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Important Days



➤ **When is World Bamboo Day celebrated globally?**

- A) September 10
- B) September 15
- C) September 18
- D) September 20
- E) September 25

Answer

C) September 18



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** World Bamboo Day 2024
- **Date:** September 18
- **Location:** Global celebration (initiated in Bangkok, Thailand)



Important Days



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Purpose:** To raise awareness of bamboo's ecological and economic significance.
- **Objectives:**
 - Promote the sustainable use and conservation of bamboo.
 - Highlight bamboo's medicinal and practical uses in daily life.
 - Foster community and economic development through bamboo cultivation.
 - Protect bamboo for its environmental benefits and industrial applications.



Important Days



Important Terms Explained:

- **World Bamboo Organisation (WBO):**
 - A global organization aimed at promoting bamboo as a sustainable resource.
- **Sustainable Use:**
 - Ensures bamboo is harvested and cultivated in a way that preserves it for future generations.



Important Days



Static GK Information:

- **World Bamboo Organisation (WBO):**
 - **Founded Year:** 1998
 - **Founder:** Kamesh Salam
 - **Headquarters:** Antwerp, Belgium
 - **Mandate:** To promote bamboo's sustainable use globally.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Event	World Bamboo Day 2024
Date	September 18, 2024
Location	Global (Initiated in Bangkok, Thailand)
Established	2009, during the 8th World Bamboo Congress
Significance	Raising awareness of bamboo's ecological and economic benefits
Organizer	World Bamboo Organisation (WBO)



➤ Who scored the winning goal for India in the Asian Champions Trophy 2024 final?

- A) Harmanpreet Singh
- B) Jugraj Singh
- C) Yang Jihun
- D) Kim Jaehan
- E) Wang Caiyu

Answer

B) Jugraj Singh



SPORTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Asian Champions Trophy 2024 Final
- **Location:** Moqi, China



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India's Men's Hockey Team clinched their fifth title in the Asian Champions Trophy by defeating China 1-0 in the final.
 - The winning goal was scored by Jugraj Singh with an assist from Harmanpreet Singh.
- **Objectives:**
 - Maintain dominance in Asian hockey and defend the Asian Champions Trophy title.
 - Overcome China's strong defensive performance, particularly in the first half, to secure the victory.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Asian Champions Trophy:**
 - An annual hockey tournament featuring top men's teams from Asia, first held in 2011.
 - India has now won the tournament five times, more than any other nation.
- **Player of the Tournament:**
 - Awarded to Harmanpreet Singh for his outstanding performance throughout the tournament.



Static GK Information:

- **India's Men's Hockey Team:**
 - **Coach:** Craig Fulton
 - **Captain:** Harmanpreet Singh
 - **Governing Body:** Hockey India
- **Asian Hockey Federation:**
 - **Founded:** 1958
 - **Headquarters:** Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia
 - **President:** Fumio Ogura



SPORTS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Asian Champions Trophy 2024 Final
Location	Moqi, China
Finalists	India vs China
Winner	India
Winning Goal Scorer	Jugraj Singh
Top Player	Harmanpreet Singh (Player of the Tournament)
Top Goal Scorer of the Tournament	Yang Jihun (Korea) – 9 Goals
Best Goalkeeper	Wang Caiyu (China)
Third Place Winner	Pakistan (Defeated South Korea 5-2)
Most Titles	India – 5 Titles



➤ Which cricket governing body has introduced equal prize money for men's and women's World Cups starting from 2024?

- A) BCCI
- B) ECB
- C) ICC
- D) CA
- E) CSA

Answer
C) ICC



Event and Location:

- **Event:** ICC's decision to introduce equal prize money for men's and women's World Cups
- **Location:** The decision will take effect starting with the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup in the UAE



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The International Cricket Council (ICC) has announced equal prize money for men's and women's World Cup events starting from the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup.
 - The prize money for the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup winner has been increased to \$2.34 million, a 134% rise from \$1 million in 2023.
- **Objectives:**
 - Promote gender equality in cricket by ensuring equal financial rewards for male and female cricketers.
 - Align with the ICC's long-term strategy to accelerate the growth of women's cricket by 2032.
 - Achieve prize money equity seven years ahead of the 2030 target.



Important Terms Explained:

- **ICC (International Cricket Council):**
 - The global governing body for international cricket responsible for organizing major tournaments like the Cricket World Cup and T20 World Cup.
- **Equal Prize Money:**
 - Refers to both men's and women's teams receiving the same amount of prize money for similar finishing positions and match wins at comparable ICC events.



