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SPORTS



➤ Who won the UEFA Women's Nations League?

- A) France
- B) Spain
- C) Germany
- D) Italy
- E) England

Answer
B) Spain



Explanation

- **Spain won the UEFA Women's Nations League by easily dominating France, and led by an exceptional Aitana Bonmati.**
- **France, Spain, and Germany will represent UEFA at the 2024 Olympics.**



SPORTS



Titbits

Spain:

Capital: Madrid

Currency: Euro

Prime Minister: Pedro Sanchez



➤ **What notable achievement did B Sai Praneeth accomplish in 2019?**

- A) Olympic Gold Medal
- B) BWF World Championships bronze medal
- C) Commonwealth Games gold medal
- D) Asian Games silver medal
- E) Thomas Cup victory



Answer

B) BWF World Championships bronze medal



SPORTS



Explanation

- **Former World Championships bronze medallist B Sai Praneeth announced his retirement.**
- **He became the first Indian male shuttler in 36 years to win a bronze medal in the BWF World Championships in 2019 after Prakash Padukone in 1983.**
- **Sai Praneeth was honoured with the Arjuna Award in 2019.**



➤ How many banks are currently facilitating people to search their unclaimed deposits through the UDGAM portal?

- A) 20
- B) 25
- C) 30
- D) 35
- E) 40

Answer
C) 30



Explanation

- **The Reserve Bank of India reported that 30 banks are facilitating people to search their unclaimed deposits/accounts through UDGAM portal, and the remaining banks are in the process of getting on-boarded.**
- **UDGAM -- Unclaimed Deposits-Gateway to Access inforMation is an online portal developed by RBI.**
- It facilitates the registered users to search unclaimed deposits/accounts across multiple banks in one place in a centralised manner.



Explanation

- All unclaimed deposits/accounts that are part of the Depositor Education and Awareness (DEA) Fund of RBI can be searched in the UDGAM portal.
- **As on March 4, 2024, there are 30 banks, which are part of UDGAM portal, and they cover around 90 per cent of unclaimed deposits (in value terms) in DEA Fund of RBI.**



Note:

- A user is required to register on the portal by providing his/her name and mobile number.
- The portal facilitates only the search of unclaimed deposits/accounts across multiple banks at one place and provides information on claim/settlement process of each bank.
- The unclaimed deposits can be claimed only from the respective bank.
- The unclaimed deposits totalled Rs 42,270 crore as of March 2023.



Titbits

RBI:

Founded: 1935

Nationalised: 1949

Governor: Shakthikanta Das (25th)

Deputy Governor: M D Patra, M Rajeshwar,
T Rabi Shankar, J Swaminathan



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



➤ What percentage of shareholding in MPPL is RPAL acquiring?

- A) 40%
- B) 50%
- C) 59.25%
- D) 75%
- E) 100%

Answer
C) 59.25%



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Explanation

- **The Competition Commission of India (CCI) has approved the transaction inter alia envisaging the acquisition of 59.25% shareholding in Maini Precision Products Limited (MPPL) by Ring Plus Aqua Limited (RPAL).**
- **The proposed combination inter alia envisages the acquisition of 59.25% shareholding in MPPL by RPAL, the acquisition of the entire shareholding of JK Files & Engineering Limited (JK Files) in JK Talabot Limited (JKTL) by a wholly owned subsidiary of Raymond Limited (New Company), and merger of RPAL, MPPL and the engineering business of JK Files into the New Company.**



ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



Titbits

Competition Commission of India:

HQ: New Delhi

Chairperson: Ravneet Kaur



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who did the ruling party Fidesz nominate to replace Hungary's first female president, Katalin Novak?



- A) Tamas Sulyok
- B) Viktor Orban
- C) Katalin Novak
- D) Janos Ader
- E) Ferenc Gyurcsany

Answer

A) Tamas Sulyok



APPOINTMENTS



Explanation

- **Ruling party Fidesz nominated Constitutional Court head Tamas Sulyok, 67, to replace Novak, Hungary's first female president.**



APPOINTMENTS



Titbits

Hungary:

Capital: Budapest

Currency: Forint

President: Tamas Sulyok

Prime Minister: Viktor Orban



AWARDS



➤ **What is the Bob Jones Award?**

- A) Highest honor in golf journalism
- B) Highest honor in golf course design
- C) Highest honor in golf sportsmanship
- D) Highest honor in golf instruction
- E) Highest honor in golf broadcasting

