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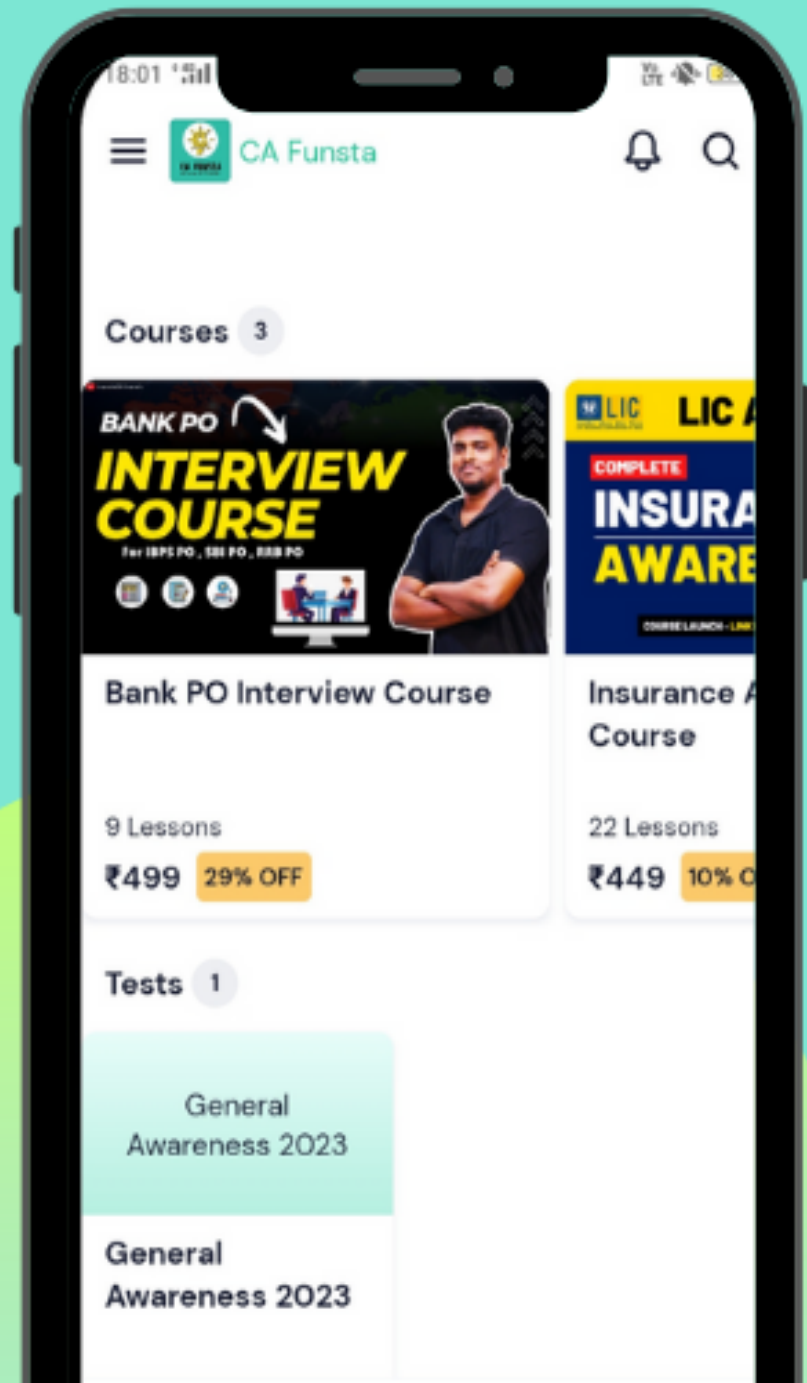
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# Important Days



**On which date is World Rhino Day celebrated every year?**

- A) October 22
- B) September 22
- C) August 22
- D) November 22
- E) July 22

**Answer**  
**B) September 22**



# Important Days



## Explanation

- Every year, **World Rhino Day** is celebrated on **September 22**.
- The crisis of rhinoceros started in Africa back in **1990**.
- By **2010**, it became a nationwide hazard, and people started to express their concerns over the crisis.
- The crisis situation was soon brought to notice as only 30000 rhinos were alive at that time throughout the planet.
- During that time, World Wildlife Fund - South Africa announced World Rhino Day to create awareness about the crisis and the importance of saving these animals.
- In **2011**, a woman called Lisa Jane Campbell wrote a mail to a fellow rhino lover, Rhishja stating the desire of seeing at least five species of rhinos thriving in the world
- Hence, World Rhino Day became a worldwide phenomenon and continues to be celebrated throughout the world on **September 22**.

# Important Days



## Day for the Welfare of Cancer Patients 2023

- **World Rose Day or Day for the Welfare of Cancer Patients** is observed annually on **September 22**.
- The history of World Rose Day is associated to a **12 year old cancer patient Melinda Rose from Canada**.
- Melinda Rose was diagnosed with Askin's Tumour, a rare form of blood cancer in the year **1994**.
- After her diagnosis, she was told by doctors that she could survive only a week but due to her courage, will power, and desire to live, Melinda Rose survived almost 6 months post-cancer diagnosis.
- During her cancer journey, Melinda Rose wrote poems, wishes, and messages for other cancer patients as a gesture of hope. Hence celebrating World Rose Day is a symbol of hope for all the cancer patients.



