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JANUARY 26

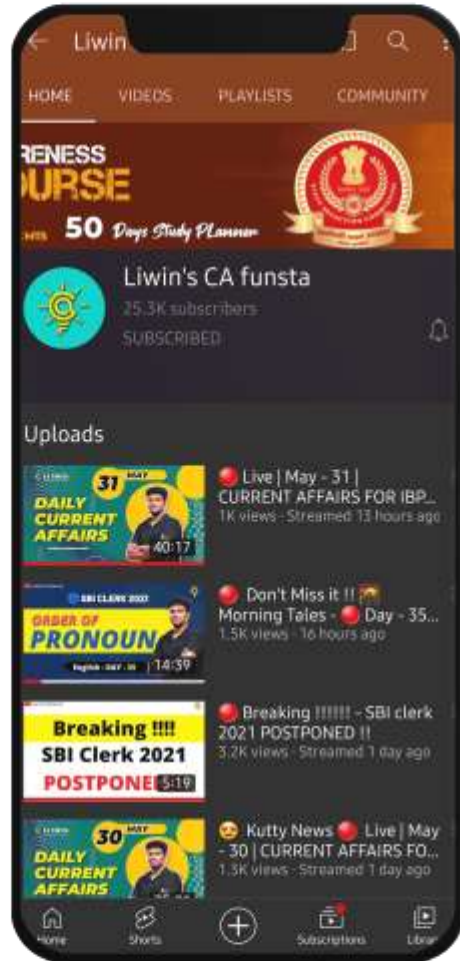
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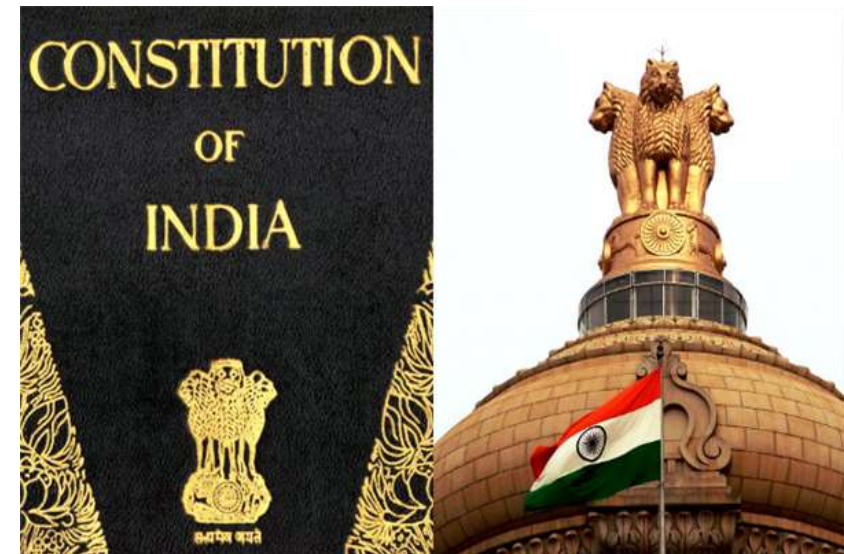


Important Days



➤ **What event does Indian Republic Day commemorate?**

- A) Independence Day
- B) Adoption of the Indian Constitution
- C) End of British rule in India
- D) Formation of the Indian National Congress
- E) Signing of the Treaty of Versailles



Answer

B) Adoption of the Indian Constitution



Important Days



Explanation

- **Indian Republic Day is celebrated annually on January 26th, commemorating the day when the Indian constitution came into effect, officially declaring India an independent republic.**
- **Republic Day is celebrated based on the years since the adoption of the Indian Constitution. Considering the constitution's adoption on January 26, 1950, 2024 is recognized as the 75th anniversary of Republic Day.**
- **The theme, 'Viksit Bharat' and 'Bharat: Loktantra ki Matruka,' reflects the country's democratic hopes and goals.**
- **Last year, Brazil President Jair Messias Bolsonaro was the Chief Guest.**



Important Days



History:

- **Independence Day:** India declared independence from British Raj on August 15, 1947, following the success of the Indian independence movement.
- **Independence Act of 1947:** The British Parliament passed this Act, dividing British India into two independent Dominions, which later became part of the Commonwealth of Nations.
- **Drafting Committee Formation:** On August 29, 1947, a resolution was passed to establish a Drafting Committee, led by Dr B. R. Ambedkar, to create a permanent constitution.



