%
C) 45%
D) 12%
E) 28%

Answer
B) 34%

Explanation

- **Foreign direct investment (FDI)** into India declined **34 per cent to USD 10.94 billion** during **April-June period this fiscal year**, according to government data.
- FDI inflows stood at USD 16.59 billion during April-June 2022-23, the **data from Department for Promotion of Industry and Internal Trade (DPIIT) showed**
- According to the data, FDI dipped from countries including Mauritius, Singapore, the US and the UAE during April-June 2023-24.
- Inflows dipped in segments including computer hardware and software, trading, automobile and pharma.

Which country's President Emmerson Mnangagwa was re-elected for a second and final term?

A) Nigeria
B) Kenya
C) Zimbabwe
D) South Africa
E) Ghana

Answer
C) Zimbabwe

Explanation

- **Zimbabwe's President Emmerson Mnangagwa** was re-elected for a **second and final term** in an election marred by widespread allegations that the governing party, ZANU-PF had committed fraud.
- With Mnangagwa, 80, winning another five years in office in Zimbabwe

Titbits

Zimbabwe
Capital : Harare
Currency : Zimbabwe Dollar
President: Emmerson Mnangagwa

AWARDS

Which city has been awarded the title of the best Smart City, and which state has been recognized as the top performer in the Smart Cities Mission?

A) Mumbai, Maharashtra
B) Bengaluru, Karnataka
C) Indore, Madhya Pradesh
D) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
E) Hyderabad, Telangana

Answer
C) Indore, Madhya Pradesh

AWARDS

Explanation

- **Indore** has been adjudged the **best Smart City** while **Madhya Pradesh** has been chosen as the **top State for exemplary performance in the Smart Cities Mission.**
- Surat and Agra are the second and third-place winners among cities, while Tamil Nadu is the second in the State category followed by Rajasthan and Uttar Pradesh shared third prize in the India Smart Cities Award Contest (ISAC), 2022.
- In October last year, **Indore** was adjudged India's cleanest city for the **sixth time in a row**.
- Madhya Pradesh, too, won the tag of the cleanest state in the Swachh Survekshan 2022
- In the Smart Cities awards, Indore had shared the first place with Surat last time.
- The award for the **best Union Territory** has gone to **Chandigarh**.
- In the **Smart Cities Awards 2022**, Coimbatore's project of model roads, restoration and renovation of lakes was ranked the best in the category of built environment, while Jabalpur won the award for its incubation centre in the economy category.
- Chandigarh's public bike sharing and e-governance services won in the mobility and governance categories

AWARDS

Explanation

- The ISAC awards for 2022, organised under the Smart Cities Mission, by the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs were announced
- President Droupadi **Murmu** will give away the awards on September 27 at Indore in Madhya Pradesh.
- This is the **fourth edition of the ISAC awards**.
- In the past, the ISAC witnessed **three editions in 2018, 2019 and 2020**. The 2022 edition was launched in April last year during the 'Smart Cities-Smart Urbanization' event in Surat.
- There were no awards in 2021 because of the Covid-19 pandemic.
- The ISAC recognises and rewards cities, projects and innovative ideas that are promoting sustainable development across the 100 smart cities, as well as stimulating inclusive, equitable, safe, healthy and collaborative cities leading to a better quality of life for all.
- The ISAC 2022 award had a two-stage submission process consisting of 'Qualifying Stage', which involved overall assessment of the city's performance, and the 'Proposal Stage' which required the smart cities to submit their nominations for six award categories.

Explanation

- A total of 845 nominations were received for ISAC 2022 from 80 qualifying smart cities out of which 66 final winners have been identified in various categories.
- **Smart Cities Mission launched** on **June 25, 2015**, aims to provide core infrastructure, clean and sustainable environment and a decent quality of life to their citizens through the application of "smart solutions".
- the 100 selected cities have completed 76% of the proposed projects worth Rs.1.10 lakh crore, while the remaining projects worth Rs.60,095 crore "will be completed by 30 June 2024

Which ministry's scheme won the National Award for e-Governance 2023 (Gold) for the application of emerging technologies to provide citizen-centric services?

