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NOVEMBER 01

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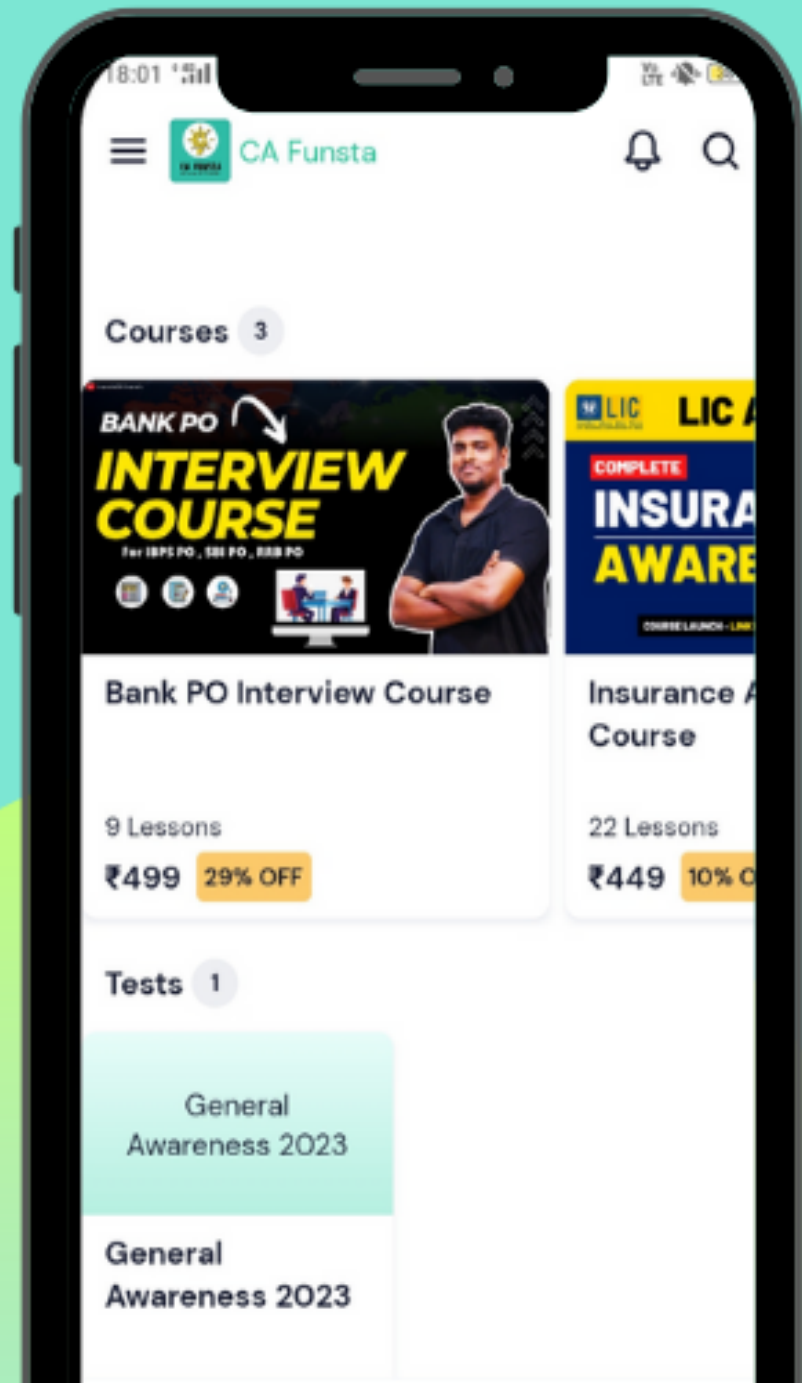
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Important Days



When is World Vegan Day celebrated?

- A) November 1
- B) December 25
- C) October 31
- D) February 14
- E) July 4

Answer

A) November 1



Important Days



Explanation

- **World Vegan Day** is celebrated annually on **November 1**.
- This year, the theme of 'World Vegan Day' is "**Celebrating for a Good Cause**"
- World Vegan Day began on November 1, 1994, when 'The Vegan Society' was founded to encourage veganism and a plant-based diet by a vegan animal rights activist Louise Wallis when she was searching for a fitting venue to commemorate the 50th anniversary of the Vegan Society, according to vegan-day.org.
- As President of the Vegan Society, she sought to highlight not only the survival of a vegan organization but also the introduction of the word "vegan" into the English language

Important Days



Explanation

EPFO celebrates 71st Foundation Day

- **Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav** inaugurated the **71st Foundation Day of EPFO held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on November 1** through virtual mode
- This occasion the Minister of State Shri Rameshwar Teli inaugurated an exhibition named “Amrit Kaal – Behtar Kal”, displaying the 71 years of EPFO history including chatbot and revamped MIS 3.0.
- A documentary film on journey of 71 years of the organization titled Achievements of EPFO was also played on the occasion highlighting the organization’s achievements over the seven decades
- Marking this event, the Minister of State unveiled the second edition of State Profile Booklet 2023, Establishment e-Report and Compendium of 50 Landmark Judgments and manual on Communication Framework Document, Audit Manual, Recovery Manual and Exemption Manual.