**Which bank has pioneered Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) using UPI on ATMs?**

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

**Answer**

**B) Utkarsh Small Finance Bank**



**Utkarsh Small Finance Bank**

## Explanation

- **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited** ("USFBL" or the "Bank"), announced the launch of an **innovative service, set to revolutionise cash withdrawal experiences**.
- Utkarsh Small Finance Bank is dedicated to offering process-centric, technology-driven, and customer-oriented services that lead to a reliable, scalable, and sustainable institution, driving socio-economic change.
- The Bank is pleased to announce the launch of **Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) service**, that utilises UPI (Unified Payments Interface) on its ATM networks.
- This is In line with the Reserve Bank of India's directive in May 2022, urging all banks to provide Interoperable Cardless Cash Withdrawal (ICCW) options at their ATMs, and Utkarsh Small Finance Bank has taken the lead in fulfilling this mandate.
- The ICCW service empowers bank customers who are active on UPI to conveniently withdraw cash from **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank ATMs** designated for UPI-ATM - ICCW transactions, all without the need for a physical debit card.

## Explanation

- Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited (USFBL), incorporated on **April 30, 2016**, is engaged in providing banking and financial services with a focus on providing microfinance to the underserved and unserved segments.
- The Bank commenced its operations on **January 23, 2017** pursuant to the small finance banking license granted by Reserve Bank of India on November 25, 2016.
- The Bank extends microfinance loans based on Joint Liability Group (JLG) model to individuals, other retail asset loans including Micro, Small and Medium Enterprise (MSME) Loans, Housing Loans (HL), Personal Loans, Commercial Vehicle Loans, Construction Equipment Loans and Wholesale Lending to borrowers.
- The Bank offers a slew of digital services such as internet and mobile banking, Digi On-Boarding, UPI and an online account opening facility for clients, besides a range of ATMs and Micro ATMs for ease of transactions, amongst others.
- The Bank is headquartered **at Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh**

## Titbits

### **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank**

Headquarters: Varanasi, Uttar Pradesh

MD & CEO: Mr. Govind Singh

Tagline: Apki Umeed Ka Khata

**What regulatory framework has the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) introduced for All India Financial Institutions?**

- A) Basel-II Capital Framework
- B) Basel-III Capital Framework
- C) Basel-IV Capital Framework
- D) RBI Capital Adequacy Guidelines
- E) Financial Institutions Capital Standard (FICS)

**Answer**

**B) Basel-III Capital Framework**

## Explanation

- The **RBI** has introduced norms on the **Basel III capital framework**, fund raising, exposure guidelines, and norms on classification and valuation of investment portfolios for All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs), which will come into effect from **April 2024**.
- India has five AIFIs regulated by the central bank, namely the **Export-Import Bank of India (EXIM Bank)**, the **National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (Nabard)**, the **National Bank for Financing Infrastructure and Development (NaBFID)**, the **National Housing Bank (NHB)**, and the **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**.
- AIFIs will be required to maintain a **minimum total capital of 9 per cent by April 2024**, wherein minimum tier-I capital will need to be at 7 per cent and common equity tier-I (CET-1) capital at 5.5 per cent. For NHB, the implementation date will be July 2024, given that its accounting year is July–June.
- All financial subsidiaries, except those engaged in insurance and non-financial activities (both regulated and unregulated), will need to be fully consolidated for the purpose of capital adequacy, the RBI said, adding that this will ensure an assessment of capital adequacy at the group level, taking into account the risk profile of assets and liabilities of the subsidiaries.

## Explanation

- The central bank has capped AIFIs' investments in capital instruments of banking, financial, and insurance entities at 10 per cent of their capital funds. AIFIs will not be allowed to acquire a fresh stake in a bank's or AIFI's equity shares if the acquisition leads to its holding exceeding 5 per cent of the investee's equity capital.
- Further, AIFIs' equity investment in a single entity cannot exceed 49 per cent of the equity of the investee. While AIFIs can hold this entire 49 per cent stake as a pledgee, if the acquisition is against AIFI's claims, the stake will need to be brought below 10 per cent within three years.

## Titbits

### RBI

Abbreviation: Reserve Bank of India

Act: Reserve Bank of India Act, 1934

Headquarters– Mumbai, Maharashtra

Governor– Shaktikanta Das

Deputy Governors– 4 (T Rabi Sankar, Swaminathan  
Janakiraman, Michael Debabrata Patra, M. Rajeshwar  
Rao)



**IT services major HCLTech has extended its partnership with which bank for a new digital transformation deal concerning workplace operations across 33 countries?**

- A) Deutsche Bank
- B) JPMorgan Chase & Co.
- C) Bank of America
- D) Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ)
- E) Barclays

**Answer**

**D) Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ)**



**HCLTech**  
Supercharging Progress™

## Explanation

- IT services major **HCLTech** has extended its decade-old partnership with **Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ)** with a new digital transformation deal for the bank's workplace operations across **33 countries**.
- HCLTech will provide ANZ with digital workplace services and experience management across end-user devices and applications, including laptops, mobile phones, and tablets. Financial details of the deal have not been disclosed.
- One of Australia's four largest banks and the largest banking group in New Zealand and the Pacific, ANZ Banking Group provides banking and financial products and services to over 8.5 million retail and business customers.
- It operates in more than 30 markets globally with representation in Australia, New Zealand, Asia, the Pacific, Europe, America, and the Middle East.