Important Days



History:

- **Constitution Proposal:** On November 4, 1947, the committee presented a proposed constitution to the Constituent Assembly.
- **Signing of the Constitution:** After extensive discussions and revisions, 308 members of the Assembly signed two handwritten versions of the agreement on January 24, 1950.
- **Effective Date:** The constitution came into effect nationwide on January 26, 1950.



OBITUARY



➤ **What nationality was Norman Jewison who passed away recently?**

- A) American
- B) British
- C) Canadian
- D) Australian
- E) French

Answer

C) Canadian



OBITUARY



Explanation

- **Norman Jewison, the acclaimed and versatile Canadian-born director whose Hollywood films ranged from Doris Day comedies and Moonstruck to social dramas such as the Oscar-winning In the Heat of the Night, has died at the age of 97.**
- **Jewison, a three-time Oscar nominee who in 1999 received an Academy Award for lifetime achievement.**



OBITUARY



Explanation

- In his autobiography **This Terrible Business Has Been Good to Me**, he noted that racism and injustice became his most common themes.
- **Five Jewison films received best Oscar nominations: In the Heat of the Night, The Russian Are Coming, The Russians Are Coming, Fiddler On the Roof, Moonstruck and A Soldier's Story.**



➤ **What is the new name of Bank of Baroda's wholly-owned subsidiary for cards, which was previously known as 'BOB Financial Solutions Limited'?**

- A) BOB Finance and Cards Limited
- B) BOB Financial Services Limited
- C) BOB Cards and Solutions Limited
- D) BOBCARD Limited
- E) Baroda Financial Solutions Limited



BOB Financial
— Credit reimagined —

A wholly owned subsidiary of Bank of Baroda

Answer
D) BOBCARD Limited



Explanation

- Bank of Baroda's wholly-owned subsidiary for cards, 'BOB Financial Solutions Limited', has been rebranded as 'BOBCARD Limited' with the tagline "Credit Reimagined".
- The NBFC has also unveiled a new logo called 'Baroda Sun', which comprises dual 'B' letterforms that hold the rays of the rising sun.
- BOBCARD offers an array of consumer and commercial credit cards and caters to all segments of customers with varied needs, including shopping, travel and business cards for large corporates and MSMEs.



Explanation

- The company also has exclusive credit cards for Defence Personnel including the Indian Army, Indian Navy, the Indian Coast Guard, Assam Rifles, professionals like ICAI, ICMAI & ICSI, co-branded cards with HPCL, Snapdeal, IRCTC, Premium Lifestyle cards like Eterna, Premier, among others.
- It is also the merchant payment processing partner of Bank of Baroda's merchant acquiring business.
- The NBFC had 22.4 lakh outstanding credit cards in force as of December 2023, as per the latest RBI data.



Titbits

Bank of Baroda:

HQ: Vadodara, Gujarat
Chairman: Hasmukh Adhia



➤ **What is the name of Zomato's wholly-owned subsidiary that received the authorization from the RBI?**

- A) Zomato Finances Pvt Ltd
- B) Zomato Payments Pvt Ltd (ZPPL)
- C) Zomato Banking Solutions Pvt Ltd
- D) Zomato Digital Wallets Pvt Ltd
- E) Zomato Financial Services Pvt Ltd

Answer

B) Zomato Payments Pvt Ltd (ZPPL)



Explanation

- **Food delivery major Zomato's subsidiary has received certificate of authorisation from RBI to operate as a payment aggregator.**
- **The company's wholly-owned subsidiary Zomato Payments Pvt Ltd (ZPPL) has been incorporated to carry out the business as payment aggregator and issuer of pre-paid payment instruments.**



Note:

- Earlier, players such as Razorpay, Tata Pay and Cashfree bagged similar payment aggregators licenses.
- The Gurugram-based food delivery major announced a partnership with ICICI Bank to launch its own payments business, Zomato Pay.