Important Days



Explanation

EPFO celebrates 71st Foundation Day

- The function also marked the **distribution of awards to various offices and establishments:** -
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Regional Office (Large) - RO COIMBATORE
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Regional Office (Small) - RO Rajahmahendravaram
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best District Office - DO ALIGARH
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Remote Office - RO GUWAHATI
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Zonal Office- ZO HUBLI (KARNATAKA- GOA)
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Office in Grievance Management - RO AHMEDABAD
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Office in Pro-Active Settlement - RO KOLLAM
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Performance in Jeevan Pramaan - RO VATWA
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best NAN 2.0 Campaign - RO JAMMU
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Swachhata Award 2023 - RO BHOPAL
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Innovation - RO NOIDA
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Tech Intervention - Technical Team of NDC
 - Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 in for Best Achievement in Capacity Building – PDNASS Induction Training Team

Important Days



Explanation

EPFO celebrates 71st Foundation Day

- Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Best Exempted Trust - M/s ZENSAR TECH LTD (PUPUN000398)
- Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Outstanding Sports Achievements - ZO Chennai & Puducherry
- Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Sportsperson of the Year – Female - Ms. Radhika Gupta, SSSA, RO Kandivali East
- Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Sportsperson of the Year – Male - Shri Clement Augustine, SSSA, RO Kottayam
- Bhavishya Nidhi Award 2023 for Sportsperson of the Year – Male - Shri P. Shiva Kumar, SSSA, RO Chennai North

Important Days



Explanation

Formation Day

- Nov 1 marks the formation day for eight Indian states - Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Tamil Nadu.

Eight Indian states celebrate their birthdays on Nov 1

- Several Indian states were formed on Nov 1 in different years after India became independent of the British Empire in 1947 and became a republic in 1950.

Andhra Pradesh

- Andhra Pradesh was formed on 1 Nov 1956 after it was bifurcated from United Andhra Pradesh. United Andhra Pradesh was a former state in India which was made up of three distinct cultural regions - Telangana, Rayalaseema and Coastal Andhra. However, the state took its present form on 2 June 2014 when the new state of Telangana was formed through bifurcation.

Chhattisgarh

- Chhattisgarh was formed as a state on 1 Nov 2000. It was formerly a part of Madhya Pradesh and was granted statehood in 2000 with Raipur as the designated state capital.

Important Days



Explanation

Haryana

- Haryana was formed as a state on 1 Nov 1966 after it was carved out of the former state of East Punjab on a linguistic basis.

Karnataka

- Karnataka's formation day is also known as Karnataka Rajyotsava. The state came into existence on 1 Nov 1956 as Mysore state, which was later renamed Karnataka in 1973.

Kerala

- Kerala's formation day is known as Kerala Piravi. The state was formed on 1 Nov 1956 following the passage of the States Reorganisation Act.

Madhya Pradesh

- Madhya Pradesh state was formed on 1 Nov 1956 following the reorganisation of the states. It was formed by merging the erstwhile Central Provinces CP & Berar, Madhya Bharat, Vindhya Pradesh and Bhopal.

Important Days



Explanation

Punjab

- Punjab Day is also celebrated across the state on November 1 marking the formation of the state under the Punjab Reorganisation Act (1966).

Tamil Nadu

- Tamil Nadu Day, also referred to as Tamil Nadu Dhiman, is the formation day of Tamil Nadu state. It was created on 1 Nov 1956 with the name Madras State. It was renamed later to Tamil Nadu in July 1967.

SPORTS



Which country is set to host the 2034 FIFA World Cup?

- A) Saudi Arabia
- B) Brazil
- C) Germany
- D) United States
- E) Russia

Answer
A) Saudi Arabia



Explanation

- **Saudi Arabia** was the only football association to present a bid to host the **2034 FIFA World Cup** before the deadline closed
- **FIFA** also confirmed that the sole confirmation of interest in hosting the **2030 World Cup came from Morocco, Portugal, and Spain with Uruguay, Argentina, and Paraguay hosting celebratory games.**
- **Saudi Arabia** will also host the **men's Asian Cup in 2027**

SPORTS



Titbits

The Fédération internationale de football association(FIFA)

Headquarters: Zürich, Switzerland

Founded: 21 May 1904

President: Gianni Infantino

Which bank has announced the launch of Electronic Bank Guarantee (E-BG) services for its corporate clients, including MSMEs?

