

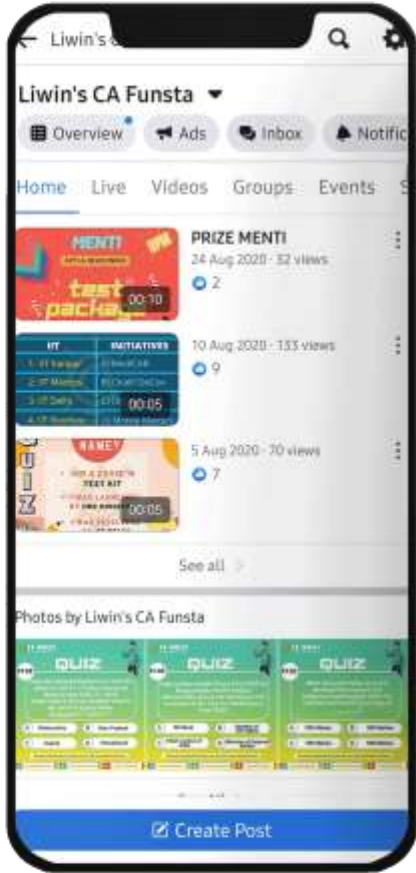


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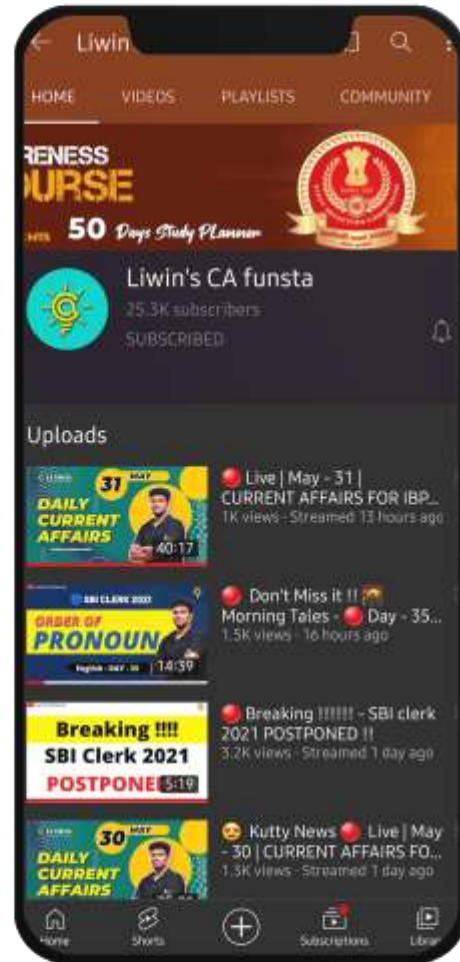
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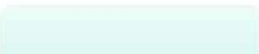
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# Important Days



➤ **What is the theme for World Habitat Day 2024?**

- A) Shelter for the Homeless
- B) Planning our Urban Future
- C) Engaging youth to create a better urban future
- D) Cities without Slums
- E) Better City, Better Life



**Answer**

**C) Engaging youth to create a better urban future**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Global Observance of World Habitat Day 2024
- **Date:** 7 October 2024
- **Theme:** "Engaging youth to create a better urban future"





# Important Days



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **World Habitat Day:**
  - Established by the United Nations to reflect on the state of human habitats and the right to adequate shelter.
  - Celebrated annually on the first Monday of October since 1985.
  - Aims to remind people of their collective responsibility for shaping the future of cities and human settlements.
  - In 2024, focuses on engaging youth to address the challenges and opportunities of rapid urbanization.



# Important Days



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Key Objectives for 2024:**
  - Addressing the challenges of urban growth, such as inequality, climate change, and poverty.
  - Emphasizing the role of youth in shaping sustainable cities.
  - Promoting inclusive urban planning with youth participation in leadership and decision-making.



# Important Days



## Important Terms Explained:

- **World Habitat Day:**
  - A UN-designated day aimed at reflecting on the state of cities and housing.
  - Highlights issues like shelter, urban development, and the right to adequate living conditions.
- **Scroll of Honour Award:**
  - Initiated by the UN-Habitat in 1989.
  - The most prestigious award recognizing contributions to urban development, including shelter provision and improving quality of urban life.





# Important Days



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):**
  - A set of 17 global goals adopted by the UN to address challenges like poverty, inequality, and climate change.
  - World Habitat Day aligns with SDGs related to urban sustainability and inclusive growth.



# Important Days



## Static GK Information:

- **United Nations (UN)**
  - **Founded:** 1945
  - **Headquarters:** New York, USA
  - **Secretary-General:** António Guterres
- **UN-Habitat (United Nations Human Settlements Programme):**
  - **Founded:** 1978
  - **Headquarters:** Nairobi, Kenya
  - **Executive Director:** Maimunah Mohd Sharif



# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Occasion	World Habitat Day 2024
Theme	Engaging youth to create a better urban future
Date of Observance	7 October 2024
Focus	Youth participation in urban planning and sustainable development
Online Registration Deadline	5 October 2024
Scroll of Honour Award	Recognizes contributions to urban development
Significance	Emphasizing the role of youth in addressing urban challenges like inequality and climate change





# Important Days



➤ **What is the primary objective of World Cerebral Palsy Day, observed annually on October 6?**

- A) To promote environmental awareness
- B) To raise awareness and advocate for the rights of individuals with cerebral palsy
- C) To encourage sports activities for the disabled
- D) To celebrate healthcare workers
- E) To promote mental health awareness



**Answer**

**B) To raise awareness and advocate for the rights of individuals with cerebral palsy**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** World Cerebral Palsy Day 2024
- **Date:** October 6, 2024
- **Global Importance:** Recognised internationally to raise awareness about cerebral palsy (CP) and advocate for the rights of individuals affected by it.



# Important Days



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Primary Focus:**
  - Raising awareness about cerebral palsy, a condition that affects movement and coordination.
  - Advocacy for inclusivity, support, and rights of people living with CP.
  - Encouraging early intervention and personalised assistance to improve the quality of life for individuals with CP.
- **Key Objectives for 2024:**
  - Bringing together families, medical professionals, and advocacy groups to share knowledge, resources, and support.
  - Promoting discussions on accessibility, healthcare, education, and improved opportunities for those affected by CP.





# Important Days



## History:

- **Established:** In 2012, as a global initiative.
- **Evolution:** Since its inception, the day has become a worldwide movement uniting communities, families, and healthcare professionals.
- **Global Significance:** World Cerebral Palsy Day has led to the spread of awareness, educational programs, and campaigns focused on dispelling myths about CP and fostering inclusive environments.



