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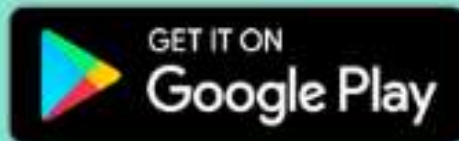
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Important Days



➤ **What is the theme of this year's International Customs Day?**

- A) Customs Modernization: Bridging Traditions with Innovations
- B) Customs for a Sustainable Future
- C) Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose
- D) Customs: Ensuring Global Security and Prosperity
- E) Customs: Facilitating Trade, Protecting Society



Answer

C) Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose



Important Days



Explanation

- **International Customs Day is observed on January 26.**
- **The theme of this year's International Customs Day is - Customs Engaging Traditional and New Partners with Purpose.**
- In the year 1953, the Customs Cooperation Council (CCC) confirmed this date to be observed as International Customs Day.
- The session was inaugurated in Brussels, Belgium.
- Members from 17 European countries attended that session.



Important Days



Explanation

- In 1994, CCC was renamed as World Customs Organisation and currently consists of 182 member states across the world.
- Since then, International Customs Day has been observed.
- In India, the responsibilities of the customs agencies are handled by the Central Board of Excise and Customs.
- This day is celebrated to uplift leadership, guidance and support to the customs administrations across the world, and the significance of their job

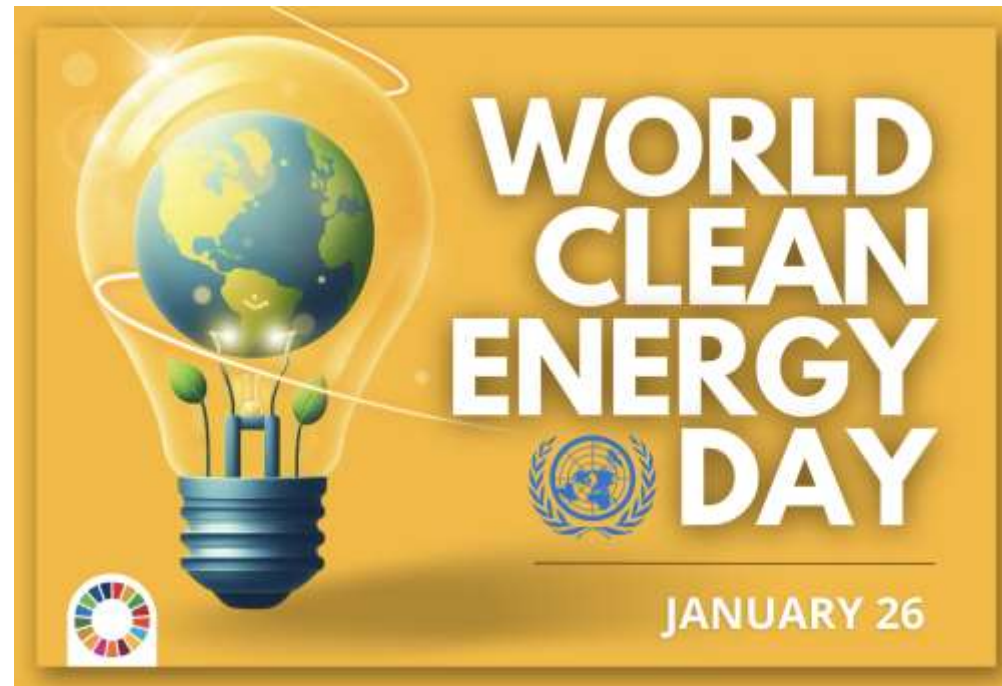


Important Days



International Day Of Clean Energy 2024 is observed on January 26

- **International Day of Clean Energy, celebrated on January 26, underlines the fact that clean energy is not just an alternative, but an urgent necessity.**



Important Days



Background:

- Many developing nations without access to clean energy resort to using fossil fuels.
- According to the UN, if current trends continue, by 2030, one in four individuals will still use unhealthy, unsafe, and inefficient cooking systems that include the use of dung and wood.
- The world is not yet on track to accomplish the Sustainable Development Goal 7.
- This goal aims to provide adequate access to reliable, affordable, sustainable, and modern energy for all by 2030.