A) Ministry of Home Affairs
B) Ministry of Finance
C) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare
D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj
E) Ministry of Education

Answer
D) Ministry of Panchayati Raj

Explanation

- **SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj** has been conferred with **the prestigious National Award for e-Governance 2023 (Gold) for Application of Emerging Technologies for Providing Citizen Centric Services** at the **26th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) organized by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India on 25th August 2023 in Indore, Madhya Pradesh.**

- The representatives of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj, Survey of India and NIC-GIS received the National e-Governance Gold Award conferred to SVAMITVA Scheme in the category of Application of Emerging Technologies for Providing Citizen Centric Services from Dr. Jitendra Singh, Union Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Science and Technology; Minister of State (Independent Charge) of the Ministry of Earth Sciences; Minister of State in the Prime Minister's Office; Minister of State in the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; Minister of State in the Department of Atomic Energy; and Minister of State in the Department of Space on 25th August, 2023 during the two-day National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG).

Explanation

- The two-day **National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) was organised on the theme 'Viksit Bharat,** Empowering Citizens' jointly by the Department of Administrative Reforms and Public Grievances (DARPG), Government of India and the Ministry of Electronics and Information Technology (MeitY), Government of India in collaboration with the Government of Madhya Pradesh on 25th and 25th August, 2023 at Brilliant Convention Centre, Indore, Madhya Pradesh.
- Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh participated in the 26th National Conference on e-Governance (NCeG) along with other dignitaries and senior officers from Government of India and State Governments.
- The National e-Governance Awards were presented under 5 categories viz. **Government process re-engineering for digital transformation, application of emerging technology for providing citizen-centric services, district-level initiative for e-Governance, research on citizen-centric services by academic and research institutions, and application of emerging technology in e-Governance by start-ups.**

Explanation

- The 26th NCeG provided an appropriate platform for effective and meaningful brainstorming on the latest technologies for promoting e-Governance and for sharing knowledge and insights on the theme identified for the National e-Governance Conference.
- **SVAMITVA Scheme of the Ministry of Panchayati Raj provides ownership to property owners in village-inhabited area by using latest drone and GIS technology.**
- The Property Cards facilitate monetization of rural residential assets for bank loan and other financial benefits and help in the settlement of land-related disputes through the preparation of 5cm accuracy maps.
- The Scheme is implemented with the collaborative efforts of Survey of India being the technology implementation partner, State Revenue and Panchayati Raj Departments, and NIC−GIS.

Which of the following statements is true regarding the NASA's SpaceX Crew-7 mission?

A) It was a mission to Mars.
B) It was a mission to the Moon.
C) It was a mission to the International Space Station (ISS).
D) It was a mission to study asteroids.
E) It was a mission to explore deep space.

Answer
C) It was a mission to the International Space Station (ISS).

Explanation

- An **international crew** of four representing four countries is in orbit following a successful launch to the **International Space Station** at 3:27 EDT from Launch **Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida**
- The agency's **SpaceX Crew-7 mission** is the seventh commercial crew rotation mission for NASA.
- A SpaceX Falcon 9 rocket launched the Dragon spacecraft into orbit carrying **NASA astronaut Jasmin Moghbeli, ESA (European Space Agency) astronaut Andreas Mogensen, JAXA (Japan Aerospace Exploration Agency) astronaut Satoshi Furukawa, and Roscosmos cosmonaut Konstantin Borisov,** for a science expedition aboard the orbital laboratory.

Titbits

NASA
Abbreviation: National Aeronautics and Space
Administration
Establishment – 1958
Administrator – Bill Nelson
Chief Scientist – Jim Green
Headquarter – Washington D.C, United States
SpaceX
Headquarters: Hawthorne, California, United States of
America
Founded: 6 May 2002
CEO: Elon Musk

Which aircraft did the Indian Air Force (IAF) deploy for a 21-day multilateral war game in Egypt?

