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# Important Days



➤ **What is the theme chosen by Consumers International for World Consumer Rights Day this year?**

- A) Sustainable consumption practices
- B) Fair and responsible AI for consumers
- C) Access to quality healthcare
- D) Financial literacy and consumer protection
- E) Environmental conservation and consumer rights

**Answer**

**B) Fair and responsible AI for consumers**



# Important Days



## Explanation

- **World Consumer Rights day is observed on March 15**
- **Consumers International, the global voice for consumers, has chosen the theme 'Fair and responsible AI for consumers' for this year's World Consumer Rights Day.**
- The origins of World Consumer Rights Day can be traced back to March 15, 1962, when former US President John F. Kennedy addressed consumer rights issues in a historic speech to the US Congress.



# Important Days



## Explanation

- This marked the first time a world leader had formally acknowledged the importance of consumer rights on a global stage.
- Since its official inception on March 15, 1983, World Consumer Rights Day has been recognized and endorsed by the United Nations.





➤ **Who did Mumbai defeat to win the Ranji Trophy 2024?**

- A) Delhi
- B) Vidarbha
- C) Karnataka
- D) Rajasthan
- E) Uttar Pradesh

**Answer**  
**B) Vidarbha**



## Explanation

- **Mumbai won the Ranji Trophy 2024 after beating Vidarbha by 169 runs at the Wankhede Stadium in Mumbai.**
- **It also happened to be their 42nd title for Mumbai.**



➤ **Who won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix in Formula One?**

- A) Lewis Hamilton
- B) Sergio Perez
- C) Max Verstappen
- D) Valtteri Bottas
- E) Charles Leclerc

**Answer**

**C) Max Verstappen**



## Explanation

- **Max Verstappen won the Saudi Arabian Grand Prix from pole position as Red Bull continued their dominant start to the Formula One season with a second one-two in as many races.**
- **Mexican Sergio Perez was runner up in this Grand Prix.**
- It was the first time Verstappen, winner of a record 19 of 22 races last year, has won the first two races of a season.
- The victory was a ninth in a row for Verstappen, dating back to Japan last September, and the 56th of the 26-year-old Dutch driver's career.





# OBITUARY



➤ When did Admiral (retd) L Ramdas take over as the Chief of Naval Staff (CNS)?

- A) 1987
- B) 1990
- C) 1993
- D) 1996
- E) 1999

**Answer**  
**B) 1990**



# OBITUARY



## Explanation

- **Former Navy Chief Admiral (retd) L Ramdas passed away.**
- **On November 30, 1990, he had taken over as the 13th Chief of Naval Staff (CNS) and retired in 1993.**
- **He joined the Joint Services Wing of the Armed Forces Academy in Clement Town, Dehradun in 1949, and was commissioned as an officer of the Indian Navy in September 1953.**
- **He was trained as a communications specialist.**



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who is the new Prime Minister of Palestine?**

- A) Mohhamad Abbas
- B) Mohammad Mustafa
- C) Rashid Al Maktoum
- D) Mohammad bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- E) None of Them



**Answer**

**B) Mohammad Mustafa**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- **Mohammad Mustafa, appointed prime minister of the Palestinian Authority (PA) is one of the leading Palestinian business figures who has overseen Gaza reconstruction under Hamas Islamist rule.**
- A rare ally of PA head Mahmoud Abbas, U.S.-educated economist Mustafa once ran the Palestinian telecoms company Paltel and more recently the PA's public Palestine Investment Fund (PIF), with nearly \$1 billion in assets funding projects across the Palestinian territories.





# APPOINTMENTS



## Note:

- **Abbas appointed Mustafa as PIF chairman in 2015.**
- **He served as a deputy prime minister responsible for economic affairs from 2013 to 2014**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Titbits

### Palestine:

Capital: Jerusalem

President: Mahmoud Abbas

Prime Minister: Mohammad Mustafa



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been appointed as Group President - One Kotak by Kotak Mahindra Bank?**

- A) Jaideep Hansraj
- B) Shripal Shah
- C) Uday Kotak
- D) Nilesh Shah
- E) None of the above

