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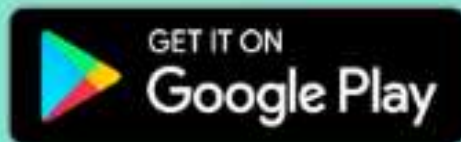
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Important Days



➤ **When did Nagaland become the 16th state of India?**

- A) December 1, 1956
- B) December 1, 1960
- C) December 1, 1963
- D) January 26, 1950
- E) March 3, 1947

Answer

C) December 1, 1963



Important Days



Explanation

- Nagaland became the 16th state of India on December 1, 1963.
- Article 371A of the Constitution of India grants special provisions to Nagaland protecting the social practices, ownership of land and resources, among others.



Important Days



59th BSF Raising is observed on December 1

- 59th BSF Raising day is celebrated every year to commemorate the establishment of Border Security Force on December 1.
- BSF was established after the Indo Pakistani war of 1965.



Important Days



Titbits

Nagaland:

Formed: 1 December 1963 (16th State)

Before Formation: Part of Assam

Capital: Kohima

Chief Minister: Neiphiu Rio

Governor: La Ganesan

Border Security Force:

Formed: 1 December 1965

HQ: New Delhi

Director General: Nitin Agarwal



OBITUARY



➤ **What was Marty Krofft's contribution to the entertainment industry?**

- A) Bestselling Novels
- B) Hit Songs
- C) Award-Winning Films
- D) Classic Children's Series
- E) Broadway Plays



Answer

D) Classic Children's Series



OBITUARY



Explanation

- **Marty Krofft, co-producer of classic children's series such as 'HR Pufnstuf' and 'Land of the Lost,' died in California.**
- Krofft and his brother (Harry Krofft) created series such as 'The Bugaloos,' 'Lidsville' 'Sigmund and the Sea Monsters,' 'Pryor's Place,' 'Far Out Space Nuts,' 'The Lost Saucer,' 'The Krofft Supershow,' 'Wonderbug,' 'Electra Woman and Dyna Girl,' 'Dr Shrinker,' and 'Bigfoot & Wildboy.'



OBITUARY



Awards:

- At the 2003 Saturn Awards, the Krofft brothers received the **Lifetime Career Award** for creating some of the most memorable imaginative television episodes.
- The National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences honoured them with the **Lifetime Achievement Emmy Award in 2018.**
- Krofft most recently won the Julie Award at **the 2023 Dragon Con** in Atlanta



➤ Which organization is at the center of the cooperation between RBI and Bank of England?

- A) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- B) Financial Stability Board (FSB)
- C) World Trade Organization (WTO)
- D) Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL)
- E) International Clearing House (ICH)



Answer

D) Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL)



Explanation

- **The Reserve Bank of India (RBI) and the Bank of England (BoE) on signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for cooperation and exchange of information in relation to the Clearing Corporation of India Ltd. (CCIL).**
- The MoU establishes a framework for the BoE to place reliance on the RBI's regulatory and supervisory activities while safeguarding UK financial stability.
- It will also enable the BoE to assess the application of CCIL for recognition as a third-country central counterparty (CCP), which is a pre-requisite for UK-based banks to clear transactions through CCIL.



Explanation

- **This MoU comes against the backdrop of ESMA withdrawing recognition for six CCPs from India – CCIL, Indian Clearing Corporation Ltd., NSE Clearing Ltd., Multi Commodity Exchange Clearing Ltd., India International Clearing Corporation, and NSE IFSC Clearing Corporation Ltd. – with effect from April 30, 2023, as certain conditions under the European Market Infrastructure Regulation (EMIR) were not met.**



Titbits

RBI

Founded: 1935

Nationalised: 1949

Governor: Shaktikanta Das (25th)

Deputy Governors: M D Patra, M Rajeshwar, T Rabi Shankar,
J Swaminathan

Central Clearing Corporation of India Ltd

Founded: 2001

Equity Shareholding of CCIL as follows:

Commercial Banks: 67.20%

Financial Institutions: 10.00%

Primary Dealers/ NBFC's/ Insurance Companies: 22.80%



➤ What is the total value of transactions processed on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform?

