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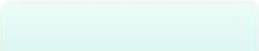


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June 21 – 25 Revision



1. Where does India rank on the Energy Transition Index according to the latest report by the World Economic Forum (WEF)?

- A) 45th
- B) 72nd
- C) 63rd
- D) 89th
- E) 100th

Answer

C) 63rd



2. Who has been appointed as the new Secretary of the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI)?

- A) Rajesh Kumar
- B) Nandini Sharma
- C) Atul Kumar Chaudhary
- D) Sunil Gupta
- E) Anil Kapoor

Answer

C) Atul Kumar Chaudhary



3. What was unveiled by Sri Lankan President Ranil Wickremesinghe and Indian External Affairs Minister S Jaishankar to boost maritime security ties between India and Sri Lanka?

- A) A new naval base
- B) A Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC)
- C) A shipping line
- D) A trade agreement
- E) A new port

Answer

B) A Maritime Rescue Coordination Centre (MRCC)



4. What is the theme for International Olympic Day 2024?

- A) Move for Health
- B) Unity in Sports
- C) Let's Move and Celebrate
- D) Sports for All
- E) Excellence in Action

Answer

C) Let's Move and Celebrate



5. Who has been appointed as the new MD & CEO of Sony Pictures Networks India (SPNI)?

- A) NP Singh
- B) Uday Shankar
- C) Gaurav Banerjee
- D) Karan Bajaj
- E) Punit Goenka

Answer

C) Gaurav Banerjee



6. Where is the world's first conservation and breeding centre for Asian king vultures located?

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

Answer

B) Uttar Pradesh



7. Who has been appointed as the new Chair of GWEC India?

- A) Nitin Gadkari
- B) Mukesh Ambani
- C) Girish Tanti
- D) Sundar Pichai
- E) Ratan Tata

Answer

C) Girish Tanti



8. Who released the book 'Gateways to the Sea: Historic Ports and Docks of Mumbai Region'?

- A) Prime Minister of India
- B) Governor of Maharashtra
- C) President of India
- D) Chief Minister of Maharashtra
- E) Minister of Information and Broadcasting

Answer

B) Governor of Maharashtra



9. Who has been elected as the Chairperson of the board of Sa-Dhan?

- A) Rajiv Lall
- B) Paul Thomas
- C) Chandra Shekhar Ghosh
- D) Samit Ghosh
- E) Rakesh Dubey

Answer

B) Paul Thomas



10. Which organization has embarked on the pilot project for Underground Coal Gasification (UCG) in Jharkhand?

- A) Bharat Coking Coal Limited (BCCL)
- B) Northern Coalfields Limited (NCL)
- C) Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)
- D) Western Coalfields Limited (WCL)
- E) Central Coalfields Limited (CCL)

Answer

C) Eastern Coalfields Limited (ECL)



June 26 – 30 Revision



➤ **Which Indian cricketer announced his retirement from both domestic and international cricket in August 2024?**

- A) Rohit Sharma
- B) Virat Kohli
- C) Shikhar Dhawan
- D) MS Dhoni
- E) Ajinkya Rahane

Answer

C) Shikhar Dhawan



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Shikhar Dhawan announced his retirement from international and domestic cricket.
- **Location:** The announcement was made via a heartfelt video message shared on social media.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** Shikhar Dhawan decided to retire after a long and successful cricketing career, representing India in all three formats.
- **Objectives:**
 - To express gratitude towards fans and reflect on his cricket journey.
 - To mark the end of his professional cricket career and focus on future endeavors.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Shikhar Dhawan's Career:**
 - **International Debut:** 2010 in an ODI against Australia.
 - **Test Debut:** 2013 against Australia in Mohali, where he scored 185 with the fastest century by a debutant.
 - **Champions Trophy 2013:** Named Player of the Tournament for his performance, contributing to India's victory.
 - **IPL Career:** Played 222 matches, scoring 6,769 runs with 2 centuries and 51 half-centuries. Holds the record for most fours (768) in the IPL.



Static GK Information:

- **Indian Premier League (IPL)**
 - **Founded:** 2008
 - **Chairman:** Arun Singh Dhumal
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **Teams:** 10 franchises (as of 2024)



SPORTS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Shikhar Dhawan announces retirement
Date	August 24, 2024 (Announcement via social media)
Formats Played	International and Domestic cricket
Test Debut Performance	185 runs against Australia, fastest century by a debutant
IPL Career	222 matches, 6,769 runs, 768 fours, 2 centuries, 51 fifties



OBITUARY



➤ Which former Swedish tennis player and coach of Roger Federer passed away at the age of 59?

- A) Mats Wilander
- B) Stefan Edberg
- C) Bjorn Borg
- D) Peter Lundgren
- E) Jonas Björkman

Answer

D) Peter Lundgren



OBITUARY



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The passing of former Swedish tennis player and coach Peter Lundgren.
- **Location:** Peter Lundgren passed away at the age of 59, as reported by his family on August 23, 2024, in Stockholm, Sweden.



OBITUARY



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** Lundgren was a notable figure in the world of tennis, both as a player and as a coach.
- **Objectives:**
 - **Playing Career:** Part of the wave of Swedish tennis players in the 1980s, alongside legends like Mats Wilander and Stefan Edberg.
 - **Coaching Career:** Played a pivotal role in the early career of Roger Federer, coaching him to his first Grand Slam title at Wimbledon in 2003.



OBITUARY



Important Terms Explained:

- **Peter Lundgren:**
 - A prominent Swedish tennis player who peaked at a world ranking of 25th.
 - Won three ATP titles during his career.
 - Known for his sense of humor and warm personality, he was well-respected in the tennis community.
- **Coaching Career:**
 - **Roger Federer:** Coached Federer from 2000 to 2003, helping him win 10 ATP titles and his first Grand Slam title at Wimbledon in 2003.



OBITUARY



Static GK Information:

- **Sweden**
 - **Capital:** Stockholm
 - **Currency:** Swedish Krona (SEK)
 - **Prime Minister:** Ulf Kristersson
- **Roger Federer:**
 - **Nationality:** Swiss
 - **Grand Slam Titles:** 20 (as of his retirement in 2022)
 - **First Grand Slam Title:** Wimbledon 2003, under the coaching of Peter Lundgren



OBITUARY



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Passing of Peter Lundgren
Date	August 23, 2024
Location	Stockholm, Sweden
Age	59 years
Notable Achievements	3 ATP titles, Ranked 25th in the world, Coach of Roger Federer
Federer's First Grand Slam	Wimbledon 2003 under Lundgren's coaching



RANKING



➤ Which cities ranked 2nd and 3rd globally in the annual housing price rise for prime residential properties during the June quarter of 2024?

- A) Miami and Los Angeles
- B) Dubai and Manila
- C) Mumbai and Delhi
- D) Madrid and Lisbon
- E) Bengaluru and Seoul

Answer

C) Mumbai and Delhi



RANKING



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Mumbai and Delhi secured the 2nd and 3rd ranks, respectively, in the global annual price rise of prime residential properties during the June quarter of 2024.
- **Location:** The report was released by Knight Frank, a global real estate consultant.



RANKING



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The report tracks and ranks the annual price changes of prime residential properties across 44 global cities.
- **Objectives:**
 - To provide insights into global residential property markets.
 - To highlight the trends in the real estate sector, particularly in high-demand locations.