# Important Days



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Cerebral Palsy (CP):**
  - A neurological disorder that affects movement, muscle control, balance, and coordination.
  - It is caused by brain damage occurring before, during, or after birth.



# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Occasion	World Cerebral Palsy Day 2024
Date	October 6, 2024
Main Objective	To raise awareness and advocate for the rights of individuals living with cerebral palsy
Significance	Promoting inclusivity, accessibility, and support for individuals with CP
Established Year	2012
Key Focus Areas	Early intervention, healthcare improvements, and personalised assistance





# Important Days



➤ **Which organization initiated World Cotton Day?**

- A) United Nations (UN)
- B) World Health Organization (WHO)
- C) World Trade Organization (WTO)
- D) International Monetary Fund (IMF)
- E) World Economic Forum (WEF)

**Answer**

**C) World Trade Organization (WTO)**



# Important Days



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** World Cotton Day 2024
- **Date:** Celebrated globally on October 7, 2024.
- **Significance:** A day dedicated to recognizing the importance of cotton not only in the textile industry but also in areas such as animal feed, medical supplies, and edible oil production.



# Important Days



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **World Cotton Day (WCD):**
  - Initiated in 2019 by a joint effort of the World Trade Organization (WTO), UNCTAD, International Cotton Advisory Committee (ICAC), and International Trade Centre (ITC) to promote the sustainable development of the cotton sector.
  - Focuses on enhancing the sustainability of the cotton sector, especially in low-income countries, by providing assistance to cotton farmers, researchers, processors, and stakeholders.



# Important Days



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Historical Context:**
  - Cotton played a pivotal role in the Industrial Revolution in Britain and became a significant part of global trade.
  - The idea for World Cotton Day originated from the Cotton Four nations—Burkina Faso, Benin, Chad, and Mali—who sought to promote cotton by-products and expand markets.



# Important Days



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Cotton Four Nations:**
  - Refers to four West African cotton-producing countries: Burkina Faso, Benin, Chad, and Mali, which advocate for the development of the cotton sector in their region.
- **Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs):**
  - Cotton plays a critical role in achieving the UN SDGs, particularly by fostering economic development and environmental sustainability in cotton-producing nations.



# Important Days



## Static GK Information:

- **World Trade Organization (WTO)**
  - **Founded: 1995**
  - **Headquarters: Geneva, Switzerland**
  - **Director-General: Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala**
- **India (Largest Cotton Producer)**
  - **Capital: New Delhi**
  - **Currency: Indian Rupee**
  - **Prime Minister: Narendra Modi**





# Important Days



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Occasion	World Cotton Day 2024
Date	October 7, 2024
Initiated By	World Trade Organization (WTO)
Year Established	2019
Significance	Raising awareness about the versatility of cotton and promoting sustainability in the sector
Major Cotton Producing Countries	India, Burkina Faso, Benin, Chad, Mali
Sectors Involved	Textile industry, animal feed, medical supplies, edible oil



- **What is the name of the mascot for the Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024, and what does it represent?**

- A) Gudiya, representing women empowerment
- B) Gudiya, inspired by a peacock
- C) Rajni, symbolizing cultural heritage
- D) Simran, representing teamwork
- E) Pari, symbolizing sportsmanship

**Answer**

**A) Gudiya, representing women empowerment**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Unveiling of the logo and mascot for the Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024
- **Location:** Rajgir, Bihar
- **Date:** The tournament will take place from November 11-20, 2024.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024:**
  - A joint venture of Hockey India and the Bihar government, held at the newly developed Rajgir Hockey Stadium.
  - Six countries will participate: India, China, Thailand, Malaysia, South Korea, and Japan.
  - The state government has allocated Rs 10 crore for the event, highlighting its commitment to sports development in the region.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Mascot 'Gudiya':**
  - Inspired by the sparrow, which is the state bird of Bihar.
  - Symbolizes women empowerment and the importance of teamwork and sportsmanship in hockey.
  - The hockey stick and goalkeeper's glove represent the game of hockey and strategic alertness, while the ball reflects the need for teamwork.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Logo Design:**
  - The logo incorporates a Bodhi tree and a hockey stick, representing the rich cultural heritage of Bihar.
  - The Bodhi tree symbolizes knowledge, harmony, and development, connecting the state's spiritual and cultural history with the sport of hockey, which is India's national sport.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **Bodhi Tree:**
  - A significant symbol in Buddhism, representing enlightenment. In this context, it symbolizes knowledge, tolerance, and cultural richness in the state of Bihar.
- **Hockey Stick Symbolism:**
  - Represents India's national sport and signifies sportsmanship, competition, and teamwork in the tournament.



## Static GK Information:

- **Bihar**
  - **Capital:** Patna
  - **Chief Minister:** Nitish Kumar
  - **Governor:** Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
  - **State Bird:** Sparrow
- **Hockey India**
  - **Founded:** 2009
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
  - **President:** Dilip Tirkey



# SPORTS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Tournament Name	Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024
Location	Rajgir, Bihar
Dates	November 11-20, 2024
Participating Nations	India, China, Thailand, Malaysia, South Korea, Japan
Mascot Name	Gudiya, inspired by the Sparrow
Logo Symbolism	Bodhi tree (symbolizing knowledge) and hockey stick (India's national sport)
State Contribution	Rs 10 crore allocated by Bihar Government
Venue	Rajgir Hockey Stadium, newly developed



➤ **What is the main objective of the internal committee formed by the CBDT to review the Income-tax Act, 1961?**

- A) To increase tax rates for high-income groups
- B) To simplify the language and reduce litigation
- C) To eliminate all exemptions under the Income-tax Act
- D) To introduce new tax slabs for businesses
- E) To introduce a new tax on digital services



**Answer**

**B) To simplify the language and reduce litigation**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Formation of an internal committee by the Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
- **Location:** India
- **Date:** Announcement on October 7, 2024



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Committee:**
  - The committee aims to conduct a comprehensive review of the Income-tax Act, 1961 to make it concise, clear, and easy to understand.
  - This initiative will help reduce disputes and litigation and provide greater tax certainty to taxpayers.
- **Public Participation:**
  - Stakeholders, experts, and the general public are invited to submit their suggestions in four key categories:
    1. **Simplification of Language**
    2. **Litigation Reduction**
    3. **Compliance Reduction**
    4. **Elimination of Redundant/Obsolete Provisions**





## Mandates and Objectives:

- To participate, stakeholders can access the e-filing portal (link provided in the announcement) and submit suggestions by specifying the relevant provisions of the Income-tax Act or Rules.
- **Union Budget 2024-25:**
  - This initiative was announced during the Union Budget 2024-25 by Finance Minister Nirmala Sitharaman as a step toward modernizing tax laws and making compliance easier for taxpayers.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT):**
  - The apex body responsible for formulating policies and laws related to direct taxes in India, such as income tax.
- **Income-tax Act, 1961:**
  - A comprehensive law that governs direct taxation in India, including regulations for individual and corporate taxations.