Static GK Information:

- **ICC (International Cricket Council):**
 - **Founded:** 1909
 - **Headquarters:** Dubai, UAE
 - **Chairman:** Greg Barclay
 - **CEO:** Geoff Allardice
- **BCCI (Board of Control for Cricket in India):**
 - **Founded:** 1928
 - **President:** Roger Binny
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra



SPORTS



Tabular Summary:

Event	ICC Introduces Equal Prize Money for Men's and Women's World Cups
Starting Year	2024
First Event with Equal Prize	Women's T20 World Cup 2024 in UAE
Winning Prize (Women's T20 WC)	\$2.34 million (134% increase)
Runner-up Prize (Women's T20 WC)	\$1.17 million (More than double from 2023)
Prize Money Equity Target	Achieved 7 years ahead of schedule (2030)
Governance	ICC (International Cricket Council)



➤ **How much have Banks and Financial Institutions pledged to invest in Renewable Energy projects by 2030?**

- A) Rs 10 trillion
- B) Rs 15 trillion
- C) Rs 24.8 trillion
- D) Rs 32.45 trillion
- E) Rs 50 trillion

Answer

D) Rs 32.45 trillion



Event and Location:

- **Event:** 4th RE-Invest Summit
- **Location:** India, hosted by the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE) and Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India aims to achieve 500 gigawatts (Gw) of renewable energy (RE) capacity by 2030.
 - Banks and Financial Institutions have pledged Rs 32.45 trillion to support RE projects.
- **Objectives:**
 - Develop 570 Gw of RE, exceeding the 500 Gw target.
 - Promote solar, wind, and green energy manufacturing in India.
 - Increase investments in RE manufacturing with initiatives like the Shapath Patra to attract green energy investments.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Renewable Energy (RE):**
 - Energy derived from natural resources such as solar, wind, and hydroelectric power, which are replenished naturally.
- **Shapath Patra:**
 - An initiative to attract green energy investments, particularly in solar and wind energy manufacturing.
- **RE-Invest Summit:**
 - A platform for investors, RE developers, and government agencies to discuss and commit to India's renewable energy goals.



Static GK Information:

- **Reliance Industries (RIL):**
 - **Founded:** 1973
 - **Founder:** Dhirubhai Ambani
 - **Chairman:** Mukesh Ambani
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
- **NTPC:**
 - **Founded:** 1975
 - **Chairman and MD:** Gurdeep Singh
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India



Static GK Information:

- **State Bank of India (SBI):**
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **Chairman:** Dinesh Kumar Khara
 - **Tagline:** The Banker to Every Indian
- **Power Finance Corporation (PFC):**
 - **Founded:** 1986
 - **Chairman and MD:** Parminder Chopra
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India



Tabular Summary:

Event	4th RE-Invest Summit
Location	India, hosted by MNRE and CII
Total Financial Commitment	Rs 32.45 trillion
Targeted RE Capacity	500 Gw by 2030, with commitments reaching 570 Gw
Top Contributors	Reliance Industries (100 Gw), NTPC (41.3 Gw), ReNew (40 Gw)
Key Financial Institutions	REC (Rs 6 trillion), IREDA (Rs 5 trillion), PFC (Rs 3 trillion), SBI (Rs 5 trillion)
State Participation	Andhra Pradesh, Goa, Telangana
Significance	Part of India's goal to achieve 500 Gw RE by 2030



➤ From which date did the government scrap the windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil?

- A) September 1
- B) September 10
- C) September 18
- D) September 25
- E) September 30

Answer

C) September 18



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Removal of the windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil
- **Location:** India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Indian government scrapped the windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil with effect from September 18, 2023.
 - This tax was earlier imposed to counter unexpected profits in the oil sector due to fluctuating global prices.
- **Objectives:**
 - Redistribute the unexpected gains of companies benefitting from high commodity prices.
 - Fund social welfare schemes and act as a supplementary revenue stream for the government.
 - Narrow India's trade deficit by imposing taxes on profits resulting from external events like war or global shortages.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Windfall Tax:**
 - A tax imposed on above-average profits made by companies during periods of economic conditions that lead to higher revenue without the company's direct influence.
 - Common in industries like oil, gas, and mining, where profits spike due to external events such as wars or commodity shortages.
- **Purpose of Windfall Tax:**
 - Redistribute profits that result from global events affecting prices, benefiting producers at the expense of consumers.
 - Support social welfare schemes and help the government increase revenue.