Titbits

Zomato:

HQ: Gurugram, Haryana
CEO and MD: Deepinder Goyal



➤ **What is the primary objective of the 'Cashless Everywhere' initiative launched by the General Insurance Council?**

- A) To provide cashless treatment only at network hospitals
- B) To provide cashless treatment at any hospital chosen by the policyholder
- C) To eliminate the need for health insurance policies
- D) To increase premiums for policyholders
- E) To restrict access to healthcare services



Answer

B) To provide cashless treatment at any hospital chosen by the policyholder



Explanation

- **General Insurance Council, in consultation with all general and health insurance companies, has launched the 'Cashless Everywhere' initiative, wherein policyholders can get treated in any hospital they choose, and a cashless facility will be available even if such a hospital is not in the network of the insurance company.**
- Under the cashless facility, policyholders don't need to pay for treatment out of pocket in the event of hospitalisation, subject to admissibility of the claim.



Explanation

- The 'cashless everywhere' facility will be subject to customers intimating their insurer 48 hours prior to admission for elective procedures, and 48 hours post admission in case of emergency treatments.
- Further, the claim should be admissible as per the terms of the policy and the cashless facility should be admissible as per the operating guidelines of the insurer.



➤ **What is the ownership structure of CFM International, the aerospace company that produces the LEAP-1B engines?**

- A) GE Aerospace
- B) Safran Aircraft Engines
- C) Boeing
- D) Airbus
- E) Both A and B

Answer
E) Both A and B



Explanation

- **Akasa Air announced an order of over 300 CFM LEAP-1B engines to power its latest order of 150 Boeing B737 MAX family aircraft.**
- **French-American aerospace major CFM International is a 50:50 joint venture between GE Aerospace and Safran Aircraft Engines.**
- **The Boeing B737 MAX family aircraft are solely powered by CFM engines.**
- **Currently more than 400 CFM-powered aircraft are in service in India and 2,500 LEAP engines are in the backlog.**



Explanation

- Earlier the airline announced an order for an additional 150 narrow-body Boeing 737 MAX aircraft.
- The announcement was made at the Wings Air Show in Hyderabad.
- At list prices, the order has been pegged at over \$20 billion.



Akasa Air:

- **Akasa Air, a brand of SNV Aviation Private Limited, is an Indian low-cost airline headquartered in Mumbai, Maharashtra, India.**
- **It was founded by Vinay Dube and Aditya Ghosh with investor Rakesh Jhunjhunwala holding a 46% stake in the airline.**
- **The airline began commercial operation with its first flight service from Mumbai to Ahmedabad on 7 August 2022, after receiving its first Boeing 737 MAX 8 aircraft.**
- **MD and CEO: Vinay Dube**



AWARDS



➤ **How many Padma Vibhushan Awards were approved for conferment?**

- A) Five
- B) Seventeen
- C) Thirty
- D) One hundred and ten
- E) Eight



Answer
A) Five



AWARDS



Explanation

- **Five Padma Vibhushan, seventeen Padma Bhushan and hundred-and-ten Padma Shri Awards were approved for conferment by President Droupadi Murmu on outstanding achievers and contributors, which included 30 women, and eight foreigners, NRIs and Persons of Indian Origin.**
- **Other than that, nine of them received the awards posthumously.**



Padma Vibhushan – 5 Persons

- **Of the five highest Padma Vibhushan Awards, two have gone to artists from Tamil Nadu --**
Vyjayanthimala Bali, a well-known veteran Indian actress, dancer, and parliamentarian, and classical dancer
- **Dr Padma Subrahmanyam**, who acquired recent fame by bringing to Prime Minister Narendra Modi's notice about Sengol which was installed in new parliament building, signifying the transfer of power from Britain to India in 1947.



AWARDS



Padma Vibhushan – 5 Persons

- **Former Vice President of India and senior BJP leader M Venkaiah Naidu and Tollywood actor-cum-producer Konidela Chiranjeevi**, both belonging to Andhra Pradesh, were bestowed with Padma Vibhushans.
- **Bindeshwar Pathak**, known for introducing a chain of clean and affordable public toilets in the country, was also handed over the the award but posthumously.