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



Answer

D) HSBC India

Explanation

- **HSBC India** has announced the launch of **Electronic Bank Guarantee (E-BG) services for its corporate clients (including MSMEs)**.
- It is the first foreign bank in India to offer this facility.
- This facility, offered in association with National E-Governance Services Ltd (NeSL) is a digital solution designed to replace the conventional paper-based bank guarantee
- The E-BG is a further step towards digitization of trade and simplifies guarantee issuance process through the introduction of E-stamping and E-signing

BANKING AND FINANCE



Titbits

HSBC India

Headquarters: Mumbai, Maharashtra

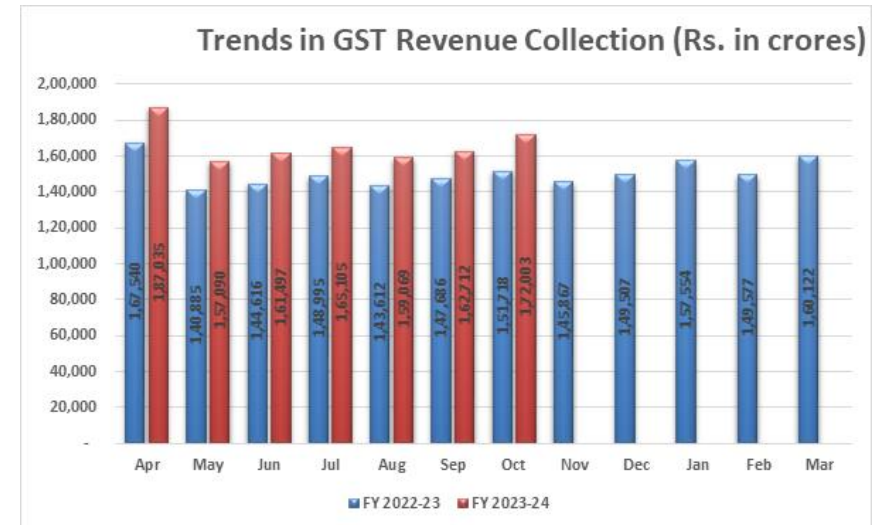
CEO: Hitendra Dave

What was the total GST collections in October?

- A) Rs 1.72 lakh crore
- B) Rs 1.50 lakh crore
- C) Rs 2.00 lakh crore
- D) Rs 1.25 lakh crore
- E) Rs 1.90 lakh crore

Answer

A) Rs 1.72 lakh crore



Explanation

- The gross GST revenue collected in the month of **October, 2023** is **₹ 1,72,003 crore** out of which **₹ 30,062 crore** is CGST, ₹ 38,171 crore is SGST, ₹ 91,315 crore (including ₹ 42,127 crore collected on import of goods) is IGST and ₹ 12,456 crore (including ₹ 1,294 crore collected on import of goods) is cess.
- The government has settled ₹ 42,873 crore to CGST and ₹ 36,614 crore to SGST from IGST. The total revenue of Centre and the States in the month of October, 2023 after regular settlement is ₹72,934 crore for CGST and ₹ 74,785 crore for SGST.
- The gross GST revenue for the month of October, 2023 is 13% higher than that in the same month last year. During the month, revenue from domestic transactions (including import of services) is also 13% higher than the revenues from these sources during the same month last year.
- The average gross monthly GST collection in the FY 2023-24 now stands at Rs. 1.66 lakh crore and is 11% per cent more than that in the same period in the previous financial year.

APPOINTMENTS



Who has been appointed as the Brand Ambassador of Henry Harvin Education?

- A) Chetan Bhagat
- B) Raghuram Rajan
- C) Priyanka Chopra
- D) Amitabh Bachchan
- E) Sachin Tendulkar

Answer

A) Chetan Bhagat



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Henry Harvin Education**, an ed-tech platform specialising in upskilling and reskilling programmes for young professionals, has onboarded **Chetan Bhagat as its brand ambassador**.
- Backed by this alliance, Henry Harvin Education is poised for a voyage of further innovation and transformative growth, solidifying its position as a trailblazing influence in the global education sector
- This partnership underscores Henry Harvin Education's commitment to deliver upskilling and reskilling programmes for professionals in a multitude of industries

AWARDS



Who was awarded the best photographer in his category at the Wildlife Photographer of the Year (WPY) competition held in London?

- A) Vihaan Talya Vikas
- B) Ravi Sharma
- C) Priya Patel
- D) Arjun Singhanian
- E) Neha Gupta

Answer

A) Vihaan Talya Vikas



AWARDS



Explanation

- 10-year-old **Vihaan Talya Vikas** from **Bengaluru**, was awarded the best photographer in his category at the prestigious **Wildlife Photographer of the Year (WPY) competition held in London**.
- Organised by the **Natural History Museum, London**, the competition showcases the finest wildlife photography from around the world.
- The event is also considered as the 'Oscars of Photography'. Vihaan's photo of a spider along with Krishna's carving clicked on the outskirts of the city and helped him bag the award.
- The competition this year saw submissions from 95 countries in different categories.
- A total of 50,000 images were submitted, out of which the top 100 were considered for the competition and 11 were chosen in different categories, with Vihaan winning the under-10 category award.
- Vihaan's image will be part of the WPY59 collection and will be presented in the Wildlife Photographer of the Year Exhibition at the Natural History Museum, which will tour around 25 venues across 4 continents to create awareness about the protection of wildlife.