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Finance, India:**
 - **Minister:** Nirmala Sitharaman
 - **Founded:** 1946
 - **Headquarters:** North Block, New Delhi
- **Oil and Gas Industry in India:**
 - **Major Companies:** ONGC, Indian Oil, Reliance Industries
 - **Regulatory Body:** Directorate General of Hydrocarbons (DGH)
 - **Major Products:** Crude oil, Natural Gas



Tabular Summary:

Event	Windfall Tax on Crude Petroleum Scrapped
Effective Date	September 18, 2023
Previous Tax	Windfall tax on domestically produced crude oil
Reason for Introduction	Imposed on unexpected profits made by oil companies due to high global prices
Purpose of Tax	Redistribute gains, fund social schemes, and narrow trade deficit
Industry Affected	Oil, Gas, and Mining
Ministry Involved	Ministry of Finance



➤ **By how much have advance tax collections risen in FY25, according to government data released in September 2024?**

- A) 10%
- B) 15%
- C) 22%
- D) 30%
- E) 35%

Answer
C) 22%



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Advance tax collections increase in FY25
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Advance tax collections for FY25 rose by 22% between April 1 and September 17, 2024, contributing to over 45% of the Budget Estimate (BE) for the fiscal year.
- **Objectives:**
 - The government is optimistic about meeting its tax collection targets based on the current advance tax collections.
 - Advance tax payments are made by individuals and companies to the Income Tax Department to prepay taxes in installments, reducing the burden at the end of the financial year.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Advance Tax:**
 - Advance tax is paid by taxpayers in advance, rather than waiting for the end of the financial year. It is paid in installments during the financial year, based on the estimated income.
- **Budget Estimate (BE):**
 - Budget Estimate refers to the projected amount of revenue and expenditure for the financial year, as announced in the Union Budget.



Static GK Information:

- **Income Tax Department, India:**
 - **Founded:** 1922
 - **Regulatory Body:** Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Ministry of Finance, India:**
 - **Minister:** Nirmala Sitharaman
 - **Founded:** 1946
 - **Headquarters:** North Block, New Delhi



Tabular Summary:

Event	Advance Tax Collections in FY25 Rise by 22%
Advance Tax Collection	Up by 22% in FY25 (April 1 to September 17, 2024)
Percentage of Budget Estimate	Over 45% of the Budget Estimate
Government's Target	Meeting tax collection goals based on rising advance tax collections
Collected By	Income Tax Department, India



➤ **When is the first module of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) planned to be launched?**

- A) 2025
- B) 2026
- C) 2027
- D) 2028
- E) 2030

Answer
D) 2028



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Cabinet approval for building the first unit of Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the building of the first module of the Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS-1) by 2028 as part of the extended Gaganyaan Programme.
 - The Gaganyaan Programme has been revised to include the development of BAS and precursor missions, increasing the total program funding to ₹20,193 crore.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - Develop and demonstrate technologies for long-duration human space missions in Low Earth Orbit (LEO).
 - Enable microgravity-based scientific research and technology development through BAS.
 - Create employment opportunities in high-tech space sectors, boosting industrial participation and economic growth in space exploration.
 - Lay the foundation for an Indian Crewed Lunar Mission by 2040 and operationalize BAS by 2035.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS):**
 - India's first space station, to be launched in 2028, aiming to support microgravity-based research, scientific experiments, and space exploration.
- **Gaganyaan Programme:**
 - India's human spaceflight mission, approved in 2018, focusing on sending astronauts to Low Earth Orbit and developing the technology for future human space missions.



Static GK Information:

- **Indian Space Research Organisation (ISRO):**
 - **Founded:** 1969
 - **Chairman:** S. Somanath
 - **Headquarters:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
- **Ministry of Science and Technology, India:**
 - **Minister:** Dr. Jitendra Singh
 - **Founded:** 1971
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi



SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY



Tabular Summary:

Event	Approval for Building Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS)
First Module Launch	2028
Revised Gaganyaan Programme	Includes BAS development and eight missions by 2028
Total Funding	₹20,193 crore
BAS Goals	Microgravity research, technology development, space exploration
Key Milestones	BAS operational by 2035, Indian Crewed Lunar Mission by 2040
Primary Stakeholder	ISRO, in collaboration with Industry, Academia, and National Agencies



➤ Which organization signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the Indian Army to enhance rescue operations in mountainous terrains?