AWARDS



Padma Bhushan – 17 Persons

- **Former Governor of Tamil Nadu, M Fathima Beevi**, figured in the list of 17 persons who would be handed over the Padma Bhushan Awards.
- The list of politicians getting the honours in this segment also includes **Ram Naik, Satyabrata Mookherjee, and Olanchery Rajagopal -- all three are former Union Ministers and BJP leaders.**
- **Founder of Jindal Aluminum Ltd, Sitaram Jindal's** name also found a mention among the Padma Bhushan awardees.
- **Popular Bollywood personalities -- actor Mithun Chakraborty and singer Usha Uthup** are also present in this list.



AWARDS



Padma Shri – 34 Persons

- In the Padma Shri Awards category, thirty-four are unsung heroes as the government acknowledged their exceptional contribution in different fields including medicine, social work, agriculture, dance, music, storytelling, tribal welfare, and environment.
- Parbati Baruah, 67, who had been described as “Hathi ki Pari”, is India’s first female elephant **mahout**, inheriting the skill from her father at the very early age of 14. She has managed to address the human-elephant conflict with the help of the application of scientific practices.



AWARDS



Padma Shri – 34 Persons

- **Jageshwar Yadav, a tribal welfare worker from Jashpur in Chhattisgarh**, is another person picked up for the award for dedicating his life to the upliftment of marginalized Birhor and Pahadi Korwa people.
- **Kamachi Chellammal, a 67-year-old organic farmer from South Andaman**, has been awarded the Padma Shri for her contribution to the cultivation of coconut. Chellammal has demonstrated the benefits of intercropping, growing clove, ginger, pineapples, and bananas together.



AWARDS



Padma Shri – 34 Persons

- **Other farmers, including Sarbeswar Basumatary from Assam and Satyanarayana Beleri from Kerala,** will also receive the Padma Shri award. Basumatary has successfully adopted a mixed integrated farming approach, cultivating crops like coconut, orange, paddy, litchi, and maize.
- **Beleri** has preserved over 650 traditional rice varieties and developed the 'Rajakayame' rice variety
- **Two agriculture scientists from Haryana have also been recognized, including Ram Chander Sihag, the former Dean of the College of Basic Sciences and Humanities. Internationally acclaimed wheat breeder Ravi Prakash Singh has also been included in the list of awardees.**



Foreigners in Padma Awards:

- **One foreign recipient was honoured with the Padma Vibhushan, while three foreigners, all of Indian origin, were bestowed with the Padma Bhushan.**
- **Additionally, among the Padma Shri awardees, three foreigners were recognized, with two of them originating from France.**



AWARDS



Padma Bhushan

- **Young Liu in the field of Trade and Industry from Taiwan.**
- **Young Liu is the Chief Executive Officer and Chairman of the Taiwanese technology giant Hon Hai Technology Group, commonly known as Foxconn. Foxconn stands as the world's largest electronics manufacturer and a prominent global provider of science and technology solutions.**



AWARDS



Padma Shri

- **Charlotte Chopin, representing France, is honoured for her contributions to the field of Yoga.**
- **Pierre Sylvain Filliozat, a recipient of Literature and Education from France, is recognized for his noteworthy work.**
- **Kiran Vyas, acknowledged in the "Others-Yoga" category from France, is celebrated for his contributions to Yoga.**
- **Prakash Singh, hailing from Mexico, receives recognition in the field of Science and Engineering.**
- **Sasindran Muthuvel, recognized for achievements in Public Affairs and originating from Papua New Guinea, is honoured with a Padma Award.**
- **Fred Negrit, from France, is commended for his accomplishments in Literature and education**



AWARDS



Padma Awards:

- **Established in 1954, the Padma Awards are prestigious civilian honours in India, announced annually on Republic Day eve.**
- **They are presented in three categories: Padma Vibhushan (for exceptional and distinguished service), Padma Bhushan (distinguished service of higher order), and Padma Shri (distinguished service).**
- **The Padma Awards are granted based on recommendations put forth by the Padma Awards Committee, formed annually by the Prime Minister.**



Padma Awards:

- **This committee, led by the Cabinet Secretary, consists of key officials such as the Home Secretary, Secretary to the President, and four to six distinguished individuals.**
- **Following the committee's recommendations, the final approvals are sought from the Prime Minister and the President of India.**



AWARDS



Note:

- In the previous year, the government announced a total of 106 Padma Awards, which included three cases involving duos.
- The breakdown comprised six Padma Vibhushans, nine Padma Bhushan, and 91 Padma Shri Awards.



