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Important Days



➤ In which year was 28 February designated as National Science Day by the Government of India?

- A) 1947
- B) 1969
- C) 1986
- D) 2000
- E) 2015

Answer
C) 1986



Important Days



Explanation

- **The National Science Day (NSD) is celebrated every year on 28 February to commemorate the discovery of the 'Raman Effect'.**
- **Theme: "Indigenous Technologies for Viksit Bharat"**
- **Government of India designated 28 February as National Science Day (NSD) in 1986.**
- On this day Sir C.V. Raman announced the discovery of the 'Raman Effect' for which he was awarded the Nobel Prize in 1930.
- On this occasion, theme-based science communication activities are carried out all over the country.



Important Days



Note:

- **India among the top five countries in scientific research publications, 40th in Global Innovation Index (GII) showcasing remarkable climb from 81st rank in 2015 and it's patent filing has crossed 90,000 which is highest in two decades**



OBITUARY



➤ **For which work did Nazki receive the Sahitya Akademi award in Kashmiri?**

- A) Naar Hyutun Kanzal Wanas (Fire in the eyelashes)
- B) Sufi Mysticism in Kashmir
- C) The Kashmiri Chronicles
- D) Tales from the Valley
- E) Echoes of the Himalayas

Answer

A) Naar Hyutun Kanzal Wanas (Fire in the eyelashes)



OBITUARY



Explanation

- **Mir Mohammad Farooq Nazki, veteran broadcaster, poet and Sahitya Akademi winner, passed away at the age of 83.**
- **Nazki held several important positions in All India Radio Kashmir and Doordarshan in 1995.**
- **Nazki was awarded the Sahitya Akademi award in Kashmiri for his poetry book Naar Hyutun Kanzal Wanas (Fire in the eyelashes).**
- **He was also the media advisor to two chief ministers -- Farooq Abdullah and Omar Abdullah.**



➤ What percentage of shareholding in Max Life Insurance will Axis Bank hold as of now?

- A) 15%
- B) 16%
- C) 17%
- D) 18%
- E) 19%

Answer
E) 19%



Explanation

- **Max Financial Services Limited (MFSL) has announced that insurance regulator IRDAI has approved the capital infusion of Rs 1,612 crore by Axis Bank into the company's material subsidiary, Max Life Insurance.**
- **For this transaction, Max Life Insurance proposes to issue 14.25 crore shares to Axis Bank, which will take the latter's shareholding in the life insurer to 19 per cent from the existing 13 per cent.**
- **Axis Bank proposes to acquire an additional 6 per cent stake in Max Life Insurance at Rs 113 per share.**



Max Life Insurance:

- **Max Life Insurance Company Limited (formerly known as Max New York Life Insurance Company Limited) is an Indian life insurance company headquartered at New Delhi, and the largest non-bank private-sector life insurer in India.**
- **It is a 80:20 joint venture between Max Financial Services and Axis Bank.**
- **The company is a subsidiary of the publicly-listed Max Financial Services**
- **Chairman: Analjit Singh**
- **MD and CEO: Prashanth Tripathi**



➤ How much aggregate holding has HDFC Bank and its affiliated entities been permitted to acquire in the six banks?

- A) Up to 5%
- B) Up to 7%
- C) Up to 8%
- D) Up to 9%
- E) Up to 9.5%

Answer
E) Up to 9.5%



Explanation

- **HDFC Bank has received approval from RBI to increase its stake in six banks, Axis, Suryoday Small Finance, ICICI, Bandhan, IndusInd and Yes Bank.**
- **The private lender and its affiliated entities, including HDFC Mutual Fund, HDFC Life Insurance, HDFC Ergo General Insurance have been permitted to acquire an aggregate holding of up to 9.5% of the share capital or voting rights in the 6 banks.**
- The RBI's approval is valid for one year from the date of its letter expiring on Feb 4, 2025.
- HDFC Bank must ensure that its aggregate holding in the six banks does not exceed 9.5% of their paid-up share capital or voting rights at all times.



Titbits

HDFC Bank:

HQ: Mumbai, Maharashtra
Chairman: Atanu Chakraborty
CEO: Sashidhar Jagdishan



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Which high court did Justice Vijay Bishnoi become the Chief Justice of?