Answer

C) Highest honor in golf sportsmanship



AWARDS



Explanation

- **USGA announced Tiger Woods as the latest recipient of the Bob Jones Award, the organization's highest honor.**
- **Woods received the award "in recognition of his commitment to sportsmanship and respect for golf's time-honored traditions.**
- **He won 15 major championship and 82 PGA Tour.**
- **In all, Woods has won nine victories in USGA championships: three consecutive U.S. Junior Amateur titles, three consecutive U.S. Amateur titles and three U.S. Open wins.**



➤ **What is the name of the section inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi on Kolkata Metro's East-West Corridor?**

- A) Howrah Junction-Esplanade
- B) Howrah Maidan-Esplanade
- C) Howrah Central-Esplanade
- D) Howrah Park-Esplanade
- E) Howrah Plaza-Esplanade

Answer

B) Howrah Maidan-Esplanade



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Explanation

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi unveiled multiple metro projects across the country, including India's first underwater metro line in Kolkata.**
- **The Rs 4,965-crore Howrah Maidan-Esplanade section of Kolkata Metro's East-West Corridor, which has the first transportation tunnel "under any mighty river in India", was inaugurated by the PM.**
- **The stretch also has the deepest metro station in the country – the Howrah metro station.**
- **The under-river section of the tunnel is 520 metres long, and a train will take around 45 seconds to cross it.**



Explanation

- PM also inaugurated the **Kavi Subhash-Hemanta Mukhopadhyay section of the New Garia-Aiport line and the Taratala-Majerhat section of the Joka-Esplanade line of the Kolkata Metro, the country's oldest metro network.**
- Modi also inaugurated the **Duhai-Modinagar (North) section of the Delhi-Meerut RRTS Corridor, Pune Metro's Ruby Hall Clinic-Ramwadi stretch, Kochi Metro's SN Junction to Tripunithura section and Agra Metro's Taj East Gate-Mankameshwar section.**
- The PM also laid the foundation stone for **the extension of the Pune Metro between Pimpri Chinchwad and Nigdi.**



Titbits

West Bengal:

Capital: Kolkata

Chief Minister: Mamata Banerjee

Governor: C V Ananda Bose



➤ **Who collaborated in the development of 'Iris'?**

- A) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO)
- B) Tata Group
- C) Makerlabs Edutech Private Limited
- D) Microsoft
- E) Google

Answer

C) Makerlabs Edutech Private Limited



Explanation

- **The humanoid named 'Iris', was unveiled at KTCT Higher Secondary School in Thiruvananthapuram in collaboration with Makerlabs Edutech Private Limited.**
- **According to Makerlabs, Iris was built as part of the Atal Tinkering Lab (ATL), a 2021 NITI Aayog project to boost students' extracurricular activities in schools.**
- **Iris can speak three languages and also answer difficult questions, along with features including voice assistant, interactive learning, manipulation capabilities, and mobilities.**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Kerala:

Capital: Thiruvananthapuram
Chief Minister: Pinarayi Vijayan
Governor: Arif Mohammad Khan



➤ **What was the amendment made to the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961?**

- A) Raising the minimum age for senior citizens eligible for voting
- B) Introducing electronic voting machines
- C) Changing the voting period
- D) Altering the nomination process
- E) Modifying the election campaign rules



Answer

A) Raising the minimum age for senior citizens eligible for voting



Explanation

- **The government in consultation with the Election Commission, amended the Conduct of Election Rules, 1961, to raise the minimum age for senior citizens eligible for voting by postal ballot, to 85 years from 80 years.**



➤ Where was the country's first small-scale LNG unit set up by GAIL inaugurated?

- A) Mumbai
- B) Kolkata
- C) New Delhi
- D) Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh
- E) Hyderabad

Answer

D) Vijaipur, Madhya Pradesh



Explanation

- **India's Union Minister of Petroleum and Natural Gas & Housing and Urban Affairs, Hardeep Singh Puri, has inaugurated 201 compressed natural gas stations across 17 states**
- **He also launched the country's first small-scale LNG unit set up by GAIL at Vijaipur in Madhya Pradesh.**
- **The 201 CNG stations have been set up by 15 City Gas Distribution, or CGD, entities, of which 53 stations belong to GAIL Gas Limited, 50 to Indraprastha Gas Limited, 43 to GAIL and 20 to Mahanagar Gas Limited.**



Explanation

- In addition, four belong to Avantika Gas Limited, two to Bengal Gas Company Limited, three to Central UP Gas Limited, one to Goa Natural Gas Pvt. Limited, three to Green Gas Limited, one to Haridwar Natural Gas Limited, two to Purba Bharati Gas Limited, one to Rajasthan State Gas Pvt. Limited, one to Tripura Natural Gas Company Limited and one to Vadodara Gas Limited.