AWARDS



- **How many Gallantry awards were approved by President Smt Droupadi Murmu on the eve of the 75th Republic Day?**

- A) 60
- B) 80
- C) 100
- D) 120
- E) 150

Answer
B) 80



AWARDS



Explanation

- **President Smt Droupadi Murmu has approved Gallantry awards to 80 Armed Forces personnel, including 12 posthumous, on the eve of 75th Republic Day.**
- **These include six Kirti Chakras, including three posthumous; 16 Shaurya Chakras, including two posthumous; 53 Sena Medals, including seven posthumous; one Nao Sena Medal (Gallantry) and four Vayu Sena Medals (Gallantry).**
- **The President also approved 311 defence decorations to Armed Forces and other personnel.**



AWARDS



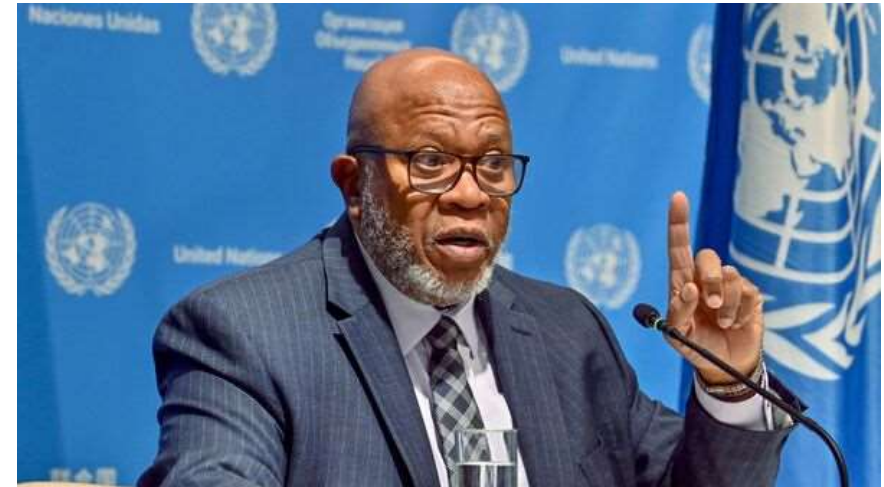
Explanation

- These include 31 Param Vishisht Seva Medals; four Uttam Yudh Seva Medals; two Bar to Ati Vishisht Seva Medals; 59 Ati Vishisht Seva Medals; 10 Yudh Seva Medals; eight Bar to Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty); 38 Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty); 10 Nao Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty); 14 Vayu Sena Medals (Devotion to Duty); five Bar to Vishisht Seva Medal and 130 Vishisht Seva Medals



➤ **Apart from renewable energy, what other strategic issues are New Delhi and Copenhagen considering for enhanced cooperation in their bilateral partnership?**

- A) Agriculture and food security
- B) Space exploration
- C) Artificial intelligence and advanced technologies
- D) Cultural exchange programs
- E) Education and healthcare



Answer

C) Artificial intelligence and advanced technologies



Explanation

- **New Delhi and Copenhagen are considering an expansion of their bilateral partnership, targeting enhanced cooperation on strategic issues, which include maritime security, advanced technologies such as artificial intelligence, and defence.**
- **India and Denmark have collaborated primarily on green energy and sustainable development.**
- **The India-Denmark relationship has so far focussed on renewable energy and clean technology.**
- **In 2020, a meeting between Prime Minister Narendra Modi and his Danish counterpart, Mette Frederiksen, led to the upgrading of their ties to a Green Strategic Partnership.**



Explanation

- **This partnership has focused on capacity building in areas like offshore wind, integrated renewable power, energy planning, wastewater management, and water quality improvement.**
- **In 2020, both nations acknowledged their deep maritime cooperation and identified potential areas for enhancement, including ship-building, maritime services, Green shipping, and port development.**
- **India is exploring a partnership with Denmark, specifically regarding Greenland's rare earth deposits.**
- **Since 2013, India has been an observer at the Arctic Council, established in 1998 to foster collaboration among countries with interests in the Arctic.**



Titbits

Denmark:

Capital: Copenhagen

Currency: Danish Krone

Monarch: Frederik X

Prime Minister: Mette Frederiksen



➤ **According to the adopted roadmap, what are the key priorities for defense cooperation between India and France?**

