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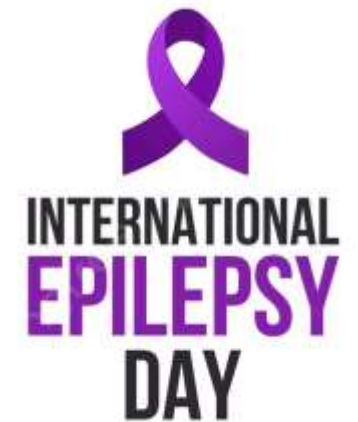
Important Days



➤ **When was International Epilepsy Day first instituted?**

- A) 2013
- B) 2015
- C) 2017
- D) 2019
- E) 2021

Answer
B) 2015



Important Days



Explanation

- **International Epilepsy Day is observed annually on the second Monday of February**
- **Theme: 'Milestones on My Epilepsy Journey'**
- **International Epilepsy Day was instituted in 2015**
- This day aims to create awareness and sensitise people about epilepsy.
- It also serves to empower people afflicted by the condition and seek appropriate legislation to protect their rights.
- This year's focus revolves around the implementation of the World Health Organisation's 10-year Intersectoral Global Action Plan on Epilepsy and other Neurological Disorders (2022-2031)



Important Days



National Productivity Day is observed on February 12

- **Every year National Productivity Day is observed on February 12 as an integral part of the Indian Productivity Week which is observed from February 12 to February 18.**
- **Theme: “Artificial Intelligence (AI)- Productivity Engine for Economic Growth”**
- **The National Productivity Council was a self-governing organization founded by the Ministry of Commerce and Industry in 1958.**
- **On National Productivity Day, the NPC was founded and the significance of efficiency, creativity, and productivity is highlighted**



OBITUARY



➤ In which languages did Usha Kiran Khan write her novels?

- A) Hindi and English
- B) Hindi and Bengali
- C) Hindi and Marathi
- D) Hindi and Maithili
- E) Hindi and Tamil

Answer

D) Hindi and Maithili



OBITUARY



Explanation

- Renowned litterateur and Padma Shri awardee Usha Kiran Khan passed away at the age of 78.
- She was a great writer who wrote several novels in Hindi and Maithili.
- Khan's literary contributions earned her widespread recognition, including prestigious honours such as the Padma Shri in 2015, the Sahitya Akademi Award, the Mahadevi Verma Award, the Dinakar National Award, and the Bharat-Bharati, among others.



OBITUARY



Explanation

- Her notable works include her Maithili novel 'Bhamati: Ek Avismaraniya Premkatha', for which she received the Sahitya Akademi Award, and her Hindi novel 'Sirjanhaar', which earned her the Kusumanjali Sahitya Samman from the Indian Council for Cultural Relations in 2012.



➤ With which state government did IndusInd Bank Ltd and its subsidiary, Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited, sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)?

- A) Maharashtra
- B) Gujarat
- C) Uttar Pradesh
- D) Madhya Pradesh
- E) Rajasthan

Answer

C) Uttar Pradesh



Explanation

- **IndusInd Bank Ltd and its subsidiary, Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited, entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the State Government of Uttar Pradesh to collaborate on livestock healthcare management and welfare in the Western Uttar Pradesh region.**
- **This partnership is part of their social initiative, the Bharat Sanjeevani Program, aimed at fostering livestock welfare in the region.**
- Under the MoU, IndusInd Bank and Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited will provide operational support for the newly established Cow Sanctuary in Muzaffarnagar.



Explanation

- Additionally, they will introduce doorstep tele-medicine and mobile veterinary services under the CSR umbrella – Sattvam.
- The program will also collaborate with the Harit Pradesh Milk Producer Company (HPMPC) and the National Dairy Development Board (NDDDB) to introduce doorstep telemedicine and mobile veterinary services in seven districts of Western Uttar Pradesh.



