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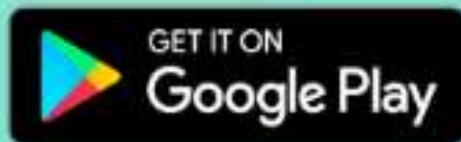
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Important Days



➤ On which date is PravasiBharatiya Divas, also known as NRI Day (Non-Resident Indian), celebrated every year?

- A) January 1
- B) January 6
- C) January 9
- D) January 15
- E) January 21

Answer

C) January 9



Important Days



Explanation

- **PravasiBharatiya** Divas, also known as NRI Day (Non-Resident Indian), is celebrated every year on **January 9**. It holds great significance in recognising and honouring the Indian diaspora spread across the globe
- PravasiBharatiya Divas was first introduced in 2003 by the then Prime Minister of India, Atal Bihari Vajpayee, to commemorate the return of Mahatma Gandhi from South Africa to India on January 9, 1915.



Important Days



Explanation

- It was celebrated every year from 2003 to 2015. But it was amended in the year 2015, and since then, PravasiBharatiyaDiwas is celebrated at an interval of every two years. The Ministry of External Affairs has chosen a special theme on this occasion.
- PravasiBharatiyaSamman Awards are to recognise the outstanding achievements and contributions of NRIs and PIOs in various fields, including education, science and technology, arts and culture, social work, public service, trade and industry, and philanthropy.



OBITUARY



- **What distinguished achievement did Franz Beckenbauer hold in relation to the FIFA World Cup?**
- A) He was the top scorer in multiple World Cup editions.
 - B) He served as the FIFA president for several years.
 - C) He won the FIFA World Cup as a player and as a coach.
 - D) He played in the most World Cup tournaments.
 - E) He was the captain of the winning team in the longest World Cup final.



Answer

C) He won the FIFA World Cup as a player and as a coach.



OBITUARY



Explanation

- **German football federation** informed about the **demise of football legend Franz Beckenbauer**, who was one of only three players to win the FIFA World Cup as a player and as a coach. Nicknamed "**Der Kaiser**," Franz Beckenbauer has been suffering from health problems for the past few years.
- He was one of few footballers to win the FIFA World Cup as a player in 1974 when he led West Germany to the cup, and then as a manager in the 1990 FIFA World Cup.



OBITUARY



Explanation

- Accumulating a total of 103 international appearances for West Germany, he secured victory in the 1972 European Championship and later triumphed in the World Cup hosted in his home country, a significant achievement following the disappointment of losing in the final to England in 1966.



➤ **IIMK Live has partnered with which organization to launch an accelerator programme for fintech start-ups?**

- A) NITI Aayog
- B) SEBI (Securities and Exchange Board of India)
- C) RBI (Reserve Bank of India)
- D) IFSCA (International Financial Services Centres Authority)
- E) SIDBI (Small Industries Development Bank of India)



Answer
D) IFSCA

(International Financial Services Centres Authority)



Explanation

- To support and nurture the entrepreneurial journey of new-age fintech start-ups, **IIMK Live (the business incubator and the entrepreneurship development centre of IIM Kozhikode)** has launched **FINN X –a fintech themed accelerator programme**. It is implemented in collaboration with the International Financial Services Centres Authority (IFSCA).
- FINN X will be a 3-month accelerator programme which seeks to bolster the growth of fintech start-ups. IFSCA offers grants up to ₹75 lakh which includes a grant of ₹15 lakh and, a proof of concept (PoC) grant of ₹ 50 lakh, sand-box grant of ₹30 lakh, and green fintech grant up to ₹75 lakh.



Explanation

- Start-ups will also receive intensive training and mentorship support from IIMK Live through its wide network of industry and subject matter experts which will help in acquiring the right business acumen and competencies to roll out impactful solutions that can act as game changers.