RANKING



Important Terms Explained:

- **Prime Residential Properties:**
 - Refers to the most desirable and expensive homes in a city, often located in central or high-demand areas.
- **Knight Frank:**
 - A leading global real estate consultancy that provides comprehensive reports and insights into real estate markets worldwide.
- **Annual Price Rise:**
 - **Mumbai:** Recorded a 13% increase in prices, moving up from 6th place last year to 2nd place.
 - **Delhi:** Saw a 10.6% rise in prices, jumping from 26th place last year to 3rd place.



RANKING



Static GK Information:

- **Mumbai:**
 - **State:** Maharashtra
 - **Capital:** Mumbai
 - **Chief Minister:** Eknath Shinde
 - **Governor:** Ramesh Bais
- **Delhi:**
 - **Type:** National Capital Territory
 - **Chief Minister:** Arvind Kejriwal
 - **Lieutenant Governor:** Vinai Kumar Saxena
- **Knight Frank:**
 - **Founded:** 1896
 - **Headquarters:** London, United Kingdom
 - **CEO:** Alistair Elliott



RANKING



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Mumbai and Delhi rank 2 nd and 3 rd in global annual housing price rise
Report By	Knight Frank
Ranking Period	June quarter of 2024
Mumbai's Annual Price Rise	13% (Ranked 2nd globally)
Delhi's Annual Price Rise	10.6% (Ranked 3rd globally)
Bengaluru's Annual Price Rise	3.7% (Ranked 15th globally)
Top-Ranked City	Manila (26% annual price rise)
Lowest Ranked City	Wellington (5.9% annual price decline)



➤ **What is the name of the exclusive savings account launched by Bandhan Bank for women?**

- A) Nari
- B) Shakti
- C) Avni
- D) Sakhi
- E) Lakshmi

Answer
C) Avni



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Bandhan Bank announced the launch of 'Avni', an exclusive savings account for women.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The launch of Avni aligns with Bandhan Bank's commitment to women's empowerment and the directive from the Reserve Bank of India to innovate banking products and services.
- **Objectives:**
 - Provide tailored financial services to women, promoting financial inclusion and empowerment.
 - Attract household financial savings through innovative product offerings.
 - Offer additional benefits like airport lounge access, insurance coverage, and discounts on locker rentals and loan processing fees.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Avni Savings Account:**
 - **Target Audience:** Women customers.
 - **Key Benefits:**
 - Free airport lounge access with the debit card.
 - Personal accident insurance cover of ₹10 lakh.
 - Lost card liability of ₹3.5 lakh.
 - 25% discount on locker rentals.
 - 50% discount on gold loan processing fees.
 - **Requirements:** Customers must maintain an average quarterly balance of ₹25,000.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Bandhan Bank:**
 - A prominent Indian bank known for its focus on financial inclusion and empowering women entrepreneurs.
 - **Interim CEO:** Ratan Kumar Kesh.
 - **Founded:** 2015
 - **Headquarters:** Kolkata, West Bengal
 - **Tagline:** "Aapka Bhala, Sabki Bhalai"



Static GK Information:

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
 - **Founded:** 1935
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **Current Governor:** Shaktikanta Das
 - **Primary Role:** Central bank of India, regulating the country's financial system.



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Launch of Avni, an exclusive savings account for women
Date	August 2024
Bank	Bandhan Bank
CEO (Interim)	Ratan Kumar Kesh
Key Features of Avni	Free airport lounge access, ₹10 lakh insurance, discounts on services
Minimum Balance Requirement	₹25,000 (Average quarterly balance)
Additional Initiatives	Bandhan Bank Delights loyalty program



➤ **What new feature has the RBI included under the e-mandate framework?**

- A) Bill Payments
- B) Subscription Services
- C) Auto-replenishment of FASTag and NCMC
- D) Insurance Premiums
- E) Utility Payments



Answer

C) Auto-replenishment of FASTag and NCMC



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Expansion of the e-mandate framework by the Reserve Bank of India (RBI).
- **Location:** Announced via an official circular by the RBI.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The RBI has expanded the e-mandate framework to include auto-replenishment for FASTag and National Common Mobility Card (NCMC).
- **Objectives:**
 - Facilitate smooth, recurring transactions for auto-replenishment without fixed periodicity.
 - Allow payments to be automatically deducted when balances fall below a threshold set by the customer.
 - Provide a streamlined process, exempting these payments from the requirement of pre-debit notifications.



Important Terms Explained:

- **e-Mandate Framework:**
 - **Established:** 2019 by the RBI to safeguard customers in recurring payments.
 - **Purpose:** Ensures customer awareness of debits from their accounts, primarily aimed at subscriptions and other periodic payments.
 - **Expansion:** Now includes auto-replenishment for FASTag and NCMC balances, which are recurring but do not have a fixed schedule.



Important Terms Explained:

- **FASTag:**
 - A prepaid tag used for toll payments on highways across India, linked directly to a customer's account or wallet.
 - **Auto-replenishment:** Automatically tops up the FASTag balance when it drops below a customer-defined limit.
- **National Common Mobility Card (NCMC):**
 - A contactless card used for multiple forms of transportation, including buses, metros, and parking, as well as for retail shopping and toll payments.
 - **Auto-replenishment:** Ensures that the card remains funded without manual intervention, based on a pre-set threshold.



Static GK Information:

- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI)**
 - **Founded:** 1935
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **Current Governor:** Shaktikanta Das
 - **Primary Role:** Central bank of India, regulating the country's financial system.



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Expansion of the e-mandate framework
Announced By	Reserve Bank of India (RBI)
New Inclusions	Auto-replenishment of FASTag and NCMC
Framework Established	2019
Key Benefit	Streamlines recurring transactions without fixed periodicity
Exemptions	Pre-debit notification requirement for auto-replenishment



➤ **Which bank has Tata Power Solar Systems Limited partnered with to offer solar panel financing solutions?**

- A) HDFC Bank
- B) State Bank of India
- C) Axis Bank
- D) ICICI Bank
- E) Punjab National Bank

Answer
D) ICICI Bank



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Tata Power Solar Systems Limited (TPSSL) partners with ICICI Bank to offer financing solutions for solar panel purchases.
- **Location:** The partnership was announced in India, targeting residential and corporate customers across the country.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The collaboration aims to make solar energy more accessible by providing tailored loan solutions for the purchase of solar panels.
- **Objectives:**
 - To support India's transition to renewable energy by making solar panel installations financially easier for consumers.
 - To provide flexible financing options, including collateral-free loans up to ₹90 lakh with repayment terms of up to five years, and higher loan amounts with longer tenures available.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Tata Power Solar Systems Limited (TPSSL):**
 - A subsidiary of Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL), TPSSL is a leader in India's solar energy sector, providing comprehensive solar solutions for residential and commercial markets.
 - **Market Presence:** Over 70,000 customers across India, with a strong emphasis on solar rooftop solutions.
- **ICICI Bank:**
 - One of India's largest private sector banks, ICICI Bank is involved in offering a wide range of banking products and financial services to corporate and retail customers.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Solar Panel Financing Solutions:**
 - **Loan Amounts:** Up to ₹90 lakh available with collateral-free options.
 - **Repayment Tenure:** Up to five years for collateral-free loans; up to 20 years for loans with collateral.
 - **Down Payment:** Flexible options ranging from 20-25% of the loan amount.