## Titbits

### **HCL Technologies Limited**

Headquarters: Noida, Uttar Pradesh

CEO: C Vijayakumar

### **Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited**

Headquarters: Melbourne, Australia

CEO: Shayne Elliott

# APPOINTMENTS



**Who has been appointed as the Vice-President (market solutions) of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) for a three-year term?**

- A) Bhargav Dasgupta
- B) Chetan Kumar
- C) Rajesh Sharma
- D) Meera Kapoor
- E) Amit Patel

**Answer**

**A) Bhargav Dasgupta**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- The **Asian Development Bank (ADB)** appointed **Bhargav Dasgupta**, MD and CEO of ICICI Lombard General Insurance, as **Vice-President (market solutions)** for a period of **three years**.
- He will be responsible for management of the operations of ADB's Private Sector Operations Department and Office of Markets Development and Public–Private Partnerships
- An alumnus of Indian Institute of Management Bangalore, Dasgupta replaces **Ashok Lavasa, former Finance Secretary and Election Commissioner of India**.
- Dasgupta, who tendered resignation from his position as managing director and CEO, has over 35 years of experience across a range of economies, including in Asia and the Pacific.
- He led ICICI's successful initial public offering, making it the first listed general insurance company in India
- In his earlier years at ICICI Bank, Dasgupta held various leadership positions in project finance, corporate banking and treasury, e-commerce, international banking, and insurance.

# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- He also led the establishment of international operations in 14 countries through branches, subsidiaries, or representative offices
- Established in 1966, ADB is owned by 68 members -- 49 from the region. It is committed to achieving a prosperous, inclusive, resilient, and sustainable Asia and the Pacific, while sustaining its efforts to eradicate extreme poverty.

# APPOINTMENTS



## Titbits

### **Asian Development Bank**

Member Countries: 68

Founded Year : 1966

Headquarters: Manila, Philippines

Head : Masatsugu Asakawa

# APPOINTMENTS



**Who recently assumed the position of Whole-Time Member at the Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in Mumbai?**

- A) Kamlesh Chandra Varshney
- B) Ramesh Kumar Sharma
- C) Meena Patel
- D) Sanjay Gupta
- E) Neha Sinha

**Answer**

**A) Kamlesh Chandra Varshney**





# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- **Kamlesh Chandra Varshney** has taken charge as **Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in Mumbai** effective September 20
- Prior to this assignment he was Joint Secretary (Tax Policy and Legislation) in the Department of Revenue, Government of India.
- Mr. Varshney will handle various departments like Market Intermediaries Regulation and Supervision Department, Legal Affairs Department-LAD1, Integrated Surveillance Department, Information Technology Department, Recovery & Refund Department and Special Enforcement Cell.

# APPOINTMENTS



## Titbits

### SEBI

Abbreviation: Securities and Exchange Board of India

Establishment : 1992

Headquarters : Mumbai, Maharashtra

Chairman :Madhabi Puri Buch

# SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



**Which organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to contribute towards improving food security, nutrition, climate resilience, and livelihoods?**

- A) United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) and Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- B) United Nations World Food Programme (UN WFP) and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay)
- C) World Health Organization (WHO) and Amazon
- D) World Bank and Google
- E) United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and Infosys



**Answer**

**B) United Nations World Food Programme (UN WFP) and Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay)**

## Explanation

- **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP)** and the **Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay** have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for contributing towards improving food security, nutrition, climate resilience and livelihoods. WFP and IIT will work together to establish a comprehensive knowledge management system.
- It will involve identifying and analysing relevant data, research and evidence generation related to food and nutrition security.
- This partnership will also focus on ecosystem development for technology and innovations to bolster government food safety net programs

## Titbits

### UNWEP

Abbreviation: United Nations World Food Programme

Founded: 1961

Headquarters: Rome, Italy

Head: Cindy McCain

# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



**Which four countries recently launched the I2U2 website and a private enterprise partnership during the sidelines of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)?**

- A) India, China, Russia, and France
- B) India, US, Canada, and Mexico
- C) India, US, Israel, and UAE
- D) India, UK, Germany, and Australia
- E) India, Japan, South Korea, and Singapore

**Answer**

**C) India, US, Israel, and UAE**



## Explanation

- The **I2U2 Group**, consisting of **India, the US, Israel, and the UAE**, has launched a **Private Enterprise Partnership** to increase awareness of its initiative in business communities and support projects that further its goals.
- The four-nation grouping also launched its **website** to enhance cooperation between the member countries and partnerships across the globe.
- The launch announcement was made during the I2U2 Sherpas meeting in New York on the sidelines of the 78th session of the United Nations General Assembly by India's Ministry of External Affairs Secretary (Economic Relations), Dammu Ravi, Israel's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Director-General Ronen Levi, UAE's Ministry of Foreign Affairs Minister Ahmed Ali Al Sayegh, and US Department of State Under Secretary Jose W. Fernandez.
- The I2U2 Private Enterprise Partnership was signed between the US Department of State and the US-UAE Business Council, the UAE-Israel Business Council, and the UAE-India Business Council.