- A) Rs 17.16 lakh crore
- B) Rs 17.40 lakh crore
- C) Rs 16.80 lakh crore
- D) Rs 18.00 lakh crore
- E) Rs 17.50 lakh crore

Answer

B) Rs 17.40 lakh crore



Explanation

- **Transactions worth Rs 17.40 lakh crore were processed on the Unified Payments Interface (UPI) platform, setting a new record from the previous high of Rs 17.16 lakh crore in October.**
- **The value of transactions was 1.4% higher on month and 46% on year, as per data by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).**
- Volumes dip slightly to 1,124 crore from 1,141 crore in the previous month.
- In FY23, the UPI platform processed 8,376 crore transactions aggregating Rs 139 lakh crore, compared with 4,597 crore transactions worth Rs 84 lakh crore in FY22.



Explanation

- **UPI transactions are expected to breach 100 crore transactions per day by FY27, as per a report by PwC India, which projects UPI to dominate the retail digital payments landscape, accounting for 90 per cent of total transaction volumes over the next five years.**



➤ **During which month and year did India's foreign exchange reserves reach an all-time high of \$645 billion?**

- A) November 2023
- B) October 2021
- C) December 2022
- D) September 2020
- E) August 2021

Answer

B) October 2021



Explanation

- **India's foreign exchange (forex) reserves increased \$2.538 billion to \$597.935 billion for the week ended November 24.**
- **In the previous reporting week, the overall reserves had jumped \$5.077 billion to \$595.397 billion.**
- **Gold reserves were up \$296 million to \$46.338 billion during the week.**
- **The Special Drawing Rights (SDRs) were up \$87 million to \$18.218 billion.**
- **India's reserve position with the IMF rose \$14 million to \$4.848 billion in the reporting week.**
- **In October 2021, the country's foreign exchange kitty had reached an all-time high of \$645 billion.**



Foreign Exchange Reserve:

- Foreign exchange reserves (also called forex reserves or FX reserves) are cash and other reserve assets such as gold held by a central bank or other monetary authority that are primarily available to balance payments of the country, influence the foreign exchange rate of its currency, and to maintain confidence in financial markets.
- Foreign exchange reserves are also known as reserve assets and include foreign banknotes, foreign bank deposits, foreign treasury bills, and short and long-term foreign government securities, as well as gold reserves, special drawing rights (SDRs), and International Monetary Fund (IMF) reserve positions



➤ What was the PMI for manufacturing in September, October, and November?

- A) 57.5, 55.5, 56
- B) 56, 55.5, 57.5
- C) 55.5, 57.5, 56
- D) 57.5, 56, 55.5
- E) 55.5, 56, 57.5

Answer

A) 57.5, 55.5, 56



Explanation

- **The Purchasing Managers Index (PMI) for manufacturing rose to 56 in November, up from 55.5 in October, though it remained below 57.5 reported in September, according to S&P Global Market Intelligence.**
- **Indian economy grew faster-than-expected at 7.6 percent in July to September period, with the manufacturing sector growing 13.9 percent year-on-year.**



Purchasing Manager Index:

- The Purchasing Managers' Index™ (PMI™) is a survey-based indicator of business conditions, which includes individual measures ('sub-indices') of business output, new orders, employment, costs, selling prices, exports, purchasing activity, supplier performance, backlogs of orders and inventories of both inputs and finished goods, where applicable.
- The PMI™ is widely seen as an accurate and timely indicator of business conditions that helps analysts and economists to correctly anticipate changing economic trends in official data series such as gross domestic products (GDP), industrial production, employment and inflation



Purchasing Manager Index:

- The PMI is produced globally by S&P Global although a small number of trade associations also produce local PMIs in certain markets, such as the ISM in the United States.



Titbits

S&P Global:

HQ: New York, USA

President and CEO: Douglas L Peterson



➤ Which organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to collaborate on vaccine Research and Development (R&D) and infectious diseases?

- A) Bharat Biotech and Oxford University
- B) Bharat Biotech and Harvard University
- C) Bharat Biotech and Sydney University
- D) Bharat Biotech and MIT
- E) Bharat Biotech and Cambridge University



Answer

C) Bharat Biotech and Sydney University



Explanation

- **Bharat Biotech International Limited (BBIL), the developer of India's first indigenous Covid-19 vaccine Covaxin, has inked a memorandum of understanding (MoU) with the University of Sydney Infectious Diseases Institute (Sydney ID) to collaborate on advancing vaccine research initiatives, strengthening academic-industry partnerships and augmenting global efforts to combat infectious diseases.**



Explanation

- Bharat Biotech made vaccines that met over 60% of the world's demand and supplied over 2.4 billion doses of Covid-19 vaccines.
- Bharat Biotech has over 145 global patents, a portfolio of over 19 vaccines and four biotherapeutics.
- Bharat Biotech founder & executive chairman Dr Krishna Ella.



