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Important Days



- **When was Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day officially designated by the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA)?**

- A) 2015
- B) 2016
- C) 2017
- D) 2018
- E) 2019

Answer
C) 2017



Important Days



Explanation

- **Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day is observed on December 12 every year to stress the need for a healthcare system that provides equitable and good health care along with financial protection to everyone.**
- **Theme: "Health For All: Time for Action".**
- On 12 December 2012, the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA) unanimously endorsed a resolution urging countries to accelerate progress toward universal health coverage .



Important Days



Explanation

- **In 2017, the UNGA proclaimed 12 December as International Universal Health Coverage Day (UHC Day) by resolution, making it an official UN-designated day.**
- As per WHO, Universal health coverage (UHC) means all people can access a full range of quality health services they need, when and where they need them, without financial issues.
- It includes all essential health services, from prevention, treatment, rehabilitation, and palliative care.



➤ Who has been named the ICC Men's Player of the Month for November 2023?

- A) David Warner
- B) Steve Smith
- C) Pat Cummins
- D) Mitchell Starc
- E) Travis Head

Answer

E) Travis Head



Explanation

- **Australian batter Travis Head, who smashed an explosive century to help Australia win their sixth ICC Cricket World Cup title, has been named as the ICC Men's Player of the Month for November 2023.**
- Head is only the second Australia Men's player to take the award after David Warner, who won it in November 2021.
- This year in 29 matches across all formats, Head has scored 1,627 runs in 38 innings at an average of 46.48 and a strike rate of above 98, with three centuries and nine fifties. His best score is 163.



- Which airline was the first to establish an aircraft leasing venture at IFSC Gift City before Interglobe Aviation?

- A) SpiceJet
- B) Jet Airways
- C) GoAir
- D) Air India
- E) Vistara

Answer
D) Air India



Explanation

- **Interglobe Aviation, the parent company of India's largest airline, IndiGo, has received approval from IFSC Gift City to establish an aircraft leasing venture.**
- **Over the next five years, the company aims to invest approximately Rs 11,500 crore in the IFSC aircraft leasing segment.**
- **IndiGo plans to operate under the name 'Interglobe Aviation Financial Services IFSC Private Limited,' focusing on operating leasing, financial leasing, and other related services for aircraft.**



Explanation

- The services will encompass lease arrangements, sale and leaseback, purchase, novation, transfer, assignment, asset management, and various transactions related to aircraft and aircraft engine leases.

Note: Air India was the first commercial airline to establish an aircraft leasing venture at IFSC Gift City, with an estimated project cost of Rs 7,253 crore.



Titbits

IndiGo:

HQ: Gurgaon, Haryana
Chairman: V Sumantran



➤ **What is the primary focus of the collaboration between IIT Madras and FedEx Express?**

- A) Aerospace Research
- B) Renewable Energy Solutions
- C) Smart and Sustainable Supply Chains
- D) Artificial Intelligence Development
- E) Biomedical Engineering



Answer

C) Smart and Sustainable Supply Chains



Explanation

- **Indian Institute of Technology Madras (IIT Madras) is collaborating with FedEx Express (FedEx), a subsidiary of FedEx Corp. and one of the world's largest express transportation companies, to establish the 'FedEx Centre of Excellence (CoE) for Smart and Sustainable Supply Chains'.**
- The CoE will be an industry-academia bridge, in the logistics sector with a focus on environmental and social sustainability via research and development in digital transformation.



Titbits

FedEx Express:

HQ: Memphis, Tennessee, US
President and CEO: Raj Subhramaniam

IIT Madras:

Founded: 1959
Chairman: Pawan Kumar Goenka
Director: V Kamakoti



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who is the current Chief Secretary of Jharkhand?**

- A) Rajiv Gauba
- B) B. Rajendra
- C) S. K. Choudhary
- D) Lalbiaktluanga Khiangte
- E) K. Vijay Kumar

Answer

D) Lalbiaktluanga Khiangte



- Lalbiaktluanga Khiangte has been appointed as Jharkhand Chief Secretary.
- Khiangte replaces Sukhdev Singh.



APPOINTMENTS



About Chief Secretary:

- The Chief Secretary is the top-most executive official and senior-most civil servant of the state government.
- The Chief Secretary is the ex-officio head of the state Civil Services Board, the State Secretariat, the state cadre Indian Administrative Service and all civil services under the rules of business of the state government.
- The Chief Secretary acts as the principal advisor to the chief minister on all matters of state administration.
- The status of this post is equal to that of a Secretary to the Government of India.