## Static GK Information:

- **CBDT (Central Board of Direct Taxes)**
  - **Founded:** 1963
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
  - **Chairperson:** Nitin Gupta
- **Ministry of Finance, India**
  - **Current Finance Minister:** Nirmala Sitharaman
  - **Founded:** 1946
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Committee Formed By	Central Board of Direct Taxes (CBDT)
Objective	Review and simplify the Income-tax Act, 1961
Focus Areas for Suggestions	Simplification of Language, Litigation Reduction, Compliance Reduction, Obsolete Provisions
Date of Portal Launch	October 6, 2024
Access Link for Suggestions	Via e-filing portal at <a href="https://eportal.incometax.gov.in">https://eportal.incometax.gov.in</a>
Announced in	Union Budget 2024-25



- **What is the main objective of the newly launched Kotak MNC Fund by Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company?**
- A) Invest in only Indian startups
  - B) Focus on real estate companies
  - C) Invest in leading Multinational Companies (MNCs) across sectors and geographies
  - D) Target small-cap stocks in India
  - E) Invest exclusively in technology companies



**Answer**

**C) Invest in leading Multinational Companies (MNCs) across sectors and geographies**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of Kotak MNC Fund by Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company (KMAMC)
- **Date:** October 7, 2024, opened for public subscription and will close on October 21, 2024.





## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Kotak MNC Fund:**
  - The fund aims to invest in 40-50 MNC stocks from various sectors, geographies, and market capitalizations.
  - This fund provides an opportunity for investors to tap into the growth potential and stability of leading MNCs, which are market leaders in their industries and have a global footprint.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Key Features of the Fund:**
  - **Diversified Portfolio:** Includes MNCs from a wide array of sectors, offering stability through sectoral diversification.
  - **Geographic Reach:** MNCs from different regions are included, offering global exposure to investors.
  - **Market Cap:** The fund spans across various market caps, targeting large-cap, mid-cap, and small-cap companies with strong fundamentals.
- **Nilesh Shah's Statement:**
  - Nilesh Shah, MD of Kotak Mahindra AMC, emphasized that the Kotak MNC Fund leverages the strength of MNCs and offers investors a chance to invest in market leaders across the globe who show high growth potential.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Multinational Company (MNC):**
  - A company that operates in multiple countries, benefiting from global markets while contributing to stability and growth in various regions. MNCs often have strong brand recognition and solid financials.
- **Open-Ended Fund:**
  - A type of mutual fund where investors can buy or sell units at any time, providing liquidity and allowing for dynamic investment strategies.



## Static GK Information:

- **Kotak Mahindra Asset Management Company (KMAMC)**
  - **Founded:** 1998
  - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
  - **MD & CEO:** Nilesh Shah
- **Multinational Companies (MNCs)**
  - Typically known for their global operations, spanning various sectors like technology, consumer goods, pharmaceuticals, and manufacturing.



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Fund Name	Kotak MNC Fund
Fund Type	Open-ended equity scheme following MNC theme
Subscription Period	October 7, 2024 – October 21, 2024
Key Objective	Invest in 40-50 leading MNCs across various sectors, geographies, and market caps
Key Benefits	Offers global exposure and diversification, focusing on growth potential and stability
Managing Director (MD)	Nilesh Shah



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



➤ **By how much did LIC increase its stake in Bank of Maharashtra through the QIP process?**

- A) From 2.05% to 4.05%
- B) From 4.05% to 7.10%
- C) From 5.10% to 8.10%
- D) From 6.05% to 9.10%
- E) From 3.05% to 6.10%



**Answer**

**B) From 4.05% to 7.10%**



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Life Insurance Corporation (LIC) increases its stake in Bank of Maharashtra through a Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP).
- **Date:** The issue opened on 30 September 2024 and closed on 4 October 2024.



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP):**
  - A method for raising capital where shares are issued to qualified institutional buyers.
  - Bank of Maharashtra raised Rs 3,499 crore by issuing 61,01,81,311 equity shares with a face value of Rs 10 each at Rs 57.36 per share.
- **LIC's Stake Increase:**
  - LIC acquired 42.56% of the shares issued through QIP, raising its stake in Bank of Maharashtra from 4.05% to 7.10%.
  - LIC previously held significant stakes in companies like ITC (15.19%), Stock Holding Corporation of India (14.95%), and SBI (8.83%).





# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Other Buyers:**
  - Apart from LIC, ICICI Prudential Life Insurance acquired 8.51%, and Aditya Birla Sunlife Insurance acquired 5.67% of the total shares issued through the QIP.



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Qualified Institutional Placement (QIP):**
  - A capital-raising tool used primarily in India, where a listed company can issue equity shares or other securities to qualified institutional buyers without undergoing lengthy regulatory processes.
- **Paid-up Equity Share Capital:**
  - After the QIP, the paid-up equity share capital of Bank of Maharashtra increased from Rs 7,081 crore to Rs 7,692 crore.



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



## Static GK Information:

- **Life Insurance Corporation (LIC)**
  - **Founded:** 1956
  - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
  - **Chairperson:** Siddhartha Mohanty
  - **Tagline:** "Yogakshemam Vahamyaham" (Your welfare is our responsibility)
- **Bank of Maharashtra**
  - **Founded:** 1935
  - **Headquarters:** Pune, Maharashtra
  - **MD & CEO:** A. S. Rajeev
  - **Tagline:** "Ek Parivaar, Ek Bank (One Family, One Bank)"



# ACQUISITIONS AND MERGERS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Stake Increase by LIC	From 4.05% to 7.10% in Bank of Maharashtra
QIP Issue Date	Opened on 30 September 2024, Closed on 4 October 2024
Amount Raised by Bank of Maharashtra	Rs 3,499 crore
Other Major Buyers	ICICI Prudential Life Insurance (8.51%), Aditya Birla Sunlife Insurance (5.67%)
Paid-up Equity Capital Increase	From Rs 7,081 crore to Rs 7,692 crore



# APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who will succeed Suresh Narayanan as the Managing Director of Nestlé India starting from August 1, 2025?**

- A) Sanjiv Mehta
- B) Manish Tiwary
- C) Nitin Paranjpe
- D) Suresh Narayanan
- E) Ritesh Agarwal

**Answer**

**B) Manish Tiwary**



# APPOINTMENTS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Suresh Narayanan, CMD of Nestlé India, will retire on July 31, 2025.
- **Successor:** Manish Tiwary, a senior executive at Amazon, will take over as Managing Director of Nestlé India from August 1, 2025.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Suresh Narayanan's Contribution:**
  - Narayanan, who became CMD in 2015, is known as the “turnaround CEO” for his role in guiding Nestlé India through the Maggi crisis and positioning the company on a path of growth and innovation.
  - Under his leadership, Nestlé India launched several new products, expanded into the pet care business, and formed a joint venture with Dr. Reddy's Laboratories for nutritional health solutions.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Manish Tiwary's Background:**
  - Tiwary is currently serving as Director at Amazon Digital Services and More Consumer Brands and will step down on October 30, 2024.
  - Before joining Amazon, he worked for Unilever for 20 years in sales, marketing, and management roles across India, the Gulf, and North Africa.
  - Tiwary's experience spans three decades in e-commerce and consumer goods, making him well-equipped to lead Nestlé India.