- A) National Disaster Response Force (NDRF)
- B) Himalayan Rescue Team (HRT)
- C) Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR)
- D) Border Security Force (BSF)
- E) Indian Mountaineering Federation (IMF)

Answer

C) Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR)



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Indian Army signs MoU with Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR)
- **Location:** Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), Delhi Cantt



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Indian Army and Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR) signed a Memorandum of Understanding to enhance mountain rescue operations and survival training.
 - TMR will collaborate with the Indian Army to conduct customized training programs for Army instructors, focusing on avalanche rescue and survival skills.
- **Objectives:**
 - Improve the Indian Army's ability to execute rescue operations in mountainous terrains.
 - Leverage TMR's expertise to develop rescue training programs for the Army in high-altitude environments.
 - Build on the existing agreements with Northern, Eastern, and Central Commands to enhance overall rescue and survival capabilities.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR):**
 - A specialized mountain rescue organization with 15 teams deployed in various regions of India, offering avalanche rescue and survival training support to the Indian Army.
- **Avalanche Rescue:**
 - The process of rescuing individuals trapped or buried under snow due to avalanches in mountainous regions. These operations are critical in high-altitude areas where avalanches are frequent.



Static GK Information:

- **Indian Army:**
 - **Founded:** 1895
 - **Chief of Army Staff (COAS):** General Upendra Dwivedi
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR):**
 - **Founded By:** Hemant Sachdev
 - **Expertise:** Specialized in mountain rescue operations and avalanche survival training



DEFENCE



Tabular Summary:

Event	Indian Army Signs MoU with Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR)
Location	Centre for Land Warfare Studies (CLAWS), Delhi Cantt
MoU Signed By	Maj Gen Manish Luthra (Indian Army), Mr. Hemant Sachdev (TMR)
Objective	Enhance avalanche rescue and survival operations in mountainous terrains
Key Focus	Customized training programs for Army instructors in mountain rescue operations
Existing Agreements	Initial agreement with Northern Command (2016), expanded to Eastern and Central Commands in 2021 and 2024



➤ **During which event did India and the US pledge to deepen their cooperation in the energy sector?**

- A) India Energy Week
- B) GasTech 2024
- C) International Energy Forum
- D) US-India Energy Summit
- E) COP28



Answer
B) GasTech 2024



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** GasTech 2024
- **Location:** Houston, USA



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - India and the US have committed to expanding bilateral cooperation across the energy value chain, focusing on both conventional and renewable energy sectors.
 - The meeting took place during GasTech 2024, involving Indian Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri and US Assistant Secretary Geoffrey Pyatt.
- **Objectives:**
 - Promote a just and orderly energy transition.
 - Strengthen collaboration between Indian and US institutions and companies in energy infrastructure and technology.
 - Expand discussions on clean energy innovations, including green hydrogen, biofuels, and carbon capture.



Important Terms Explained:

- **GasTech 2024:**
 - A global event focusing on natural gas, LNG, and energy technologies, attracting participants from industries and governments worldwide.
- **Strategic Clean Energy Partnership (SCEP):**
 - A bilateral initiative between India and the US, aimed at fostering clean energy innovation, enhancing energy security, and supporting the clean energy transition.



Static GK Information:

- **India:**
 - **Capital:** New Delhi
 - **Currency:** Indian Rupee
 - **President:** Droupadi Murmu
 - **Prime Minister:** Narendra Modi
- **United States:**
 - **Capital:** Washington, D.C.
 - **Currency:** US Dollar
 - **President:** Joe Biden
 - **Secretary of State:** Antony Blinken



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	India-US Energy Cooperation Discussion at GasTech 2024
Location	Houston, USA
Date	2024
Key Participants	Indian Minister Hardeep Singh Puri, US Assistant Secretary Geoffrey Pyatt
Focus Areas	Expanding collaboration in conventional and renewable energy sectors
Key Initiatives	Clean energy transition, technological innovations, partnerships in green hydrogen, biofuels
Significance	Strengthening bilateral cooperation for a just and orderly energy transition



➤ **Who was the Chief Guest at the national launch of the Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 campaign?**

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B) Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar
- C) President Droupadi Murmu
- D) Union Minister Hardeep Singh Puri
- E) Chief Minister Ashok Gehlot