**Answer**

**A) Jaideep Hansraj**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Explanation

- **Kotak Mahindra Bank has appointed Kotak Securities MD and CEO Jaideep Hansraj as Group President - One Kotak, with effect from April 1, 2024.**
- **'One Kotak' is the term used by the bank for its internal framework for inter-Group synergies and cross-selling opportunities.**
- **Shripal Shah, President and COO at Kotak Securities, will take over from Hansraj as the head of Kotak Securities.**





➤ **Which two organizations have collaborated for applied research?**

- A) Indian Institute of Management Delhi (IIM Delhi) and Boeing
- B) Indian Institute of Technology Bombay (IIT Bombay) and NASA
- C) Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)
- D) Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO) and Microsoft
- E) Indian Institute of Science (IISc) Bangalore and SpaceX



**Answer**

**C) Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi)  
and Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI)**



## Explanation

- **The Indian Institute of Technology Delhi (IIT Delhi) collaborated with the Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI) for applied research.**
- **This alliance between IAI and IIT-Delhi will demonstrate a shared vision leveraging research to drive progress and technological excellence, shaping together the future of technology in India.**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Keyperson:

- **IAI's President and CEO, Boaz Levy**



➤ Which two companies have entered into a partnership to develop renewable energy projects in India?

- A) Tata Power and Adani Green Energy
- B) REC Ltd and Bharti Airtel
- C) REC Power Development and Consultancy Ltd and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd
- D) NTPC Limited and Indian Oil Corporation
- E) Suzlon Energy and Larsen & Toubro



**Answer**  
**C) REC Power Development and Consultancy Ltd  
and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd**





## Explanation

- **State-owned REC Ltd's arm REC Power Development and Consultancy Ltd and Bharat Heavy Electricals Ltd (Bhel) have entered into a partnership to develop renewable energy projects across the country.**
- The companies would set up a special purpose vehicle (SPV) to develop renewable energy projects for supply to discoms.
- The SPV will focus to cater energy requirement of preferably the commercial and industrial (C&I) segment with initial capacity of 1 GW which would further be scaled up.



## Note:

- **The Centre has set an ambitious target of achieving 500 GW installed renewable energy capacity by 2030.**
- **India currently has an installed renewable capacity of over 170 GW.**
- **The government aims to add 50 GW annually till FY28**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### BHEL:

HQ: New Delhi  
CEO: Nalin Singhal

### REC:

HQ: New Delhi  
CMD: Vivek Kumar Dewagan



➤ **Which company has won a program in India worth \$100 million from Maharashtra State Cyber Department?**

- A) Tata Consultancy Services (TCS)
- B) Infosys Limited
- C) L&T Technology Services Ltd
- D) Wipro Limited
- E) Tech Mahindra



**Answer**

**C) L&T Technology Services Ltd**



## Explanation

- **L&T Technology Services Ltd , a pure-play engineering and technology services company, has won a program in India worth \$100 million (₹800 crore) from Maharashtra State Cyber Department, under the Government of Maharashtra.**
- In this initiative by the Government of Maharashtra, LTTS in consortium with KPMG assurance and consulting services LLP as forensics partner will provide advanced Cyber Security Solutions for the State enhancing public safety against cyber threats.





## Explanation

- The project entails designing a sophisticated cybersecurity system and establishing a state-of-the-art, fully equipped, cyber security and cybercrime prevention centre to address cybercrime incidents and investigations by leveraging AI and digital forensic tools.
- The program also encompasses a Digital Threat Analytics Centre (DTAC) paired with a Centre of Excellence (COE), that will equip the forensic team with cutting-edge digital forensic tools including Deepfake detection, Mobile Malware forensics, IoT investigation and Network forensics, among other capabilities



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Maharashtra:

Capital: Mumbai

Chief Minister: Eknath Shinde

Governor: Ramesh Bais



- How much are the waterways projects approved by India's Shipping Ministry worth on Brahmaputra in Assam?