- A) Delhi High Court
- B) Bombay High Court
- C) Gauhati High Court
- D) Calcutta High Court
- E) Madras High Court

Answer

C) Gauhati High Court



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Justice Vijay Bishnoi was sworn in as the new Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court on February 5, 2024.**
- **Assam Governor Gulab Chand Kataria administered the oath of office to the new Chief Justice.**



APPOINTMENTS



Keyperson:

- Chief Minister of Assam Himanta Biswa Sarma
- Assembly Speaker Biswajit Daimary



APPOINTMENTS



Chief Justice of High Court: Appointment: (Article 217)

- The President appoints the judges of a high court.
- The governor of the state in question and the chief justice of India are consulted before the president appoints the chief justice.
- The chief justice of the relevant high court is also contacted when additional judges are to be appointed.
- The President consults with the governors of each state in question when establishing a common high court for two or more states.



APPOINTMENTS



Chief Justice of High Court: Qualifications:

- To be the Chief Justice of a High Court, a person should be an Indian Citizen.
- Moreover, he/she should have presided as a Judge for at least ten years in any court in India or he/she should have practised as an advocate in the High Court for ten years.

Retirement Age: 62 Years



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Assam:

Capital: Guwahati

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Gulab Chand Kataria



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who secured a thumping victory in El Salvador's elections?**

- A) Former President
- B) Nayib Bukele
- C) Opposition Leader
- D) Political Activist
- E) Foreign Diplomat

Answer

B) Nayib Bukele



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **President Nayib Bukele secured a thumping victory in El Salvador's elections.**
- **Bukele winning 83% support with just over 70% of the ballots counted.**



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

El Salvador:

Capital: San Salvador

Currency: US Dollar

President: Nayib Bukele



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been appointed as the new country director for India by the Asian Development Bank (ADB)?**

- A) Takeo Konishi
- B) Mio Oka
- C) Hiroshi Sato
- D) Ayumi Nakamura
- E) Kenji Yamamoto

Answer
B) Mio Oka



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Asian Development Bank (ADB) appointed Mio Oka as its country director for India.**
- **She will succeed Takeo Konishi who has been promoted as ADB Director General for South Asia at the Manila headquarters.**
- She will lead the implementation of ADB's country partnership strategy, 2023-2027 that is designed to catalyse robust, climate-resilient, and inclusive private sector-led growth in India.
- Prior to her tenure at ADB, Oka worked with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Japan, Japan Bank for International Cooperation, and Japan International Cooperation Agency Bangladesh Office.



APPOINTMENTS



Note:

- India is currently ADB's fourth largest shareholder and one of its largest borrowers since 2010.
- In 2023, ADB committed USD 2.59 billion in sovereign lending to India in addition to USD 16.31 million in technical assistance and USD 5.25 million in grants under the sovereign portfolio.
- The current India sovereign portfolio comprises 73 projects worth a total of USD 15.7 billion.



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Asian Development Bank:

Founded: 19 December 1966

HQ: Mandaluyong, Manila, Philippines

President: Masatsugu Asakawa

Members: 68 Countries

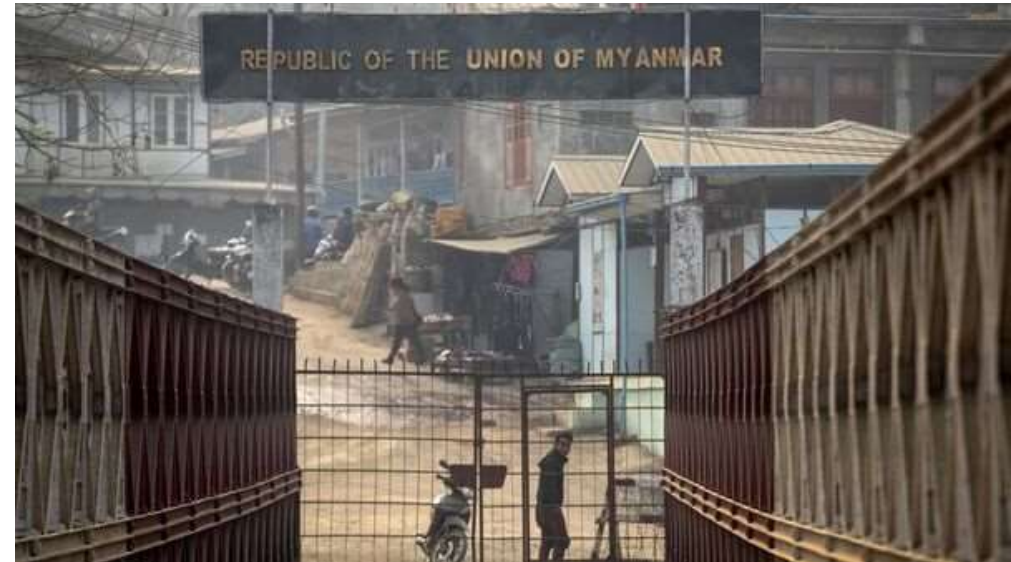


➤ **What is the length of the Indo-Myanmar border where the Indian government plans to construct a fence?**

- A) 1,643 kilometers
- B) 1,000 kilometers
- C) 2,000 kilometers
- D) 1,500 kilometers
- E) 2,500 kilometers

Answer

A) 1,643 kilometers



Explanation

- **The Indian government has decided to construct a fence along the entire 1643-kilometer-long Indo-Myanmar border.**
- To facilitate better surveillance, a patrol track along the border will also be paved.
- **The 1,643-km-long India-Myanmar border, which passes through Mizoram, Manipur, Nagaland and Arunachal Pradesh, currently has FMR.**
- **It was introduced in 2018 as part of India's Act East policy.**



Titbits

Myanmar:

Capital: Naypidaw

Currency: Kyat

President: Myint Swe



➤ Where is the Divya Kala Mela event being held from 6th to 11th February 2024?

- A) Kolkata, West Bengal
- B) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- C) Agartala, Tripura
- D) Chennai, Tamil Nadu
- E) Delhi, National Capital Territory

Answer

C) Agartala, Tripura



Explanation

- **The Department of Empowerment of Persons with Disabilities (Divyangjan){DEPwD}, Ministry of Social Justice & Empowerment, Govt of India through National Divyangjan Finance and Development Corporation (NDFDC) regularly organizes Divya Kala Mela- a unique event showcasing the products and craftsmanship of Divyang entrepreneurs/artisans from across the country.**
- **Divya Kala Mela is being organized from 6th to 11th February 2024 at Children Park, Agartala(Tripura).**



Explanation

- **The event was inaugurated on 06th February 2024 by Shri Ratan Lal Nath, Cabinet Minister of Power, Agriculture & Farmer's Welfare and Election Department.**
- More than 60 Divyang artisans/artists and entrepreneurs besides prominent organizations from about 18 states/UTs will be showcasing their products, skills and services in Agartala.
- There would be products in the following broad categories: Home Décor and lifestyle, Clothing, Stationery and eco-friendly products, packaged food and organic products, Toys and gifts, Personal Accessories - Jewellery, Clutch Bags Paintings etc.



➤ **What was the theme of the programme Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in Goa?**

- A) Viksit Bharat, Viksit India 2047
- B) Viksit Goa, Viksit Nation 2047
- C) Viksit Bharat, Viksit Goa 2047
- D) Viksit India, Viksit Goa 2047
- E) Viksit Bharat, Viksit World 2047



Answer

C) Viksit Bharat, Viksit Goa 2047



Explanation

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi participated in 'Viksit Bharat, Viksit Goa 2047' programme and inaugurated and laid the foundation stone of projects worth over Rs 1330 crore.**
- **The Prime Minister inaugurated the permanent campus of the National Institute of Technology Goa.**
- **He also dedicated the new campus of the National Institute of Watersports to the nation.**
- **The institute will introduce 28 tailor-made courses aimed at fostering the development of watersports and water rescue activities catering to both the public and the armed forces.**
- **He inaugurated a 100 TPD Integrated Waste Management Facility in South Goa.**



Explanation

- It has been designed for the scientific treatment of 60 TPD wet waste and 40 TPD dry waste, while also featuring a 500 KW solar power plant that generates surplus electricity.
- He laid the foundation stone for Passenger Ropeway, along with associated tourism activities, connecting Panaji and Reis Magos.
- The foundation stone for the construction of a 100 MLD Water Treatment Plant in South Goa will be laid by him.
- He also distributed appointment orders to 1930 new government recruits across various departments under Rozgar Mela.