Titbits

IFSCA (International Financial Services Centres Authority):

Founded: 2020

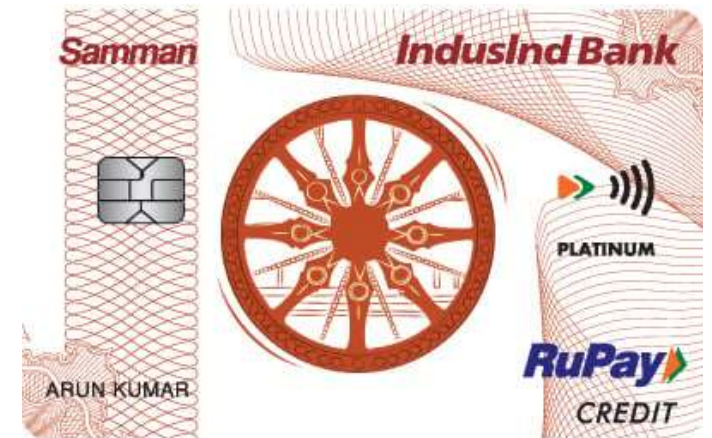
HQ: GIFT City, Gujarat

Chairman: Rajaraman



➤ Which credit card has IndusInd Bank introduced exclusively for government employees?

- A) Swabhiman Credit Card
- B) PragatiRuPay Credit Card
- C) SammanRuPay Credit Card
- D) Utkarsh Gold Credit Card
- E) Aarogya Platinum Credit Card



Answer

C) SammanRuPay Credit Card



Explanation

- **IndusInd Bank** recently introduced the “**IndusInd Bank SammanRuPay Credit Card**”, equipped with UPI functionality, in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI). Tailored for government sector employees, the card is designed to offer a variety of exclusive perks, aiming to elevate their banking experience.
- Combining the advantages of a conventional credit card with the advanced functionalities of UPI, the IndusInd Bank SammanRuPay Credit Card presents a seamless financial instrument.



Explanation

- This card comes with a myriad of benefits, such as cashback on various expenses, complimentary movie tickets, zero fees on cash advances, and exemptions from surcharges on IRCTC transactions and fuel purchases. These features are crafted not just to offer financial incentives but also to streamline and enhance the everyday transactional journey for government employees.
- The perks associated with this card are tailored to elevate the payment process via UPI on a credit card, ensuring users enjoy a gratifying credit card experience.



Titbits

Indusind Bank:

HQ: Mumbai, Maharashtra
MD and CEO: Sumant Kathpalia



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who recently became the youngest Prime Minister of France?

- A) Emmanuel Macron
- B) Jean Castex
- C) Gabriel Attal
- D) Édouard Philippe
- E) François Hollande

Answer
C) Gabriel Attal



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Emmanuel Macron** appointed 34-year-old **Education Minister Gabriel Attal** as his new prime minister, as the French President seeks to breathe new life into his second mandate ahead of European parliament elections.
- He will be France's youngest prime minister and the first to be openly gay.



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

France:

Capital: Paris

Currency: Euro, CFP Franc

President: Emmanuel Macron

Prime Minister: Gabriel Attal



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has assumed the position of Secretary General (SG) of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)?**

- A) Indra Mani Pandey
- B) Subrahmanyam Jaishankar
- C) Ajit Doval
- D) Vikram Misri
- E) Harsh Vardhan Shringla

Answer

A) Indra Mani Pandey



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey**, a senior diplomat of India, **assumed the position of Secretary General (SG) of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC)** in Dhaka. Pandey, succeeded Tenzin Lekphell of Bhutan, is the 4th SG of BIMSTEC and will remain in office for a period of three years, said a press release issued by BIMSTEC Secretariat.
- A career diplomat, Ambassador Pandey joined the Indian Foreign Service in 1990. Prior to taking over as SG, he served as the Permanent Representative of India to the United Nations and Other International Organizations in Geneva.



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC):

HQ: Dhaka, Bangladesh

Members: Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Sri Lanka, and Thailand

Secretary General: Tenzin Lekphell



AWARDS



➤ Who conferred the 'Khel Ratna' and 'Arjuna' awards on January 9, 2023, at Rashtrapati Bhawan?