Static GK Information:

- **ICICI Bank**
 - **Founded:** 1994
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **MD & CEO:** Sandeep Bakhshi
 - **Tagline:** "Hum Hai Na, Khayal Apka"
- **Tata Power Solar Systems Limited**
 - **Parent Company:** Tata Power Renewable Energy Limited (TPREL)
 - **Founded:** 1989
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **CEO & MD:** Deepesh Nanda



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Tata Power Solar partners with ICICI Bank
Objective	Provide financing solutions for solar panel purchases
Loan Amount	Up to ₹90 lakh (collateral-free); higher amounts with collateral
Repayment Tenure	Up to 5 years (collateral-free); up to 20 years with collateral
Flexible Down Payment	20-25% of the loan amount
Tata Power Solar Leadership	Market leader in solar rooftop solutions with 70,000+ customers



➤ **What recent initiative has the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) proposed to support MSMEs under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC)?**

- A) Introduction of a new MSME loan scheme
- B) Launch of a special MSME insurance program
- C) Amendment to corporate insolvency regulations
- D) Establishment of an MSME investment fund
- E) Waiver of taxes for MSMEs

Answer

C) Amendment to corporate insolvency regulations



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI) has unveiled a plan to accelerate the resolution process for Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs) under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).
- **Location:** Announced in a discussion paper published by the IBBI on August 25, 2024.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The IBBI has proposed an amendment to the corporate insolvency regulations to better support the resolution process for MSMEs.
- **Objectives:**
 - **MSME Registration and Disclosure Framework:** The discussion paper outlines a framework specifically designed for MSMEs under the Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP).
 - **Public Consultation:** Stakeholders are invited to submit their comments on the proposed framework by September 12, 2024.
 - **Accelerated Resolutions:** The amendment aims to expedite the resolution process for MSMEs, ensuring quicker and more efficient outcomes.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC):**
 - A legal framework in India that provides a process for the resolution of insolvency and bankruptcy for individuals, partnerships, and companies.
- **Insolvency and Bankruptcy Board of India (IBBI):**
 - **Established:** 2016
 - **Function:** Regulates the insolvency process and oversees the implementation of the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code (IBC).
- **Corporate Insolvency Resolution Process (CIRP):**
 - The process under the IBC through which the insolvency of a corporate debtor is resolved. It involves restructuring the debtor's business or selling the debtor's assets.



Static GK Information:

- **MSMEs in India:**
 - **Micro, Small, and Medium Enterprises (MSMEs):** Critical to the Indian economy, contributing significantly to employment and GDP.
 - **MSME Classification:** Based on investment in plant and machinery/equipment and turnover.



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	IBBI unveils plan to accelerate MSME resolutions under IBC
Date	August 25, 2024
Proposed Amendment	Changes to corporate insolvency regulations
Objective	Support and expedite MSME resolutions
Consultation Period	Comments accepted until September 12, 2024
Key Framework	MSME Registration and Disclosure Framework under CIRP



➤ **What are the revised GDP growth forecasts for India in 2024 and 2025 according to Goldman Sachs?**

- A) 6.9% in 2024, 6.6% in 2025
- B) 6.7% in 2024, 6.4% in 2025
- C) 6.8% in 2024, 6.5% in 2025
- D) 7.0% in 2024, 6.7% in 2025
- E) 6.6% in 2024, 6.3% in 2025

Answer

B) 6.7% in 2024, 6.4% in 2025



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Goldman Sachs lowers India's GDP growth forecasts for 2024 and 2025.
- **Location:** The revised forecasts were reported by Goldman Sachs economists, led by Santanu Sengupta.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The revision in India's GDP growth forecast is driven by multiple factors, including government expenditure cuts and slower consumption growth.
- **Objectives:**
 - To reflect the impact of a significant contraction in central government expenditure during the April-June quarter of 2024.
 - To consider the effects of the government's commitment to reducing the fiscal deficit below 4.5% of GDP.



Important Terms Explained:

- **GDP Growth Forecast:**
 - **2024:** Revised to 6.7% (down by 20 basis points).
 - **2025:** Revised to 6.4% (down by 20 basis points).
- **Fiscal Deficit:**
 - The gap between the government's revenue and expenditure. The Indian government aims to reduce the fiscal deficit to below 4.5% of GDP, which may slow down economic growth.
- **Monetary Policy:**
 - Goldman Sachs expects the Reserve Bank of India (RBI) to begin easing monetary policy in December 2024, which could help mitigate the impact of slower consumption growth.



Static GK Information:

- **Goldman Sachs:**
 - **Founded:** 1869
 - **Headquarters:** New York City, New York, USA
 - **CEO:** David Solomon
 - **Key Focus Areas:** Investment banking, asset management, and financial services.
- **Reserve Bank of India (RBI):**
 - **Founded:** April 1, 1935
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **Current Governor:** Shaktikanta Das
 - **Primary Role:** Central bank of India, responsible for monetary policy regulation.



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Goldman Sachs lowers India's GDP growth forecasts
2024 Growth Forecast	6.7%
2025 Growth Forecast	6.4%
Factors for Downgrade	Government expenditure contraction, slower real consumption growth
Fiscal Deficit Target	Below 4.5% of GDP
Monetary Policy Expectation	RBI easing cycle to begin in December 2024



BOOKS AND AUTHORS



➤ Who released the autobiography of activist Kalpana Sankar in August 2024?

- A) Sridhar Vembu
- B) Anu Hasan
- C) Soumya Swaminathan
- D) Swaady Martin
- E) M. S. Swaminathan

Answer

C) Soumya Swaminathan



BOOKS AND AUTHORS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Release of the autobiography of Kalpana Sankar, titled The Scientist Entrepreneur: Empowering Millions of Women.
- **Location:** The event took place on Cathedral Road, Chennai, on August 21, 2024.



BOOKS AND AUTHORS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The autobiography details the life and work of Kalpana Sankar, focusing on her efforts in empowering women and her role in micro-finance initiatives.
- **Objectives:**
 - To highlight the impact of Hand in Hand India, a non-profit co-founded by Kalpana Sankar, in uplifting vulnerable communities.
 - To inspire young men and women through the lessons from Kalpana's journey in establishing successful micro-finance initiatives.



BOOKS AND AUTHORS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Hand in Hand India:**
 - An international non-profit organization co-founded by Dr. Kalpana Sankar.
 - Focuses on empowering women and alleviating poverty through micro-finance, skill training, and education.
- **Soumya Swaminathan:**
 - Chairperson of M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation.
 - Former Chief Scientist at the World Health Organization (WHO).
- **Kalpana Sankar:**
 - Activist and co-founder of Hand in Hand India.
 - Focuses on rural micro-finance and women empowerment.



BOOKS AND AUTHORS



Static GK Information:

- **M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation**
 - **Founded:** 1988
 - **Founder:** M. S. Swaminathan
 - **Headquarters:** Chennai, Tamil Nadu
 - **Current Chairperson:** Soumya Swaminathan
- **Zoho Corporation**
 - **Founded:** 1996
 - **Headquarters:** Chennai, Tamil Nadu
 - **CEO:** Sridhar Vembu



BOOKS AND AUTHORS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Release of Kalpana Sankar's autobiography
Date	August 21, 2024
Location	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
Book Title	The Scientist Entrepreneur: Empowering Millions of Women
Released By	Soumya Swaminathan
First Copy Received By	Swaady Martin
Special Guests	Sridhar Vembu (Virtually), Anu Hasan (Fireside Chat)
Key Organizations Mentioned	Hand in Hand India, M. S. Swaminathan Research Foundation



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been appointed as the new CEO of Nestlé, succeeding Mark Schneider?**

- A) Brian Niccol
- B) Philipp Navratil
- C) Scott Gray
- D) Laurent Freixe
- E) Thomas Kelly



Answer
D) Laurent Freixe



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Laurent Freixe appointed as the new CEO of Nestlé.
- **Location:** Global announcement by Nestlé's Board of Directors.



APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** Laurent Freixe, a seasoned Nestlé executive, has been appointed to lead the company as CEO following Mark Schneider's resignation.
- **Objectives:**
 - To continue Nestlé's strategic direction with a focus on consistent and sustainable value creation.
 - To navigate the company through ongoing market challenges and further strengthen its position globally.



APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Nestlé:**
 - Founded: 1867
 - Headquarters: Vevey, Switzerland
 - CEO: Laurent Freixe (as of August 2024)
 - Tagline: "Good Food, Good Life"
- **Laurent Freixe:**
 - Joined Nestlé in 1986.
 - Managed the company's European and Americas segments.
 - Appointed CEO Zone Latin America in 2022.
 - Has been on Nestlé's Executive Board since 2008.



APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Mark Schneider:**
 - Served as Nestlé CEO from January 2017 to August 2024.
 - Played a crucial role in the Global Coffee Alliance with Starbucks and the acquisition of Blue Bottle Coffee.
 - Oversaw Nestlé's expansion into the specialty coffee market.



APPOINTMENTS



Static GK Information:

- **Nestlé**
 - **Headquarters:** Vevey, Switzerland
 - **Founded:** 1867
 - **CEO:** Laurent Freixe
 - **Tagline:** "Good Food, Good Life"



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Laurent Freixe appointed as new CEO of Nestlé
Date	August 2024
Predecessor	Mark Schneider
Significant Achievements of Mark Schneider	Acquisition of Blue Bottle Coffee, Global Coffee Alliance with Starbucks
Global Coffee Alliance	\$7.1bn deal with Starbucks to market and distribute its products
Sales Growth in Starbucks Products	Achieved CHF 3.6bn in 2022, high single-digit growth in 2023 and 2024



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Where has former DRDO Chairman G Satheesh Reddy joined as Distinguished Senior Faculty?**

- A) Indian Institute of Science (IISc)
- B) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay
- C) Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani
- D) Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO)
- E) Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Delhi

Answer

C) Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** G Satheesh Reddy, former Chairman of the Defence Research and Development Organisation (DRDO), has joined BITS Pilani as Distinguished Senior Faculty.
- **Location:** He has joined the Hyderabad campus of BITS Pilani.



APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** In his new role, Dr. Reddy will support research and innovation efforts at BITS Pilani, focusing on national security.
- **Objectives:**
 - **Research Leadership:** Guide advanced research initiatives at the Center for Research Excellence in National Security (CRENS) at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad.
 - **Collaboration:** Foster collaboration with industry, security agencies, and startups to drive technological advancements in national security.
 - **Academic Excellence:** Strengthen the university's research initiatives and enhance its academic programs.



APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **G Satheesh Reddy:**
 - **Former Position:** Chairman of DRDO and Scientific Advisor to Raksha Mantri (Defense Minister of India).
 - **Experience:** Nearly 39 years at DRDO, where he played a pivotal role in advancing India's defense capabilities through various high-impact projects and innovations.
- **BITS Pilani:**
 - **Institution:** A premier engineering and science university in India, known for its emphasis on research and innovation.
 - **Hyderabad Campus:** One of the campuses of BITS Pilani, focusing on cutting-edge research and academic excellence.



APPOINTMENTS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Center for Research Excellence in National Security (CRENS):**
 - A research center at BITS Pilani, Hyderabad, dedicated to national security research, where Dr. Reddy will lead research efforts.



APPOINTMENTS



Static GK Information:

- **DRDO (Defence Research and Development Organisation):**
 - **Founded:** 1958
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Primary Role:** Development of defense technologies and systems for India's armed forces.
- **BITS Pilani:**
 - **Founded:** 1964
 - **Campuses:** Pilani, Goa, Hyderabad, Dubai
 - **Focus:** Engineering, technology, and science education, with strong emphasis on research.



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	G Satheesh Reddy joins BITS Pilani as Distinguished Senior Faculty
Location	Hyderabad Campus, BITS Pilani
Previous Position	Chairman of DRDO
Role at BITS Pilani	Lead research and innovation efforts in national security
Primary Focus	Research leadership at Center for Research Excellence in National Security (CRENS)
Expected Impact	Strengthen research initiatives and enhance academic programs



AWARDS



- Which individual received the Achiever Award in Tamil Literature at the 11th Puthiya Thalaimurai Tamilan Awards 2024?



- A) K.S. Ravikumar
- B) Perumal Murugan
- C) W.V. Raman
- D) Arogyaswamy Velumani
- E) Palam Kalyanasundaram

Answer

B) Perumal Murugan



AWARDS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The 11th edition of the Puthiya Thalaimurai Tamilan Awards was held, honoring individuals across various fields.
- **Location:** The awards ceremony, celebrating contributions from various domains, took place in Chennai, Tamil Nadu.



AWARDS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The awards recognize excellence in Tamil Literature, Arts, Sports, Business, Science & Technology, and Social Work.
- **Objectives:**
 - To honor established achievers with the Achiever Award.
 - To encourage emerging talents with the Promising Talent Award.



AWARDS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Puthiya Thalaimurai Tamilan Awards:**
 - Annual awards celebrating excellence across six key fields: Arts, Literature, Business, Science & Technology, Sports, and Social Work.
 - Each field recognizes an Achiever and a Promising Talent.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Achiever Award Recipients (2024):**
 - **Tamil Literature:** Perumal Murugan, known for his impactful works like Poonachi and One Part Woman.
 - **Arts:** K.S. Ravikumar, a veteran film director with decades of contributions to Tamil cinema.
 - **Sports:** W.V. Raman, former cricketer and influential coach.
 - **Business:** Arogyaswamy Velumani, founder of Thyrocare, known for revolutionizing diagnostics in India.
 - **Science & Technology:** P. Veeramuthuvel, ISRO scientist, key in advancing India's space program.
 - **Social Work:** Palam Kalyanasundaram, retired librarian dedicated to philanthropy.



AWARDS



Static GK Information:

- **Tamil Nadu**
 - **Capital:** Chennai
 - **Chief Minister:** M. K. Stalin
 - **Governor:** R. N. Ravi
- **Thyrocare**
 - **Founded:** 1996
 - **Founder:** Dr. Arogyaswamy Velumani
 - **Headquarters:** Navi Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **Tagline:** "Affordable Healthcare"



AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	11th Puthiya Thalaimurai Tamilan Awards 2024
Date of Broadcast	August 24, 2024
Location	Chennai, Tamil Nadu
Main Categories	Tamil Literature, Arts, Sports, Business, Science & Technology, Social Work
Tamil Literature Achiever	Perumal Murugan
Arts Achiever	K.S. Ravikumar
Sports Achiever	W.V. Raman
Business Achiever	Arogyaswamy Velumani
Science & Technology Achiever	P. Veeramuthuvel
Social Work Achiever	Palam Kalyanasundaram



- What significant announcement did Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh make during the bilateral meeting on US-India Civil Nuclear Commerce?