- A) ₹245 crore
- B) ₹345 crore
- C) ₹545 crore
- D) ₹645 crore
- E) ₹745 crore

**Answer**

**D) ₹645 crore**



## Explanation

- **India's Shipping Ministry has approved waterways projects worth ₹645 crore on Brahmaputra in Assam.**
- **Projects, aimed at boosting river tourism, will be implemented with financial assistance from the Centre.**
- **Projects will involve the creation of slipways at strategic locations in Dhubri and Majuli, new passenger terminals at Ghagor in North Lakhimpur and Bahari in Barpeta district of Assam.**



## Explanation

- **There will be additional passenger terminals in Goalpara, Guijan, Kurua, Dhubri, Disangmukh & Matmora.**
- **These ten projects will enhance transportation efficiency, stimulate industrial development and trade in the region.**



## Development Projects in NE:

- With the development of North-Eastern States in focus, including Assam, projects exceeding ₹1,000 crore have been initiated under the Sagarmala program.
- In Assam, projects exceeding ₹760 crore are currently underway.
- The Ministry will also be developing river tourism and water sports along Brahmaputra.
- This includes construction of tourist jetties at Oriumghat, Bhupen Hazarika Setu, Koliabhomora Bridge at Tezpur, Bogibeel Bridge, Dikhow Mukh, Kalongmukh and Uzanbazar in Guwahati.





## Eastern Grid in the works:

- Development of an Eastern Grid, at Brahmaputra and Barak rivers along with Ganga and Sundarbans, will boost regional integration and trade with South Asia and Eastern South Asia.
- The Eastern Grid can unlock multi-lateral trade potential of \$49 billion.
- The Centre has also spent ₹1,040 crore on the development of waterways which has resulted in the operation of 20 Waterways in the North Eastern Region, which was only one till 2014.



## Eastern Grid in the works:

- Cargo handled via Indo Bangladesh Protocol route (IBPR) has increased by 170 per cent too, adding that the first ship repair facility, with an investment worth ₹208 crore is being developed through Hooghly - Cochin Shipyard Ltd (HCSL) at Pandu along River Brahmaputra.
- The Indo-Bangladesh Protocol route, developed jointly by India and Bangladesh, at an estimated cost of ₹305.84 crore provides an alternate connectivity for all North-eastern States from Guwahati and Jogighopa to Kolkata and Haldia ports.



## Eastern Grid in the works:

- The Sirajganj-Diakhowa route (175 km) on River Jamuna and Ashuganj-Zakiganj (295km) segment of river Kushiyara on the IBP routes are being developed to connect with Brahmaputra and Barak rivers along NW-16.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### Assam:

Capital: Dispur

Chief Minister: Himanta Biswa Sarma

Governor: Gulab Chand Kataria



- What is the minimum investment required under the approved scheme for promoting e-vehicles manufacturing in India?

- A) Rs 1000 Cr
- B) Rs 2000 Cr
- C) Rs 3150 Cr
- D) Rs 4150 Cr
- E) Rs 5000 Cr

**Answer**  
**D) Rs 4150 Cr**



## Explanation

- **The Union Government has approved a scheme to promote India as a manufacturing destination so that e-vehicles (EV) with the latest technology can be manufactured in the country.**
- The policy is designed to attract investments in the e-vehicle space by reputed global EV manufacturers.





**The policy entails the following: -**

- **Minimum Investment required: Rs 4150 Cr (~USD 500 Mn)**
- **No limit on maximum Investment**
- **Timeline for manufacturing: 3 years for setting up manufacturing facilities in India, and to start commercial production of e- vehicles, and reach 50% domestic value addition (DVA) within 5 years at the maximum.**
- **Domestic value addition (DVA) during manufacturing: A localization level of 25% by the 3rd year and 50% by the 5th year will have to be achieved**



**The policy entails the following: -**

- **The customs duty of 15% (as applicable to CKD units) would be applicable on vehicle of minimum CIF value of USD 35,000 and above for a total period of 5 years subject to the manufacturer setting up manufacturing facilities in India within a 3-year period.**
- **The duty foregone on the total number of EV allowed for import would be limited to the investment made or ₹6484 Cr (equal to incentive under PLI scheme) whichever is lower. A maximum of 40,000 EVs at the rate of not more than 8,000 per year would be permissible if the investment is of USD 800 Mn or more.**



**The policy entails the following: -**

- **The carryover of unutilized annual import limits would be permitted.**
- **The Investment commitment made by the company will have to be backed up by a bank guarantee in lieu of the custom duty forgone**
- **The Bank guarantee will be invoked in case of non-achievement of DVA and minimum investment criteria defined under the scheme guidelines**