Titbits

Bharat Biotech:

Founded: 1996

Founder: Krishna Ella

Chairman and MD: Krishna Ella



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who has been recently appointed as the Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir by the Centre?

- A) Amit Shah
- B) Atal Dulloo
- C) Narendra Modi
- D) Jagan Mohan Reddy
- E) Rajnath Singh

Answer
B) Atal Dulloo



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- The Central government appointed senior Indian Administrative Service (IAS) officer Atal Dulloo as the new Chief Secretary of Jammu and Kashmir with effect from December 1.
- Dulloo is currently posted as secretary, Department of Border Management under the Union Ministry of Home Affairs (MHA).



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been appointed as the president of the Rural Marketing Association of India (RMAI) for the term 2023-2025?**

- A) Puneet Vidyarthi
- B) Biswabaran Chakrabarti
- C) Rajesh Agarwal
- D) Neha Sharma
- E) Ravi Kapoor

Answer

A) Puneet Vidyarthi



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Rural Marketing Association of India (RMAI), the premier body of rural marketers in India appointed Puneet Vidyarthi as its president for 2023-2025, taking over from Biswabaran Chakrabarti.**
- **Since its inception in the year 2005, RMAI has been helping marketers plan and implement their rural marketing activities across the country.**
- **With 12.2% of the world's population, rural India represents the single largest potential market and accounts for 53% of FMCGs and 59% of durables sales in India.**
- **RMAI has about 150 members including associations with Tata Steel, ITC, HDFC, Kotak Bank, Mahindra & Mahindra, Pidilite and HeroMoto Corp.**



AWARDS



➤ **Who has recently been honored with the title of the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters by the French government?**

- A) Thierry Mathou
- B) Arshia Sattar
- C) Indian ambassador to France
- D) A French literature scholar
- E) Bengaluru-based translator

Answer
B) Arshia Sattar



AWARDS



Explanation

- **Author-translator Arshia Sattar has been conferred with the honour of the Knight of the Order of Arts and Letters (Chevalier dans l'Ordre des Arts et des Lettres) by the French government.**
- Thierry Mathou, the ambassador of France to India, presented the award to the Bengaluru-based scholar of Indian literature and mythology, Arshia Sattar at the Consulate General of France in Bengaluru.
- It is the recognition of her outstanding achievements in the field of literature as a translator and a writer.



AWARDS



His works:

- She translated Ramayana, the Mahabharata, and the tales from Kathasaritsagara.
- She has written several books for children, including The Mahabharata for Children, which was awarded the Sahitya Akademi Prize for Children's Literature in 2022.
- She was involved with a nine-piece podcast series 'The River Has No Fear of Memories'. The podcast commemorated the life and works of renowned playwright and actor Girish Karnad.
- Sattar co-founded the literary residency, Sangam House, in 2008, along with David William Gibson, to create a supportive space for writers in regional languages.



AWARDS



➤ **What type of organization is Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL)?**

- A) Maharatna CPSU
- B) Navaratna CPSU
- C) Private multinational company
- D) Non-governmental organization (NGO)
- E) Mini Ratna CPSU



Answer

A) Maharatna CPSU (Central Public Sector Undertaking)



AWARDS



Explanation

- **Power Grid Corporation of India Limited (PGCIL), a Maharatna CPSU under Ministry of Power, has been conferred the prestigious SKOCH Gold Award 2023.**
- The award was received by Power Grid's Executive Director B. Anantha Sarma and Chief General Manager (Corporate Planning) Abhinav Verma.
- The award was given for the Pugalur Thrissur 2000 MW Voltage Source Converter HVDC System.
- It is part of the Raigarh-Pugalur-Thrissur 6000 MW HVDC system and enables the transfer of 2000 MW to Kerala through the HVDC station at Thrissur.



AWARDS



Titbits

Power grid Corporation of India Limited:

HQ: Gurugram, Haryana

Chairman and MD: Kandikuppa Sreekant

Maharatna Status: 2019



- Which company or entity has the Ministry of Defence signed the contract with for the design and development of advanced GaN semiconductors?

- A) Agnit Semiconductors Private Ltd
- B) Intel Corporation
- C) Samsung Electronics
- D) Qualcomm Incorporated
- E) TSMC (Taiwan Semiconductor Manufacturing Company)



Answer

A) Agnit Semiconductors Private Ltd



Explanation

- **The Ministry of Defence has signed a contract with Agnit Semiconductors Private Ltd from Bengaluru for design and development of advanced Gallium Nitride (Gan) semiconductors.**
- **It is essential for the next generation of wireless transmitters in defence applications ranging from radars to electronic warfare jammers.**
- **This is the 300th contract Innovations for Defence Excellence (iDEX)-Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO) has inked to get India rid of imports in Gan components.**



Explanation

- The pact was signed by Additional Secretary (Defence Industries Production) & CEO/DIO T Natarajan with Agnit Semiconductors Private Ltd in the presence of Defence Secretary Giridhar Aramane.
- The proposal aims to design, develop and manufacture GaN components for defence in India using completely indigenous GaN technology.