Important Days



UN Facts:

- **Scientists have emphasised the need to cut emissions by almost half by 2030 and achieve net zero by 2050 to avoid the worst impacts of climate change.**
- **Coal, oil, and gas (fossil fuels) are responsible for nearly 90% of global carbon dioxide emissions.**
- **Fossil fuels still dominate global energy production, but renewable sources of energy, such as wind, solar, hydro, and geothermal, now power about 29% of electricity worldwide**



Important Days



➤ **When was the International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust proclaimed by the United Nations General Assembly?**

- A) January 1945
- B) November 1945
- C) January 1955
- D) November 2005
- E) January 2006



Answer

D) November 2005



Important Days



Explanation

- **Every year around 27 January, UNESCO pays tribute to the memory of the victims of the Holocaust and reaffirms its unwavering commitment to counter antisemitism, racism, and other forms of intolerance that may lead to group-targeted violence.**
- **The date marks the anniversary of the liberation of the Nazi Concentration and Extermination Camp of Auschwitz-Birkenau by Soviet troops on 27 January 1945.**
- **It was officially proclaimed, in November 2005, International Day of Commemoration in Memory of the Victims of the Holocaust by the United Nations General Assembly.**

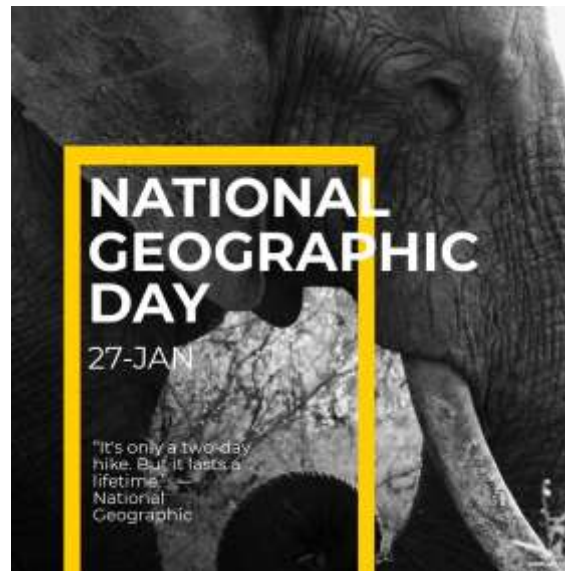


Important Days



National Geographic day is observed on January 27

- **National Geographic Day is observed every year on January 27 all across the nation.**
- **It is a day to pay homage to the “National Geographic Magazine” that has been up and running for over 100 years.**



Important Days



History:

- **The National Geographic Society, an organization for increasing and diffusing geographic knowledge, was founded in 1888.**
- **The society set up its official monthly magazine called the “National Geographic Magazine” (a.k.a. “Nat Geo”) in the same year.**
- The magazine was intended to bring natural, historical, anthropological, and lots more other information to its U.S. audience.
- For over 100 years, the “National Geographic Magazine” has brought information to children, adults, educators, history buffs, geography geeks, armchair travelers, and basically anyone with any interest – “Nat Geo” has something for everyone.



➤ **What milestone did Rohan Bopanna achieve at the age of 43?**

- A) Became the oldest player to win a Grand Slam title
- B) Became the oldest player to reach a Grand Slam final
- C) Became the oldest player to achieve World No. 1 ranking in doubles
- D) Became the oldest player to win an ATP Masters 1000 title
- E) Became the oldest player to compete in the Olympics



Answer

C) Became the oldest player to achieve World No. 1 ranking in doubles



Explanation

- **Bopanna and his Australian partner Matthew Ebden scored a 6-4, 7-6 (5) win over sixth-seeded Argentines, Maximo Gonzalez and Andreas Molteni, in the Australian Open quarterfinals.**
- **At age 43, he will be the oldest ATP doubles No.1 in history when the new rankings come out.**