Answer

B) Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 campaign
- **Location:** Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - Launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and the Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA) as part of the 10th anniversary of Swachh Bharat Mission.
 - Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar served as the Chief Guest at the event in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan.
- **Objectives:**
 - Mark the 10th anniversary of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan, launched in 2014.
 - Focus on citizen engagement under the theme “Swabhav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata”.
 - Promote cleanliness, sanitation, and open defecation-free rural areas.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM):**
 - A nationwide campaign launched in 2014 aimed at eliminating open defecation and improving overall cleanliness in rural and urban areas.
- **Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 Campaign:**
 - A campaign aligned with the 10th anniversary of the Swachh Bharat Mission, promoting collective action and public participation.
 - Launched by the Ministry of Jal Shakti and MoHUA.



Static GK Information:

- **Swachh Bharat Mission (SBM):**
 - **Launched:** 2014
 - **Launched By:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi
 - **Objective:** Cleanliness, sanitation, and eliminating open defecation
- **Ministry of Jal Shakti:**
 - **Minister:** Gajendra Singh Shekhawat
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA):**
 - **Minister:** Hardeep Singh Puri
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Rajasthan:**
 - **Capital:** Jaipur
 - **CM:** Ashok Gehlot
 - **Governor:** Kalraj Mishra



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 Campaign Launch
Location	Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan
Date	2024
Chief Guest	Vice President Jagdeep Dhankhar
Theme	Swabhav Swachhata, Sanskaar Swachhata
Organizing Ministries	Ministry of Jal Shakti, Ministry of Housing and Urban Affairs (MoHUA)
Focus Areas	Cleanliness Target Units (CTUs), Public Participation, Health Check-ups for Sanitation Workers
Significance	Celebrating the 10th anniversary of Swachh Bharat Abhiyan



➤ Which portal has the Indian government directed platform aggregators to register their gig workers on?

- A) DigiLocker
- B) Udyam Portal
- C) e-Shram Portal
- D) NCS Portal
- E) GSTN Portal

Answer

C) e-Shram Portal



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Indian government's directive to platform aggregators to register gig workers on the e-Shram Portal
- **Location:** India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Indian government has instructed platform aggregators to register their gig workers on the e-Shram portal.
 - This is part of a broader initiative to ensure that gig and unorganised workers gain access to social security benefits.
- **Objectives:**
 - The e-Shram portal aims to create a nationwide database of unorganised workers to provide them with access to social welfare schemes.
 - Each registered worker receives a Universal Account Number (UAN) for easier access to benefits.
 - Aggregators are responsible for updating worker details, employment status, and reporting worker exits.



Important Terms Explained:

- **e-Shram Portal:**
 - A portal developed by the Ministry of Labour and Employment to create a national database of unorganised workers, providing them access to social welfare schemes.
- **Platform Aggregators:**
 - Companies that connect gig workers with customers via digital platforms, such as food delivery and ride-hailing services.
- **Gig Workers:**
 - Platform workers who use digital platforms to offer services, and non-platform workers who are casual wage workers without platform dependence.



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Labour and Employment, India:**
 - **Minister:** Mansukh Mandaviya
 - **Founded:** 1946
 - **Headquarters:** Shram Shakti Bhawan, New Delhi
- **NITI Aayog:**
 - **Abbreviation:** National Institution for Transforming India
 - **Founded:** 2015
 - **Chairperson:** Prime Minister Narendra Modi
 - **CEO:** BVR Subrahmanyam



Tabular Summary:

Event	Registration of Gig Workers on e-Shram Portal
Portal Name	e-Shram Portal
Launch Year	2021
Targeted Workers	Gig workers and unorganised sector workers
Main Objective	Provide social security benefits through a comprehensive national database
Aggregator Responsibility	Register workers, update data, report worker exits
Toll-Free Helpline	14434
Gig Workforce Growth	Expected to grow to 2.35 crore by 2029-30, 6.7% of non-agricultural workforce
Minister Involved	Mansukh Mandaviya, Union Labour and Employment Minister



➤ **What is the newly approved biotechnology scheme by the Union Cabinet, designed to foster bio-entrepreneurship and innovation?**

- A) Bio-Innovation
- B) Bio-RIDE
- C) Bio-Start
- D) Bio-Ecosystem
- E) Bio-Boost

Answer
B) Bio-RIDE



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Union Cabinet's approval of the Bio-RIDE scheme
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Bio-RIDE scheme under the Department of Biotechnology (DBT).
 - The scheme will be implemented with a proposed outlay of Rs. 9197 crore during the 15th Finance Commission period (2021-22 to 2025-26).