- A) Ram Nath Kovind
- B) Narendra Modi
- C) Droupadi Murmu
- D) Amit Shah
- E) Rajnath Singh

Answer

C) Droupadi Murmu



AWARDS



Explanation

- President DroupadiMurmu confers the 'Khel Ratna' and 'Arjuna' awards at RashtrapatiBhawan.
- Recognized as the second-highest athletic honor in India, the Arjuna Award is bestowed upon individuals who have exhibited leadership, sportsmanship, and discipline, coupled with exceptional performance over the preceding four years.
- Mohammed Shami received the Arjuna Award from President DroupadiMurmu at the National Sports Awards.



AWARDS



Explanation

- Among the recipients were shuttlers Chirag Shetty and Satwiksairaj Rankireddy, along with cricketer Mohammed Shami, who received the Arjuna Award.
- Chirag and Satwik were honored with the prestigious Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna award for their remarkable achievements in 2023, securing India's maiden Asian Games gold in badminton, clinching the Asian Championships title, and winning the Indonesia Open Super 1000 title.
- The ceremony, usually held on August 29 to commemorate Major Dhyan Chand's birth anniversary, was postponed due to the Hangzhou Asian Games from September 23 to October 8 last year.



AWARDS



Explanation

- Amid an atmosphere of jubilation, 26 athletes and para-athletes were presented with the Arjuna Awards. Chirag and Satwik, currently ranked world No.1, are eyeing an Olympic medal in Paris, having virtually sealed their qualification.
- Noteworthy awardees included chess Grandmaster R. Vaishali, pistol shooting sensation Esha Singh (competing in the Asian Olympic Qualifiers), wrestler AntimPanghal, boxer Mohammad Hussamuddin, and para archer Sheetal Devi.
- Dronacharya awardees featured chess coach RB Ramesh, recognized for nurturing talent like Praggnanandhaa. The Khel Ratna comes with a cash prize of ₹25 lakh, while the Arjuna and Dronacharya awards include a cash prize of ₹15 lakh.



AWARDS



The List of recipients of the 2023 awards

- **Major Dhyan Chand Khel Ratna Award:**
Chirag Shetty and SatwikSairajRankireddy
(badminton).



AWARDS



The List of recipients of the 2023 awards

- **Arjuna Awards:** Ojas Pravin Deotale (archery), Aditi Gopichand Swami (archery), MuraliSreeshankar (athletics), Parul Chaudhary (athletics), Mohammad Hussamuddin (boxing), R Vaishali (chess), Mohammed Shami (cricket), AnushAgarwalla (equestrian), Divyakriti Singh (equestrian dressage), DikshaDagar (golf), Krishan Bahadur Pathak (hockey), SushilaChanu (hockey), Pawan Kumar (kabaddi), Ritu Negi (kabaddi), Nasreen (kho-kho), Pinki (lawn bowls), AishwaryPratap Singh Tomar (shooting), Esha Singh (shooting), Harinder Pal Singh Sandhu (squash), Ayhika Mukherjee (table tennis), Sunil Kumar (wrestling), AntimPanghal (wrestling), NaoremRoshibina Devi (wushu), Sheetal Devi (para archery), Illuri Ajay Kumar Reddy (blind cricket), Prachi Yadav (para canoeing).



AWARDS



The List of recipients of the 2023 awards

- **Dronacharya Award (regular category):** Lalit Kumar (wrestling), RB Ramesh (chess), Mahaveer Prasad Saini (para athletics), Shivendra Singh (hockey), Ganesh Prabhakar Devrukhkar (mallakhamb).
- **Dronacharya Award (life-time category):** Jaskirat Singh Grewal (golf), Bhaskaran E (kabaddi), Jayanta Kumar Pushilal (table tennis).
- **Dhyan Chand Award for lifetime achievement:** Manjusha Kanwar (badminton), Vineet Kumar Sharma (hockey), Kavitha Selvaraj (kabaddi).
- **Maulana Abul Kalam Azad (MAKA) Trophy 2023:** Guru Nanak Dev University, Amritsar (overall winner university); Lovely Professional University, Punjab (1st runner-up), Kurukshetra University, Kurukshetra (2nd runner-up).