A) MiG-21
B) MiG-29
C) Su-30MKI
D) Rafale
E) Tejas

Answer
B) MiG-29

Explanation

- The **Indian Air Force (IAF) deployed five MiG-29 combat jets**, six transport aircraft and a group of its special forces personnel at a 21-day multilateral war game in **Egypt**
- The biennial tri-services exercise, Bright-Star, is taking place at **Cairo (West) Air Base** and it is being participated by militaries of the US, Saudi Arabia, Greece and Qatar besides of the host country and India
- It is for the first time that the IAF is participating in the exercise
- The IAF contingent will consist of five MiG-29, two IL-78, two C-130 and two C-17 aircraft. Personnel from the IAF's Garud special forces, as well as those from the Numbers 28, 77, 78 and 81 squadrons will be participating in the exercise
- Around 150 personnel from the Indian Army are also part of the Indian contingent

Explanation

- The defence and strategic cooperation between India and Egypt has been on an upswing in the last few years.
- The Indian and Egyptian armies conducted the first ever joint exercise in January this year.
- In **July last year**, the **IAF** participated in a month-long tactical leadership programme in **Egypt with three Su-30 MKI jets and two C-17 transport aircraft.**
- In September last, Defence Minister Rajnath Singh paid a three-day visit to Egypt.

Titbits

Egypt
capital: Cairo
Currency: Egyptian pound
President: Abdel Fattah El-Sisi
Prime Minister: Mostafa Madbouly

When and where was the 5th edition of the biennial AUSINDEX maritime exercise conducted between the Indian Navy and the Royal Australian Navy (RAN)?

A) 15-18 July 2023, Perth, Australia
B) 22-25 August 2023, Sydney, Australia
C) 5-8 September 2023, Melbourne, Australia
D) 10-13 June 2023, Brisbane, Australia
E) 3-6 October 2023, Adelaide, Australia

Answer
B) 22-25 August 2023, Sydney, Australia

Explanation

- **5th edition of biennial AUSINDEX maritime exercise** between **Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy (RAN**) was conducted from 22-25 August 23 at Sydney, Australia.
- **INS Sahyadri and INS Kolkata** participated in the exercise along with HMAS Choules and HMAS Brisbane from RAN.
- Besides ships and their integral helicopters, the exercise also witnessed participation of fighter aircraft and maritime patrol aircraft.
- AUSINDEX included a series of complex exercises in all three domains of maritime operations

Titbits

Australia
capital: Canberra
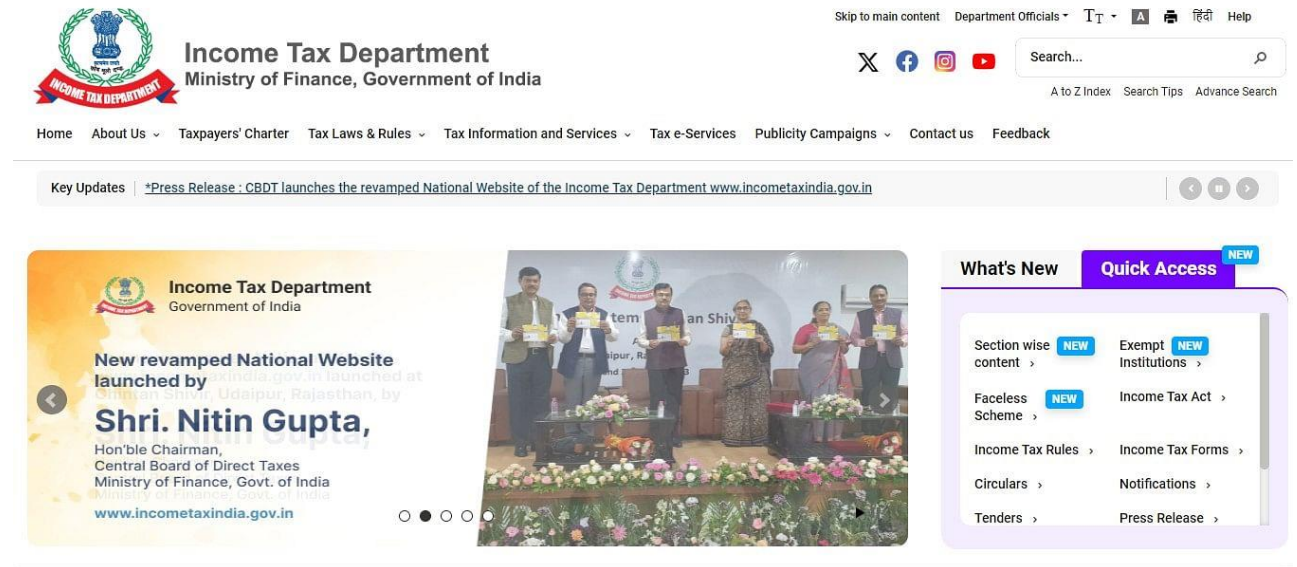Currency : Australian Dollar
Prime Minister: Anthony Albanese

The Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT) recently launched a revamped National Website of the Income Tax Department. What is the URL of the revamped website?

A) www.incometax.gov
B) www.incometaxindia.gov.in
C) www.incometaxdept.gov.in
D) www.itdept.in
E) www.taxindia.in

Answer
B) www.incometaxindia.gov.in

Explanation

- In order to enhance taxpayer experience and keep pace with new technology, the Income **Tax Department** has revamped its National website **www.incometaxindia.gov.in** with a user-friendly interface, value-added features, and new modules.
- The newly revamped website was launched by **Shri. Nitin Gupta**, **Chairman, Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)),** at the 'Chintan Shivir', organised by Directorate of Income Tax (Systems) at **Udaipur**.
- This website serves as a comprehensive repository of tax and other related information. It provides access to Direct Tax laws, several other Allied Acts, Rules, Income Tax Circulars and Notifications, all cross-referenced and hyperlinked.
- The site also offers a 'Taxpayer Services Module' featuring various tax tools to assist taxpayers in filing their income tax returns.
- The revamped website has been aesthetically redesigned with a mobile-responsive layout. The website also has a 'Mega Menu' for content, with new features, and functionalities.
- For the convenience of the visitors to the website, all these new additions are explained through a guided virtual tour and new button indicators

Titbits

CBDT
Abbreviation: The Central Board of Direct Taxes
Chairman: Nitin Gupta
Founded: 1963
Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi

Which of the following options correctly summarizes the event mentioned?

A) The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the United Nations General Assembly in New Delhi.
B) The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the G20 Summit in New Delhi.
C) The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the B20 Summit in New Delhi.
D) The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the World Economic Forum in New Delhi.
E) The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the World Health Assembly in New Delhi.

Answer
C) The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the B20 Summit in New Delhi.

Explanation

- The Prime Minister **Shri Narendra Modi** addressed the B20 Summit India 2023 in **New Delhi**.
- B20 Summit India brings policymakers, business leaders and experts from across the world to deliberate and discuss the B20 India Communique.
- The B20 India Communique includes 54 recommendations and 172 policy actions for submission to G20.
- The Business 20 (B20) is the official G20 dialogue forum with the global business community.
- Established in **2010**, B20 is among the most prominent Engagement Groups in G20, with companies and business organizations as participants.
- The B20 works to deliver concrete actionable policy recommendations to spur economic growth and development.
- The three day summit is being held from **25th to 27th August**.
- Its theme is R.A.I.S.E – Responsible, Accelerated, Innovative, Sustainable and Equitable Businesses.
- It is being attended by over 1,500 delegates from about 55 countries.
- **N Chandrasekaran**, chair, B20 India and Executive Chairman, Tata Sons

Explanation

- External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar also addressed at the session titled the 'Role of Global South in Emerging World 2.0', organised as part of the B20 Summit India, 2023 in the national capital

Who launched the portal to enhance public awareness about forest and wildlife sanctuary areas in Delhi?