- A) Launch of a new space mission
- B) Indian astronaut joining the International Space Station
- C) Introduction of a new nuclear energy policy
- D) Development of a joint AI research center
- E) Establishment of a US-India Clean Energy Fund



Answer

**B) Indian astronaut joining
the International Space Station**



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Bilateral meeting on US-India Civil Nuclear Commerce chaired by Union Minister Dr. Jitendra Singh.
- **Location:** Held at Prithvi Bhavan, with discussions on deepening cooperation between India and the US in science, technology, and clean energy.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** Strengthen Indo-US collaboration in critical areas such as civil nuclear commerce, space, clean energy, and emerging technologies.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - **Space Collaboration:** Announced that an Indian astronaut from the Gaganyaan Mission will join the International Space Station (ISS), marking a milestone in Indo-US space cooperation.
 - **Climate Goals:** Emphasized India's commitment to global climate goals through the Green Hydrogen Mission and exploration of Small Modular Reactors (SMRs).
 - **Technological Advancements:** Highlighted the importance of innovation in Artificial Intelligence (AI), machine learning, and Lithium-Ion Battery development as part of India's strategic priorities.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Gaganyaan Mission:**
 - India's first manned space mission aimed at sending Indian astronauts to space. As part of this collaboration, one of the astronauts is set to join the International Space Station.
- **Green Hydrogen Mission:**
 - A key initiative by the Indian government to promote the use of green hydrogen in decarbonizing industries, transportation, and power generation, contributing to India's climate goals.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Small Modular Reactors (SMRs):**
 - A new generation of nuclear reactors designed to be smaller, more flexible, and safer, contributing to India's clean energy transition.
- **Indo-US Space Cooperation:**
 - A collaborative effort between India and the United States to advance space exploration, research, and technology, including the participation of Indian astronauts in international missions.



Static GK Information:

- **ISRO (Indian Space Research Organisation):**
 - **Founded:** 1969
 - **Headquarters:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
 - **Chairman:** S. Somanath
 - **Key Project:** Gaganyaan Mission
- **International Space Station (ISS):**
 - **Launched:** 1998
 - **Operators:** NASA (USA), Roscosmos (Russia), JAXA (Japan), ESA (Europe), and CSA (Canada)
 - **Function:** A space station used for research and international cooperation in space exploration.



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Bilateral meeting on US-India Civil Nuclear Commerce
Date	August 25, 2024
Location	Prithvi Bhavan, New Delhi
Significant Announcement	Indian astronaut to join International Space Station
Focus Areas	Civil nuclear commerce, clean energy, AI, machine learning, battery development
US Delegation Leaders	John Podesta, David Turk



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



- **During which round of India-Australia CECA negotiations were intense discussions held on Goods, Services, Digital Trade, and Agri tech in Sydney?**



- A) 8th Round
- B) 9th Round
- C) 10th Round
- D) 11th Round
- E) 7th Round

Answer

C) 10th Round



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The 10th Round of India-Australia Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA) negotiations.
- **Location:** Held in Sydney, Australia from August 19-22, 2024.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The 10th round of negotiations aimed to advance discussions on key areas including Goods, Services, Digital Trade, Government Procurement, Rules of Origin, and Agri tech to bring about convergence in the remaining provisions.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - **Bilateral Trade and Investment Relations:** To strengthen and enhance economic ties between India and Australia, building on the positive effects of the India-Australia Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement (ECTA).
 - **Negotiation Tracks:** Address domestic sensitivities and ensure meaningful benefits for both sides in the CECA negotiations.
 - **Future Plans:** Plan for intersessional meetings through virtual modes before the next round of negotiations in India, likely in November 2024.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Comprehensive Economic Cooperation Agreement (CECA):**
 - A proposed trade agreement aimed at enhancing economic cooperation between India and Australia by addressing issues related to trade in goods, services, and investment.
- **India-Australia ECTA (Economic Cooperation and Trade Agreement):**
 - Came into force on December 29, 2022, aiming to reduce tariffs and increase trade and investment between India and Australia.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Intersessional Meetings:**
 - Meetings held between formal negotiation rounds to facilitate ongoing discussions and resolve outstanding issues.
- **Agri Tech Forum (IAATF):**
 - A newly established forum to promote technology transfer and knowledge sharing in agriculture and horticulture between India and Australia.



Static GK Information:

- **India-Australia Relations:**
 - **Trade Partners:** Both countries share strong trade and strategic partnerships, collaborating on multiple international forums like the Indo-Pacific Economic Framework (IPEF) and the Supply Chain Resilience Initiative (SCRI).
- **Australia:**
 - **Capital:** Canberra
 - **Prime Minister:** Anthony Albanese
 - **Currency:** Australian Dollar (AUD)



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	10 th Round of India-Australia CECA Negotiations
Date	August 19-22, 2024
Location	Sydney, Australia
Key Discussion Areas	Goods, Services, Digital Trade, Government Procurement, Rules of Origin, Agri tech
India's Chief Negotiator	Shri Rajesh Agrawal
Australia's Chief Negotiator	Shri Ravi Kewalram
Next Round	Likely in November 2024 in India



- **Which initiative did Prime Minister Narendra Modi present to Ukraine in August 2024 to assist with medical emergencies?**

- A) SWASTH Cube
- B) ASHA Cube
- C) SEWA Cube
- D) BHISHM Cube
- E) PRAYAS Cube

Answer

D) BHISHM Cube



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Presentation of BHISHM Cubes to Ukraine.
- **Location:** The presentation took place on August 23, 2024, during an official interaction between Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi and President of Ukraine H.E. Mr. Volodymyr Zelenskyy.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The BHISHM Cubes are intended to support Ukraine by providing immediate medical assistance to the injured, particularly in emergency situations.
- **Objectives:**
 - Supply medical care during emergencies, including trauma, burns, fractures, and other critical injuries.
 - Equip basic surgical operations that can handle 10-15 surgeries daily.
 - Ensure self-sufficiency in generating power and oxygen for the Cube.
 - Provide training to Ukrainian medical personnel on operating the Cube.



Important Terms Explained:

- **BHISHM (Bharat Health Initiative for Sahyog Hita & Maitri):**
 - BHISHM Cubes are specialized medical units designed for quick deployment in crisis areas.
 - Each Cube includes essential medical supplies, surgical equipment, and basic operational capacity to manage a variety of medical emergencies.
 - Capable of managing approximately 200 diverse cases in emergency scenarios.
 - Equipped to generate its own power and oxygen, ensuring autonomous operation.



Static GK Information:

- **Ukraine**
 - **Capital:** Kyiv
 - **Currency:** Ukrainian Hryvnia (UAH)
 - **President:** Volodymyr Zelenskyy
 - **Prime Minister:** Denys Shmyhal



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Presentation of BHISHM Cubes to Ukraine
Date	August 23, 2024
Location	Ukraine
Chief Guest	President Volodymyr Zelenskyy
Significance	Humanitarian assistance to Ukraine from India
Capacity of BHISHM Cube	200 diverse cases, 10-15 surgeries daily
Self-sufficiency Features	Power and oxygen generation

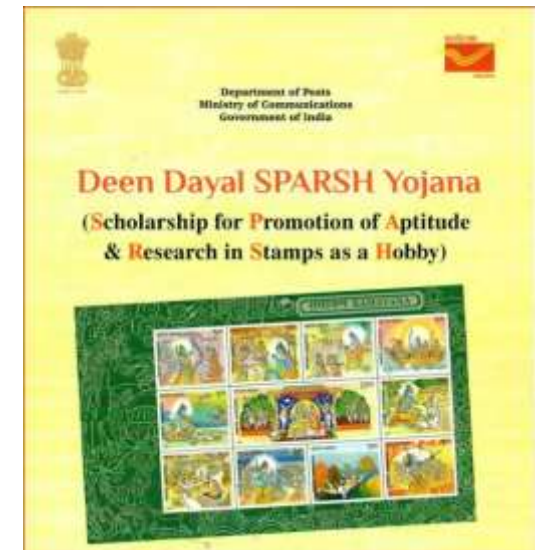


➤ **What is the name of the scholarship scheme launched by the Department of Posts to promote philately among students?**