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Jharkhand:

Capital: Ranchi

Chief Minister: Hemant Soren

Governor: C P Radhakrishnan



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who has been elected as the Prime Minister of Poland by the country's parliament?

- A) Mateusz Morawiecki
- B) Donald Tusk
- C) Andrzej Duda
- D) Jarosław Kaczyński
- E) Beata Szydło

Answer
B) Donald Tusk



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Poland's parliament has elected centrist party leader Donald Tusk as prime minister, paving the way for a new pro-EU government after eight years of national conservative rule.**
- The vote was 248-201 in support of Tusk in the 460-seat lower house of parliament.
- **The election of Tusk comes after the former government of Prime Minister Mateusz Morawiecki's government lost a confidence vote in parliament.**



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Poland:

Capital: Warsaw

Currency: Euro

President: Andrzej Duda

Prime Minister: Donald Dusk



AWARDS



➤ **What is the primary criterion for winning the Vyas Samman Award?**

- A) Exceptional contribution to journalism
- B) Outstanding work in the field of social service
- C) Excellence in Hindi literature published in the last 10 years
- D) Significant achievements in the field of science
- E) Leadership in business and entrepreneurship



Answer

C) Excellence in Hindi literature published in the last 10 years



AWARDS



Explanation

- **Noted Hindi writer Pushpa Bharati's 2016 memoir, Yaadein, Yaadein aur Yaadein, has been selected for the 33rd Vyas Samman, 2023.**
- After considering the works published during 2013-2022, a selection committee headed by eminent litterateur Prof Ramji Tiwari picked Bharati's Yaadein, Yaadein aur Yaadein for the prestigious award.
- **In the memoir Yaadein, Yaadein aur Yaadein, Bharti gives the readers a glimpse into her cherished memories and life lessons through captivating anecdotes as she reflects on the joys, challenges, and transformative moments that shape a life.**



AWARDS



Vyas Samman Award:

- This award was **instituted in 1991 by K K Birla Foundation**
- The award is **given to an outstanding Hindi literary work by an Indian citizen published during the last 10 years.**
- It carries a cash prize of **Rs 4 lakh, a citation and a plaque.**

Note: Besides Vyas Samman, K K Birla Foundation instituted Saraswathi Samman and Bihari Puraskar.



AWARDS



Vyas Samman Award:

- Vyas Samman – Hindi Literature – Rs 4 Lakh cash prize
- Saraswathi Samman – Literary Work in any of the languages listed in Schedule 8 for 10 years – Rs 15 lakh cash prize
- Bihari Puraskar – Hindi/Rajasthani writers – Rs 2.5 Lakh cash prize



➤ **What portion of the Sovereign Green Bonds proceeds was allocated for renewable energy projects?**

- A) Rs. 2,500 crore
- B) Rs. 4,000 crore
- C) Rs. 6,186 crore
- D) Rs. 8,500 crore
- E) Rs. 10,000 crore

Answer

C) Rs. 6,186 crore



Explanation

- **The Union Minister for New & Renewable Energy and Power has informed that the draft National Electricity Plan (May 31, 2023) prepared by Central Electricity Authority (CEA) has estimated the fund requirement for solar and wind generation projects during FY 2022 – 2032 as Rs. 20.67 lakh crore.**
- **Government of India raised Sovereign Green Bonds of Rs.16,000 crore (approximately) during FY 22-23.**
- **Out of the proceeds of Sovereign Green Bonds, Rs. 6,186 crores were dedicated for renewable energy.**



Explanation

- IREDA had raised Green Masala Bonds of USD 300 Million in October, 2017 for financing green energy projects in India.
- These bonds had a tenor of 5 years and were listed on the London Stock Exchange, Singapore Stock Exchange and also NSE IFSC with maturity period ending in October 2022.