## Explanation

- The public-private partnership aims to draw greater awareness to the potential of the I2U2 Initiative, particularly in the seven key sectors, namely water, energy, transportation, technology, space, health, and food security, according to the Memorandum of Understanding.
- It also aims to mobilise the private sectors within the I2U2 countries to identify, explore, and participate in specific projects that further the goals of this initiative.
- It Established **in 2022**



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### **United States of America(USA)**

Capital : Washington D.C

Currency :US Dollar

President: Joe Biden

### **Israel**

Capital : Jerusalem

Currency : Israeli new shekel

President: Isaac Herzog

Prime Minister: Benjamin Netanyahu

### **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

# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



**In which region did the Indian Navy's INS Sahyadri participate in a trilateral Maritime Partnership Exercise with the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and Indonesian Navy?**

- A) Arctic Ocean
- B) Indo-Pacific
- C) North Atlantic Ocean
- D) Mediterranean Sea
- E) South China Sea

**Answer**  
**B) Indo-Pacific**



## Explanation

- **Indian Navy's indigenously built warship INS Sahyadri**, mission deployed in Indo-Pacific, participated in the **maiden trilateral Maritime Partnership Exercise** with the ships and aircraft from the **Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and Indonesian Navy** from 20 - 21 Sep 2023.
- The trilateral exercise provided an opportunity for the three maritime nations to strengthen their partnership and improve their collective capability to support a stable, peaceful and secure Indo-Pacific region.
- The exercise also provided the opportunity for the participating navies to benefit from each other's experience and expertise. Complex tactical and manoeuvring exercises, cross-deck visits and cross-deck landings of integral helicopters were conducted for training of crew and enhancement of interoperability.
- **INS Sahyadri**, the third ship of the indigenously designed and built Project-17 class multirole stealth frigates was built at **Mazagon Dock Ltd**, Mumbai and is commanded by Capt Rajan Kapoor.

# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## **Titbits**

### **Indonesia**

Capital : Nusantara

Currency : Rupiah

President: Joko Widodo

### **Australia**

capital: Canberra

Currency : Australian Dollar

Prime Minister: Anthony Albanese

**What has ONDC recently launched for consumers and businesses?**

- A) ONDC Network Gift Card
- B) ONDC Payment App
- C) ONDC Online Marketplace
- D) ONDC Loyalty Program
- E) ONDC Digital Coupons

**Answer**

**A) ONDC Network Gift Card**



## Explanation

- The **Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC)** announced the launch of the “**ONDC Network Gift Card.**”
- This network-level gift card is set to empower companies for corporate gifting and employee engagement as well as for consumers to be able to shop across thousands of sellers on the network, using any ONDC-enabled buyer applications.
- Unlike traditional gift cards tied to a specific brand or platform, the ONDC Network Gift Card gives consumers the freedom to choose from a vast array of products and brands, spanning categories such as food, fashion, electronics, home and kitchen essentials
- This will include handcrafted Kanchipuram silk sarees, blue pottery, Tanjore paintings, Brassware, and Kalimpong filter coffee.
- The ONDC Network Gift Cards can be loaded with a maximum amount of **₹10,000 and are powered by Rupay Network.**

## Explanation

- Several banks and fintech companies holding RBI-assigned pre-paid licences are set to offer these gift cards.
- **Yes Bank and OmniCard** have already gone live as the first two issuers. Sponsors can directly engage with them to issue the cards.

## Titbits

### **Open Network for Digital Commerce(ONDC)**

Founded: 31 December 2022

CEO: Thampy Koshy

Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi



**What was the purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between the Indian Navy (IN) and the Indian Institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru?**

- A) Joint military exercises
- B) Technical collaboration and joint research & development
- C) Cultural exchange programs
- D) Educational scholarships for navy personnel
- E) Infrastructure development for naval bases

**Answer**

**B) Technical collaboration and joint research & development**



## Explanation

- A Memorandum of Understanding between **Indian Navy (IN) and Indian institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru** was signed at New Delhi for **technical collaboration and joint research & development**.
- The MoU is aimed to promote academic cooperation in the varied field on Engineering, enhance scientific understanding of technologies related to defence sector and undertake new development.
- IN and IISc share common interest in academic exchange of scientific research activities in the field of Engineering related to defence technologies.
- The MoU would serve to provide a broader frame work and enable both sides to enhance capacity building, solution to field level issues, expanding of equipment vendor base and effective training through exchange of faculty/ guest lectures
- IN in collaboration with IISc has undertaken development of future-ready Transcritical carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>) based AC plant working on natural refrigerant.

## Explanation

- The MoU was signed by Rear Admiral K Srinivas, Asst Chief of Materiel (Dockyard & Refit) on behalf of the Navy and Captain Shridhar Warriar (Retd), Registrar IISc and Prof B Gurumoorthy, Director FSID Bengaluru.

## Titbits

### **The Indian Navy**

Founded: 26 January 1950

Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi

Chief of the Naval Staff (CNS): Admiral R. Hari Kumar

Vice Chief of the Naval Staff (VCNS): Vice Admiral  
Sanjay Jasjit Singh

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Where is the 14th edition of the Global Skills Summit taking place?