- A) Deen Dayal UPADHYAY Yojana
- B) Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana
- C) Deen Dayal SAMARTH Yojana
- D) Deen Dayal SHIKSHA Yojana
- E) Deen Dayal PRAGATI Yojana

Answer

B) Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana scholarship by the Department of Posts to promote philately.
- **Location:** Announced by Shri Krishna Kumar Yadav, Postmaster General of North Gujarat Region, Ahmedabad.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The scheme is designed to inculcate the hobby of Philately (stamp collection) among students.
- **Objectives:**
 - To encourage students to take up philately as a hobby and integrate it into the educational system.
 - To grant a scholarship of ₹ 6,000/- per annum to meritorious students from classes 6 to 9 who are interested in philately.
 - To enhance the students' knowledge through a philately quiz and project work.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana:**
 - SPARSH stands for Scholarship for Promotion of Aptitude & Research in Stamps as a Hobby.
 - Scholarship provided to students from classes 6 to 9 who are interested in philately and have good academic records.
 - The scholarship amount is ₹ 6,000/- per annum, distributed at ₹ 500/- per month on a quarterly basis.
 - Each Postal Circle will offer 40 scholarships, 10 for each class from 6th to 9th grade.
- **Philately:**
 - Philately is the collection and study of postage stamps, postmarks, and related materials, serving as both a hobby and a valuable educational tool.



Static GK Information:

- **India Post**
 - **Founded:** 1854
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, Delhi
 - **Current Secretary, Department of Posts:** Vineet Pandey
 - **Tagline:** "Dak Seva Jan Seva"
- **India Post Payments Bank**
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, Delhi
 - **MD & CEO:** J Venkatramu
 - **Tagline:** "Aapka Bank Aapka Dwar"



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Launch of Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana scholarship
Announced By	Postmaster General Shri Krishna Kumar Yadav
Objective	Promote philately among students in classes 6 to 9
Scholarship Amount	₹ 6,000/- per annum (₹ 500/- per month, paid quarterly)
Eligibility Criteria	Students in classes 6-9, 60% marks, member of Philately club
Application Deadline	September 18, 2024
Selection Process	Philately Quiz and Project work



➤ **What is the name of the women's empowerment scheme announced by Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi?**

- A) Kalyani
- B) Sakhi
- C) Subhadra
- D) Shakti
- E) Lakshmi

Answer

C) Subhadra



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Announcement of the Subhadra scheme for women's empowerment.
- **Location:** Announced by Odisha Chief Minister Mohan Charan Majhi in the state legislative assembly.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The Subhadra scheme is aimed at empowering women in Odisha by providing financial assistance.
- **Objectives:**
 - Financial aid of ₹10,000 annually for women aged 21 to 59 years.
 - Disbursement of aid in two instalments, on Rakhi Purnima Day and International Women's Day.
 - Promote digital transactions with additional incentives for top performers.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Subhadra Scheme:**
 - **Beneficiaries:** Women aged 21-59, excluding economically well-off, government servants, Income Tax payees, or those already receiving substantial government assistance.
 - **Financial Aid:** ₹10,000 per annum, dispersed in two instalments of ₹5,000 each.
 - **Duration:** 2024-2029.
 - **Outlay:** ₹55,825 crore over five years.
 - **Implementation:** Payments will be made via Direct Benefit Transfer (DBT) using Aadhaar-enabled accounts. A Subhadra Debit Card will also be issued.
 - **Digital Transactions Incentive:** Additional ₹500 for top 100 digital transaction performers in each Gram Panchayat and Urban Local Body.



Static GK Information:

- **Odisha**
 - **Capital:** Bhubaneswar
 - **Chief Minister:** Mohan Charan Majhi
 - **Governor:** Ganeshi Lal
- **Bandhan Bank**
 - **Founded:** 2015
 - **Headquarters:** Kolkata, West Bengal
 - **CEO (Interim):** Ratan Kumar Kesh
 - **Tagline:** "Aapka Bhala, Sabki Bhalai"



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Announcement of Subhadra Scheme for Women
Announced By	Odisha CM Mohan Charan Majhi
Scheme Name	Subhadra
Annual Financial Aid	₹10,000 (two instalments of ₹5,000 each)
Beneficiary Age Group	21-59 years
Scheme Duration	2024-2029
Outlay	₹55,825 crore
Disbursement Dates	Rakhi Purnima Day, International Women's Day (March 8)
Incentives for Digital Transactions	₹500 for top 100 performers in each Gram Panchayat and Urban Local Body



- **What is the primary focus of the BioE3 (Biotechnology for Economy, Environment and Employment) Policy approved by the Union Cabinet?**
- A) Promoting digital economy
 - B) Fostering high-performance biomanufacturing
 - C) Expanding fossil fuel industries
 - D) Reducing international trade barriers
 - E) Encouraging traditional agriculture



Answer

B) Fostering high-performance biomanufacturing



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Approval of the BioE3 Policy by the Union Cabinet.
- **Location:** Announced by the Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi in New Delhi, on August 24, 2024.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The BioE3 Policy aims to foster high-performance biomanufacturing in India, promoting sustainable and circular bioeconomy practices.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - **Innovation-Driven Support:** Accelerate research, development, and entrepreneurship in biotechnology.
 - **Technology Development:** Establish Biomanufacturing & Bio-AI hubs and Biofoundry to promote advanced biotechnological processes.
 - **Job Creation:** Expand India's skilled workforce and generate employment opportunities.
 - **Sustainability:** Contribute to the 'Net Zero' carbon economy and 'Lifestyle for Environment' initiatives.
 - **Circular Bioeconomy:** Promote green growth by advancing biomanufacturing that supports a sustainable, circular economy.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Biomanufacturing:**
 - The use of biological systems and processes to produce commercially important products like medicines, chemicals, and bio-based materials.
 - **High Performance Biomanufacturing:** Involves the integration of advanced biotechnological processes to produce products efficiently and sustainably.
- **Circular Bioeconomy:**
 - An economic system aimed at eliminating waste and the continual use of resources through regenerative practices. It involves the production of renewable biological resources and their conversion into food, feed, bio-based products, and bioenergy.