Sovereign Green Bonds:

- **A green bond is a debt security that is issued to raise money for initiatives that are relevant to the environment or the climate.**



➤ **What is the estimated cost of developing the Multi Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Nagpur?**

- A) Rs. 500 crore
- B) Rs. 573 crore
- C) Rs. 625 crore
- D) Rs. 673 crore
- E) Rs. 720 crore



Answer

D) Rs. 673 crore



Explanation

- **NHAI has signed an agreement with M/s. DC Multi Modal Park (Nagpur) Limited, a SPV of M/S. DeltaBulk Shipping India Pvt. Ltd., for the development of Multi Modal Logistics Park (MMLP) at Nagpur.**
- **The MMLP will be developed in an area of 150 acres under the Public Private Partnership model at an estimated cost of Rs.673 crore.**
- **This project is poised to be the first MMLP in Maharashtra under the PM Gati Shakti National Master Plan.**



Explanation

- MMLP will cater to about **9.47 million metric tonnes (MMT) cargo in the horizon period of 45 years** .
- The Phase-I with an investment of Rs. 137 crore is expected to be completed in two years
- It will give huge boost to the industrial zones in the catchment region such as **Nagpur, Wardha, Chandrapur and Gondiya**.
- A government SPV, Nagpur MMLP Pvt. Ltd. is formed between National Highways Logistics Management Limited (NHLML), a 100% owned company of NHA and Jawaharlal Nehru Port Authority (JNPA).



National Highway Authority of India (NHAI):

- The National Highways Authority of India or NHAI is an autonomous agency of the Government of India, set up in **1995 (Act 1988)** and is responsible for management of a road network of over 50,000 km of National Highways out of 1,32,499 km in India.
- It is a nodal agency of the Ministry of Road Transport and Highways (MoRTH).
- Chairman: **Santhosh Kumar Yadav**



➤ How many member countries are part of the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI)?

- A) 15
- B) 20
- C) 25
- D) 29
- E) 32



Answer
D) 29



Explanation

- **The Prime Minister, Shri Narendra Modi inaugurated the Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) Summit at Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi.**
- Top AI Gamechangers from across the world will be participating in different events including Intel, Reliance Jio, Google, Meta, AWS, Yotta, Netweb, Paytm, Microsoft, Mastercard, NIC, STPI, Immerse, Jio Haptik, Bhashini etc.
- Besides, students who are winners under YUVA AI initiative and start-ups will also showcase their AI models and solutions.



GPAl:

- **GPAl is a multi-stakeholder initiative with 29 member countries aiming to bridge the gap between theory and practice on AI.**
- It officially launched on June 15, 2020 with **fifteen founding members**: Australia, Canada, France, Germany, India, Italy, Japan, Mexico, New Zealand, the Republic of Korea, Singapore, Slovenia, the United Kingdom, the United States, and the European Union.
- GPAl is hosted by the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- **India is the lead chair of GPAl in 2024.**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Note:

The AI Supercomputer 'AIRAWAT', installed at C-DAC, Pune has been ranked 75th in the world



➤ **What is the age eligibility criteria for joining the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) scheme?**

- A) 18 - 30 years
- B) 20 - 40 years
- C) 25 - 45 years
- D) 18 - 50 years
- E) 18 - 40 years



Answer

E) 18 - 40 years



Explanation

- The total enrolment under the Atal Pension Yojana (APY) has crossed 6 crore, with over 79 lakh enrolments in the current Financial Year.
- The Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority (PFRDA), in the recent past, has taken several initiatives for awareness creation of the scheme including the release of a one-page simple APY flyer/handout in Hindi, English, and 21 regional languages



Atal Pension Yojana:

- It is a flagship social security scheme of the Government of India, was launched on 9th May 2015 by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi to provide old age income security to Indian citizens, with a particular focus on the poor, underprivileged, and workers in the unorganized sectors.

Eligibility:

- Any Citizen can join the APY Scheme.
- The age of Subscriber should be **18 – 40 years**



Atal Pension Yojana:

Benefits:

- It provides a pension amount of **1000 to 5000** on **attaining 60 years of their subscribers.**
- **On death of subscriber, the amount of pension paid to the spouse.**
- **If the subscriber and his spouse died, the pension is paid to the nominee.**



- **What is the approximate value of the approved proposal to purchase 70,000 semi-automatic assault rifles for the Indian Army?**

- A) Rs 500 Crore
- B) Rs 600 Crore
- C) Rs 700 Crore
- D) Rs 800 Crore
- E) Rs 900 Crore

Answer

D) Rs 800 Crore



Explanation

- The Ministry of Defence has cleared a proposal to purchase 70,000 more semi-automatic assault rifles from US-based Sig Sauer for Indian Army, valued at Rs 800 Crore.
- So far, India has already purchased over 72,400 7.62 x 51mm calibre Sig Sauer assault rifles, of which Army got 66,400, Air Force 4000 and Navy 2000, offering an alternative to indigenously made INSAS and Kalishnikov rifles.