AWARDS



Who was awarded the Rohini Nayar Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Rural Development?

- A) Deenanath Rajput
- B) Rohini Nayar
- C) Anil Sharma
- D) Ramesh Patel
- E) None of the above

Answer

A) Deenanath Rajput



AWARDS



Explanation

- Recognising his efforts in changing the lives of over 6,000 tribal women in **Chhattishgarh** by establishing a farmers producers organisation (FPO), **engineer-turned-social worker Deenanath Rajput** was awarded the **Rohini Nayar Prize** for Outstanding Contribution to Rural Development at an event
- He received a cash prize of **₹10 lakh, a trophy**, and a citation from the chief guest N.K. Singh, Chairman of the Fifteenth Finance Commission.
- **Mr. Rajput**, 33, set up the FPO in 2018 with an initial membership of 337 women from Jagdalpur in Bastar, a district known to be a hub of Naxalite activities. Since then, the FPO has more than 6,000 members across four districts.
- It helps women farmers by providing them with agricultural extension services, building cold storage infrastructure, connecting them with national and international markets for their products, and helping them diversify into higher value-added products and services.
- This is the second edition of the **Rohini Nayar Prize, which was instituted in the memory of the eponymous economist and administrator who passed away in 2021.**



Which company has received the world's first airworthiness "type certificate" for its fully autonomous drone designed to carry two passengers?

- A) Ehang
- B) DJI
- C) Boeing
- D) Airbus
- E) Lockheed Martin

Answer
A) Ehang



Explanation

- **Guangzhou-based company named Ehang** has received the world's first airworthiness "**type certificate**" for its **EH216-S AAV**, a fully autonomous drone designed to carry two passengers
- Ehang, a US-listed company, has declared itself the first to hold this certificate, allowing it to operate autonomous electric vertical take-off and landing (eVTOL) aircraft for passenger transport in China
- Ehang is actively evaluating the launch of its inaugural air taxi passenger service within a Chinese city, although specific details and dates remain undisclosed.
- Ehang's joint venture with Xiyu Tourism, marked by the delivery of five EH216-S units, aims to foster low-altitude tourism and deploy at least 120 Ehang vehicles over the next five years. Additionally, the company has secured over 1,200 overseas pre-orders, including commitments from entities such as Japan AirX, Malaysian Aerotree, and Indonesia's Prestige.

Which country is hosting the world's first global Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safety Summit?

- A) United Kingdom
- B) United States
- C) China
- D) Germany
- E) Japan

Answer

A) United Kingdom

Explanation

- As the **United Kingdom** hosts the **world's first global Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safety Summit**
- **Union Minister Rajeev Chandrasekhar** is representing India at the two-day summit starting November 1 at Bletchley Park in Buckinghamshire in southern England, a significant location in the history of computer science development- the base for World War II code-breaking operations
- The US, France, Singapore, Italy, Japan and China among nations have confirmed their attendance at the Bletchley Park Summit
- UK Technology Secretary Michelle Donelan will open the event setting out the UK government's vision for safety and security to be at the heart of advances in AI, in order to enable the enormous opportunities it will bring.
- The summit aims to put light on the transformative benefits that AI technology can offer, putting a predominant focus on "education and areas for international research collaborations".
- Representatives from The Alan Turing Institute, The Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and the Ada Lovelace Institute are also among the groups confirmed to attend.

Explanation

- Michelle Donelan will be joined by members of the UK's Frontier AI Taskforce - including its Chair, Ian Hogarth. The task force was launched earlier this year with an aim to evaluate the risks of frontier AI models (generative language models of AI).
- Meanwhile, on the first day of the Summit, Union Minister of State Rajeev Chandrasekhar is set to participate in discussions related to "Frontier AI risks," with a specific focus on "Risks to Global Safety from Frontier AI Misuse." These discussions will delve into safety risks associated with recent and next-generation frontier AI models, including their implications for biosecurity and cybersecurity.
- On the second day of the summit, Chandrasekhar will contribute to discussions regarding the establishment of a collaborative framework for AI among like-minded nations. He will shed light on India's perspective concerning AI risks in areas such as disinformation and electoral security.

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

The United Kingdom(UK)

Capital: London

Prime minister: Rishi Sunak

Currency: Pound sterling

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



In which city did India and Sri Lanka hold the 12th round of negotiations on the Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA)?

- A) New Delhi, India
- B) Mumbai, India
- C) Colombo, Sri Lanka
- D) Chennai, India
- E) Kolkata, India

Answer
C) Colombo, Sri Lanka



Explanation

- **India and Sri Lanka held the 12th round of negotiations on the Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) in Colombo, Sri Lanka**
- The two countries had 11 rounds of bilateral talks from 2016 to 2018.
- Thereafter the negotiations were paused.
- The Sri Lankan delegation was led by Mr. K J Weerasinghe, Chief Negotiator and the Indian delegation was led by Shri Anant Swarup, Joint Secretary in the Department of Commerce, Government & Chief Negotiator.
- During this round, both the sides took stock of the progress made till the 11th round and engaged in discussions on various chapters including Trade in Goods, Technical Barriers to Trade, Sanitary and Phytosanitary Measures, Trade in Services, Custom Procedure & Trade Facilitation, Rules of Origin, Trade Remedies, Economic & Technology Cooperation and Dispute Settlement. Both sides identified the areas of convergence and areas where they need to find creative solutions.