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - **Foster Innovation:** Promote cutting-edge research in areas like synthetic biology, bioenergy, and biopharmaceuticals.
 - **Promote Bio-Entrepreneurship:** Provide seed funding, incubation support, and mentorship to bio-entrepreneurs.
 - **Encourage Sustainable Biomanufacturing:** Align with India's green goals through environmentally sustainable practices in biomanufacturing.
 - **Industry-Academia Collaboration:** Strengthen ties between academic institutions, research organizations, and industry to commercialize bio-based products.
 - **Support Human Resources:** Provide holistic development for students, researchers, and scientists in biotechnology.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Bio-RIDE:**
 - Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development is a scheme aimed at enhancing research, promoting biomanufacturing, and supporting entrepreneurship in the biotechnology sector.
- **Biomanufacturing and Biofoundry:**
 - A component of the Bio-RIDE scheme, focusing on the development of bio-based products that support India's circular bioeconomy and green initiatives.



Static GK Information:

- **Department of Biotechnology (DBT):**
 - **Ministry:** Ministry of Science and Technology
 - **Founded:** 1986
 - **Secretary:** Dr. Rajesh S. Gokhale
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India



Tabular Summary:

Event	Approval of Bio-RIDE Scheme
Scheme Name	Bio-RIDE (Biotechnology Research Innovation and Entrepreneurship Development)
Approval Date	September 18, 2024
Proposed Outlay	Rs. 9197 crore
Implementation Period	2021-22 to 2025-26 (15th Finance Commission period)
Key Components	Biotechnology R&D, Industrial & Entrepreneurship Development, Biomanufacturing & Biofoundry
Primary Goals	Foster bio-entrepreneurship, promote sustainable biomanufacturing, advance biotechnology
Key Ministry	Department of Biotechnology (DBT), Ministry of Science and Technology



➤ What is the total outlay of the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan approved by the Union Cabinet?

- A) Rs. 79,156 crore
- B) Rs. 50,000 crore
- C) Rs. 65,000 crore
- D) Rs. 60,000 crore
- E) Rs. 70,000 crore

Answer

A) Rs. 79,156 crore



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Union Cabinet's approval of Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan with a total outlay of Rs. 79,156 crore (Central Share: Rs. 56,333 crore, State Share: Rs. 22,823 crore).
 - This scheme will cover 63,000 tribal-majority villages and tribal villages in Aspirational Districts, benefiting over 5 crore tribal people.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - Saturation of social infrastructure in tribal-majority villages, ensuring access to housing, clean water, electricity, healthcare, education, and employment opportunities.
 - Promote economic empowerment through skill development, entrepreneurship, and agriculture support for tribal communities.
 - Support tribal education, increase Gross Enrollment Ratio (GER), and improve health services through mobile medical units.
 - Develop tribal home stays, sustainable livelihoods for forest rights holders, and support for tribal product marketing.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan (PMJUGA):**
 - A scheme focused on holistic development of tribal-majority villages through convergence of multiple government schemes, improving the socio-economic condition of tribal communities.
- **Saturation Coverage:**
 - Ensures all eligible households in target villages receive benefits from various government schemes related to housing, healthcare, education, and infrastructure.



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Tribal Affairs, India:**
 - **Minister:** Arjun Munda
 - **Founded:** 1999
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **Rajasthan:**
 - **Capital:** Jaipur
 - **CM:** Ashok Gehlot
 - **Governor:** Kalraj Mishra



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan Approval
Approved By	Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Total Outlay	Rs. 79,156 crore
Central Share	Rs. 56,333 crore
State Share	Rs. 22,823 crore
Target	Saturation of 63,000 tribal-majority villages across 549 districts and 2,740 blocks
Beneficiaries	Over 5 crore tribal people
Key Focus Areas	Housing, healthcare, education, skill development, and sustainable livelihoods
Implementing Ministries	17 ministries, including Ministry of Tribal Affairs



➤ What is the total financial outlay for the continuation of schemes under Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanrakshAn Abhiyan (PM-AASHA)?