➤ **Who is the new chief minister of Rajasthan?**

- A) Vishnu Deo Sai
- B) Mohan Yadav
- C) Revanth Reddy
- D) Lalduhoma
- E) Bajan Lal Sharma



Answer

E) Bajan Lal Sharma



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Recent State Legislative Assembly Elections: 5 States

Name of the States	New Chief Minister	No of Seats in legislative Assembly
Chhattisgarh	Vishnu Deo Sai (BJP)	54/90
Madhya Pradesh	Mohan Yadav (BJP)	163/230
Rajasthan	Bajan Lal Sharma (BJP)	115/199
Telangana	Revanth Reddy (Indian National Congress)	64/119
Mizoram	Lalduhoma (Zoram People Movement)	27/40



➤ **Which country hosted the first-ever Quad Summit in 2017?**

- A) Japan
- B) India
- C) Australia
- D) United States
- E) Singapore

Answer

D) United States



Explanation

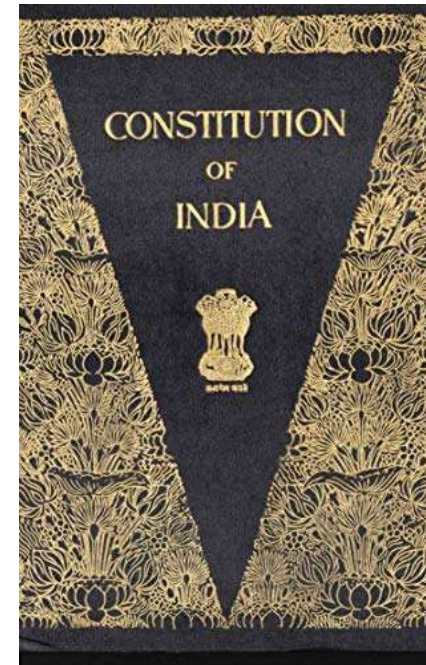
- **India has postponed the summit meeting of Quad countries, which includes India, Australia, the US and Japan, scheduled in January 2024.**
- The Quad is a diplomatic partnership between **Australia, India, Japan, and the US committed to supporting an open, stable and prosperous Indo-Pacific.**
- It is also seen as an effort by the four nations to challenge China's increasing influence in the Indo-Pacific region.



➤ Which article of the Constitution empowers the President to unilaterally issue a notification for the cessation of Article 370?

- A) Article 360
- B) Article 365
- C) Article 370(3)
- D) Article 371(A)
- E) Article 372

Answer
C) Article 370 (3)



Explanation

- **A Constitution Bench of the Supreme Court unanimously upheld the power of the President to abrogate special status of Jammu and Kashmir under Article 370 of the Constitution, leading to the reorganisation of the fullfledged State to two Union Territories and the removal of its privileges.**
- The fivejudge Bench headed by Chief Justice of India D.Y. Chandrachu confirmed that the President could “unilaterally issue a notification that Article 370 ceases to exist.
- **The president , in exercise of power under article 370(3), can unilaterally issue a notification that article 370 ceases to exist**



Article 370:

- **Article 370 of the Indian constitution gave special status to Jammu and Kashmir, a region located in the northern part of the Indian subcontinent and part of the larger region of Kashmir which has been the subject of a dispute between India, Pakistan and China since 1947.**
- **Jammu and Kashmir was administered by India as a state from 17 November 1952 to 31 October 2019, and Article 370 conferred on it the power to have a separate constitution, a state flag, and autonomy of internal administration.**
- **Article 370 was drafted in Part XXI of the Indian constitution titled "Temporary, Transitional and Special Provisions"**



Article 370:

- On 5 August 2019, the Government of India issued a Presidential Order superseding the 1954 order, and making all the provisions of the Indian constitution applicable to Jammu and Kashmir.
- The order was based on the resolution passed in both houses of India's parliament with two-thirds majority.
- A further order on 6 August made all the clauses of Article 370 except clause 1 to be inoperative.
- In addition, the Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019 was passed by the parliament, enacting the division of the state of Jammu and Kashmir into two union territories to be called Union Territory of Jammu and Kashmir and Union Territory of Ladakh.
- The reorganisation took place on 31 October 2019.