➤ **Where was the foundation stone laid for the National Museum of Epigraphy?**

- A) Bharatpur, Rajasthan
- B) Hyderabad, Telangana
- C) New Delhi, Delhi
- D) Mumbai, Maharashtra
- E) Bengaluru, Karnataka

Answer

B) Hyderabad, Telangana



Explanation

- **Union Tourism and Culture Minister G Kishan Reddy laid the foundation stone for the country's first National Museum of Epigraphy at the Salar Jung Museum.**
- The museum will have information about writing, scripts and languages using all multimedia installations.



Note:

- The Central government had earlier announced the setting up of the Bharat Shared Repository of Inscriptions Bharat SHRI in a digital epigraphy museum with the digitisation of one lakh ancient inscriptions.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Telangana:

Capital: Hyderabad

Chief Minister: Revanth Reddy

Governor: Tamilisai Soundararajan



➤ **What organization is responsible for hiring a software development agency for the upgrade of the EV Upyog portal?**

- A) Uttar Pradesh Development Systems Corporation Limited (UPDSCL)
- B) Uttar Pradesh Public Works Department
- C) Uttar Pradesh Electricity Board
- D) Uttar Pradesh Transport Corporation
- E) Uttar Pradesh Tourism Department



Answer

A) Uttar Pradesh Development Systems Corporation Limited (UPDSCL)



Explanation

- **The Uttar Pradesh government is enhancing the 'EV Upyog' portal to promote Electric Vehicles (EVs).**
- They are engaging a software development agency to add attractive features to the portal.
- **Chief Minister Yogi Adityanath intends to host the EV Upyog portal on a cloud server and integrate it with the Invest UP website.**
- **Uttar Pradesh Development Systems Corporation Limited (UPDSCL) is hiring a software development agency for one year to carry out the upgrade.**
- The EV Upyog portal will boast various features, such as cloud storage, database capabilities, networking options, and specialized software.



➤ Which government entity has partnered with the National Highways Logistic Management Limited (NHLML) to implement ropeways as part of the National Ropeway Programme 'Parvatmala'?

- A) Maharashtra Public Work Department
- B) National Highway Authority of India (NHAI)
- C) Maharashtra Tourism Department
- D) Ministry of Transport
- E) Indian Railways

Answer

A) Maharashtra Public Work Department



Explanation

- **The National Highways Logistic Management Limited (NHLML) has partnered with the Maharashtra government to implement ropeways as part of the National Ropeway Programme 'Parvatmala'.**
- **Maharashtra Public Work Department and NHLML, a 100 per cent owned special purpose vehicle of the National Highway Authority of India (NHAI) for infrastructure development, formalised their collaboration by signing a memorandum of understanding (MoU) in this regard.**
- **NHLML is responsible for implementation of the ropeways projects.**



Explanation

- **The state government has put forward a total of 40 ropeway projects for consideration under the scheme.**
- **These proposals are mainly from Mumbai, Satara, Raigad, Nashik, Nanded, Ratnagiri and Sindhudurg, with an additional five projects from Pune.**
- **Some of the proposal entail providing ropeway connectivity to major tourist destinations such as Sinhagad Fort, Rajgad Fort, Shivneri Fort, Darya Ghat, and Lenyadri Ashtavinayak at Junnar in Pune.**
- **Among the 40 proposed projects, the state-owned NHLML has already initiated work on four ropeway projects, with a combined investment exceeding Rs 1,000 crore.**



Explanation

- While, the detailed project report (DPR) of three projects – Rajgad fort in Pune, Matheran hill station and Mahad in Raigad district – are being worked out, bids have been invited to build a new ropeway from Brahmagiri to Anjaneri Hills in Trimbakeshwar at Nashik.
- The 5.7-km-long Brahmagiri-Anjaneri Hills ropeway will connect both these important places atop the respective hills, which are separated by a distance of around 7 km.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Note:

- So far, Jammu and Kashmir, Arunachal Pradesh, Himachal Pradesh, Assam and Andhra Pradesh, have inked MoU with NHLML for construction of ropeways under the ambitious Parvatmala Yojana.