- A) New York
- B) Delhi
- C) London
- D) Dubai
- E) Tokyo

**Answer**  
**B) Delhi**



## Explanation

- The **14th edition of the Global Skills Summit** has begun in **Delhi**.
- The theme of the two-day Summit is **building skills, empowering youth, and creating a future**.
- The Summit aims to focus on creating a road map for a high-quality industry-led skilling ecosystem in India.
- The Summit will see future-forward discussions and deliberations on the ways to make the youth of India skilled for the industry and navigate the skilling and education ecosystem in India.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



**The National Medical Commission (NMC) has achieved prestigious recognition status from WFME (World Federation for Medical Education) for how many years?**

- A) 3 years
- B) 5 years
- C) 7 years
- D) 10 years
- E) 15 years

**Answer**  
**D) 10 years**



सत्यमेव जयते

राष्ट्रीय आयुर्विज्ञान आयोग

National Medical  
Commission

## Explanation

- The **National Medical Commission (NMC), India** has achieved the remarkable feat of being granted the coveted **World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) Recognition Status for a remarkable tenure of 10 years.**
- This recognition is a testament to NMC's unwavering commitment to the highest standards in medical education and accreditation.
- As part of this recognition, all the 706 existing medical colleges in India will become WFME accredited and the new medical colleges that will be set up in the coming 10 years will automatically become WFME accredited.
- The recognition will further enhance the quality and standards of medical education in India by aligning them with the global best practices and benchmarks.
- It will also enable Indian medical graduates to pursue postgraduate training and practice in other countries that require WFME recognition, such as the United States, Canada, Australia, and New Zealand.



## Explanation

- The **World Federation for Medical Education (WFME)** is a global organization dedicated to enhancing the quality of medical education worldwide. WFME's accreditation program plays a pivotal role in ensuring that medical institutes meet and uphold the highest international standards of education and training.
- The **National Medical Commission (NMC)** is India's premier regulatory body overseeing medical education and practice. Committed to upholding the highest standards in healthcare education, N M C ensures the delivery of quality medical education and training across the nation.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### **National Medical Commission(NMC)**

Chairperson: Dr. Suresh Chandra Sharma

Founded: 25 September 2020

Headquarters: New Delhi, Delhi, India

**What recent achievement did the Indian Air Force announce regarding a testing operation involving cargo aircraft?**

- A) Successful air-to-air refueling
- B) Record-breaking speed flight
- C) Advanced radar system deployment
- D) Successful testing of the 'Type V Heavy Drop System'
- E) Development of a new fighter jet

**Answer**

**D) Successful testing of the 'Type V Heavy Drop System'**



## Explanation

- **Indian Air Force** successfully tests '**Type V Heavy Drop System**' from cargo aircraft
- The Type V Heavy Drop System would help with the transportation and dropping of arms, equipment and ammunition, weighing up to 20 tons, with the help of a parachute.
- the Type V Heavy Drop System has been designed and developed at **the Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment, Agra (DRDO)**.
- The testing was jointly completed by the Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment, Indian Armed Forces and Airbornics Defence and Space Pvt. Ltd. (Defence Division of JCBL).
- The Type V Heavy Drop System can be used **for C-17, C-130 and other C-series aircraft**.
- It has a platform and a special multistage parachute system and consists of eight main canopies - three extractor parachutes, one drogue parachute and electrical, electronic, mechanical systems, along with other latching accessories.
- The platform of the heavy drop system is made up of special aluminum metal.

## Titbits

### **The Indian Air Force**

Founded: 8 October 1932

Headquarters: New Delhi

Commander-in-Chief: President Droupadi Murmu

Chief of the Air Staff (CAS): Air Chief Marshal Vivek  
Ram Chaudhari

Vice Chief of the Air Staff (VCAS) : Air Marshal  
Ashutosh Dixit

### **Aerial Delivery Research and Development Establishment (ADRDE)**

Founded: January 1969

Headquarters: Agra, Uttar Pradesh

Director: Dr Manoj Kumar

**Which state government has collaborated with SIDBI to launch a Rs 100 crore startup fund?**

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Karnataka
- C) Odisha
- D) Gujarat
- E) Tamil Nadu

**Answer**  
**C) Odisha**



## Explanation

- The **Startup Odisha programme** by the MSME Department of the Odisha government launched a **Rs 100 crore Odisha Startup Growth Fund (Fund of Funds)** in collaboration with **Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI)**.
- The state government would replenish the fund once the **Rs 100 crore corpus is allocated**.
- SIDBI will serve as the fund manager for the new fund and will be responsible for framing the investment strategy and managing the fund's portfolio.
- The fund will invest in startups of Odisha over five years through Alternative Investment Funds (AIFs).
- Launched in **2016**, Startup Odisha is an initiative of the Odisha government to support 5,000 startups in the state by 2025. Odisha currently has over 1,700 startups, including more than 600 women-led enterprises.