QUICK RECALL



- **Universal Health Coverage (UHC) Day is observed on December 12 every year**
- **Travis Head wins ICC Men's Player of Month award for November 2023**
- **IndiGo receives IFSC Gift City approval to set up aircraft leasing shop**
- **FedEx grants IIT Madras \$5 million to pioneer sustainable logistics advancements**
- **Lalbiaktluanga Khiangte has been appointed as Jharkhand Chief Secretary**
- **Poland's parliament elects Donald Tusk as prime minister**
- **Writer Pushpa Bharati's memoir selected for Vyas Samman award**



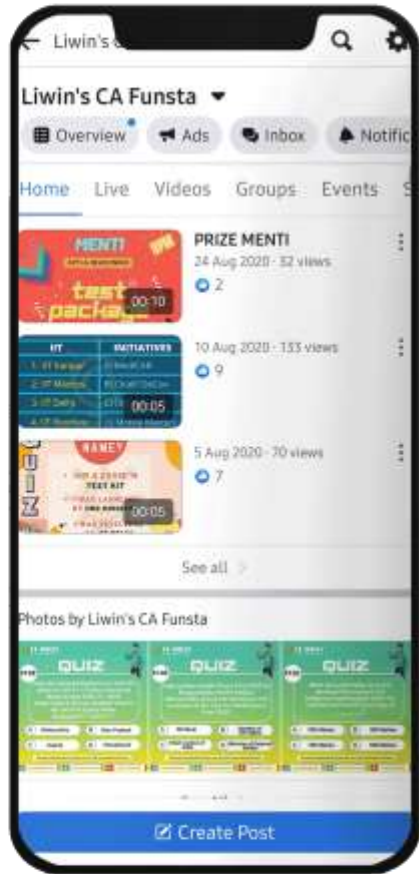
QUICK RECALL



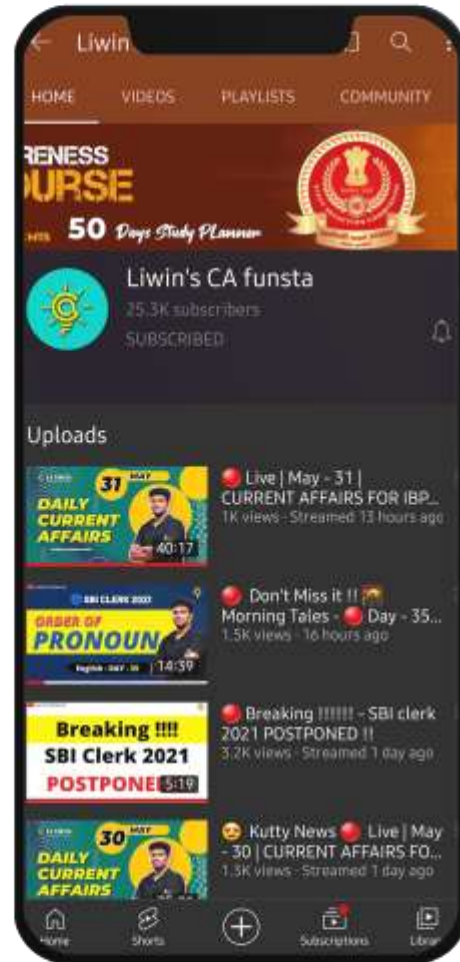
- **Sovereign Green Bonds of Rs. 16,000 crores raised by government in 2022-23 for financing renewable energy projects; proceeds of nearly Rs. 6,200 crores dedicated for renewable energy: Union Power and New & Renewable Energy Minister**
- **NHAI Inks Agreement to Develop Multi Modal Logistics Park at Nagpur at a cost of Rs. 673 crore**
- **PM inaugurates annual Global Partnership on Artificial Intelligence (GPAI) Summit**
- **Atal Pension Yojana (APY) enrolments crossed the 6 crore mark**
- **MoD to buy 70,000 more assault rifles from US-based Sig Sauer for Rs 800 crore**
- **Bhajan Lal Sharma is elected as a new Chief Minister of Rajasthan**
- **India postpones Quad summit meeting scheduled in Jan 2024**
- **Supreme Court upholds repeal of J&K's Special Status**



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