➤ **Whose lunar lander, named Peregrine, has successfully started the historic mission to the Moon?**

- A) SpaceX
- B) NASA
- C) Astrobotic Technology
- D) Blue Origin
- E) Virgin Galactic

Answer

C) Astrobotic Technology



Explanation

- **US-based Astrobotic Technology's Peregrinelunar lander** has successfully started the **historic mission to the Moon**, aiming to bring America back to the lunar terrain after about 50 years.
- The US has not attempted a moon landing since Apollo 17 in December 1972.
- The lander lifted off aboard United Launch Alliance's brand new rocket Vulcan Centaur at 2:18 a.m. EST (7:18 GMT), from Cape Canaveral Space Force Station in Florida.
- After dwelling in a stable orbit and performing system checkouts, it aims to attempt the historic landing on February 23.



Explanation

- The lander carries a total of 20 payloads, or cargo, including 5 from NASA's Commercial Lunar Payload Services (CLPS) initiative. The payload teams have missions that vary from seeking indications of water-ice near the lunar surface to demonstrating a rover swarm. The lander also has several payloads representing humanity through artwork and historical artefacts
- The five NASA science and research payloads aboard the lander will help the agency better understand planetary processes and evolution, search for evidence of water and other resources, and support long-term, sustainable human exploration.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



- **India is set to chair and host UNESCO's World Heritage Committee in New Delhi from 21st to 31st July 2024. What is the significance of this event?**
- A) It marks the inauguration of a new UNESCO office in India.
 - B) It is the first time India is hosting an international cultural event of this scale.
 - C) It signifies India's commitment to environmental conservation.
 - D) It highlights India's contribution to global education initiatives.
 - E) It marks the 50th anniversary of India's association with UNESCO.



Answer

B) It is the first time India is hosting an international cultural event of this scale.



Explanation

- In a first, **India** is set to chair and host **UNESCO's World Heritage Committee in New Delhi from 21st to 31st July 2024**, Permanent Representative of India to UNESCO, Vishal V Sharma said



➤ **Mamata Banerjee has launched 'Yogyasree' for which category of students in West Bengal?**

- A) Economically Weaker Section (EWS)
- B) Minority Community
- C) Women
- D) Persons with Disabilities (PWD)
- E) Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST)



Answer

E) Scheduled Caste/Scheduled Tribe (SC/ST)



Explanation

- **West Bengal Chief Minister Mamata Banerjee** introduced a **free training module for the Scheduled Caste and Scheduled Tribe students** in West Bengal for various entrance and competitive examinations under the name of "Yogyasree", a new social welfare scheme, ahead of Lok Sabha polls. She introduced a toll free anti-ragging number for students and said notification should be put up in all colleges and universities.
- The scheme was launched by the Chief Minister at a programme in Kolkata.



QUICK RECALL



- **PravasiBharatiya Divas, also known as NRI Day (Non-Resident Indian), is celebrated every year on January 9**
- **German football federation informed about the demise of football legend Franz Beckenbauer, who was one of only three players to win the FIFA World Cup as a player and as a coach**
- **To support and nurture the entrepreneurial journey of new-age fintech start-ups, IIMK Live (the business incubator and the entrepreneurship development centre of IIM Kozhikode) has launched FINN X—a fintech themed accelerator programme**
- **IndusInd Bank recently introduced the “IndusInd Bank SammanRuPay Credit Card”, equipped with UPI functionality, in partnership with the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI).**
- **Emmanuel Macron appointed 34-year-old Education Minister Gabriel Attal as his new prime minister**



QUICK RECALL



- **Ambassador Indra Mani Pandey, a senior diplomat of India, assumed the position of Secretary General (SG) of the Bay of Bengal Initiative for Multi-Sectoral Technical and Economic Cooperation (BIMSTEC) in Dhaka**
- **President Droupadi Murmu confers the 'Khel Ratna' and 'Arjuna' awards at Rashtrapati Bhawan.**
- **US-based Astrobotic Technology's Peregrine lunar lander has successfully started the historic mission to the Moon, aiming to bring America back to the lunar terrain after about 50 years.**
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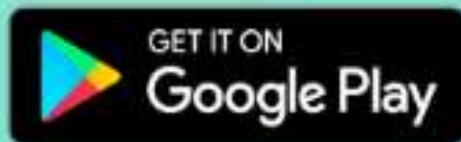
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