# APPOINTMENTS



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Turnaround CEO:**
  - A CEO known for reviving or restructuring a company facing major challenges or crises. In this case, Narayanan helped Nestlé India recover from the Maggi noodles controversy in 2015.
- **CMD (Chairman and Managing Director):**
  - A dual role combining the responsibilities of the Chairman, who oversees the company's board, and the Managing Director, who manages day-to-day operations.



# APPOINTMENTS



## Static GK Information:

- **Nestlé India**
  - **Founded:** 1959
  - **Headquarters:** Gurgaon, Haryana, India
  - **Current CMD:** Suresh Narayanan (until July 31, 2025)
- **Amazon**
  - **Founded:** 1994
  - **Headquarters:** Seattle, Washington, USA
  - **CEO:** Andy Jassy



# APPOINTMENTS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
CMD Retiring	Suresh Narayanan, retiring on July 31, 2025
New MD of Nestlé India	Manish Tiwary, effective from August 1, 2025
Manish Tiwary's Current Position	Director at Amazon Digital Services and More Consumer Brands
Manish Tiwary's Background	Over 20 years at Unilever before joining Amazon in 2016
Suresh Narayanan's Achievements	Led Nestlé India through the Maggi crisis, expanded innovation pipeline, launched pet care business
Amazon Position End Date	Manish Tiwary to step down from Amazon on October 30, 2024



# AWARDS



- **Who were the winners of the MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity 2024, and what did they contribute to the field of conservation?**



- A) Dr. Paul Hebert and Melina Sakiyama
- B) Wirsiy Emmanuel Binyuy and Dr. Kathy MacKinnon
- C) Vera Voronova and Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos
- D) Shimali Chauhan and Astrid Schomaker
- E) Sumak Kawsay and AEON Environmental Foundation

**Answer**

**C) Vera Voronova and Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos**



# AWARDS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity 2024
- **Location:** Announcement in Montreal, Quebec, Canada on October 2, 2024. Ceremony to be held on October 29, 2024, in Cali, Colombia, during the Conference of the Parties (COP 16) to the Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD).



# AWARDS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **MIDORI Prize:**
  - Recognizes outstanding contributions to biodiversity conservation and sustainability efforts.
  - Aims to promote biodiversity and environmental protection through innovative and tangible solutions.
  - Awarded every two years, it honors individuals for their exemplary work in protecting ecosystems and promoting sustainable practices.



# AWARDS



## Winners' Contributions:

- **Vera Voronova (Kazakhstan):**
  - Executive director of the Association for the Conservation of Biodiversity of Kazakhstan.
  - Contributions to ecosystem restoration and endangered species recovery in Central Asia.
  - Engages local rural communities in conservation efforts, benefiting the environment and local livelihoods.



# AWARDS



## Winners' Contributions:

- **Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos (Peru):**
  - Founder and CEO of Sumak Kawsay.
  - Combines honey production from native stingless bees with ecosystem restoration.
  - Promotes sustainable tourism and supports Indigenous women and youth.
  - Her initiative, the Bee Honey Route, focuses on stopping the decline of pollinators while benefiting local economies.





# AWARDS



## Important Terms Explained:

- **MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity:**
  - Established by the AEON Environmental Foundation and the Secretariat of the Convention on Biological Diversity.
  - Recognizes global efforts in biodiversity conservation.
  - Offers a \$100,000 cash prize and a commemorative plaque to each recipient.
- **Kunming-Montreal Global Biodiversity Framework:**
  - A strategic global agreement for addressing biodiversity loss.
  - Encourages countries and organizations to take concrete actions towards restoring biodiversity and preventing species extinction.



# AWARDS



## Static GK Information:

- **Kazakhstan**
  - **Capital:** Astana
  - **Currency:** Tenge
  - **President:** Kassym-Jomart Tokayev
  - **Prime Minister:** Alikhan Smailov
- **Peru**
  - **Capital:** Lima
  - **Currency:** Sol
  - **President:** Dina Boluarte
  - **Prime Minister:** Alberto Otárola



# AWARDS



## Static GK Information:

- **Convention on Biological Diversity (CBD)**
  - **Founded:** 1992
  - **Headquarters:** Montreal, Canada
  - **Executive Secretary:** Astrid Schomaker
- **Sumak Kawsay**
  - **Founded by:** Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos
  - **Country:** Peru
  - **Focus:** Environmental conservation and economic empowerment of Indigenous communities through sustainable practices.



# AWARDS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Prize Name	MIDORI Prize for Biodiversity 2024
Winners	Vera Voronova (Kazakhstan), Ysabel Agustina Calderón Carlos (Peru)
Announcement Date	October 2, 2024
Location of Award Ceremony	Cali, Colombia (COP 16 to the Convention on Biological Diversity)
Key Contributions	Voronova: Ecosystem restoration in Central Asia; Calderón Carlos: Pollinator conservation in Peru
Prize Amount	\$100,000 to each winner
Total Recipients in MIDORI History	19 individuals from 17 countries



# AWARDS



➤ **What discovery earned Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun the 2024 Nobel Prize in Medicine?**



- A) Discovery of DNA
- B) Discovery of microRNA
- C) Discovery of insulin
- D) Discovery of antibiotics
- E) Discovery of vaccines



**Answer**

**B) Discovery of microRNA**



# AWARDS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** 2024 Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine awarded to Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun
- **Location:** Stockholm, Sweden, announced by the Nobel Prize Committee
- **Date:** October 7, 2024



# AWARDS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Discovery of microRNA:**
  - Ambros and Ruvkun were awarded for their discovery of microRNA, a new class of tiny RNA molecules that play a crucial role in gene regulation.
  - Their work began with research on the small worm *C. elegans*, which provided new insights into how gene regulation works in multicellular organisms, including humans.
- **Significance of the Discovery:**
  - microRNAs help control which genes are active in a cell, ensuring that only the relevant instructions are used in different cell types like nerve and muscle cells.
  - Understanding gene regulation is crucial because errors in this process can lead to diseases like cancer, diabetes, and autoimmune disorders.