BANKING AND FINANCE



Keyperson:

**Dr. Sanjeev Kumar Balyan, Union Minister of State for
Animal Husbandry, Dairying, and Fisheries**



Titbits

IndusInd Bank:

HQ: Mumbai

MD and CEO: Sumant Kathpalia



➤ **With which Indian company is Airbus Defence and Space collaborating to produce detailed parts and sub-assemblies for the C295 aircraft?**

- A) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)
- B) Bharat Electronics Limited (BEL)
- C) Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)
- D) Reliance Defence and Engineering Limited (RDEL)
- E) Mahindra Aerospace



Answer

C) Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL)



Explanation

- **The Airbus Defence and Space Quality Management System (QMS) for the C295 aircraft has received approval from the Directorate General of Aeronautical Quality Assurance (DGAQA) to produce detailed parts and sub-assemblies in India.**
- **As per the approval, Airbus Defence and Space is working with Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) to produce detailed parts and sub-assemblies at various locations in India.**
- India formalised the acquisition of 56 Airbus C295 aircraft to replace the Indian Air Force (IAF) legacy AVRO fleet, in September 2021.



Explanation

- Under the contractual agreement, Airbus will deliver the first 16 aircraft in 'fly-away' condition from its final assembly line in Seville, Spain.
- The remaining 40 aircraft will be manufactured and assembled by Tata Advanced Systems Limited (TASL) in India as part of an industrial partnership between the two companies.
- The first C295 aircraft was delivered to the Indian Air Force in September 2023.



Titbits

Airbus:

HQ: Leiden, Netherlands

Founder: Roger Beteille



➤ **Where is the 7th edition of the Indian Ocean Conference being held?**

- A) Colombo, Sri Lanka
- B) Perth, Australia
- C) Singapore
- D) New Delhi, India
- E) Jakarta, Indonesia

Answer

B) Perth, Australia



Explanation

- **The Indian Ocean Conference is a flagship consultative forum for countries in the Indian Ocean Region, organized annually by the Ministry of External Affairs, in association with the India Foundation.**
- **The 7th edition of the Indian Ocean Conference is being held in Perth, Australia on 9-10 February, 2024 in association with the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade, Government of Australia, along with S. Rajaratnam School of International Studies, Singapore and Perth-US Asia Centre in Australia.**



Explanation

- **The theme of this edition of the conference is "Towards a Stable and Sustainable Indian Ocean".**
- Since its debut in 2016 in Singapore, over the years, the Indian Ocean Conference has played an important role in bringing together countries and principal maritime partners of the region together on a common platform to deliberate upon the prospects of regional cooperation for Security and Growth for All in the Region (SAGAR).



Titbits

Australia:

Capital: Canberra

Currency: Australian Dollar

Prime Minister: Anthony Albanese



➤ **Where is the Gupteswar Forest located?**

- A) Chhattisgarh
- B) Jharkhand
- C) Odisha
- D) West Bengal
- E) Bihar

Answer
C) Odisha



Explanation

- **The pristine Gupteswar Forest, which lies adjacent to the Gupteswar Shiva temple in Odisha's Koraput district, has officially been designated as the fourth Biodiversity-Heritage Site (BHS) in the state.**
- **Spread over a vast area of 350 hectares, the site features sacred groves revered by the local community and is endowed with a diverse range of flora and fauna.**



Explanation

- The faunal species that have been documented include the mugger crocodile, kanger valley rock gecko, sacred Grove Bush Frog, and various avifauna, such as the Jerdon's baza, black baza, Malabar trogon, white-bellied woodpecker, common hill myna, and banded bay cuckoo.
- The limestone caves of Gupteswar are particularly captivating, housing eight bat species out of the total 16 found in southern Odisha.
- The site also has a rich floral diversity, featuring 182 species of trees, 177 species of herbs, 76 species of shrubs, 14 species of orchids, 69 species of climbers, and threatened medicinal plants.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Odisha:

Capital: Bhubaneswar
Chief Minister: Naveen Patnaik
Governor: Raghubar Das



- **What is the main objective of the SWASTHA Centre at IIT Guwahati?**
- A) Researching nanotechnology applications in agriculture
 - B) Developing advanced medical devices
 - C) Promoting clean energy solutions
 - D) Facilitating innovation in education technology
 - E) Enhancing cybersecurity systems

Answer

B) Developing advanced medical devices



Explanation

- **The pioneering SWASTHA project and state-of-the-art ISO 5 and 6 Clean Room Facilities at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Guwahati's Centre for Nanotechnology was inaugurated.**
- **SWASTHA Centre aims to revolutionise healthcare through advanced nanoelectronic theranostic devices, emphasising innovation and technological progress.**
- The creation of the Clean Room National Facility, certifying its ISO 5 and 6 standards will catalyse high-tech R&D and innovation in the region.