Static GK Information:

- **India's Biotechnology Sector:**
 - **Department of Biotechnology (DBT):** Established in 1986, under the Ministry of Science and Technology.
 - **Focus Areas:** Includes research and development in agriculture, health, environment, and industrial biotechnology.
- **India's Green Growth Initiatives:**
 - **Net Zero Carbon Economy:** India aims to achieve net-zero carbon emissions by 2070.
 - **Lifestyle for Environment (LiFE):** An initiative promoting sustainable living and environmental conservation.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Approval of the BioE3 Policy for Fostering High Performance Biomanufacturing
Date of Approval	August 24, 2024
Approved By	Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi
Key Focus Areas	Biomanufacturing, Bio-AI hubs, Biofoundry, Circular Bioeconomy
Strategic Sectors	High-value bio-based chemicals, biopolymers, enzymes, smart proteins, precision biotherapeutics, climate resilient agriculture, carbon capture
Objective	Promote sustainable, innovative, and responsive biomanufacturing practices



➤ **What is the primary objective of the 'Vigyan Dhara' scheme approved by the Union Cabinet?**

- A) Promote digital economy
- B) Enhance agricultural productivity
- C) Strengthen the Science, Technology, and Innovation ecosystem
- D) Expand fossil fuel industries
- E) Improve public transportation



Answer

C) Strengthen the Science, Technology, and Innovation ecosystem



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi, approved the continuation and merging of three umbrella schemes into the unified 'Vigyan Dhara' scheme.
- **Location:** The announcement was made by the Department of Science and Technology (DST) in New Delhi on August 24, 2024.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The Vigyan Dhara scheme aims to enhance the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) ecosystem in India by merging three central sector schemes into one unified program.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - **S&T Institutional and Human Capacity Building:** Strengthen the capacity of academic and research institutions in science and technology.
 - **Research and Development (R&D):** Promote basic and translational research, focusing on areas like sustainable energy, water, and international collaborations.
 - **Innovation and Technology Development:** Support the development and deployment of innovative technologies, with a focus on industry and startup collaboration.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Vigyan Dhara Scheme:**
 - **Components:**
 - S&T Institutional and Human Capacity Building
 - Research and Development (R&D)
 - Innovation, Technology Development, and Deployment
 - **Objective:** Promote S&T capacity building, research, innovation, and technology development, contributing to the Science, Technology, and Innovation (STI) ecosystem.
 - **Proposed Outlay:** ₹10,579.84 crore during the 15th Finance Commission period (2021-22 to 2025-26).
 - **Gender Parity:** Focused interventions to enhance the participation of women in S&T.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Anusandhan National Research Foundation (ANRF):**
 - A framework within which the R&D component of the Vigyan Dhara scheme will be aligned, ensuring that national research priorities are met.



Static GK Information:

- **Department of Science & Technology (DST):**
 - **Established:** 1971
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Primary Role:** Promote and coordinate science and technology activities in India.
- **India's Vision 2047:**
 - A long-term strategic vision for India's development, aiming to make India a developed nation by the year 2047.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Approval of the Vigyan Dhara scheme by Union Cabinet
Date of Approval	August 24, 2024
Approved By	Union Cabinet, chaired by PM Narendra Modi
Proposed Outlay	₹10,579.84 crore (2021-22 to 2025-26)
Main Components	S&T Institutional and Human Capacity Building, R&D, Innovation
Objective	Strengthen the Science, Technology, and Innovation ecosystem
Focus Areas	Sustainable energy, water, gender parity in S&T, industry collaboration



- **Which organization has the Rubber Board partnered with to facilitate compliance with the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)?**
- A) Tata Consultancy Services
 - B) Infosys
 - C) TrayamBhu Tech Solutions Private Limited (TRST01)
 - D) Wipro
 - E) HCL Technologies



Answer

C) TrayamBhu Tech Solutions Private Limited (TRST01)



Event and Location:

- **Event:** The Rubber Board signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to ensure compliance with the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).
- **Location:** The MoU was signed with the Hyderabad-based TrayamBhu Tech Solutions Private Limited (TRST01).



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The Rubber Board's partnership with TrayamBhu Tech Solutions is focused on ensuring compliance with the European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR).
- **Objectives:**
 - **EUDR Compliance:** Facilitate the issuance of due diligence certificates for natural rubber and related products exported to the European Union (EU).
 - **Technology Integration:** Utilize advanced technology solutions provided by TRST01 to streamline the certification process.



Important Terms Explained:

- **European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR):**
 - **Purpose:** A regulation aimed at preventing the import of products linked to deforestation into the EU. It requires companies to demonstrate that their supply chains are free from deforestation-related activities.
 - **Relevance to Rubber:** Natural rubber exports to the EU must comply with EUDR, ensuring that the production and sourcing processes do not contribute to deforestation.
- **TrayamBhu Tech Solutions Private Limited (TRST01):**
 - A Hyderabad-based technology firm selected by the Rubber Board to facilitate compliance with EUDR through innovative technology solutions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Rubber Board:**
 - **Established:** 1947
 - **Headquarters:** Kottayam, Kerala, India
 - **Function:** The Rubber Board is responsible for the development of the rubber industry in India, including production, processing, and export.



Static GK Information:

- **European Union (EU):**
 - **Founded:** 1993
 - **Headquarters:** Brussels, Belgium
 - **Members:** 27 countries
 - **Primary Function:** A political and economic union aimed at fostering economic cooperation and reducing barriers to trade among member states.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Rubber Board signs MoU for EUDR compliance
Technology Partner	TrayamBhu Tech Solutions Private Limited (TRST01)
Objective	Facilitate due diligence certificates for natural rubber exports to the EU
Regulation	European Union Deforestation Regulation (EUDR)
Significance	Ensures rubber exports comply with environmental standards
Rubber Board Established	1947



➤ **What is the key feature of the newly approved Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for Central Government employees?**

- A) 60% assured pension based on last drawn salary
- B) 50% assured pension based on average basic pay of the last 12 months
- C) Option for lump-sum pension payment
- D) Pension linked to market performance
- E) Mandatory enrollment in the National Pension System (NPS)



Answer

B) 50% assured pension based on average basic pay of the last 12 months



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Approval of the Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) for Central Government employees by the Union Cabinet.
- **Location:** Announced in New Delhi on August 24, 2024.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The Unified Pension Scheme (UPS) is designed to provide financial security and dignity to Central Government employees after retirement.
- **Objectives:**
 - **Assured Pension:** Guarantee 50% of the employee's average basic pay of the last 12 months before superannuation as a pension.
 - **Family Pension:** A second pillar of the scheme includes an assured family pension.
 - **Employee Choice:** Employees can choose between the National Pension System (NPS) and the new Unified Pension Scheme.
 - **Comprehensive Coverage:** The scheme covers approximately 23 lakh Central Government employees.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Unified Pension Scheme (UPS):**
 - **First Pillar:** Assures 50% of the average basic pay of the last 12 months as a pension.
 - **Second Pillar:** Provides assured family pension benefits.
 - **Employee Option:** Offers the choice between continuing with the NPS or switching to the UPS.
 - **Coverage:** Targets around 23 lakh Central Government employees.
- **National Pension System (NPS):**
 - A market-linked, contribution-based pension scheme where employees and the government contribute to the pension fund, with benefits depending on the market performance.



Static GK Information:

- **Cabinet Secretary:** The highest-ranking civil servant in the Government of India, responsible for overseeing the administration of the government.
 - **Current Cabinet Secretary:** TV Somanathan
- **Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions:**
 - **Responsible For:** Overseeing policies related to government employees, including pensions and retirement benefits.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Approval of Unified Pension Scheme (UPS)
Date	August 24, 2024
Key Feature	50% assured pension based on the average basic pay of the last 12 months
Target Beneficiaries	23 lakh Central Government employees
Additional Feature	Assured family pension
Option Available	Employees can choose between NPS and UPS
Cabinet Secretary	TV Somanathan



➤ During the Lakhpati Didi Sammelan, how much revolving fund was released by Prime Minister Narendra Modi for Self-Help Groups (SHGs)?