Explanation

- The total number of **CNG stations across the country** has surged to **over 6,200** while the number of **domestic Piped Natural Gas, or PNG, connections** were at around **12.1 million**.
- GAIL group companies **account for about 40% CNG stations and around 64% PNG connections in the country**.



➤ **Where is the National Dolphin Research Center (NDRC) located?**

- A) Kolkata
- B) Mumbai
- C) Patna
- D) Delhi
- E) Hyderabad

Answer
C) Patna



Explanation

- **Bihar Chief Minister Nitish Kumar inaugurated India's first-ever dolphin research centre in Patna.**
- **Built at a cost of Rs 30 crore, the National Dolphin Research Center (NDRC) stands on the banks of the Ganges inside the Patna University campus and will help students and researchers understand the behaviour of freshwater dolphins, particularly of those found in the Ganges.**



Note:

- Gangetic River Dolphin was declared the national aquatic animal in the year 2009.
- The Ganges dolphin was officially discovered in the year 1801.
- They live in the Ganges-Brahmaputra-Meghna and Karnaphuli-Sangu river systems of Nepal, India and Bangladesh.
- Hunting of Ganga dolphins is prohibited under Schedule I of the Wild Life (Protection) Act, 1972. According to a count conducted by the Bihar government, there were 1,048 dolphins in the Ganges in 2018.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Titbits

Bihar:

Capital: Patna

Chief Minister: Nitish Kumar

Governor: Rajendra Arlekar



➤ With which institution did the Central Water Commission (CWC) sign a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) for the establishment of the International Centre of Excellence for Dams (ICED)?

- A) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi
- B) Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore
- C) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay
- D) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Madras
- E) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Kanpur



Answer

B) Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore



Explanation

- **Central Water Commission (CWC), Department of Water Resources, River Development & Ganga Rejuvenation, Ministry of Jal Shakti has signed a Memorandum of Agreement (MoA) with Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore for Establishment of an International Centre of Excellence for Dams (ICED) under externally supported Dam Rehabilitation and Improvement Project (DRIP) Phase II and III.**
- This MoA will remain valid for ten years or till the duration of the DRIP Phase-II and III Scheme, whichever is earlier, from the date of signing this MoA.



Explanation

- **ICED will carry out research in two core areas**
 - (i) Advanced construction and rehabilitation materials & Material testing for dams and**
 - (ii) Comprehensive (multi-hazard) risk assessment of dams.**



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Note:

- **ICED, IISc Bangalore is the second International Centre in the area of Dam Safety.**
- **The first ICED has been institutionalized at IIT Roorkee upon signing of MoA in February 2023.**



➤ **What is the purpose of the partnership between Atal Innovation Mission (AIM) and Meta?**

- A) To promote traditional teaching methods
- B) To establish libraries in schools
- C) To set up Frontier Technologies Labs (FTLs) in strategic schools
- D) To organize sports events for students
- E) To provide scholarships to underprivileged students



Answer

C) To set up Frontier Technologies Labs (FTLs) in strategic schools



Explanation

- **Atal Innovation Mission (AIM), NITI Aayog and Meta have announced the launch of Frontier Technology Labs (FTLs).**
- **Atal Innovation Mission and Meta will partner to set up FTLs in schools of strategic importance to ensure that students from diverse backgrounds across India will have equal opportunities to learn and engage with frontier technologies.**
- **Till date, AIM has established 10,000 Atal Tinkering Labs (ATLs) in schools across 722 districts in India.**



Explanation

- **The objective of ATLs is to foster curiosity, creativity, and imagination in young minds; and inculcate skills such as design mindset, computational thinking, physical computing etc.**
- **The FTL is an advanced version of Atal Tinkering Lab equipped with state-of-the-art infrastructure, including all components of the Tinkering Lab to empower students to innovate using technologies like Artificial Intelligence, Augmented & Virtual Reality, Blockchain, Cybersecurity, Robotics, 3D Printing, and Internet of Things.**
- **The FTLs will be funded by Meta and Atal Innovation Mission will be the knowledge partner**