Explanation

- With cutting-edge equipment and facilities, including Electron Beam Lithography and Reactive Ion Etching, the Clean Room Facilities will facilitate the development of transformative technologies such as OLEDs, photovoltaic devices, and microfluidic-based sensors.



Titbits

IIT Guwahati:

Chairman: Rajiv I Modi

Director: Rajeev Ahuja



➤ **How many units of free electricity per month will be provided to beneficiaries under the PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana?**

- A) 100 units
- B) 200 units
- C) 300 units
- D) 400 units
- E) 500 units

Answer

C) 300 units



Explanation

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi launched PM Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana to provide free electricity to its beneficiaries.**
- **As per the scheme, the central government will provide 300 units of free electricity per month to its beneficiaries by investing worth Rs 75,000 crores.**



➤ Who is the co-operative major collaborating with GPC to organize the Pulses 24 convention?

- A) ITC Limited
- B) NAFED
- C) Amul
- D) Hindustan Unilever Limited
- E) Mother Dairy

Answer
B) NAFED



Explanation

- The Global Pulse Confederation (GPC)'s three days convention – Pulses 24 – will kickstart in Delhi where several dignitaries including ministers, top officials and industry leaders from India and about 40 other countries are slated to discuss issues including strategies by India to achieve self-sufficiency in production.
- The event, organised by GPC in co-operation with co-operative major Nafed, will amplify the message of pulses as smart crops for a sustainable future and provide a platform for collaboration and innovation to further this mission.



➤ **What does APAAR stand for?**

- A) Academic Performance and Accountability Assessment Registry
- B) Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry
- C) All-India Progressive Academic Achievement Record
- D) Academic Proficiency and Achievement Record
- E) Academic Progress and Assessment Registry

Answer

B) Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry



Explanation

- **Union Minister of Education and Skill Development & Entrepreneurship, Shri Dharmendra Pradhan, attended the National Conference on APAAR: One Nation One Student ID Card in New Delhi.**
- **25 crore APAAR IDs have already been created.**
- **India has 19 out of 53 DPIs.**
- **APAAR helps in tracking the vast pool of 260 million students in the country.**



Note:

- The Automated Permanent Academic Account Registry (APAAR) is a transformative initiative introduced in alignment with the National Education Policy (NEP) of 2020 and the National Credit and Qualifications Framework (NCrF).
- It aims to provide a unified and accessible academic experience for students across India by assigning a unique and permanent 12-digit ID to every student, consolidating their academic achievements in one place



➤ **Who developed the NGDRS application?**

- A) Assam State Data Centre
- B) Ministry of Rural Development
- C) Revenue and Disaster Management Department
- D) National Informatics Centre Pune
- E) Department of Land Resources



Answer

D) National Informatics Centre Pune



Explanation

- **Secretary, Department of Land Resources, Smt. Nidhi Khare rolled out National Generic Document Registration System (NDGRS) throughout Assam along with the launch of Unique Land Parcel Identification Number (ULPIN) seeding of geo referenced Cadastral Maps.**
- **The event was organized by the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, Government of Assam.**



Explanation

- **NGDRS, a project initiated by the Department of Land Resources, Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India is a common, generic application developed for registration departments across the country under One Nation One Software initiative.**
- **NGDRS application is developed by NIC Pune and the Assam Instance of NGDRS is hosted in State Data Centre (SDC).**
- NDGRS in Assam was launched by Chief Minister of Assam on November 14, 2022.
- Currently NGDRS has been rolled out in SROs of two Districts, i.e Kamrup and Darrang and now NGDRS is rolled out in all the 77 SROs of Assam.



Key features of the Assam Instance of NGDRS:

- The Assam instance of NGDRS has been integrated with Dharitree for zonal value and location, NOC for party and land details, eGras for online payment, e-Stamp and citizen services of Sewa Setu (Non encumbrance Certificate, Certified Copy, Marriage Registration, Deed Registration).
- Auto- calculation of fees according to the articles is enabled.
- Total of 76 articles configured in NGDRS.



Note:

- **ULPIN, a 14-digit alpha numeric identification number to every land parcel can be described as the AADHAR or fingerprint for land.**
- **The identification is based on the longitude and latitude of the land parcel and is dependent on geo-referenced cadastral maps.**



➤ What does "SUFALAM" stand for?