Explanation

- During this round, both sides reviewed the progress on implementation and decided to drop 9 issues as being resolved. Issues such as the quota on apparel and pepper and the procurement of pharmaceuticals were also discussed and both sides decided to continue the discussion and explore new options for resolution of the matter

The 15th India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue

- The **15th India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue** was held in **New Delhi** on November 01, 2023.
- The dialogue was co-chaired by Defence Secretary Shri Giridhar Aramane and Permanent Secretary (Defence), Singapore Mr Chan Heng Kee.
- During the meeting, both sides reviewed the existing defence cooperation between the two countries and agreed to enhance collaboration in Service-to-Service interactions and bilateral exercises.
- They also articulated steps to take forward cooperation in emerging areas like cyber security.
- Both sides identified means to enhance existing areas of collaboration, especially in the field of maritime security and multilateral cooperation.
- The Defence Secretary appreciated Singapore's efforts for coordinating and co-hosting the maiden ASEAN-India Maritime Exercise in May 2023.

The 15th India-Singapore Defence Policy Dialogue

- He highlighted the potential of the domestic defence industry with capacity and capability to meet the requirement of Singapore.
- Both sides reaffirmed their commitment to fully implement the 'Strategic Partnership' based on mutual trust and understanding, common interests and shared values of democracy and rule of law.
- This was the first physical meeting at the level of Defence Secretary between India and Singapore post the COVID-19 pandemic

Titbits

Singapore

capital : Singapore

Currency : Singapore Dollar

Prime minister: Lee Hsien Loong

President: Tharman Shanmugaratnam

Sri Lanka

Capital : Sri Jayewardenepura Kotte (legislative),

Colombo (executive and judicial)

Currency : Rupee

President: Ranil Wickremesinghe

Prime Minister: Dinesh Gunawardena

Who jointly inaugurated three Indian-assisted development projects through video conferencing?

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina
- B) Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Pakistan counterpart Imran Khan
- C) Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Sri Lanka counterpart Mahinda Rajapaksa
- D) Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Nepal counterpart K.P. Sharma Oli
- E) None of the above



Answer

A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina

Explanation

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated three Indian-assisted development projects through video conferencing.**
- The three projects are the **Akhaura - Agartala Cross-Border Rail Link, Khulna - Mongla Port Rail Line, and Unit - II of the Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant.**
- The Akhaura-Agartala Cross-Border Rail Link project has been executed under the Government of India grant assistance of over 392 crore rupees extended to Bangladesh.
- The length of the rail link is over 12 kilometers with a 6.78 kilometer Dual Gauge rail line in Bangladesh and 5.46 km in Tripura.
- The Khulna-Mongla Port Rail Line Project has been implemented under Government of India concessional Line of Credit with a total project cost of over 388 million US dollar.
- The Unit 2 of Maitree Super Thermal Power Plant under Indian Concessional Financing Scheme loan of 1.6 billion US dollar, is a 1,320 Mega Watt Super Thermal Power Plant located in Rampal in Khulna Division of Bangladesh

INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Bangladesh

Capital : Dhaka

Currency : Bangladeshi Taka

President: Mohammed Shahabuddin

Prime Minister: Sheikh Hasina

What is the purpose of the Global Solar Facility (GSF) announced by the International Solar Alliance (ISA)?

- A) To promote research and development in the field of solar energy.
- B) To provide financial support to individuals for installing solar panels on their homes.
- C) To stimulate investments into solar power projects by offering a payment guarantee fund.
- D) To encourage the use of solar-powered vehicles.
- E) To facilitate the export of solar technology to other countries.

Answer

C) To stimulate investments into solar power projects by offering a payment guarantee fund.

Explanation

- The **International Solar Alliance (ISA)** announced that the Global Solar Facility (GSF), a payment guarantee fund formed by **ISA to stimulate investments into solar power projects, is set to receive a capital contribution of \$35 million.**
- India is hosting the sixth assembly of the ISA, which is scheduled to conclude.
- The meet is seeing participation of ministers from 20 countries as well as delegates from 116 member and signatory countries.
- The GSF is designed to catalyse solar investments in underserved segments and geographies across Africa, unlocking commercial capital in the process
- Last year, the ISA assembly approved the GSF, which is expected to attract private capital to flow into off-grid solar projects, rooftop solar projects, and productive use solar projects

Explanation

- This financing vehicle, bolstered by payment guarantees, insurance and investment funds, aims to mitigate project risks, provide technical assistance to address regulatory gaps, reduce currency risks, and resolve contractual and financial uncertainties in the solar energy sector.
- The ISA has signed memorandum of understanding (MoUs) with Multi-Lateral Investment Guarantee Fund (MIGA), Africa 50, West African Development Bank (BOAD) for facilitating investments through the GSF in Africa.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

International Solar Alliance

Founded: 30 November 2015

President: R. K. Singh

Headquarters: Gurugram, Haryana,

What is the name of the initiative launched by the Raj Bhavan in Kolkata to promote the art and culture of West Bengal and India?