➤ **With whom did Yara India sign an MoU?**

- A) Ministry of Agriculture, Government of India
- B) Department of Horticulture and Food Processing, Government of Uttar Pradesh
- C) Agricultural Research Institute of India
- D) Indian Farmers Association
- E) Indian Agricultural Universities



Answer

**B) Department of Horticulture and Food Processing,
Government of Uttar Pradesh**



Explanation

- **Yara India has signed an MoU with the Department of Horticulture and Food Processing, Government of Uttar Pradesh.**
- **The MoU was signed by Mr. Vinaya Kumar Sharma, Head Commercial, Yara India, at the 2nd International Conference and Buyer-Seller Meet in Agra.**
- The strategic partnership aims to support potato farmers in enhancing crop productivity and quality to gain acceptance for produce in the market.



Explanation

- The primary objective is to introduce them to emerging digital technologies and build their capacity for higher efficiency and sustainability in farming practices.
- Yara Knowledge Grow Center (YKGC) in Agra is a center of excellence for developing and enhancing the best farming practices.
- The YKGC serves as a platform for conducting physical meetings and actively engages with the local community by conducting regular training programs for farmers.



Titbits

Uttar Pradesh:

Capital: Lucknow

Chief Minister: Yogi Adityanath

Governor: Anandiben Patel



➤ **Who will be eligible to benefit from the Chief Minister Vayoshree Yojana?**

- A) Citizens above the age of 60
- B) Citizens above the age of 65 suffering from physical or mental disabilities
- C) Citizens above the age of 70
- D) Citizens above the age of 65 with no disabilities
- E) Citizens above the age of 70 with disabilities



Answer

B) Citizens above the age of 65 suffering from physical or mental disabilities



Explanation

- **Maharashtra Government has decided to introduce 'Chief Minister Vayoshree Yojana' that is likely to benefit 15 lakh senior citizens who suffer from some physical or mental disability.**
- **These citizens, above the age of 65 years, will be screened and those found eligible will be paid three thousand rupees.**
- **The scheme will be implemented across all districts at an approximate cost of 480 crore rupees.**
- **With an aim to boost the confidence of depositors in cooperative societies, the government has announced an assistance scheme.**



Explanation

- The government will form an **independent entity that will pay back deposits of upto 1 lakh rupees in case a non-agricultural cooperative society goes bankrupt.**
- While **the government has announced an initial corpus of 100 crore rupees as its contribution for this entity, the cooperatives too will have to contribute 10 paise for every 100 rupees of deposits that they receive.**
- About 3 crore depositors are expected to benefit from this decision.



Titbits

Maharashtra:

Capital: Mumbai

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Governor: Ramesh Bais



➤ Which organization is responsible for establishing the sea survival centre in Goa?

- A) Indian Navy
- B) Indian Coast Guard
- C) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)
- D) Shipping Corporation of India
- E) Directorate General of Shipping



Answer

C) Oil and Natural Gas Corporation (ONGC)



Explanation

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated ONGC's sea survival centre in Goa.**
- **It aims to advance the Indian sea survival training ecosystem to global standards as a one-of-a-kind Integrated Sea Survival Training Centre.**
- **It is expected to train 10,000-15,000 personnel annually.**



Note:

- In Goa, PM Modi will inaugurate India Energy Week 2024 to be held from February 6-9 in the state.
- At the energy exhibition and conference, he will also meet Global oil and gas CEOs and experts.
- Through the India Energy Week 2024, the government aims to encourage startups and companies which can contribute to India's energy goals.
- 17 Energy ministers from different countries, 35,000 attendees and more than 900 exhibitors are expected to participate in the event.
- The conference will have six dedicated country pavilions - Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Russia, the UK and the US.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Goa:

Capital: Panaji

Chief Minister: Pramod Sawant

Governor: P S Sreedharan Pillai



QUICK RECALL



- **National Science Day is observed on February 28**
- **Farooq Nazki, poet and Sahitya Akademi winner dies at 83**
- **IRDAI greenlights Axis Bank's Rs 1,612 crore infusion into Max Life Insurance, pending CCI nod**
- **HDFC Bank gets RBI nod to hike stake in six banks**
- **Vijay Bishnoi sworn in as Chief Justice of Gauhati High Court**
- **El Salvador's Bukele re-elected as president in landslide win**
- **ADB appoints Mio Oka as country director for India**
- **India is fencing the entirety of its shared border with Myanmar – effectively ending the Free Movement Regime.**



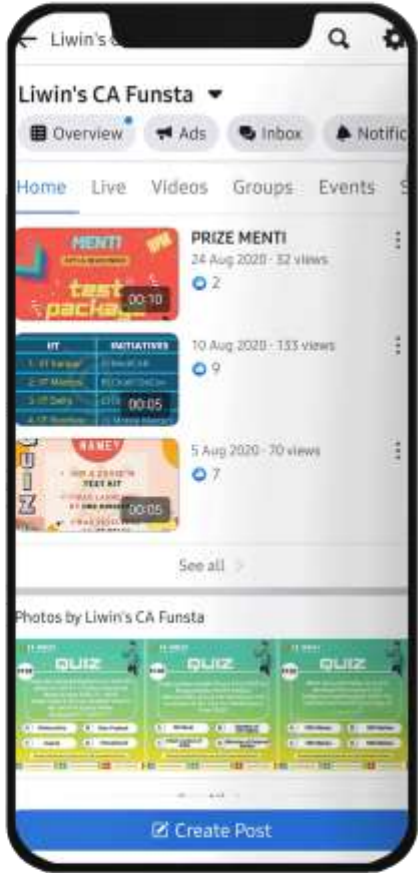
QUICK RECALL



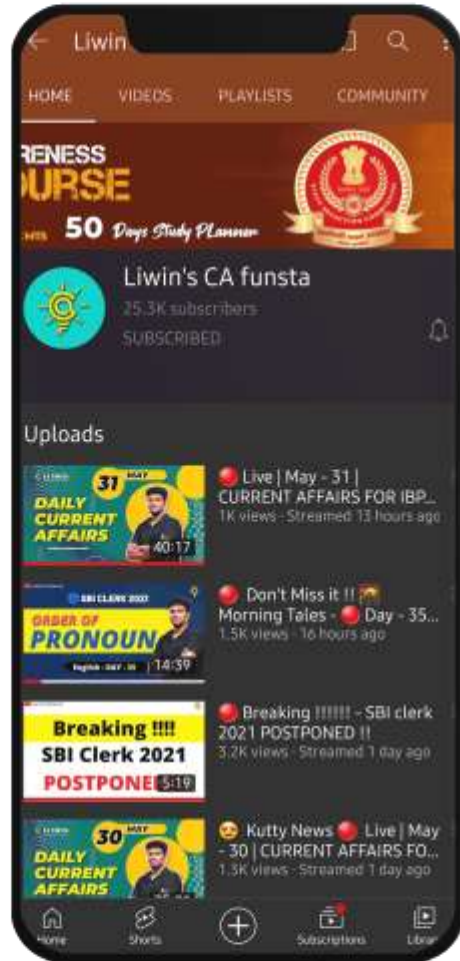
- **Divya Kala Mela 2024 inaugurated in Agartala, Tripura**
- **PM Modi unveils projects worth Rs 1330 Crore in Goa**
- **Union Minister lays foundation for country's first Museum of Epigraphy in Hyderabad**
- **Uttar Pradesh govt to equip 'EV Upyog' portal with multiple features**
- **Parvatmala: Maharashtra Proposes 40 Ropeway Projects, Signs MoU With NHAI For Implementation**
- **Yara India and the Government of Uttar Pradesh sign MoU to enhance potato productivity**
- **Maharashtra govt decides to introduce "Chief Minister Vayoshree Yojana"**
- **PM Modi inaugurates ONGC's sea survival center in Goa**



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