OBITUARY



➤ **In which institution did Dr. Nitya Anand serve as director from 1974 to 1984?**

- A) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- B) All India Institute of Medical Sciences (AIIMS)
- C) Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI)
- D) Tata Memorial Centre (TMC)
- E) National Institute of Immunology (NII)

Answer

C) Central Drug Research Institute (CDRI)



OBITUARY



Explanation

- **Dr. Nitya Anand, the developer of India's first oral contraceptive pill 'Saheli', has passed away at the age of 99.**
- **From 1974 to 1984, Anand served as the Central Drug Research Institute's (CDRI) former director.**
- **Since CDRI's founding in 1951, he has been its member.**
- He oversaw 100 PhD students, published over 400 research papers, and received over 130 patents.
- He was the driving force behind Centchroman's discovery, also referred to as "Saheli."



OBITUARY



Explanation

- It was the first and only once-weekly, non-steroidal, non-hormonal oral contraceptive pill in history.
- Saheli was incorporated into the National Family Programme of India in 2016.
- It is still the only non-hormonal, non-steroidal contraceptive available worldwide.
- Anand is a Padma Shri recipient



RANKING



➤ **Who recently surpassed Elon Musk to become the richest person in the world?**

- A) Jeff Bezos
- B) Warren Buffett
- C) Bernard Arnault
- D) Mark Zuckerberg
- E) Bill Gates

Answer

C) Bernard Arnault



RANKING



Explanation

- **Bernard Arnault, the billionaire chairman and CEO of global luxury goods company LVMH, that includes brands like Louis Vuitton, is now the richest man in the world, overtaking Elon Musk.**
- **According to Forbes magazine, Arnault and his family's net worth soared to \$207.8 billion after a \$23.6 billion increase.**
- **On the other hand, the net worth of Tesla's CEO stood at \$204.5 billion, Forbes real-time billionaires list noted.**



RANKING



Top 10 richest person in the world

According to the Forbes real-time billionaires list, the top 10 richest people in the world are,

S No	Name of Billionaires	Net Worth
1	Bernard Arnault & Family	\$207.6 Billion
2	Elon Musk	\$204.7 Billion
3	Jeff Bezos	\$181.3 Billion
4	Larry Ellison	\$142.2 Billion
5	Mark Zuckerberg	\$139.1 Billion
6	Warren Buffett	\$127.2 Billion
7	Larry Page	\$127.1 Billion
8	Bill Gates	\$122.9 Billion
9	Sergey Brin	\$121.7 Billion
10	Steve Ballmer	\$118.8 Billion
11	Mukesh Ambani	\$104.4 Billion
16	Guatam Adani	\$75.7 Billion



➤ How much stake is ICICI Lombard acquiring in Karnataka Bank?

- A) 0.8%
- B) 1.08%
- C) 2%
- D) 5%
- E) 10%



Answer
B) 1.08%



Explanation

- **ICICI Lombard announced that it will acquire a 1.08 % stake in Karnataka Bank for Rs 100 crore.**
- **The Board of Directors of Karnataka Bank has granted approval for the infusion of an additional equity capital of Rs 700 crore.**
- **Within this allocation, up to ₹100 crore is earmarked for raising funds through a preferential issue of shares, while the remaining ₹600 crore will be garnered through private placement(s) and qualified institutions placements.**



Note:

- Karnataka Bank Limited is an Indian private sector bank based in Mangalore.
- It is a Scheduled Commercial Bank with a network of 905 branches.
- It has 8,652 employees and over 13 million customers across the country.
- The market capitalisation of the bank is Rs 85 billion (as on January 25, 2024).