➤ **What is the main purpose of the 'NITI For States' platform?**

- A) To promote tourism in India
- B) To facilitate international trade agreements
- C) To provide digital infrastructure for policy and good governance
- D) To conduct national elections
- E) To support agricultural development



Answer

C) To provide digital infrastructure for policy and good governance



Explanation

- **Minister of Communications, Railways, and Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw will launch NITI Aayog's NITI For States platform at Rang Bhawan auditorium, Akashvani, New Delhi.**
- **The 'NITI For States', is a cross-sectoral knowledge platform designed to become a Digital Public Infrastructure (DPI) for Policy and Good Governance.**
- **He will also inaugurate 'Viksit Bharat Strategy Room' at NITI Aayog.**



Explanation

- **The 'Viksit Bharat Strategy Room' will enable rich visualization and engagement with insights, information and knowledge to enable effective in-person decision-making.**
- Various government organizations have collaborated in this initiative by NITI Aayog.
- It includes **iGOT Karmayogi bringing online training modules called "SAMARTH" which can be accessed by the platform.**



Explanation

- NITI Aayog's **National Data and Analytics Platform (NDAP)** has been integrated to give access to government data sets; **National E-Governance Division (NeGD)** has extended support to develop the first-of-its-kind **Viksit Bharat Strategy Room** while multi-lingual support has been provided by the **Bhashini**.
- PM Gatishakti **BISAG-N** team, with the support of **DPIIT**, has also been integrated providing for the geospatial tool for **Area Based Planning**.



Titbits

NITI Aayog:

Founded: 1 January 2015
Chairman: Narendra Modi
Vice Chairman: Suman Berry
CEO: B V R Subhramanyam



➤ **Who inaugurated the first-of-its-kind technical centre built by IN-SPACe in Ahmedabad?**

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B) Union Minister of State for Science and Technology
Jitendra Singh
- C) Union Minister of Health and Family Welfare
Mansukh Mandaviya
- D) Chief Minister of Gujarat Bhupendra Patel
- E) Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation
Centre (IN-SPACe) Chairman



Answer

**B) Union Minister of State for Science and
Technology Jitendra Singh**



Explanation

- In order to provide the private sector with “unparalleled opportunities” to rigorously test and validate their space technologies, a **first-of-its-kind technical centre built by Indian National Space Promotion and Authorisation Centre (IN-SPACE) in Ahmedabad** was inaugurated by Union minister of state for Science and Technology Jitendra Singh.
- This centre is primarily focussed on satellites and payloads.



Explanation

- **IN-SPACE is an autonomous nodal agency attached to the Department of Space, Government of India.**
- **This technical centre located at IN-SPACE's headquarters at Bopal is meant to support space non-governmental entities in designing, development, simulation and testing of space technologies.**
- **The centre has been built at a cost less than Rs 100 crore.**



Titbits

INSPACE:

Founded: 2020

HQ: Ahmedabad, Gujarat

Chairman: Dr Pawan Goenka



➤ Which funding agency is a major contributor to the East-West Metro project in Kolkata?

- A) World Bank
- B) Asian Development Bank
- C) International Monetary Fund
- D) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)
- E) European Investment Bank



Answer

D) Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA)



Explanation

- **Prime Minister Narendra Modi inaugurated and flagged off multiple metro services and connectivity projects across the country worth Rs 15,400 crore, including a Kolkata Metro extension featuring India's first underwater metro transportation tunnel under any major river.**
- **The Howrah Maidan-Esplanade Metro section has the first underwater metro transportation tunnel under any major river in our country, which is a part of the Kolkata Metro's East-West Corridor, built at a cost of Rs 4960 crore.**



Explanation

- **The Esplanade-Howrah Maidan section of Metro Railway, Kolkata, which passes below the mighty Hooghly river, has a length of 4.8 km.**
- **This section, deemed as an engineering marvel, has the deepest metro station.**
- **It will reduce travel time between Kolkata and Howrah.**
- **Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), the world's largest bilateral donor agency, is a major funding agency for the East-West Metro project.**



Explanation

- Apart from inaugurating the Howrah Maidan-Esplanade Metro section, the Prime Minister inaugurated the 1.25-km-long Taratala-Majherhat section of the Joka-Esplanade line in Kolkata, built at a cost of over Rs 520 crore.
- The Rs 1,430-crore Kavi Subhash-Hemanta Mukhopadhyay section of the New Garia-Airport metro line in the city was also inaugurated.