- A) Rs. 25,000 crore
- B) Rs. 30,000 crore
- C) Rs. 35,000 crore
- D) Rs. 40,000 crore
- E) Rs. 45,000 crore

Answer

C) Rs. 35,000 crore



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Union Cabinet's approval for the continuation of PM-AASHA schemes
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - The Union Cabinet, chaired by Prime Minister Narendra Modi, approved the continuation of PM-AASHA schemes with a total financial outlay of Rs. 35,000 crore during the 15th Finance Commission cycle (up to 2025-26).
 - PM-AASHA integrates the Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS), and Market Intervention Scheme (MIS).



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - Provide remunerative prices to farmers for their produce, preventing distress sales.
 - Control price volatility of essential commodities for consumers, ensuring availability at affordable prices.
 - Encourage cultivation of pulses, oilseeds, and copra, contributing to self-sufficiency and reducing import dependency.
 - Enhance buffer stock of pulses and onions to manage price volatility and prevent hoarding.
 - Support farmers growing perishable crops like tomatoes, onions, and potatoes (TOP) by covering transportation and storage costs.



Important Terms Explained:

- **PM-AASHA (Pradhan Mantri Annadata Aay SanraksHan Abhiyan):**
 - A comprehensive scheme aimed at providing price protection to farmers through mechanisms like Price Support Scheme (PSS) and Price Stabilization Fund (PSF).
- **Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS):**
 - A scheme that compensates farmers for the difference between the Minimum Support Price (MSP) and the market price of their crops, covering 40% of state production for oilseeds.



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare:**
 - **Minister:** Narendra Singh Tomar
 - **Founded:** 1947
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **National Agricultural Cooperative Marketing Federation of India (NAFED):**
 - **Founded:** 1958
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
 - **Chairman:** Bijender Singh



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Cabinet Approves Continuation of PM-AASHA Schemes
Total Outlay	Rs. 35,000 crore
Implementation Period	Till 2025-26 (15th Finance Commission Cycle)
Key Components	Price Support Scheme (PSS), Price Stabilization Fund (PSF), Price Deficit Payment Scheme (PDPS), Market Intervention Scheme (MIS)
Targeted Crops	Pulses, oilseeds, copra, tomatoes, onions, potatoes (TOP crops)
Objective	Provide remunerative prices to farmers, control price volatility of essential commodities
Buffer Stock	Maintain strategic buffer of pulses and onions



➤ **Who launched the NPS Vatsalya scheme, a pension scheme for minors, in New Delhi?**

- A) Prime Minister Narendra Modi
- B) Union Minister Piyush Goyal
- C) Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
- D) Union Minister Pankaj Chaudhary
- E) Chairperson of PFRDA, Deepak Mohanty



Answer

C) Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the NPS Vatsalya scheme
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mandates:**
 - NPS Vatsalya, launched by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman, is a pension scheme for minors, allowing early financial planning and retirement savings.
 - The scheme aims to encourage long-term savings and promote intergenerational equity by providing pension benefits to young subscribers.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objectives:**
 - Secure the financial future of minors through early savings.
 - Provide a platform for pension contributions and ensure access to social security for all citizens.
 - Allow minors to accumulate large wealth through the power of compounding.
 - Once minors reach the age of majority, their NPS Vatsalya accounts will be converted seamlessly into a regular NPS account.



Important Terms Explained:

- **NPS Vatsalya:**
 - A pension scheme designed for minors under the National Pension System (NPS), launched to inculcate the habit of early savings and ensure financial security.
- **PRAN (Permanent Retirement Account Number):**
 - A unique account number provided to NPS subscribers, including those in the NPS Vatsalya scheme, to track their pension contributions.



Static GK Information:

- **PFRDA (Pension Fund Regulatory and Development Authority):**
 - **Founded:** 2003
 - **Chairman:** Deepak Mohanty
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
- **National Pension System (NPS):**
 - **Launched:** 2004
 - **Regulated By:** PFRDA
 - **Objective:** To provide pension benefits to citizens of India



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Launch of NPS Vatsalya – Pension Scheme for Minors
Launched By	Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman
Location	New Delhi, India
Eligibility	All minor citizens below 18 years of age
Minimum Contribution	Rs 1,000 per annum
Investment Choices	Government securities, corporate debt, and equity
Key Benefit	Conversion to a regular NPS account upon reaching the age of majority
Regulated By	PFRDA