A) Arvind Kejriwal
B) Gopal Rai
C) Manish Sisodia
D) Raghav Chadha
E) Satyendar Jain

Answer
B) Gopal Rai

Explanation

- **Delhi Environment and Forest Minister Gopal Rai** launched a **portal** to enhance public awareness about the forest and wildlife sanctuary areas that need protection.
- The portal, **evanlekh.eforest.delhi.gov.in**, introduces several features that empower citizens and streamline information dissemination.
- It utilises a geographic information system (GIS) platform to visualize data effectively, aiming to enhance the ease of doing business and living in Delhi.
- Also, users can generate KML files on the portal.
- It currently provides information on various aspects, including protected forest areas, reserve forest areas, morphological details, wildlife sanctuaries, buffer areas of wildlife sanctuaries, and administrative boundaries of the Department of Forest and Wildlife.
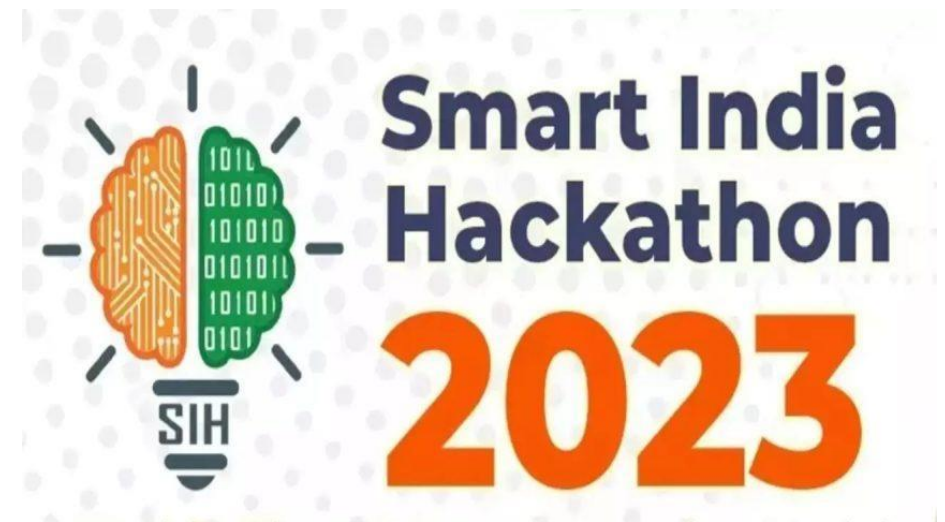
Explanation

- Looking ahead, the portal's future enhancements will include unclassified forest areas, areas with tree felling permissions, areas targeted for compensatory plantation and afforestation, plantation sites by greening agencies, locations requiring approvals for non-forestry activities, soil moisture conservation details, and Indian State of Forest Report-based green cover information.
- By making information accessible and transparent, the Delhi government's portal equips citizens to actively participate in environmental conservation efforts

What organizations are collaborating to organize the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2023, marking its sixth edition?

A) Ministry of Science and Technology, India
B) Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell and NITI Aayog
C) Ministry of Home Affairs and Indian Institutes of Management (IIMs)
D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare, India
E) Ministry of Finance and National Institute of Fashion Technology (NIFT)

Answer
B) Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell and NITI Aayog

NATIONAL AFFAIRS

Explanation

- The **Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell**, in collaboration with the **All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE),** announced the commencement of the **Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2023, marking its sixth edition.**
- **K. Sanjay Murthy (IAS),** Secretary of Higher Education, Prof. T.G. Sitharam, Chairman of AICTE, and Dr. Abhay Jere, Vice Chairman of AICTE, were among the dignitaries present at the beginning of this innovation-driven competition.
- Since its inception in **2017**, the Smart India Hackathon has achieved significant milestones.
- It has become a global model for hackathons and innovation frameworks, reflecting its dynamic evolution over time.
- The range of themes addressed by this hackathon showcases its diversity, covering fields from agriculture and healthcare technology to transportation and beyond.
- Smart India Hackathon is a collaborative effort between **the Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell and the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE).**