QUICK RECALL



- **Spain Wins UEFA Women's Nations League; Germany Earns Spot At 2024 Paris Olympics**
- **30 banks join RBI UDGAM portal for unclaimed deposits**
- **CCI approves acquisition of 59.25% shareholding in Maini Precision Products Limited (MPPL) by Ring Plus Aqua Limited (RPAL)**
- **Sai Praneeth announces retirement from international badminton**
- **Hungary parliament elects new president following scandal**
- **Tiger Woods honored with USGA's most prestigious award**
- **PM Modi unveils India's first underwater metro in Kolkata**
- **Kerala introduces its first generative AI teacher 'Iris'**
- **Minimum age to cast postal ballots hiked to 85 years**
- **India launches 201 CNG stations, first SSLNG unit amid gas-based economy push**



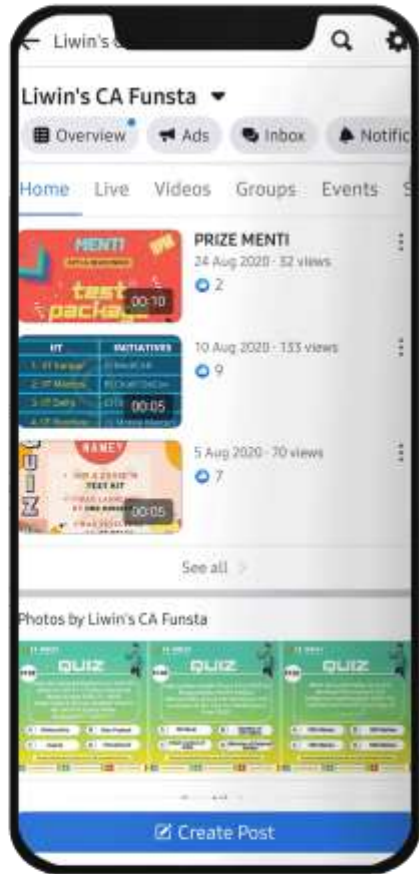
QUICK RECALL



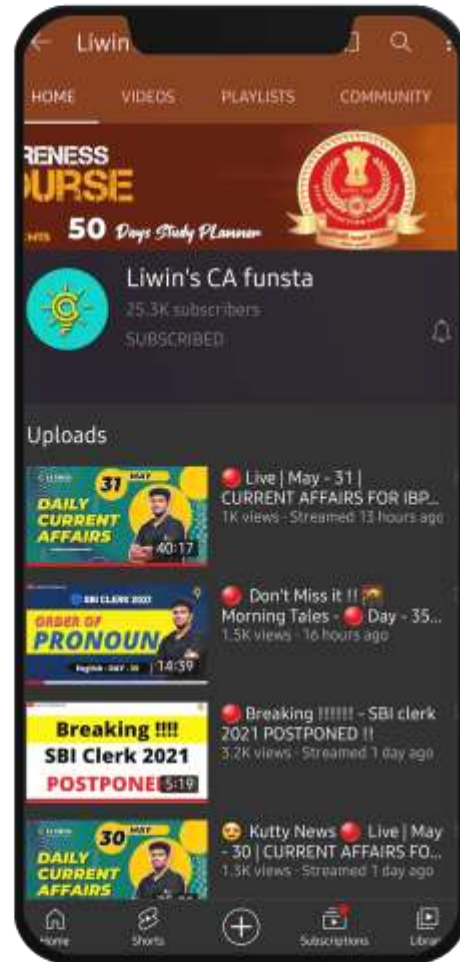
- **India's 1st dolphin research centre inaugurated in Patna, will help in study of Gangetic Dolphins**
- **Ministry of Jal Shakti Signs Agreement with Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore for Establishment of International Centre of Excellence for Dams (ICED)**
- **Atal Innovation Mission, NITI Aayog and Meta join hands to establish Frontier Technology Labs in schools to democratize access to future technologies and innovation**
- **Minister of Communications, Railways, and Electronics & Information Technology Shri Ashwini Vaishnaw to launch NITI Aayog's 'NITI For States' Platform**
- **IN-SPACE technical centre focussed on 'satellites & payloads' inaugurated in Ahmedabad**
- **PM Modi inaugurates Rs 15,400 crore metro projects across India**



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