Explanation

- **Bharat Electronics Ltd (BEL) became the first Defence PSU to sign a procurement contract under iDEX scheme with its winner Blurgs Innovations Private Limited for their solution 'TRIDENT', which is an intelligent maritime domain awareness tool with a robust solution designed to enhance maritime security.**
- **The iDEX framework was launched by the Prime Minister in 2018** with the objective to provide a platform of co-creation and co-development in the defence sector, engage start-ups and develop defence and aerospace set up in the country.
- **The iDEX is being implemented by the Defence Innovation Organisation (DIO), established under the Department of Defence Production.**



➤ Which tech giant is collaborating with the Government of Karnataka for online safety training?



- A) Apple Inc.
- B) Microsoft Corporation
- C) Google LLC
- D) Meta
- E) Amazon Inc.

Answer
D) Meta



Explanation

- **US tech giant Meta and the Government of Karnataka plans to train 1 lakh teachers and 10 lakh students in digital safety and AR (augmented reality) and VR (virtual reality) skills by 2025.**
- **Under the online safety initiative, young people (18-24 years) from 100 colleges and universities across the State will receive digital awareness training.**
- The aim of the programme is to make them more mindful of the new trends in digital safety.
- The government also plans to tie up with Meta for **gaming and artificial intelligence (AI), as well as to curb misinformation through deepfakes.**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Meta:

Founded: 4 January 2004
Chairman and CEO: Mark Zuckerberg

Karnataka

Capital: Bengaluru
Chief Minister: Siddharamaiah
Governor: Thawar Chand Kehlot



➤ **Who inaugurated the dedicated Tele-MANAS Cell at the Armed Forces Medical College in Pune?**

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B) Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan
- C) Health Minister Dr. Harsh Vardhan
- D) Pune's Mayor
- E) Director of Armed Forces Medical College



Answer

B) Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan



Explanation

- Chief of Defence Staff, General Anil Chauhan, inaugurated a dedicated Tele-MANAS Cell for serving personnel and their dependents at the Armed Forces Medical College in Pune.
- This cell will serve as an extension of the Tele-Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele MANAS) initiative of the Ministry of Health and Family Welfare.
- The cell will serve as a central psychological helpline for all Armed Forces beneficiaries across the country.



Tele MANAS: Tele Mental health Assistance and Networking Across States.

- With 51 active Tele MANAS cells across 33 States and Union Territories, the service now handles 1,300+ calls daily in 20 languages, depicting a consistently progressive trend towards building a comprehensive digital mental health network in India.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Keypersons in this event:

- DGAFMS Lt Gen Daljit Singh
- Director & Commandant AFMC Lt Gen Narendra Kotwal
- Director NIMHANS Dr Pratima Murthy
- Joint Secretary, MoD Shri Mayank Tewari



➤ Who inaugurated the SARAS Food Festival in New Delhi?

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B) Minister of State (MoS), Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste
- C) Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
- D) Chief Minister of Delhi Arvind Kejriwal
- E) Union Health Minister Mansukh Mandaviya



Answer

B) Minister of State (MoS), Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste



Explanation

- Minister of State for Rural Development & Steel, Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste inaugurated the SARAS Food Festival, a confluence of taste and culture, at New Delhi.
- About 150 women entrepreneurs and members of the self-help groups from across the country are participating with more than 30 stalls in this grand arrangement.
- Saras Food Festival provides a glimpse of Indian culture and food to the visitors where people can enjoy the delicious cuisine of 21 states along with glimpses of the culture and social fabric of the Rural India.



➤ What is the approved amount for the recovery and reconstruction plan for Joshimath?

- A) Rs 500 crore
- B) Rs 1,000 crore
- C) Rs 1,250 crore
- D) Rs 1,500 crore
- E) Rs 1,658 crore

Answer

E) Rs 1,658 crore



Explanation

- **A high-level committee headed by Union home minister Amit Shah, has approved the recovery and reconstruction (R&R) plan of Rs 1,658 crore for Joshimath, which was affected by landslide and ground subsidence.**
- **Joshimath is located in Chamoli district of Uttarakhand.**
- Rs 1079.96 crore of central assistance will be provided from recovery and reconstruction the window of the National Disaster Response Fund (NDRF).
- The state government will provide Rs 126.41 crore from its State Disaster Response Fund (SDRF) towards relief assistance and will provide Rs 451.80 crore from its state budget, including land acquisition cost for resettlement of Rs 91.82 crore.