Explanation

- With an impressive collection of 239 problem statements, including 182 software challenges and 57 hardware challenges, SIH-2023 has garnered participation from 26 Central Ministries, 6 State Ministries, and 4 Industry partners. This demonstrates the true spirit of collaborative innovation embodied by SIH 2023.
- Building on the success of the SIH Junior Edition in 2022, the second edition of the Junior Hackathon 2023 has also been initiated.
- It aims to empower students from the 6th to 12th grade, providing them with the platform to showcase their innovative ideas across various themes.
- The themes of SIH 2023 encompass a broad spectrum of societal needs, including Agriculture, food and rural Development, Blockchain and cybersecurity, Clean and green Technology, Disaster Management, Fitness and sports, Heritage and culture, MedTech/BioTech/HealthTech, Renewable/Sustainable Energy, Robotics and Drones, Smart Automation, Smart Education, Smart Vehicles, Transportation & Logistics, Travel & Tourism, and Toy.

Titbits

AICTE
Abbreviation: The All India Council for Technical Education
Founded: November 1945
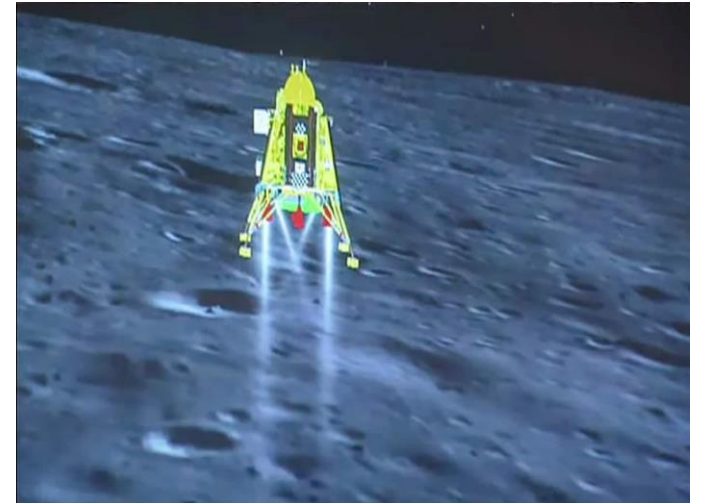Headquarters: New Delhi
Chairperson: Prof. T. G. Sitharam

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Why did Prime Minister Narendra Modi declare August 23 as the National Space Day?

A) To celebrate India's successful launch of a new satellite

B) To honor the anniversary of ISRO's establishment

C) To commemorate the landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the moon

D) To mark the launch of India's first manned space mission

E) To recognize the contributions of Indian astronauts to space exploration

Answer

C) To commemorate the landing of Chandrayaan-3 on the moon

Explanation

- Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared **August 23** as the **National Space Day** to commemorate the remarkable achievement of **Chandrayaan-3's landing on the moon.**
- PM Modi named the **landing spot of the Vikram lander as 'Shiv Shakti'.**
- He also christened **the location** where **Chandrayaan-2 had left its mark in 2019 as 'Tiranga Point'.**

What did C-DOT launch on its 40th Foundation Day to address cyber threats?

A) A new satellite communication system
B) A blockchain-based payment platform
C) An advanced radar system for weather prediction
D) TRINETRA, a cyber threat detection and resolution system
E) A high-speed railway technology innovation

Answer
D) TRINETRA, a cyber threat detection and resolution system

Explanation

- Union Minister of State for Communications **Devusinh Chauhan** launched the indigenously developed cyber threat detection and resolution system **TRINETRA, which has been developed by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT).**
- It was launched on the 40th Foundation Day of C-DOT
- TRINETRA is a combination of multiple Security systems like Security information and Event Management (SIEM), Security Orchestration and Automated Response (SOAR), Data Loss Prevention (DLP), User Entity and Behaviour Analytics (UEBA), Multi-Source Threat Intelligence and others.
- The solution provides 24x7 near real-time actionable cyber-security status and detection and resolution of cyber-threats (Virus, Malware, Ransomware, Spyware).
- It also performs security evaluation of organization's IT assets by protecting endpoints including PC, Laptop, Servers and VMs by detection, analyses and mitigation of vulnerabilities and giving AI enabled automated responses to the cyber threats ensuring protection of sensitive data.