- A) Military personnel exchange programs
- B) Arms trade and procurement
- C) Coordinating intelligence operations
- D) Co-designing, co-development, and co-production in the defense industrial sector
- E) Nuclear disarmament initiatives



Answer

D) Co-designing, co-development, and co-production in the defense industrial sector



Explanation

- **India and France agreed to adopt the Defence Industrial Roadmap and explore opportunities for partnership in the defence industrial sector and prioritise co-designing, co-development and co-production.**
- **The focus and the priority of defence cooperation through this roadmap is to identify opportunities for partnership in the defence industrial sector that prioritize co-designing, co-development, coproduction with the whole, and also building the defence supply chains between the two countries.**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

France:

Capital: Paris

Currency: Euro, CFP Franc

President: Emmanuel Macron



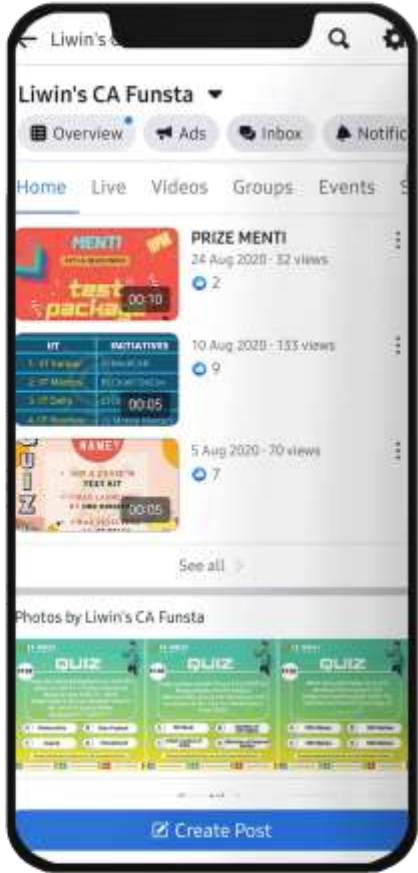
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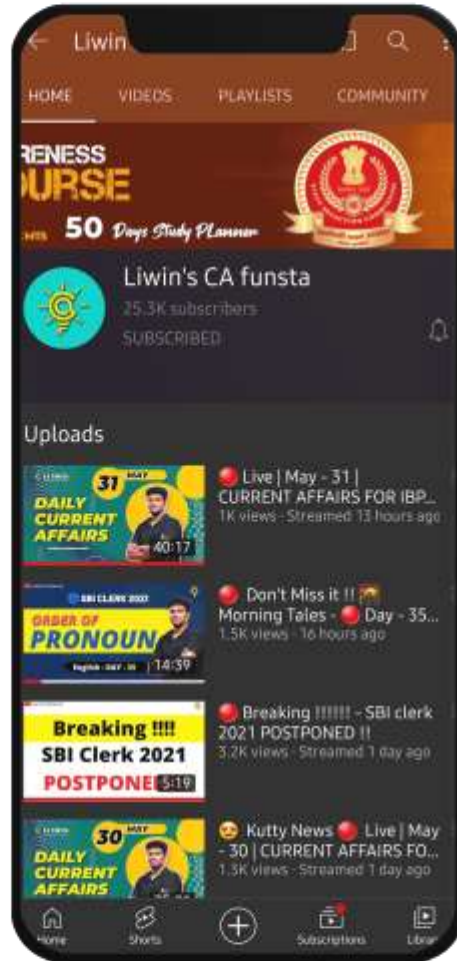
- **India's Republic day is observed on January 26**
- **Norman Jewison, director of In the Heat of the Night, dies aged 97**
- **Bank of Baroda's arm rebranded as 'BOBCARD Limited' with 'Credit Reimagined' tagline**
- **Zomato receives RBI nod to operate as payment aggregator**
- **General Insurance Council launches 'Cashless Everywhere' for mediclaims**
- **Akasa Air orders over 300 CFM Engines**
- **President approves Padma Awards for outstanding achievers and contributors**
- **75th Republic Day: President approves Gallantry awards to 80 Armed Forces personnel, including 12 posthumous**
- **Denmark, India to consider strategic cooperation**
- **India and France agree on mutually beneficial defence industrial partnership roadmap**



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