- A) Durga Bharat awards
- B) Mission Kala Kranti
- C) Raj Bhavan Kolkata Initiative
- D) Art and Culture Promotion Scheme
- E) Bengal and India Cultural Revival

Answer
B) Mission Kala Kranti



Explanation

- The **Raj Bhavan in Kolkata** presented the first set of "**Durga Bharat awards**", besides formally launching the "**Mission Kala Kranti**", an initiative aimed at "promoting the art and culture of West Bengal and India".
- The festive season in Bengal has begun, with numerous Durga Puja venues already inaugurated – many of these by Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee, virtually. The state-government-supported 'Durga Puja Carnival', where the most iconic idols of Goddess Goddess Durga will be showcased, is scheduled for October 27
- At the Raj Bhavan, meanwhile, the festive beginning has been marked by the launch of the initiative, and presentation of awards. The awards were presented to Pandit Ajoy Chakrabarty, and to Garden Reach Shipbuilders & Engineers, Chandrayaan Team, and Visva-Bharati University, Santiniketan, by Governor CV Ananda Bose.

Which state celebrates the festival of Mera Hou Chongba, a festival of oneness?

- A) Manipur
- B) Assam
- C) Kerala
- D) Rajasthan
- E) Gujarat

Answer
A) Manipur



Explanation

- **Manipur**, known for its rich culture and harmonious co-existence of various ethnic groups, celebrated the **festival of 'Mera Hou Chongba'** at Manipur at the Palace Compound in Imphal at a large scale.
- Clad in a white-waist coat and turban, Chief Minister N Biren Singh attended the festival, marking and celebrating the bond of brotherhood, love and unity.
- The festival, organised by the **Mera Hou Chongba Thoushil Lup**, is an age-old festival that marks the oneness of the growth of nationalism in the state.

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Manipur

Capital : Imphal

CM: N. Biren Singh

Governor : Anusuiya Uikey

Who is heading the International Jury for the 54th IFFI (International Film Festival of India)?

- A) Shekhar Kapur
- B) Aamir Khan
- C) Priyanka Chopra
- D) Sanjay Leela Bhansali
- E) Anurag Kashyap

Answer
A) Shekhar Kapur



Explanation

- The **54th edition of the International Film Festival of India** will be held in the **beautiful state of Goa from November 20-28, 2023**.
- This festival is the largest celebration of global cinema in South Asia, attracting thousands of cinema enthusiasts and top film industry talents from around the world.
- Recently, the festival announced the members of its international jury panel, which will be chaired by renowned filmmaker **Shekhar Kapur**. **Kapur is famous for his works such as 'Bandit Queen', 'Mr. India', and 'Masoom'**.
- The international jury members **include Jose Luis Alcaine, who is known for his collaborations with Pedro Almodovar, Jerome Paillard, Catherine Dussart, and Helen Leake**.
- **Shekhar Kapur (Filmmaker) - Chairman, Jury** - Shekhar Kapur is an acclaimed filmmaker, actor, narrator and producer. He is best known for his films such as Masoom (1983), Mr. India (1987), Bandit Queen (1994), Elizabeth (1998), and The Four Feathers (2002). He has won two National Film Awards, four Filmfare Awards, and a BAFTA Award.

Explanation

- José Luis Alcaine (Cinematographer) - José Luis Alcaine was the first cinematographer to use a fluorescent tube as key lighting in the 1970s. Worked on films such as Belle Époque (Academy Award for Best Foreign Language Film, 1993), Two Much (1995), Blast from the Past (1999), and The Skin I Live In (2011). Multi-award winner José Luis is known for his collaborations with Pedro Almodóvar.
- Jerome Paillard (Film Producer & Ex-head of Film Market) - After successively working as a classical musician, artistic director, and CFO for a classical record label, Paillard produced alongside Daniel Toscan du Plantier at Erato Films over a dozen feature films by such famous directors as Satyajit Ray.
- Catherine Dussart is a renowned film producer who has co-produced nearly 100 films across 15 different countries. She is best known for her work on Huahua shijie linghun ke (2017), The Missing Picture (2013), and Exil (2016). Catherine Dussart is also serving as a consultant for the Doha Film Institute.