Explanation

- The solution is capable of protecting critical digital infrastructure of various Government departments from ever-evolving cyber threat landscape.
- He also inaugurated **C-DOT's Enterprise Security Operation Centre (ESOC) at C-DOT campus in the national capital.**

Titbits

Centre for Development of Telematics(C-DOT)
Founded: August 1984
Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi
CEO: Dr. Rajkumar Upadhyay

QUICK RECALL

- Every year on August 26, the world observes Women's Equality Day & International Dog Day
- The visually challenged Indian women's cricket team scripted history winning a gold medal beating Australia by nine wickets at the IBSA World Games
- Indian badminton player HS Prannoy finished with a bronze medal in the men's singles at the BWF World Badminton Championships 2023 after losing his semi-final match in Copenhagen, Denmark
- IDFC First Bank has won the title sponsorship rights for all BCCI matches for domestic and international cricket for the next three years for ₹4.2 crore per match
- The country's largest lender State Bank of India (SBI) has introduced a facility to allow customers to enrol in social security schemes by just furnishing an Aadhaar card.
- Payments technology solutions provider Financial Software and Systems (FSS) Pvt Ltd has launched BLAZE, a future-ready payments technology platform solution to serve banks

- **Airtel Payments Bank, Frontier Markets and the Mastercard Center for Inclusive Growth have announced the launch of 'She Leads Bharat: Udyam', an initiative to elevate 1,00,000 women-owned small businesses with resources, tools and opportunities to grow and diversify their incomes.**
- **Foreign direct investment (FDI) into India declined 34 per cent to USD 10.94 billion during April-June period this fiscal year, according to government data.**
- **Zimbabwe's President Emmerson Mnangagwa was re-elected for a second and final term**
- **Indore has been adjudged the best Smart City while Madhya Pradesh has been chosen as the top State for exemplary performance in the Smart Cities Mission.**
- **SVAMITVA (Survey of Villages Abadi and Mapping with Improvised Technology in Village Areas) Scheme of Ministry of Panchayati Raj has been conferred with the prestigious National Award for e-Governance 2023 (Gold) for Application of Emerging Technologies for Providing Citizen Centric Services**
- **An international crew of four representing four countries is in orbit following a successful launch to the International Space Station at 3:27 EDT from Launch Complex 39A at NASA's Kennedy Space Centre in Florida**

QUICK RECALL

- The Indian Air Force (IAF) deployed five MiG-29 combat jets, six transport aircraft and a group of its special forces personnel at a 21-day multilateral war game in Egypt
- 5th edition of biennial AUSINDEX maritime exercise between Indian Navy and Royal Australian Navy (RAN) was conducted from 22-25 August 23 at Sydney, Australia.
- In order to enhance taxpayer experience and keep pace with new technology, the Income Tax Department has revamped its National website www.incometaxindia.gov.in with a user-friendly interface, value-added features, and new modules.
- The Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the B20 Summit India 2023 in New Delhi.
- Delhi Environment and Forest Minister Gopal Rai launched a portal to enhance public awareness about the forest and wildlife sanctuary areas that need protection.
- The Ministry of Education's Innovation Cell, in collaboration with the All India Council of Technical Education (AICTE), announced the commencement of the Smart India Hackathon (SIH) 2023, marking its sixth edition.

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi declared August 23 as the National Space Day to commemorate the remarkable achievement of Chandrayaan-3's landing on the moon.**
- **Union Minister of State for Communications Devusinh Chauhan launched the indigenously developed cyber threat detection and resolution system TRINETRA, which has been developed by the Centre for Development of Telematics (C-DOT).**

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