Titbits

ICICI Lombard:

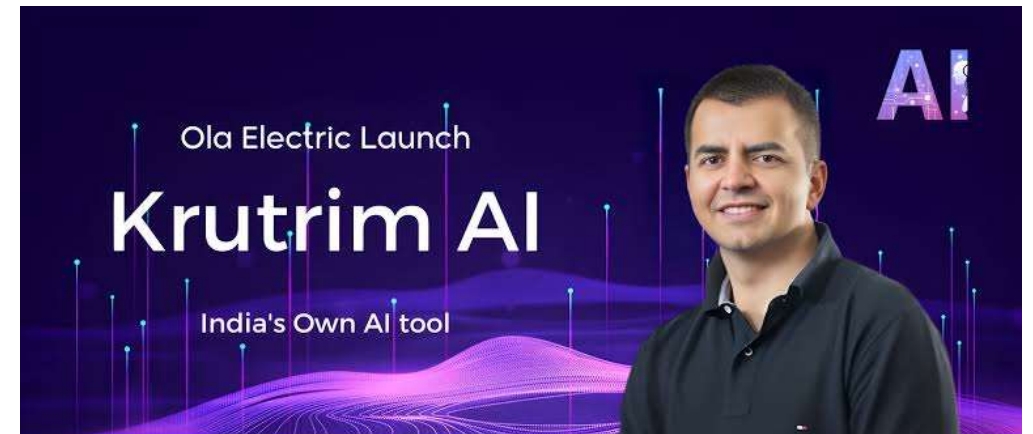
HQ: Mumbai, Maharashtra

CMD: Sanjeev Mantri



➤ What is the valuation of Krutrim after the recent funding round?

- A) \$100 million
- B) \$500 million
- C) \$1 billion
- D) \$2 billion
- E) \$5 billion



Founder of Ola Electric: Bhavish Aggarwal

Answer
C) \$1 billion



Explanation

- Ola founder Bhavish Aggarwal's artificial intelligence startup Krutrim has raised \$50 million in funding at a \$1 billion valuation.
- Krutrim, which means “artificial” in Sanskrit, is building a large language model that has been trained on local Indian languages in addition to English.
- The startup plans to launch a voice-enabled conversational AI assistant that understands and speaks multiple Indian languages.



Note:

- Krutrim is Aggarwal's third venture.
- Ola, his first, leads the ride-hailing market in India and is eyeing profitability.
- Ola Electric leads the two-wheeler EV market in India and recently filed the paperwork for a \$662 million initial public offering.



Unicorn:

- **Unicorn is a terminology in the venture capital industry to describe a startup company that is valued at USD 1 billion or more.**
- **The term was first coined by Aileen Lee, founder of Cowboy Ventures when she referred to the 39 startups with a valuation of over USD 1 billion as unicorns.**
- **The term was initially used to emphasize the rarity of such startups.**



Titbits

Ola:

Founders: Bhavish Aggarwal, Ankit Bhati

CEO: Bhavish Aggarwal

HQ: Bengaluru, Karnataka



➤ **Who recently took oath as the Chief Minister of Bihar for the ninth time?**

- A) Sushil Kumar Modi
- B) Lalu Prasad Yadav
- C) Nitish Kumar
- D) Tejashwi Yadav
- E) Ram Vilas Paswan

Answer
C) Nitish Kumar



Explanation

- **Nitish Kumar took oath as the Bihar Chief Minister for the record ninth time.**
- **The oath ceremony of the new government took place at the Raj Bhavan in Patna, Bihar.**



Appointment of Chief Minister:

- According to Article 164 of the Constitution, the governor will appoint the Chief Minister.
- The state's chief minister is chosen from among the leaders of the parties that received the majority of the votes cast in the assembly elections.
- The Chief Minister has actual executive authority; the Governor only has symbolic authority.
- Nonetheless, the Chief Minister's position, authority, influence, reputation, and power within the state administration are somewhat diminished by the governor's discretionary powers.



Appointment of Chief Minister:

- An individual who is not a member of the state legislature may be designated as Chief Minister for a period of six months.
- If he is not elected to the state legislature during that time, he will lose his position as Chief Minister.



Term:

- The Chief Minister serves for an indefinite period of time at the governor's pleasure.
- As long as he has the backing of the majority in the legislature, the governor cannot remove him.
- He may also be dismissed by the State Legislative Assembly if a vote of no confidence is taken against him.