➤ **With which organization has the Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India signed a Non-Financial Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to support the livelihood intervention of DAY-NRLM?**

- A) State Bank of India (SBI)
- B) Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited (BFIL)
- C) Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
- D) National Bank for Agriculture and Rural Development (NABARD)
- E) Punjab National Bank (PNB)



**BHARAT**  
Financial Inclusion Ltd

**Answer**

**B) Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited (BFIL)**



## Explanation

- **Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India has signed a Non-Financial Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited (BFIL) to support the livelihood intervention of DAY-NRLM by syncing their activities in livestock and fisheries development.**
- **The MoU was signed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development Shri Charanjit Singh and Executive Vice Chairman Shri J Sridharan at New Delhi.**



## Explanation

- **As part of the MoU, in initial phase a centralized Project Monitoring Unit (PMU) will be established to support DAY-NRLM at national level and State PMU in Maharashtra, Madhya Pradesh, Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, Rajasthan, Tamil Nadu and Bihar will be developed.**
- The PMU will comprise specialists from livestock (as per the need in respective state), Market Linkage etc.
- BFIL will also strengthen the Pashu Sakhis (last mile extension workers at village) developed under DAY-NRLM to provide basic healthcare support to animals.





- **Which organizations signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) for inclusive development in rural areas?**
- A) Ministry of Agriculture and Farmers Welfare and Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
  - B) Ministry of Rural Development and Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
  - C) Ministry of Environment, Forest and Climate Change and J-PAL South Asia
  - D) Ministry of Health and Family Welfare and Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)
  - E) Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs and J-PAL South Asia

## **Answer**

**B) Ministry of Rural Development and Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL)**



## Explanation

- **The Ministry of Rural Development, Government of India signed a MoU with Abdul Latif Jameel Poverty Action Lab (J-PAL), South Asia at IFMR. J-PAL, SA@ IFMR will act as a knowledge partner on inclusive development to put rural poor women on the path to self-sufficiency.**
- **The MoU was signed by Additional Secretary, Ministry of Rural Development Shri Charanjit Singh and Executive Director, J-PAL South Asia Ms. Shobhini Mukerji.**



## Explanation

- **J-PAL South Asia will also collaborate with MoRD to set-up a Gender Impact Lab to conduct new research and institutionalise data use within Deendayal Antyodaya Yojana National Rural Livelihoods Mission (DAY NRLM) for driving women-led development.**
- DAY-NRLM is one of the largest community mobilisation efforts in the world, organising more than 10.04 crore women into over 90.76 lakh self-help groups.



## Explanation

- The programme promotes financial inclusion, digital lieteracy, sustainable livelihoods and social development interventions.
- J-PAL South Asia, together with Bandhan-Konnagar, has been working with the Government of Bihar's JEEViKA since 2018 to support the expansion of Satat Jeevikoparjan Yojana (SJY), estimated to be the largest government-led scale-up of the Graduation Approach in the world.



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ **With which organization did the Ministry of Defence sign a contract for the Mid Life Upgrade (MLU) of 25 Dornier Aircraft for the Indian Navy?**

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



**Answer**

**C) Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL)**



## Explanation

- **The Ministry of Defence signed a contract with Hindustan Aeronautics Limited (HAL) for Mid Life Upgrade (MLU) of 25 Dornier Aircraft along with associated equipment for the Indian Navy at a cost of Rs.2,890 cr.**
- The MLU for Dornier Aircraft includes an upgrade to incorporate state-of-the art Avionics Systems and Primary Role sensors.
- The upgrade would significantly enhance the operational capability of the Dornier aircraft of the Indian Navy to perform Primary Roles of Maritime Surveillance, Coastal Surveillance, Electronic Intelligence and development of Maritime Domain Awareness.