# AWARDS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Historical Context:**
  - Their findings published in 1993 revealed a new principle of gene regulation conserved across evolution.
  - Both laureates previously worked under Robert Horvitz, who won the Nobel Prize in 2002.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **microRNA (miRNA):**
  - Small, non-coding RNA molecules involved in regulating gene expression by silencing certain genes or preventing protein production.
  - Their discovery has greatly expanded our understanding of gene regulation and its role in health and disease.
- **Gene Regulation:**
  - The process by which cells control which genes are turned on or off to perform specific functions. Proper regulation is essential for development, tissue function, and disease prevention.



# AWARDS



## Static GK Information:

- **Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine**
  - **Established:** 1901
  - **Awarding Body:** Nobel Assembly at Karolinska Institutet, Sweden
  - **First Awarded To:** Emil von Behring for his work on serum therapy
- **Victor Ambros**
  - **Born:** 1953, Hanover, New Hampshire, USA
  - **Current Position:** Silverman Professor of Natural Science at the University of Massachusetts Medical School, Worcester, MA



# AWARDS



## Static GK Information:

- **Gary Ruvkun**
  - **Born:** 1952, Berkeley, California, USA
  - **Current Position:** Professor of Genetics at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School



# AWARDS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Prize Name	Nobel Prize in Physiology or Medicine 2024
Awarded To	Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun
Discovery	Discovery of microRNA, a new class of molecules critical for gene regulation
Research Model	<i>C. elegans</i> (a roundworm)
Significance of microRNA	Fundamental for gene regulation, with impacts on multicellular organism development and health
Career Background of Ambros	Silverman Professor at University of Massachusetts Medical School
Career Background of Ruvkun	Professor of Genetics at Massachusetts General Hospital and Harvard Medical School



# AWARDS



➤ For what achievement was Sudhakar Rao, Director of Branding & Communications at ICAI Group, recognized?

- A) For launching a new branding campaign
- B) For his contributions to digital marketing
- C) For being named one of the “Marketing Mavericks 2024”
- D) For developing an international marketing strategy
- E) For pioneering social media marketing



**Answer**

**C) For being named one of the “Marketing Mavericks 2024”**



# AWARDS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Sudhakar Rao, Director of Branding & Communications at ICFAI Group, was honored as one of the “Marketing Mavericks 2024”
- **Location:** Hyderabad, India
- **Date:** October 7, 2024



# AWARDS



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Award by Dun & Bradstreet:**
  - Sudhakar Rao was recognized for his exceptional achievements in the field of marketing. The accolade celebrates marketing leaders who have made significant contributions to the industry, positioning them as pioneers and influencers in their respective fields.
- **ICFAI Group's Branding Leadership:**
  - As the Director of Branding & Communications at ICFAI Group, Sudhakar Rao has led impactful campaigns that have helped strengthen the brand's identity and communication strategies, contributing to ICFAI's visibility and reputation in the education sector.



# AWARDS



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Marketing Mavericks:**
  - A recognition awarded by Dun & Bradstreet to leaders in marketing who demonstrate innovation, leadership, and significant contributions to their industry.
- **ICFAI Group:**
  - A group of educational institutions in India offering higher education in fields like management, law, technology, and science.





# AWARDS



## Static GK Information:

- **ICFAI (Institute of Chartered Financial Analysts of India)**
  - **Founded:** 1984
  - **Headquarters:** Hyderabad, Telangana, India
  - **Key Focus Areas:** Education in management, law, and technology
- **Dun & Bradstreet:**
  - **Founded:** 1841
  - **Headquarters:** Jacksonville, Florida, USA
  - **Focus:** Business data and analytics



# AWARDS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Award Name	"Marketing Mavericks 2024" by Dun & Bradstreet
Awardee	Sudhakar Rao, Director of Branding & Communications, ICFAI Group
Achievement	Recognized for exceptional contributions to the marketing industry
Organization	ICFAI Group
Awarding Body	Dun & Bradstreet
Location of Event	Hyderabad, India



➤ **Which countries are participating in the Malabar 2024 joint naval exercise hosted by India?**

- A) India, Australia, Russia, US
- B) India, Japan, Australia, UK
- C) India, Australia, Japan, US
- D) India, China, US, Japan
- E) India, France, Japan, Australia



**Answer**

**C) India, Australia, Japan, US**



# DEFENCE



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Malabar 2024 naval exercise
- **Location:** Visakhapatnam, India
- **Date:** October 8 to 18, 2024



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Malabar Exercise:**
  - A joint naval exercise involving India, Australia, Japan, and the United States.
  - Initially started in 1992 as a bilateral naval drill between India and the US, it has evolved into a major multilateral event focusing on maritime cooperation and security in the Indo-Pacific region.
  - The 2024 edition is expected to be the most comprehensive to date, involving complex maritime operations like guided missile destroyers, frigates, submarines, fighter aircraft, and helicopters.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Phases of the Exercise:**
  - The Harbour Phase will take place in Visakhapatnam, followed by the Sea Phase.
  - The exercise aims to enhance interoperability between the navies, foster mutual understanding, and address shared maritime challenges.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Quad Partnership:**
  - The Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue) is a strategic diplomatic partnership between Australia, India, Japan, and the United States aimed at ensuring stability and security in the Indo-Pacific region.
  - Recent Quad meetings have also expanded maritime security cooperation, including the announcement of initiatives like the "Quad-at-Sea" mission in 2025 and MAITRI (Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific).



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Indo-Pacific Maritime Domain Awareness (IPMDA):**
  - A key initiative aimed at enhancing maritime security in the Indo-Pacific by sharing real-time maritime data to counter threats such as illegal fishing, piracy, and smuggling.
- **MAITRI:**
  - A regional initiative aimed at training and supporting Indo-Pacific partners to strengthen their maritime security capabilities through tools provided under IPMDA.





## Static GK Information:

- **Indian Navy**
  - **Founded:** 1950
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
  - **Chief of Naval Staff:** Admiral R. Hari Kumar
- **Quad (Quadrilateral Security Dialogue)**
  - **Member Countries:** India, Australia, Japan, United States
  - **Formation:** 2007
  - **Objective:** To promote a free, open, and inclusive Indo-Pacific region.