QUICK RECALL



- **World Bamboo Day is celebrated on September 18 globally.**
- **India wins the Asian Champions Trophy 2024, defeating China 1-0 with a goal from Jugraj Singh.**
- **ICC introduces equal prize money for men's and women's World Cups, starting with the 2024 Women's T20 World Cup.**
- **India's banks and financial institutions pledged Rs 32.45 trillion to support renewable energy by 2030.**
- **Windfall tax on crude petroleum scrapped by the Indian government from September 18, 2023.**
- **Advance tax collections for FY25 rise by 22%, covering over 45% of the Budget Estimate.**
- **Bharatiya Antariksh Station (BAS) to launch its first module in 2028 as part of India's human spaceflight program.**
- **Indian Army and Tiranga Mountain Rescue (TMR) signed an MoU to enhance mountain rescue operations.**
- **India and US pledged to expand energy cooperation during GasTech 2024 in Houston.**



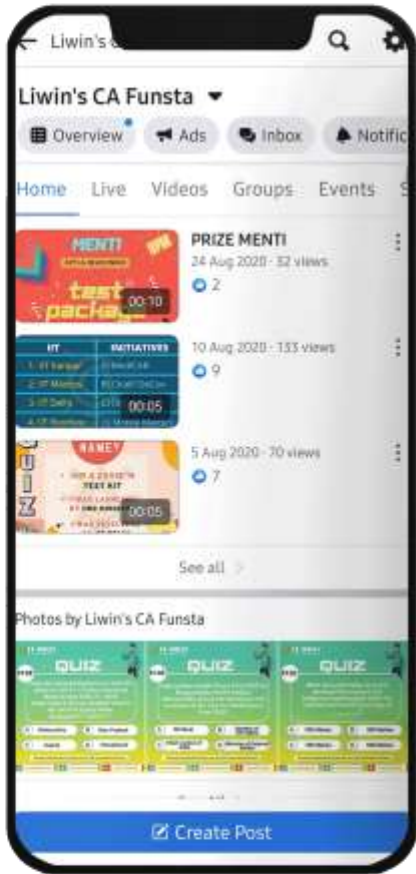
QUICK RECALL



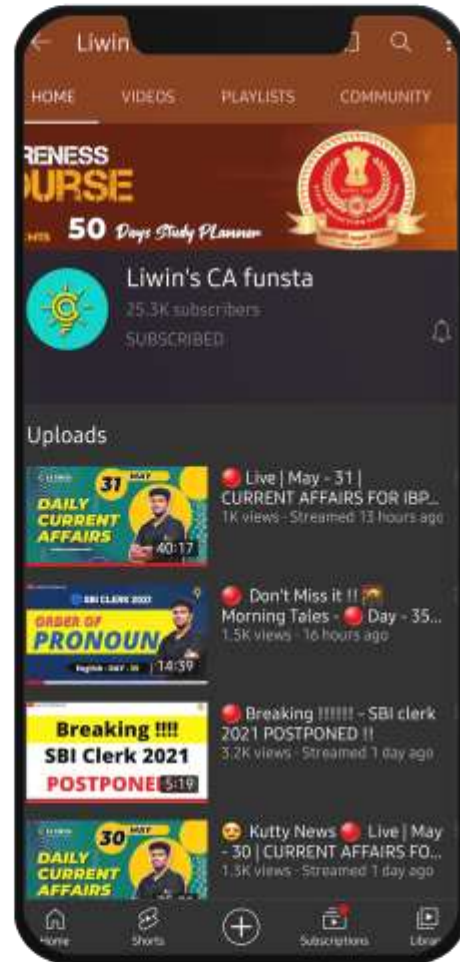
- **Bharatiya Kala Mahotsav to be hosted at Rashtrapati Nilayam, Hyderabad from September 29 to October 6, 2024.**
- **Swachhata Hi Seva (SHS) 2024 campaign launched in Jhunjhunu, Rajasthan, marking 10 years of SBM.**
- **Platform aggregators must register gig workers on the e-Shram Portal for social security benefits.**
- **Bio-RIDE scheme approved with Rs. 9197 crore outlay to boost biotechnology research and bio-entrepreneurship.**
- **Pradhan Mantri Janjatiya Unnat Gram Abhiyan approved with an outlay of Rs. 79,156 crore, targeting 63,000 tribal villages.**
- **Cabinet approves PM-AASHA schemes with a financial outlay of Rs. 35,000 crore to provide remunerative prices to farmers.**
- **NPS Vatsalya, a pension scheme for minors, launched by Union Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman in New Delhi.**



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