## Explanation

- In addition, this upgrade will also enable Indian Navy Dorniers to carry out Secondary Roles of Search and Rescue, Medical/Casualty Evacuation and Communication Link.
- Mid Life Upgrade (MLU) of 25 Dornier Aircraft is likely to generate an employment of 1.8 Lakh Man-days during its execution span of 6.5 years



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Titbits

### HAL:

HQ: Bengaluru, Karnataka  
Chairman and MD: C B Ananthakrishnan



# QUICK RECALL



- **World Consumer Rights day is observed on March 15**
- **Ranji Trophy 2024: Mumbai win title after beating Vidarbha, end 8-year long wait**
- **Verstappen wins F1 Saudi Arabian Grand Prix to extend winning streak**
- **Ex-Navy chief Admiral Ramdas passes away in Hyderabad**
- **President Abbas appoints Mohammad Mustafa as new Palestinian PM**
- **Kotak Bank appoints Jaideep Hansraj as President of 'One Kotak'**
- **IIT Delhi, Israel Aerospace Industries collaborate on applied research**
- **REC arm, BHEL tie up for renewable energy projects**
- **LTTS wins \$100-m cyber security project from Maharashtra govt**



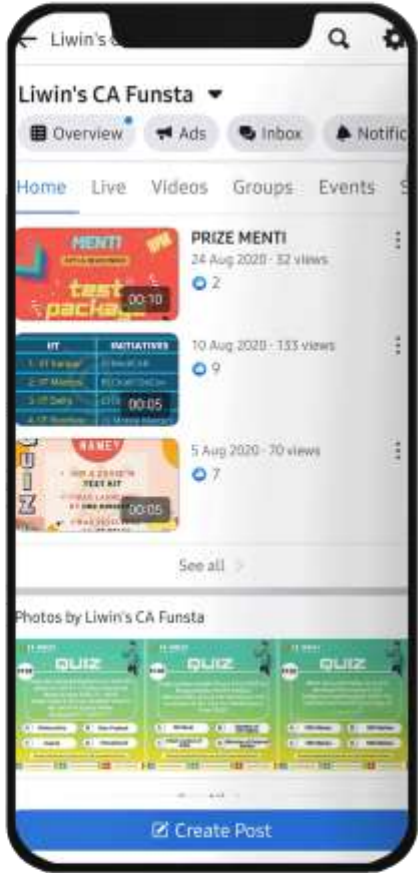
# QUICK RECALL



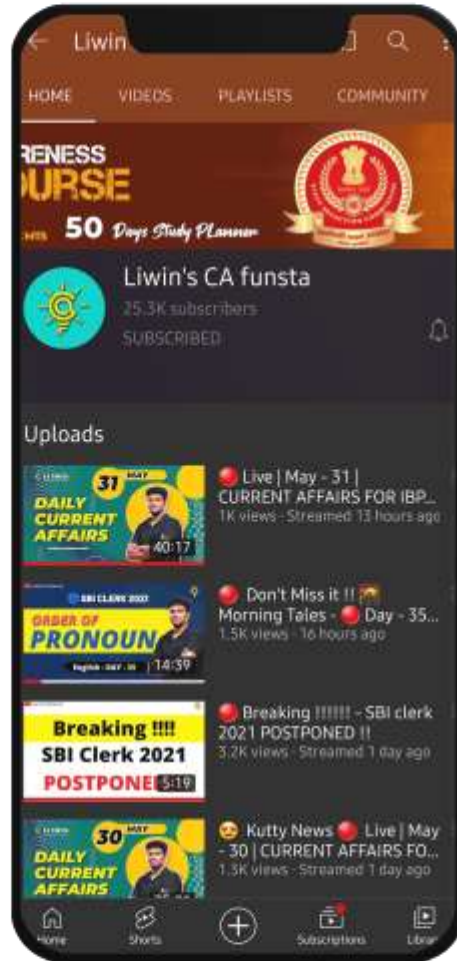
- **Shipping Ministry approves projects worth ₹645-crore in Assam to boost tourism**
- **Government approves E- Vehicle policy to promote India as a manufacturing destination for EVs**
- **Ministry of Rural Development, GoI signs MoU with the Bharat Financial Inclusion Limited to synergize the livelihood intervention in livestock sector**
- **Ministry of Rural Development signs a MoU with J-PAL South Asia to provide technical assistance in the implementation of inclusive development under DAY NRLM**
- **MoD signs contract worth over Rs. 2,890 cr with HAL for Mid Life Upgrade of 25 Dornier Aircraft of Indian Navy**



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