Authority and Duties:

Regarding the Council of Ministers:

- Only those individuals recommended by the Chief Minister are appointed as ministers by the governor.
- He distributes and rearranges the ministers' portfolios.
- Since the Chief Minister is in charge of the council of ministers, he might cause the council of ministers to disintegrate by leaving his position.



Authority and Duties:

Regarding the Governor:

- The Chief Minister serves as a liaison between the Governor and the State Council of Ministers in accordance with Article 167 of the Constitution.
- When it comes to appointing significant authorities such as the advocate general, the chairman, and members of the State Public Service Commission, State Election Commission, etc., CM provides advice to the Governor.



Authority and Duties:

Regarding State Legislature:

- All the policies are announced by him on the floor of the house.
- He recommends dissolution of legislative assembly to the Governor.



Other Functions:

- He is the chairman of the State Planning Board.
- He acts as a vice-chairman of the concerned zonal council by rotation, holding office for a period of one year at a time.
- He is a member of the Inter-State Council and the Governing Council of NITI Aayog, both headed by the prime minister.
- He is the chief spokesman of the state government.
- He is the crisis manager-in-chief at the political level during emergencies.
- As a leader of the state, he meets various sections of the people and receives memoranda from them regarding their problems, and so on.
- He is the political head of the services.



➤ Where was the 63rd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) meeting held?

- A) New Delhi, Delhi
- B) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- C) Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh
- D) Kolkata, West Bengal
- E) Bengaluru, Karnataka

Answer

C) Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh



Explanation

- **The 63rd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) meeting was held in Bhopal, Madhya Pradesh.**
- **The meeting was held under the Chairmanship of Shri V.L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Mines. Shri Sanjay Lohiya, Additional Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Shri Janardan Prasad, Director General, GSI.**
- **During the ensuing year 2024-25 GSI has formulated about 1055 scientific programs for the year 2024-25, which includes 392 Mineral Development projects (G2;G3;G4; and Offshore Explorations) that has the potential to generate auctionable mineral blocks in near future.**



Explanation

- A total of 188 projects on these strategically important mineral commodities like REE, RM, Graphite, Lithium, Vanadium and PGE etc. have been approved for the year 2024-25, which is almost a jump of 50% from previous year's target.
- The Report on Geological & Geotechnical investigation of Joshimath Township, Chamoli District was also unveiled by Shri V.L. Kantha Rao, Secretary, Ministry of Mines for handing it over to Uttarakhand Govt.



Explanation

- The Mineral Map of the newly carved out UT of Ladakh was also released on this occasion.
- Shri V.L. Kantha Rao, inaugurated an Exhibition on the theme, "Mining and Beyond", in which GSI, PSUs, DMFs, major mining companies, private exploration agencies, startups, Madhya Pradesh Government showcased their achievements.



Central Geological Programming Board:

- The Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) is an important platform of the Geological Survey of India (GSI), Ministry of Mines wherein the Annual Field Season Program (FSP) of GSI is placed for discussion and to avoid duplication of work.
- The members of CGPB and other stakeholders like State Governments, Central/ State Government Mineral Exploration Agencies, PSUs and Private Entrepreneurs place their requests for collaborative work with GSI.



Central Geological Programming Board:

- Based on the priorities set by the Government of India and the importance and urgency of proposals presented by the members and stakeholders, the Annual Programme of GSI for survey & mapping, exploration, Research and Development, multidisciplinary catering to societal projects and training & capacity building programmes during the forthcoming financial year is given a final shape after due discussion and deliberations held at the topmost level at CGPB meeting, chaired by the Secretary, Ministry of Mines, Government of India.



Central Geological Programming Board:

- The Ministry of Mines, Government of India, vide notification dated 18th August 2023, had revamped/ reconstituted the CGPB Committee into 12 theme-based groups.
- The main objective of this reconstitution is to enable the States and other Stakeholders to accrue benefit from wider participation and interaction with GSI to further their activities and avoid duplication.
- It was felt that it would provide a forum for better coordination between Central and State level stakeholders by encouraging the regular functioning of State Geological Programming Boards (SGPB), set up by the State Governments.