Explanation

- Helen Leake is a highly regarded film producer in Australia. She has produced several notable feature films, including CARNIFEX which starred Alexandra Park, Sisi Stringer, and Harry Greenwood, SWERVE with Jason Clarke, WOLF CREEK 2, HEAVEN'S BURNING featuring Russell Crowe, and BLACK AND WHITE.
- They will judge the International Competition and Best Debut Feature Film of a Director Award at the Festival.
- The 'International Competition' presents 15 acclaimed feature films that represent emerging trends in film aesthetics and politics, showcasing both established and emerging voices across important genres.
- The winner of the Best Film Award, which includes the Golden Peacock, Rs 40 lakh monetary prize, and certificates for the Director and Producer, will be selected by an international jury.
- Apart from the Best Film, the jury will also give verdicts on the winners in the Best Director, Best Actor (Male), Best Actor (Female), and Special Jury Prize categories

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Which cities have been declared as Creative Cities of Literature and Music by UNESCO?

- A) Kozhikode and Gwalior
- B) Mumbai and Delhi
- C) Kolkata and Chennai
- D) Jaipur and Varanasi
- E) Bangalore and Hyderabad

Answer

A) Kozhikode and Gwalior



Explanation

- On **World Cities Day**, **Kozhikode in Kerala** and **Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh** became a part of the prestigious **UNESCO Creative Cities Network**, adding to the list of **55 new cities**.
- The list was released by the UN body on Tuesday and Union minister G Kishan Reddy called it a "proud moment for India". He said these cities have strong commitment to harnessing culture and creativity.
- Kozhikode, the venue of choice for the Kerala Literature Festival and several book festivals, was named the 'City of Literature' by the Unesco Creative Cities Network (UCCN) on Tuesday, making it the first such city in India.
- Gwalior, Madhya Pradesh, was declared the "City of Music" by UNESCO. This is a fitting honor for the city that produced the legendary musician Tansen and where the Scindia Gharana has preserved and propagated music for centuries

Explanation

- Gwalior's musical heritage is rich and diverse, encompassing classical Hindustani music, folk music, and devotional music. The city is also home to a number of prestigious music institutes and festivals
- World Cities Day, designated by the United Nations, falls on October 31.
- With the latest additions, the UCCN now counts 350 cities in more than a hundred countries, representing seven creative fields: crafts and folk art, design, film, gastronomy, literature, media arts, and music
- The newly designated Creative Cities are invited to participate in the 2024 UCCN Annual Conference (July 1-5, 2024) in Braga, Portugal, under the **theme "Bringing Youth to the Table for the Next Decade"**

NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

UNESCO

Abbreviation: The United Nations Educational, Scientific
and Cultural Organization

Founded: 1945

Headquarters: Paris, France

Director-General : Audrey Azoulay

On which day did Prime Minister Narendra Modi launch the 'Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)' platform for the youth of the country?

- A) Republic Day
- B) Independence Day
- C) National Unity Day
- D) Gandhi Jayanti
- E) None of the above

Answer

C) National Unity Day

Explanation

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)' platform for youth of the country on the National Unity Day**
- Prime Minister launched the initiative while participating in the programme marking the culmination of the Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign's Amrit Kalash Yatra at Kartavya Path in New Delhi.
- Meri Maati Mera Desh campaign is a tribute to the Veers and Veeranganas who have made the supreme sacrifice for the country.
- On October 11, 2023, the Union Cabinet, gave its approval for the establishment of an autonomous body known as "Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat).
- Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat), will benefit the youth in the age group of 15-29 years, in line with the definition of 'Youth' in the National Youth Policy. The beneficiaries will be in the age group of 10-19 years.

Explanation

- During the event Prime Minister laid the foundation stone of the Amrit Vatika and Amrit Mahotsav Memorial developed from soil collected from every part of the country to mark the closing ceremony of Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav
- During the event, Modi also presented the Azadi Ka Amrit Mahotsav Awards to the top 3 performing States, Union Territories as well as Ministries or Departments

QUICK RECALL



- **Nov 1 marks the formation day for eight Indian states - Andhra Pradesh, Chhattisgarh, Haryana, Karnataka, Kerala, Madhya Pradesh, Punjab and Tamil Nadu. World Vegan Day is celebrated annually on November 1. Union Minister for Labour & Employment, Environment, Forest & Climate Change, Shri Bhupender Yadav inaugurated the 71st Foundation Day of EPFO held at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi on November 1 through virtual mode**
- **Saudi Arabia was the only football association to present a bid to host the 2034 FIFA World Cup before the deadline closed**
- **HSBC India has announced the launch of Electronic Bank Guarantee (E-BG) services for its corporate clients (including MSMEs).**
- **The gross GST revenue collected in the month of October, 2023 is ₹ 1,72,003 crore out of which ₹ 30,062 crore is CGST, ₹ 38,171 crore is SGST, ₹ 91,315 crore (including ₹ 42,127 crore collected on import of goods) is IGST and ₹ 12,456 crore (including ₹ 1,294 crore collected on import of goods) is cess.**
- **Henry Harvin Education, an ed-tech platform specialising in upskilling and reskilling programmes for young professionals, has onboarded Chetan Bhagat as its brand ambassador.**
- **10-year-old Vihaan Talya Vikas from Bengaluru, was awarded the best photographer in his category at the prestigious Wildlife Photographer of the Year (WPY) competition held in London.**