QUICK RECALL



- Nagaland 61st statehood day is observed on December 1
- 59th BSF Raising is observed on December 1
- Emmy Award winner Marty Krofft passes away at 86
- RBI, Bank of England sign MoU on co-operation and information exchange related to CCIL
- UPI transaction value hits new high at Rs 17.4 lakh crore in November
- India's Forex increased to \$ 598 billion from \$ 2.5 Billion
- PMI Manufacturing rises to 56 in November
- Bharat Biotech, Sydney University Ink MoU To Collaborate On Vaccine R&D & Infectious Diseases
- Centre appoints Atal Dulloo as new Chief Secretary of J-K with effect from December 1,2023
- Rural Marketing Association of India appoints Puneet Vidyarthi as its president



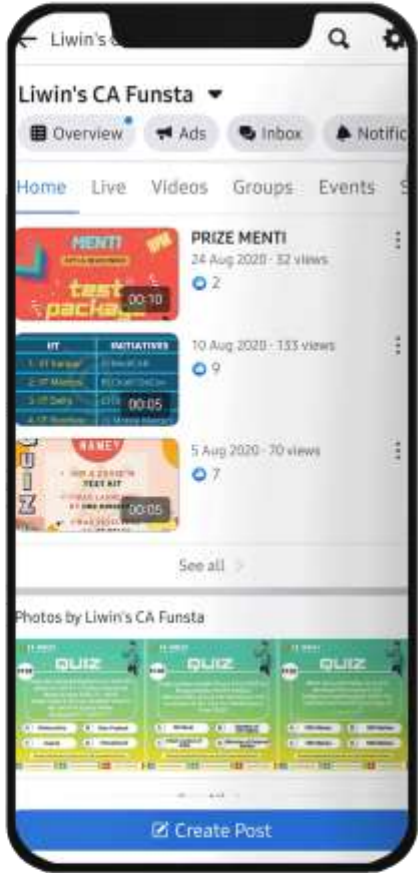
QUICK RECALL



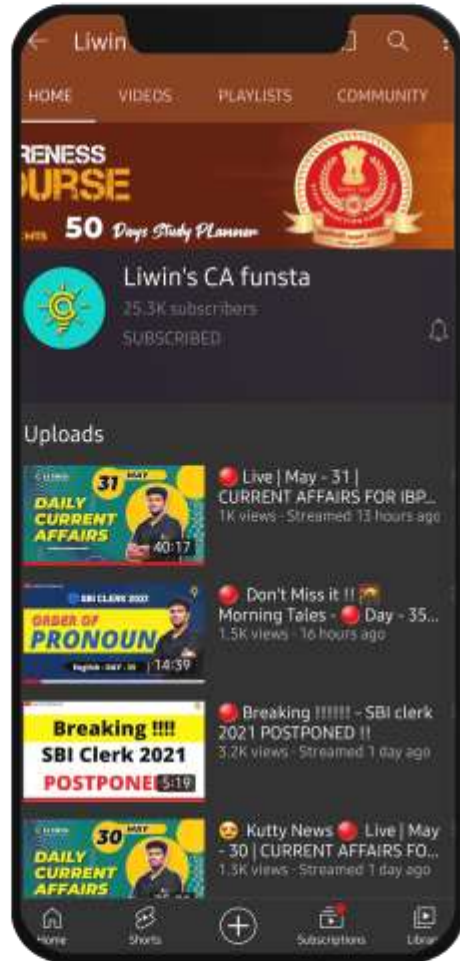
- **French literary honour conferred on Bengaluru author Arshia Sattar, translator of Indian epics**
- **Power Grid conferred SKOCH Gold Award 2023**
- **Ministry of Defence inks deal with Agnit Semiconductors**
- **Meta, Karnataka government collaborate for online safety training**
- **Chief of Defence Staff Gen Anil Chauhan inaugurates Tele-Mental Health Assistance and Networking Across States (Tele MANAS) Cell at AFMC, Pune**
- **MoS, Shri Faggan Singh Kulaste inaugurates the hugely popular SARAS Food Festival at New Delhi**
- **Amit Shah-led high-level committee approves reconstruction plan for Joshimath**



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