# DEFENCE



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Exercise Name	Malabar 2024
Location	Visakhapatnam, India
Dates	October 8 to 18, 2024
Participating Nations	India, Australia, Japan, United States
Objective	Enhance maritime cooperation, interoperability, and address shared challenges in Indo-Pacific
Exercise Phases	Harbour Phase in Visakhapatnam, Sea Phase
Quad Maritime Initiative	"Quad-at-Sea" mission in 2025, MAITRI (Maritime Initiative for Training in the Indo-Pacific)



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



➤ **What was India's primary focus during the 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)?**

- A) Promoting alternative sources of protein
- B) Advocating for updated probiotic guidelines and nutrient standards
- C) Supporting the EU's proposal on sensory testing
- D) Promoting genetically modified foods
- E) Proposing new carbohydrate standards



**Answer**

**B) Advocating for updated probiotic guidelines and nutrient standards**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** 44<sup>th</sup> session of the Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)
- **Location:** Dresden, Germany
- **Date:** October 2 to October 6, 2024



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **India's Role:**
  - India played a crucial role in advocating for updated probiotic guidelines and proposing updates on nutrient reference values for children aged 6 to 36 months.
  - India highlighted that the FAO/WHO documents on probiotics, which are over two decades old, require revision in light of scientific advancements and harmonization of global probiotic regulations.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Key Proposals by India:**
  - Probiotic Guidelines: India stressed the importance of revisiting existing probiotic guidelines (from 2001 and 2002) to reflect modern scientific evidence and support global trade practices.
  - Nutrient Reference Values (NRV-R): India suggested determining nutrient reference values for persons aged 6 to 36 months by calculating the mean value of the age groups 6-12 months and 12-36 months, a proposal accepted by the committee.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Opposition to EU's Proposal:**
  - India opposed the EU's proposal on sensory testing for sweetness in carbohydrate sources in Follow-up Formula, citing a lack of scientific validation. This stance was supported by countries like the USA and Canada, leading to the discontinuation of the topic.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Probiotics:**
  - Live microorganisms that provide health benefits when consumed in adequate amounts, commonly found in food products like yogurt and dietary supplements.
- **Nutrient Reference Values (NRV-R):**
  - Standards used to determine the recommended daily intake of nutrients to promote public health.





## Static GK Information:

- **Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)**
  - **Founded:** 2011
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
  - **Chairperson:** Rita Teatia
- **Codex Alimentarius Commission (Codex):**
  - **Founded:** 1963
  - **Headquarters:** Rome, Italy
  - **Parent Organizations:** FAO, WHO



# INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Committee	Codex Committee on Nutrition and Foods for Special Dietary Uses (CCNFSDU)
Location	Dresden, Germany
Date	October 2-6, 2024
India's Key Focus Areas	Updated probiotic guidelines, nutrient reference values for 6-36 months
Opposition to EU Proposal	Sensory testing for sweetness in carbohydrate sources in Follow-up Formula
Countries Supporting India	Canada, Chile, New Zealand, USA
Outcome	India's suggestions incorporated in the final report



➤ **What is the main objective of the GREEN Meghalaya Plus scheme, launched by the Meghalaya government?**

- A) To increase urban infrastructure
- B) To promote afforestation and reduce forest fires
- C) To conserve forest cover by providing incentives
- D) To promote sustainable agriculture
- E) To develop eco-friendly tourism



**Answer**

**C) To conserve forest cover by providing incentives**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the GREEN Meghalaya Plus scheme
- **Location:** Tura, Meghalaya
- **Date:** Recent launch by Meghalaya CM Conrad K Sangma in the presence of Education Minister Rakkam A Sangma.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **GREEN Meghalaya Plus Scheme:**
  - **Objective:** Aimed at forest conservation by providing financial incentives under the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) initiative.
  - Communities and individuals receive up to Rs 20,000 per hectare per year for conservation efforts.
  - The scheme targets the conservation of 50,000 hectares of forest cover, with smaller landowners now eligible, as the participation requirement has been reduced to 1 hectare from 2 hectares.
  - **Impact:** Over the years, more than 54,000 hectares of forest have already been conserved, benefiting over 3000 individuals/communities.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Government's Role and Vision:**
  - The Meghalaya government, under CM Conrad Sangma, has allocated Rs 200 Cr for forest conservation projects, continuing its commitment to environmental protection.
  - The scheme highlights the state's effort to balance development with environmental responsibility, focusing on preventing deforestation rather than relying solely on afforestation projects.
  - The government has spent Rs 44 Cr in the last two years on similar conservation efforts, which has positively impacted forest coverage and local communities.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES):**
  - A conservation approach where financial incentives are provided to individuals and communities for maintaining or enhancing ecosystem services, such as forest conservation, biodiversity protection, and water regulation.
- **PES 2.0:**
  - The new version of the PES initiative under the GREEN Meghalaya Plus scheme, with expanded area coverage and participation eligibility reduced to 1 hectare, making it more inclusive.



## Static GK Information:

- **Meghalaya**
  - **Capital:** Shillong
  - **Chief Minister:** Conrad K Sangma
  - **Governor:** Phagu Chauhan





## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Scheme Name	GREEN Meghalaya Plus
Launched By	Meghalaya CM Conrad K Sangma
Date	Launched in Tura, Meghalaya
Key Objective	Conservation of forest cover under the Payment for Ecosystem Services (PES) initiative
Incentive	Rs 20,000 per hectare per year for forest conservation
Target Area	Expansion of 50,000 hectares of forest conservation
Past Impact	3000+ beneficiaries, 54,000 hectares of forest conserved
Government Funding	Rs 200 Cr earmarked for conservation efforts



➤ **Where was the Banjara Virasat 'Nagara' Museum inaugurated by PM Modi?**

- A) Nagpur, Maharashtra
- B) Pune, Maharashtra
- C) Nashik, Maharashtra
- D) Washim, Maharashtra
- E) Aurangabad, Maharashtra



**Answer**

**D) Washim, Maharashtra**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Inauguration of the Banjara Virasat 'Nagara' Museum
- **Location:** Washim, Maharashtra
- **Date:** Recently inaugurated by Prime Minister Narendra Modi.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Banjara Virasat 'Nagara' Museum:**
  - The museum is a four-story building dedicated to preserving and showcasing the rich heritage of the Banjara community.
  - 13 galleries within the museum feature portraits of prominent leaders and movements associated with the Banjaras, highlighting their cultural legacy and contributions to Indian history.
  - The museum serves as a cultural center for the Banjara people, reflecting their history, lifestyle, and struggles for recognition.
- **Objective:**
  - To promote and preserve the heritage of the Banjara community, enhancing cultural awareness among the people of Maharashtra and the country.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Banjara Community:**
  - A historically nomadic group in India known for their colorful culture, traditional occupations, and significant contributions to trade and transportation in earlier times.