- A) ₹1,000 crores
- B) ₹2,500 crores
- C) ₹3,000 crores
- D) ₹5,000 crores
- E) ₹6,000 crores

Answer

B) ₹2,500 crores



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Prime Minister Shri Narendra Modi addressed the Lakhpati Didi Sammelan in Jalgaon, Maharashtra.
- **Location:** The event took place in Jalgaon, Maharashtra on August 25, 2024.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandate:** The Lakhpati Didi Sammelan aims to empower women through the Lakhpati Didi Yojana, providing financial support to women-led Self-Help Groups (SHGs).
- **Objectives:**
 - **Revolving Fund Release:** PM Modi released a ₹2,500 crore revolving fund, benefiting about 48 lakh members of 4.3 lakh SHGs.
 - **Bank Loans Disbursement:** Disbursed ₹5,000 crore in bank loans, benefiting 25.8 lakh members of 2.35 lakh SHGs.
 - **Empowerment of Women:** The goal is to make 3 crore women "Lakhpati Didis" under this initiative, further boosting their financial and social status.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Lakhpati Didi Yojana:**
 - An initiative aimed at empowering women by enabling them to earn at least one lakh rupees, thereby improving their economic status and social standing.
- **Self-Help Groups (SHGs):**
 - Community-based groups typically composed of women who come together to support each other in savings and income-generating activities. SHGs play a crucial role in rural development and financial inclusion.



Static GK Information:

- **Maharashtra:**
 - **Capital:** Mumbai
 - **Chief Minister:** Eknath Shinde
 - **Governor:** C. P. Radhakrishnan
- **Jalgaon:**
 - A city in Maharashtra known for its agricultural productivity and contribution to the state's economy.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Key Detail	Information
Event	Lakhpati Didi Sannmelan
Date	August 25, 2024
Location	Jalgaon, Maharashtra
Revolving Fund Release	₹2,500 crores
Bank Loans Disbursement	₹5,000 crores
Target of Lakhpati Didi Yojana	3 crore Lakhpati Didis
Beneficiaries	Members of Self-Help Groups (SHGs)



QUICK RECALL



- **Shikhar Dhawan retires after a successful international and domestic cricket career.**
- **Peter Lundgren, former Swedish tennis player and coach of Roger Federer, passes away at 59.**
- **Mumbai and Delhi rank 2nd and 3rd globally in the annual housing price rise, as per Knight Frank's report.**
- **Bandhan Bank launches Avni, a women-exclusive savings account with unique benefits like insurance and discounts.**
- **RBI expands e-mandate framework to include auto-replenishment for FASTag and NCMC balances.**
- **RBI includes auto-replenishment of FASTag and NCMC under the e-mandate framework for seamless transactions.**
- **Tata Power Solar partners with ICICI Bank to offer loans up to ₹90 lakh for solar panel purchases.**
- **IBBI proposes amendments to corporate insolvency regulations to expedite MSME resolutions under the Insolvency and Bankruptcy Code.**



QUICK RECALL



- **Goldman Sachs revises India's GDP growth forecasts to 6.7% for 2024 and 6.4% for 2025 due to fiscal constraints.**
- **Soumya Swaminathan releases Kalpana Sankar's autobiography in Chennai on August 21, 2024.**
- **Laurent Freixe appointed as new CEO of Nestlé, succeeding Mark Schneider.**
- **Ex-DRDO Chairman G Satheesh Reddy joins BITS Pilani, Hyderabad as Distinguished Senior Faculty to lead national security research initiatives.**
- **Perumal Murugan honored with Achiever Award in Tamil Literature at Puthiya Thalaimurai Tamilan Awards 2024.**
- **Indian astronaut to join the International Space Station under the Indo-US space collaboration, as announced by Dr. Jitendra Singh.**
- **10th Round of India-Australia CECA negotiations held in Sydney, focusing on Goods, Services, Digital Trade, and Agri tech.**



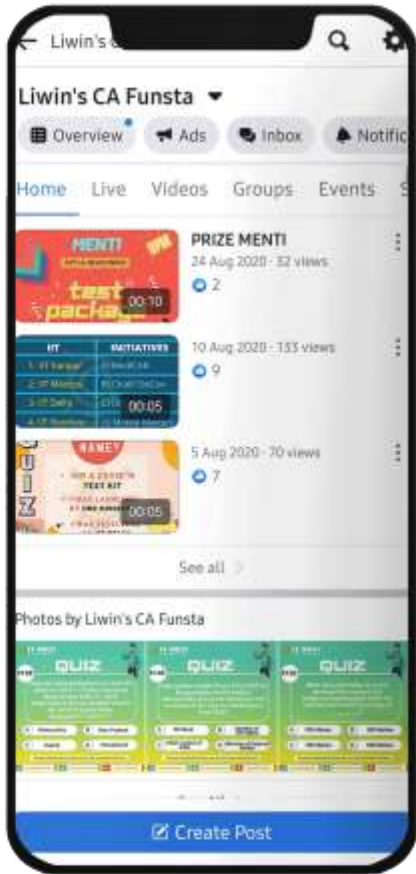
QUICK RECALL



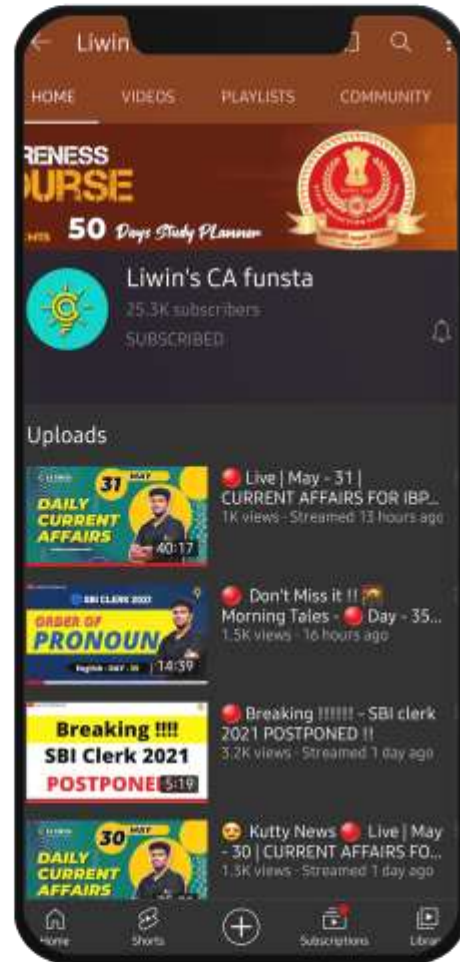
- Prime Minister Modi presented four BHISHM Cubes to Ukraine for medical emergency assistance.
- Deen Dayal SPARSH Yojana promotes philately among students through a ₹6,000 annual scholarship.
- Subhadra Scheme: Odisha CM Mohan Majhi announces ₹10,000 annual aid for women aged 21-59 years.
- Union Cabinet approves BioE3 Policy to foster high-performance biomanufacturing, supporting India's green growth and circular bioeconomy initiatives.
- Union Cabinet approves Vigyan Dhara scheme with an outlay of ₹10,579.84 crore to strengthen India's Science, Technology, and Innovation ecosystem.
- Rubber Board partners with TrayamBhu Tech Solutions (TRST01) for EUDR compliance in natural rubber exports to the EU.
- Union Cabinet approves Unified Pension Scheme with 50% assured pension for Central Government employees, benefiting 23 lakh employees.
- PM Modi releases ₹2,500 crore revolving fund at Lakhpati Didi Sammelan to empower women SHGs in Maharashtra.



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