Central Geological Programming Board:

- It was decided that the 12 Committees for the various sub-sectors would comprise members and invitees from the concerned States and Agencies engaged in activities in the field relevant to that particular sector and present their recommendations to the CGPB.



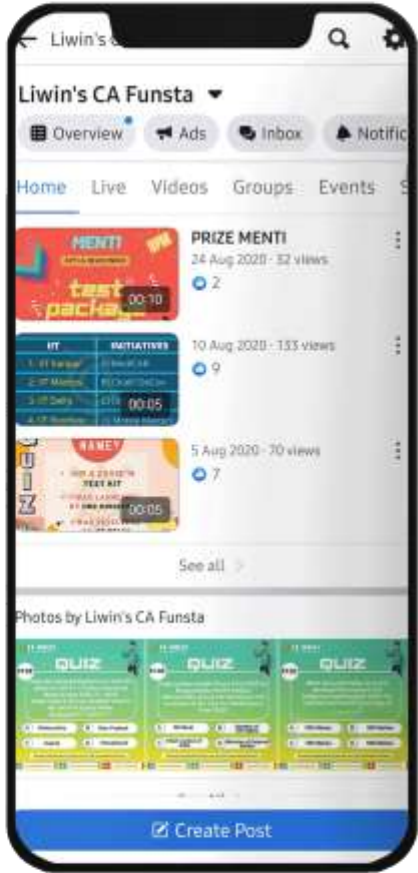
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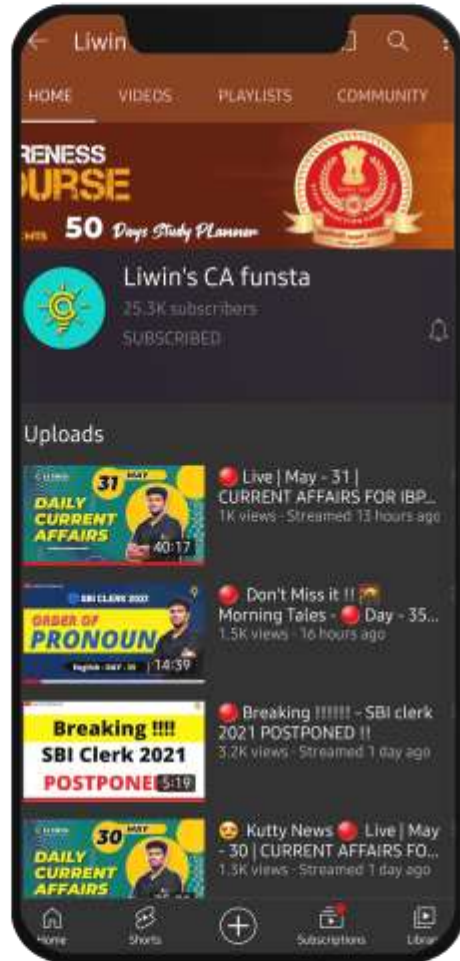
- **International Customs day is observed on January 26.**
- **International Holocaust Remembrance Day is observed on January 27.**
- **International Day Of Clean Energy 2024 is observed on January 26.**
- **National Geographic day is observed on January 27.**
- **At 43, Rohan Bopanna makes history as oldest World No. 1 in doubles.**
- **Dr. Nitya Anand, the developer of India's first oral contraceptive pill 'Saheli', has passed away at of 99.**
- **Louis Vuitton's founder Benard Arnault surpasses Elon Musk as richest person in the world.**
- **ICICI Lombard acquire 1.08% stake in Karnataka Bank.**
- **Ola founder's Krutrim becomes India's first AI unicorn.**
- **Nitish Kumar took oath as the Bihar Chief Minister.**
- **63rd Central Geological Programming Board (CGPB) Meeting held in Bhopal.**



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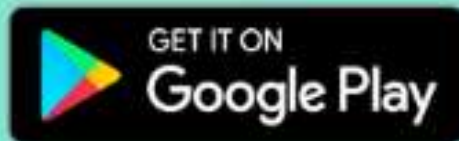
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