## Static GK Information:

- **Maharashtra**
  - **Capital:** Mumbai
  - **Chief Minister:** Eknath Shinde
  - **Governor:** Ramesh Bais



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Museum Name	Banjara Virasat 'Nagara' Museum
Inaugurated By	Prime Minister Narendra Modi
Location	Washim, Maharashtra
Museum Features	13 galleries showcasing Banjara heritage, portraits of leaders, and historical movements
Objective	To preserve and promote the heritage of the Banjara community



➤ **What was the significant milestone achieved during the IAF Air Show in Chennai on October 6, 2024?**

- A) First IAF Air Show in India
- B) First air show at Marina Beach
- C) Entry into the Limca Book of Records with over 15 lakh attendees
- D) First display of Sukhoi 30 MKI
- E) First IAF air show outside the national capital



**Answer**

**C) Entry into the Limca Book of Records with over 15 lakh attendees**





# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** IAF Air Show 2024
- **Location:** Marina Beach, Chennai
- **Date:** October 6, 2024, as part of the 92nd Indian Air Force Day celebrations.
- **Significance:** The air show was held in Chennai after a gap of 21 years, attracting over 15 lakh people and securing a place in the Limca Book of Records for this massive turnout.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Aircraft Participating:**
  - The display included several fighter jets, helicopters, and vintage aircraft such as LCA Tejas, Rafale, Sukhoi 30 MKI, Jaguar Mirage 2000, MiG 29, HTT 40, ALH Mk-I, and Chetak.
  - Heritage aircraft like the Dakota and Harvard also performed, adding historical value to the event.
- **Aerobatic Teams:**
  - The Suryakiran Aerobatic Team (formation aerobatics) and Sarang Helicopter Aerobatic Team showcased their precision flying and aerial maneuvers.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:**
  - The air show was part of the celebrations for the 92nd IAF Day, aiming to demonstrate India's air power, the capabilities of the new IAF aircraft, and promote public engagement with the armed forces.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **IAF Air Show:**
  - A public military event where the Indian Air Force displays its air capabilities, including aerobatics, fighter jet performances, and showcasing vintage aircraft.
- **Limca Book of Records:**
  - An Indian record book documenting national records in a variety of fields, akin to the Guinness World Records.



## Static GK Information:

- **Indian Air Force (IAF)**
  - **Founded:** 1932
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
  - **Chief of Air Staff:** Air Chief Marshal Vivek Ram Chaudhari
- **Chennai**
  - **Capital of Tamil Nadu**
  - **Chief Minister:** M. K. Stalin
  - **Governor:** R. N. Ravi



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Event Name	IAF Air Show 2024
Location	Marina Beach, Chennai
Date	October 6, 2024
Occasion	92nd Indian Air Force Day celebrations
Number of Aircraft	72 Aircraft including Rafale, LCA Tejas, Sukhoi 30 MKI, and Dakota
Aerobatic Teams	Suryakiran Aerobatic Team, Sarang Helicopter Aerobatic Team
Significant Achievement	Entered the Limca Book of Records with over 15 lakh attendees
Previous IAF Air Shows	Last held in Chennai 21 years ago



➤ **What is the main objective of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) signed between BHP and SAIL?**

- A) Increase steel production in India
- B) Develop hydrogen-based energy solutions
- C) Accelerate decarbonisation in steelmaking
- D) Boost research in alternative construction materials
- E) Build new steel plants in rural areas



**Answer**

**C) Accelerate decarbonisation in steelmaking**





## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Signing of a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between SAIL and BHP
- **Location:** India, involving SAIL's integrated steel plants
- **Date:** Announced on 7 October 2024



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of MoU:**
  - The MoU aims to accelerate decarbonisation in the steel industry by exploring lower-carbon steelmaking technologies at SAIL's blast furnaces in India.
  - Key focus areas include assessing alternate reductants such as hydrogen and biochar to reduce greenhouse gas emissions (GHG) in steel production.
- **SAIL's Commitment:**
  - SAIL, India's largest government-owned steel producer, is committed to aligning the steel sector with global climate commitments and promoting sustainable steel production.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **BHP's Role:**
  - BHP, a leading global resources company, emphasizes collaborative efforts to develop and implement technologies that could substantially reduce carbon emissions in steelmaking.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Decarbonisation:**
  - The process of reducing carbon emissions, particularly by shifting towards sustainable energy sources and adopting low-carbon technologies.
- **Blast Furnace (BF) Route:**
  - A traditional method of steel production, where iron is smelted in a furnace. Decarbonising this process involves exploring alternatives such as hydrogen as a reductant.



## Static GK Information:

- **SAIL (Steel Authority of India Limited)**
  - **Founded:** 1954
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
  - **Chairman:** Amarendu Prakash
- **BHP (BHP Group Limited)**
  - **Founded:** 1885
  - **Headquarters:** Melbourne, Australia
  - **CEO:** Mike Henry



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Parties Involved	Steel Authority of India Limited (SAIL) and BHP
Objective	Accelerate decarbonisation of steel production using low-carbon technologies
Key Focus Areas	Use of hydrogen, biochar as alternate reductants, reducing GHG emissions
Location of Workstreams	SAIL's integrated steel plants in India
SAIL's Commitment	Align steel production with global climate goals, reduce carbon emissions
BHP's Role	Collaborating with SAIL to explore decarbonisation pathways in steelmaking



➤ What initiative was highlighted by Postmaster General Krishna Kumar Yadav as a key role in connecting local entrepreneurs to the global market?

- A) Business Post
- B) Direct Post
- C) Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra
- D) Speed Post
- E) e-Post

**Answer**

**C) Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra**



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Inauguration of National Postal Week and Customer Meet
- **Location:** Shahibaug, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
- **Date:** October 7, 2024





## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra (DNK):**
  - Postmaster General Krishna Kumar Yadav highlighted Dak Ghar Niryat Kendras as pivotal in promoting commercial exports for local entrepreneurs, connecting them to global markets.
  - DNKs support export of products from initiatives like One District One Product (ODOP), Geographical Indications (GI), and MSMEs, aligning with the goals of "Vocal for Local" and Atmanirbhar Bharat.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Other Innovations by India Post:**
  - Special sorting hubs and nodal delivery centers have been established for Speed Post and Business Parcels.
  - Services like Click & Book, Parcel Packaging Units, and Digital Payments via QR codes were introduced to enhance the postal experience.
  - Rail Post Gati Shakti Express Cargo Service, launched in partnership with Indian Railways, ensures rapid transmission of mail and parcels.
- **International Services:**
  - International parcel services are now available in over 200 countries with on-spot customs clearance provided at the Foreign Post Office in Ahmedabad and the International Business Center in Surat.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra (DNK):**
  - A one-stop solution for exporters, facilitating the export of local products through the postal network, helping promote India's global trade and export market.
- **One District One Product (ODOP):**
  - An initiative aimed at promoting products unique to specific districts, boosting local economies and export potential.