## Explanation

- Odisha Startup Growth Fund (OSGF) operates a Fund-of-Funds vehicle to invest in state startups through a centralized tracking and implementation mechanism. The nature of the investments from the fund will be based on equity and quasi-equity
- Earlier this year, the **Odisha MSME Department** had introduced the **AIM 2.0 online portal** to facilitate faster and more transparent administration of incentives under various industrial promotion policies for MSME units operating within the state.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### **SIDBI**

Abbreviation: Small Industries Development Bank of  
India

Establishment – 2nd April 1990

Headquarters – Lucknow, Uttar Pradesh

Chairman & Managing Director – Sivasubramanian  
Ramann

**Which organizations have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for the development of a hydrogen fuel cell ferry?**

- A) Indian Railways and Hyundai
- B) SpaceX and NASA
- C) GRSE and Lloyd's Register
- D) Apple and Tesla
- E) United Nations and World Health Organization

**Answer**

**C) GRSE and Lloyd's Register**



## Explanation

- The **Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE)**, a public undertaking under the Union Ministry of Defence, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with **Lloyd's Register** – a company that works towards finding sustainable solutions to maritime transportation – for developing a hydrogen fuel cell ferry.
- The public sector unit, at present, is working on a zero-emission passenger ferry, a prototype for future green vessels intended for use in the Hooghly River.
- Besides the agreement with Lloyd's Register, GRSE has also signed another MoU for collaboration in the **production, sale, and service of marine engines for the Indian Coast Guard and Indian Navy.**
- The MoUs got through at the recently held Defence and Security Equipment International (DSEI) Exhibition in London.
- The exhibition is a significant global event for armed forces, and equipment manufacturers, globally.

## Explanation

- Besides GRSE, Munitions India Ltd, Advanced Weapons & Equipment India Ltd, Yantra India Ltd (YIL), and Bharat Dynamics Ltd, are the other public undertakings that showcased their technical expertise, and capabilities, at the event.
- The India pavilion at the exhibition was visited by James Cartlidge, the UK's minister of state for defence procurement, and D Johnson, the UK's minister of state for investment, an official note stated.
- GRSE, a Kolkata-based public firm, is among India's premier defence shipyards and has delivered 108 warships, including two that were exported. The rest caters to the Indian Navy and Indian Coast Guard.
- The company, which is also into the development of modular steel bridges, deck machinery, and marine diesel engines, is building 19 warships for the Indian Navy. These warships include three advanced guided missile frigates.

## Titbits

### **Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers Ltd(GRSE)**

Founded: 1884

Headquarters: Kolkata, West Bengal

CMD: Cmde PR Hari, IN (Retd.)

### **Lloyd's Register Group Limited**

Headquarters: London, United Kingdom

CEO: Nick Brown

**What initiative has the Uttar Pradesh Government launched for newborns at health facilities?**

- A) Free vaccinations for newborns
- B) Instant birth certificates
- C) Maternity care programs
- D) Educational programs for parents
- E) Nutrition support for infants

**Answer**

**B) Instant birth certificates**

## Explanation

- Newborns in government health facilities across **Uttar Pradesh** will now receive **birth registration certificates immediately after delivery, eliminating the need for parents to apply separately.**
- This significant development comes as the **Uttar Pradesh government integrates its Maa Navjaat Tracking app (MaNTrA)** with the birth registration system, harnessing digital technology to enhance citizen convenience.
- Collaborating with the Directorate of Census Operations, Lucknow, the Uttar Pradesh National Health Mission (NHM-UP), UNICEF, and the Office of the Registrar General of India, Delhi, the state government aims to streamline the process of issuing birth certificates.
- Partha Sarthi Sensharma, the principal secretary in the Medical Health and Family Welfare Department of Uttar Pradesh, emphasized the significance of this initiative
- Uttar Pradesh takes pride in becoming the pioneering state to implement automatic birth registration for government health institutions, verified through the CRS portal.

## Explanation

- Sensharma elaborated on the procedure, detailing how the Civil Registration System (Office of Registrar General, India) application programming interface extracts data from the MaNTrA app, managed by **NHM-UP**.
- This data is then used to create a digital birth certificate, which is digitally signed by the hospital registrar and promptly handed over to the newborn's parents. Sensharma disclosed that the API is now operational in all government health institutions acting as Registrars up to the primary healthcare level, with a total of approximately 2,500 birth certificates already issued.
- This initiative has commenced in approximately 1,000 public health facilities, with plans to expand it to every government facility.
- The objective is to ensure that automatic birth registration certificates are issued on the spot in every case.
- The MaNTrA app, originally developed in **Uttar Pradesh with UNICEF's support, monitors the quality of services in labor rooms and has been successfully deployed across the state's public health facilities.**



## Explanation

- The seamless integration of the MaNTrA app with the birth registration system marks a significant step towards enhancing the ease of living for citizens by leveraging digital technology architecture.
- Sensharma emphasized the state government's commitment to using cutting-edge technology to simplify citizens' lives and expressed optimism about the ongoing efforts in this direction.
- Notably, last month, the Maa Navjaat Tracking Application (MaNTrA) for Delivery Point Health Facilities, under the National Health Mission, Government of Uttar Pradesh, received the Silver Award in the "Government Process Re-engineering for Digital Transformation" category of the National Awards for e-Governance Scheme 2023.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Uttar Pradesh

Capital : Lucknow

CM : Yogi Adityanath

Governor : Anandiben Patel

**Who launched the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) in the Vidhan Sabha?**

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B) Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann
- C) President Ram Nath Kovind
- D) Chief Minister Arvind Kejriwal
- E) Speaker of the Vidhan Sabha

**Answer**

**B) Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann**

## Explanation

- **Punjab assembly proceedings** will go paperless now as **Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann** launched the **National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) in Vidhan Sabha**
- The digitisation of Vidhan Sabha will act as a cornerstone for enhancing the efficiency of MLAs
- A two-day National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) conference-cum-workshop was organised on this occasion.
- Under the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) project, it will be easier to trace decisions and documents, and also share information.
- The new system will end the obsolete paper system resulting in saving trees
- Meanwhile, the Chief Minister also inaugurated **Vidhan Sabha Digital Wing** apart from unveiling Vidhan Sabha website and NEVA Brochure, besides the inauguration of NEVA workshop.
- Mann also launched his WhatsApp channel to get connected with the people of the state directly and “make them equal partners in the socio-economic growth of the state”.

# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Punjab

Capital : Chandigarh

Chief Minister: Bhagwant Mann

Governor : Banwarilal Purohit

**The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD) partnered with which organization to empower 3000 Persons with Disabilities (PwDs)?**

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) National Skill Development Corporation (NSDC)
- C) Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII) Ahmedabad
- D) Ministry of Social Justice and Empowerment
- E) National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)

**Answer**

**E) National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS)**

## Explanation

- The **Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII)**, in collaboration with the **Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India**, organized a Roundtable Meet for Corporate to '**Support, Activate and Build Assured Livelihoods (SABAL) for Persons with Disabilities under CSR Actions**'.
- Shri Rajesh Aggarwal, IAS Secretary – DEPwD, Dr. Sunil Shukla, Director General, EDII, Dr. Raman Gujral, Director, Department of Projects (Corporate) at EDII, senior officials from DEPwD as well as National Institutions under DEPwD and CSR leaders from leading corporate entities including PNB, XIAOMI, NHPC, Delhi Metro, BHEL etc attended this ground breaking Meet.
- The 'Meet' took up the agenda of sensitizing society at large and instituting interventions and measures that ensure establishment of 3000 new enterprises by Persons with Disabilities (PwDs), including 1500 technology driven and 1500 general enterprises

## Explanation

- Based on the tangible discussions and takeaways, the participating Corporate identified some primary areas of cooperation. Some of the activities identified to achieve the goal of creating 3000 PwD led enterprises included: Awareness Campaign to Ensure Community Integration of PwDs; Immersive Life Skills for Adolescents with Disabilities; Sourcing Business Opportunities for PwDs; Sensitization workshops for PwDs; Credit Linkage Support; Entrepreneur Growth-cum-Counselling Programme (EGCP) to Support PwD-led Enterprises and Micro Skill entrepreneurship Development Programme (MSDP) to enable unemployed PwDs to set up their business



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### **Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India(EDII)**

Headquarters:Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Founded: 1983

Director General: Dr. Sunil Shukla

# QUICK RECALL



- **Every year, World Rhino Day is celebrated on September 22. World Rose Day or Day for the Welfare of Cancer Patients is observed annually on September 22**
- **Utkarsh Small Finance Bank Limited ("USFBL" or the "Bank"), announced the launch of an innovative service, set to revolutionise cash withdrawal experiences.**
- **The RBI has introduced norms on the Basel III capital framework, fund raising, exposure guidelines, and norms on classification and valuation of investment portfolios for All India Financial Institutions (AIFIs), which will come into effect from April 2024.**
- **IT services major HCLTech has extended its decade-old partnership with Australia and New Zealand Banking Group Limited (ANZ) with a new digital transformation deal for the bank's workplace operations across 33 countries.**
- **The Asian Development Bank (ADB) appointed Bhargav Dasgupta, MD and CEO of ICICI Lombard General Insurance, as Vice-President (market solutions) for a period of three years.**
- **Kamlesh Chandra Varshney has taken charge as Whole Time Member, Securities and Exchange Board of India (SEBI) in Mumbai effective September 20**
- **United Nations World Food Programme (WFP) and the Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay have signed a Memorandum of Understanding(MoU) for contributing towards improving food security, nutrition, climate resilience and livelihoods. WFP and IIT will work together to establish a comprehensive knowledge management system.**