- A) Sustainable Food Alliance for Leaders and Mentors
- B) Superior Food and Agriculture Leadership and Mentorship
- C) Start-Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors
- D) Supportive Foundation for Agro-based Leadership and Mentorship
- E) Successful Food and Lifestyle Advocacy Movement



Answer

C) Start-Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors



Explanation

- **Union Minister of Food Processing Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras inaugurated "SUFALAM: Start-Up Forum for Aspiring Leaders and Mentors Startup Conclave 2024".**
- **"SUFALAM" emerges as a pivotal platform aimed at catalyzing innovation, fostering collaboration, and driving growth within the food processing industry.**



QUICK RECALL



- **International Epilepsy day is observed on February 12**
- **Renowned litterateur and Padma Shri awardee Usha Kiran Khan passes away in Patna**
- **IndusInd Bank partners with UP Government for livestock welfare initiative**
- **Airbus C295 programme gets nod from DGAQA**
- **Visit of EAM Dr. S Jaishankar to Perth, Australia to attend the 7th Indian Ocean Conference**
- **Odisha's Gupteswar Forest declared the state's 4th Biodiversity Heritage Site**
- **IIT Guwahati launches SWASTHA Project, Clean Room Facilities for innovation in nanotechnology**
- **PM Modi launches Muft Bijli Yojana**



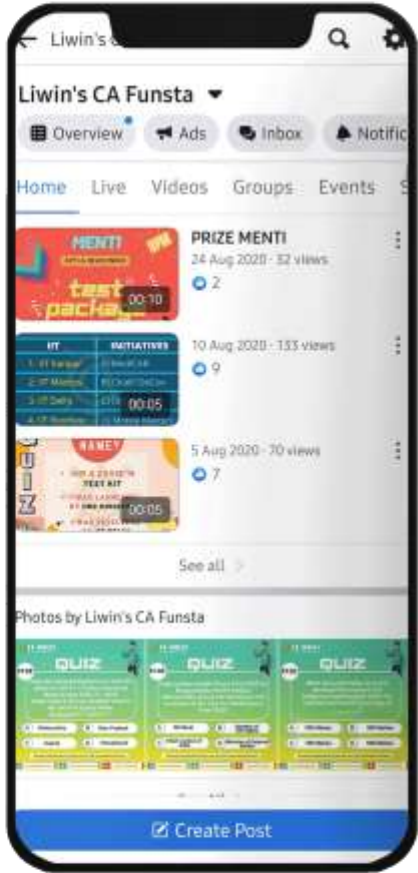
QUICK RECALL



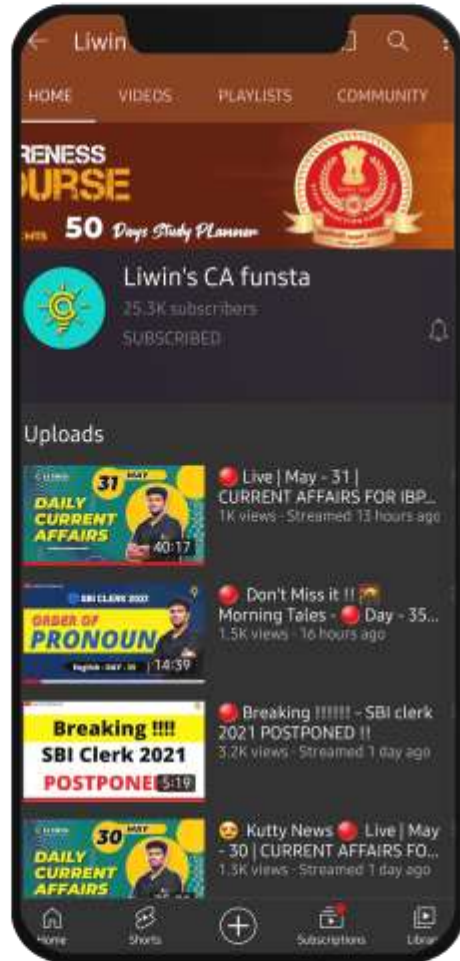
- **India to host global meet on pulses in Delhi from Feb 15**
- **Shri Dharmendra Pradhan inaugurates National Conference on APAAR: One Nation One Student ID Card**
- **Secretary Smt. Nidhi Khare rolls out National Generic Document Registration System throughout Assam along with launch of Unique Land Parcel Identification Number**
- **Shri Pashupati Kumar Paras inaugurates "SUFALAM": Launching Groundbreaking Start-Up Conclave for Food Processing Entrepreneurs**



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