QUICK RECALL



- **Recognising his efforts in changing the lives of over 6,000 tribal women in Chhattishgarh by establishing a farmers producers organisation (FPO), engineer-turned-social worker Deenanath Rajput was awarded the Rohini Nayyar Prize for Outstanding Contribution to Rural Development at an event**
- **Guangzhou-based company named Ehang has received the world's first airworthiness "type certificate" for its EH216-S AAV, a fully autonomous drone designed to carry two passengers**
- **As the United Kingdom hosts the world's first global Artificial Intelligence (AI) Safety Summit**
- **India and Sri Lanka held the 12th round of negotiations on the Economic and Technology Cooperation Agreement (ETCA) in Colombo, Sri Lanka**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Bangladesh counterpart Sheikh Hasina jointly inaugurated three Indian-assisted development projects through video conferencing.**
- **The International Solar Alliance (ISA) announced that the Global Solar Facility (GSF), a payment guarantee fund formed by ISA to stimulate investments into solar power projects, is set to receive a capital contribution of \$35 million.**
- **The Raj Bhavan in Kolkata presented the first set of "Durga Bharat awards", besides formally launching the "Mission Kala Kranti", an initiative aimed at "promoting the art and culture of West Bengal and India".**

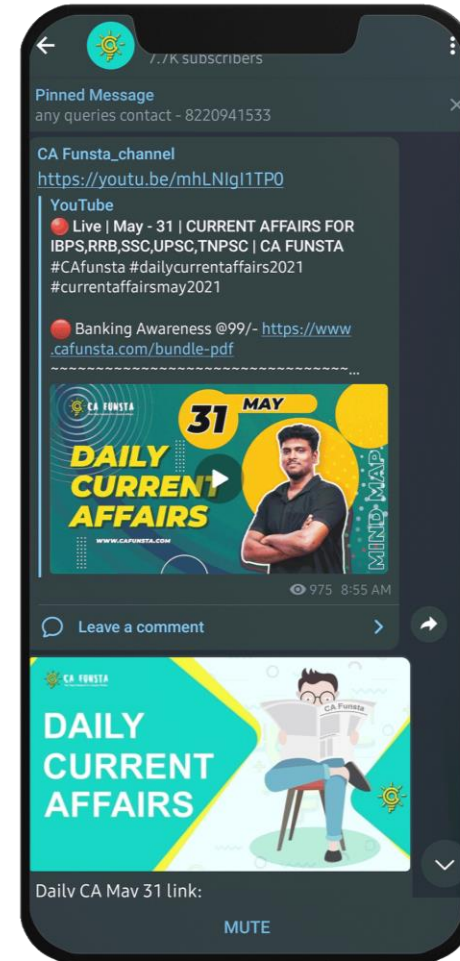
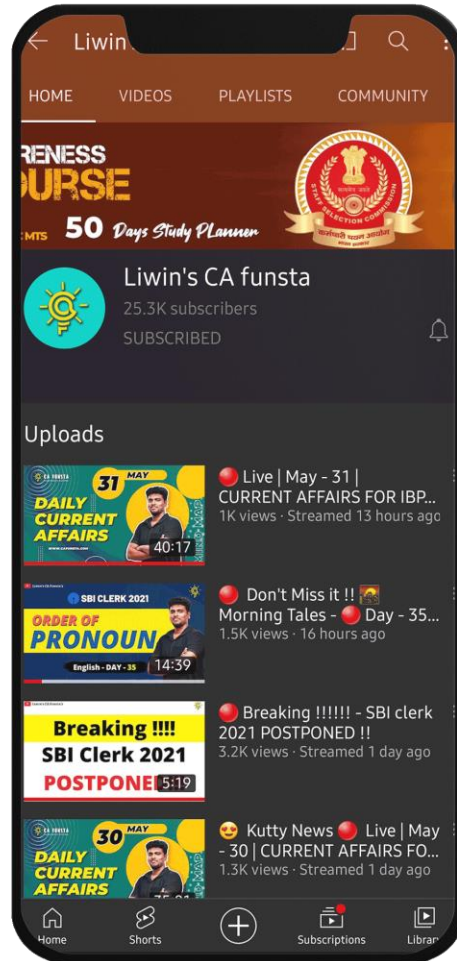


QUICK RECALL



- **Manipur, known for its rich culture and harmonious co-existence of various ethnic groups, celebrated the festival of 'Mera Hou Chongba' at Manipur at the Palace Compound in Imphal at a large scale.**
- **The 54th edition of the International Film Festival of India will be held in the beautiful state of Goa from November 20-28, 2023.**
- **On World Cities Day, Kozhikode in Kerala and Gwalior in Madhya Pradesh became a part of the prestigious UNESCO Creative Cities Network, adding to the list of 55 new cities.**
- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched 'Mera Yuva Bharat (MY Bharat)' platform for youth of the country on the National Unity Day**

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