# QUICK RECALL



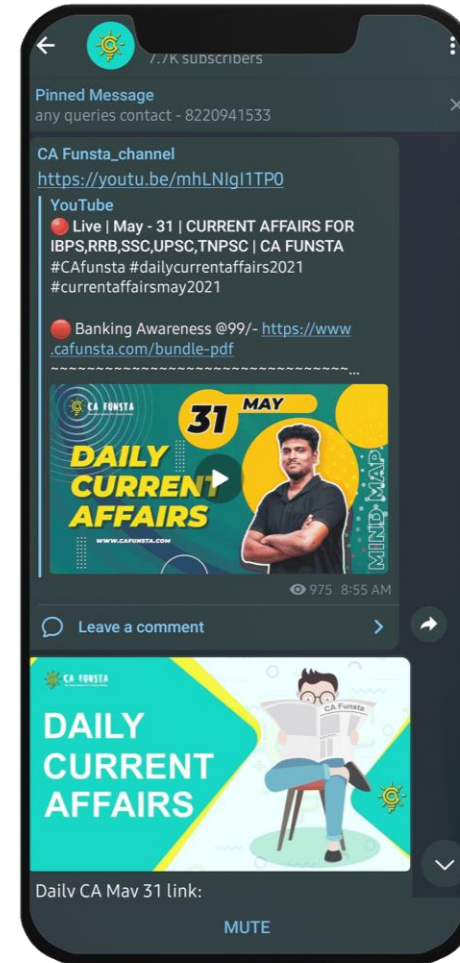
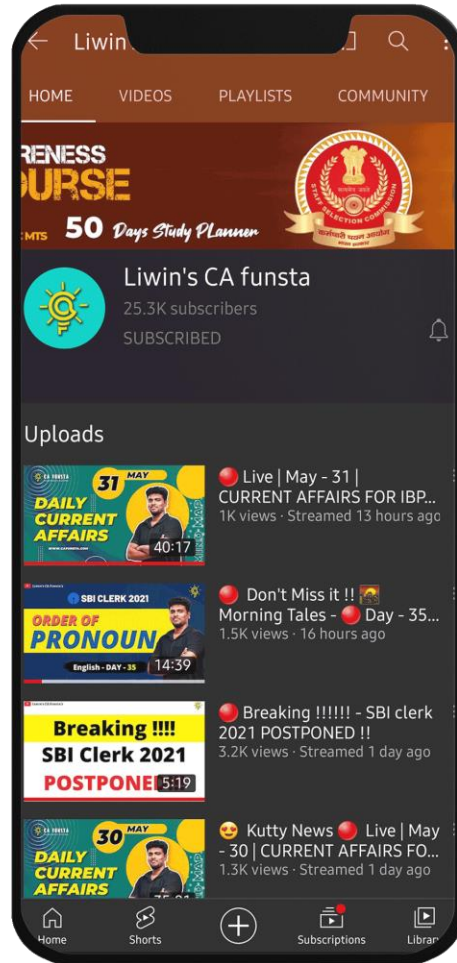
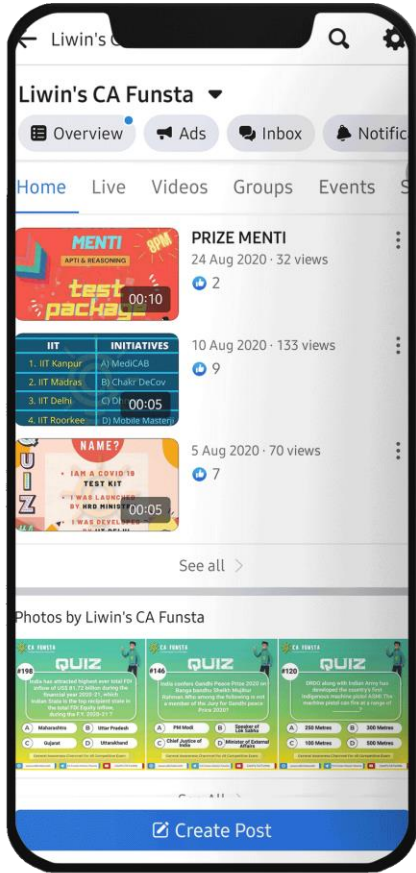
- **The I2U2 Group, consisting of India, the US, Israel, and the UAE, has launched a Private Enterprise Partnership to increase awareness of its initiative in business communities and support projects that further its goals.**
- **Indian Navy's indigenously built warship INS Sahyadri, mission deployed in Indo-Pacific, participated in the maiden trilateral Maritime Partnership Exercise with the ships and aircraft from the Royal Australian Navy (RAN) and Indonesian Navy from 20 - 21 Sep 2023.**
- **The Open Network for Digital Commerce (ONDC) announced the launch of the “ONDC Network Gift Card.”**
- **A Memorandum of Understanding between Indian Navy (IN) and Indian institute of Science (IISc), Bengaluru was signed at New Delhi for technical collaboration and joint research & development.**
- **The 14th edition of the Global Skills Summit has begun in Delhi.**
- **The National Medical Commission (NMC), India has achieved the remarkable feat of being granted the coveted World Federation for Medical Education (WFME) Recognition Status for a remarkable tenure of 10 years.**
- **Indian Air Force successfully tests 'Type V Heavy Drop System' from cargo aircraft**
- **The Startup Odisha programme by the MSME Department of the Odisha government launched a Rs 100 crore Odisha Startup Growth Fund (Fund of Funds) in collaboration with Small Industries Development Bank of India (SIDBI).**

# QUICK RECALL



- **The Garden Reach Shipbuilders and Engineers Limited (GRSE), a public undertaking under the Union Ministry of Defence, has signed a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with Lloyd's Register – a company that works towards finding sustainable solutions to maritime transportation – for developing a hydrogen fuel cell ferry.**
- **Newborns in government health facilities across Uttar Pradesh will now receive birth registration certificates immediately after delivery, eliminating the need for parents to apply separately.**
- **Punjab assembly proceedings will go paperless now as Chief Minister Bhagwant Singh Mann launched the National e-Vidhan Application (NeVA) in Vidhan Sabha**
- **The Entrepreneurship Development Institute of India (EDII), in collaboration with the Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (DEPwD), Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Government of India, organized a Roundtable Meet for Corporate to 'Support, Activate and Build Assured Livelihoods (SABAL) for Persons with Disabilities under CSR Actions'.**

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