## Static GK Information:

- **India Post (Department of Posts)**
  - **Founded:** 1854
  - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
  - **Current Minister:** Ashwini Vaishnaw
- **Gujarat**
  - **Capital:** Gandhinagar
  - **Chief Minister:** Bhupendra Patel
  - **Governor:** Acharya Devvrat



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Event Name	National Postal Week 2024 Inauguration
Key Initiative Highlighted	Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra (Connecting local entrepreneurs to global markets)
Other Innovations	Speed Post, Rail Post Gati Shakti Express, Digital Payments
Location of Event	Shahibaug, Ahmedabad, Gujarat
International Services	Over 200 destination countries; On-spot customs clearance at Ahmedabad FPO
Date of Event	October 7, 2024



➤ **What is the primary objective of the Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) opening an office in GIFT City, India?**

- A) To promote tourism in India
- B) To support financial regulations in India
- C) To intensify ADIA's investment activities in India
- D) To launch a new banking service in India
- E) To provide educational services in India



**Answer**

**C) To intensify ADIA's investment activities in India**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA) commences operations in GIFT City, Gujarat, India
- **Location:** GIFT City, Ahmedabad
- **Date:** October 7, 2024



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **ADIA's Objective:**
  - The office will help intensify ADIA's investment activities in India by leveraging the financial ecosystem of GIFT City.
  - ADIA has set up an Alternative Investment Fund (AIF) in GIFT City to hold all its India-related investments.
- **GIFT City:**
  - The Gujarat International Finance Tec-City (GIFT City) is emerging as a global financial hub, offering a robust financial ecosystem to attract international investors like ADIA.





## Mandates and Objectives:

- **India-UAE Investment Relations:**
  - ADIA's presence in GIFT City further enhances the strong economic ties between India and the UAE.
  - UAE is the largest Arab investor in India, with investments amounting to \$3 billion in FY 2023-24.
  - The India-UAE Bilateral Investment Treaty, which came into force in August 2024, is expected to further boost investment flows between the two nations.



## Important Terms Explained:

- **Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA):**
  - A sovereign wealth fund of the UAE, one of the largest in the world, focusing on long-term investments globally.
- **GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City):**
  - India's first international financial services hub, located in Ahmedabad, offering a platform for global financial institutions to operate under special regulatory conditions.



## Static GK Information:

- **Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)**
  - **Founded:** 1976
  - **Headquarters:** Abu Dhabi, UAE
  - **Managing Director:** Sheikh Hamed bin Zayed Al Nahyan
- **GIFT City (Gujarat International Finance Tec-City)**
  - **Founded:** 2007
  - **Location:** Ahmedabad, Gujarat, India
  - **Chairman:** Tapan Ray



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Institution	Abu Dhabi Investment Authority (ADIA)
Location of New Office	GIFT City, Ahmedabad, India
Objective	Intensify ADIA's investment activities in India
Date of Office Opening	October 7, 2024
India-UAE Investment	UAE is the largest Arab investor in India with US\$ 3 billion invested in FY 2023-24
Bilateral Treaty	India-UAE Bilateral Investment Treaty entered into force on August 31, 2024



➤ **What is the main goal of the Rubber Board's 'Replant & Reap Reward' campaign launched in 2024?**

- A) Increase rubber exports to Europe
- B) Encourage natural rubber imports
- C) Boost domestic natural rubber production and reduce imports
- D) Promote synthetic rubber production
- E) Introduce new rubber processing techniques



**Answer**

**C) Boost domestic natural rubber production and reduce imports**



## Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the 'Replant & Reap Reward' campaign by the Rubber Board
- **Location:** Traditional rubber-growing areas and North East India
- **Date:** Campaign launched on October 7, 2024, and will continue until February 15, 2025.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective of the Campaign:**
  - The primary goal of the campaign is to make India self-sufficient in natural rubber (NR) production by encouraging replanting and boosting domestic production, thereby reducing dependence on imports.
- **Key Focus Areas:**
  - The campaign emphasizes the use of quality planting material, good agricultural practices, replanting of senile plantations, and self-tapping.
  - It will involve 1,000 meetings across the country to discuss the socioeconomic benefits of rubber cultivation, the European Union Deforestation Regulation, and how rubber farmers can prepare for future challenges.



## Mandates and Objectives:

- **Production vs Consumption:**
  - India ranks 5th in NR production but faces a large production-consumption gap. In 2023-24, India produced 8.75 lakh tonnes of NR, while consumption reached 14.15 lakh tonnes.
  - The campaign aims to bridge this gap and reduce the need for NR imports, which could otherwise negatively affect domestic prices and pose challenges to the sustainable growth of the industry.
- **Future Demand Forecast:**
  - By 2030, the consumption of NR in India is expected to reach 17.7 million tonnes, driven by the rapid growth of the automobile industry and overall industrialization.





## Important Terms Explained:

- **Senile Plantations:**
  - Refers to old rubber plantations that have become less productive over time and need replanting to improve yield.
- **Self-tapping:**
  - A technique where rubber farmers themselves extract latex from rubber trees instead of relying on hired labor, reducing costs and improving productivity.



## Static GK Information:

- **Rubber Board of India**
  - **Founded:** 1947
  - **Headquarters:** Kottayam, Kerala, India
  - **Executive Director:** M Vasanthagesan
- **India (Natural Rubber Industry)**
  - **Rank in NR Production:** 5<sup>th</sup> globally
  - **Rank in NR Consumption:** 2<sup>nd</sup> globally (after China)



# NATIONAL AFFAIRS



## Tabular Summary:

Event	Details
Campaign Name	Replant & Reap Reward
Launched By	Rubber Board, Executive Director M Vasanthagesan
Objective	Boost natural rubber production in India, reduce imports
Campaign Duration	October 7, 2024, to February 15, 2025
Production-Consumption Gap	Production: 8.75 lakh tonnes, Consumption: 14.15 lakh tonnes in 2023-24
Consumption Forecast (2030)	17.7 million tonnes



# QUICK RECALL



- **World Habitat Day 2024 theme: "Engaging youth to create a better urban future".**
- **World Cerebral Palsy Day observed on October 6 to advocate for individuals with CP worldwide.**
- **World Cotton Day 2024 is celebrated on October 7, promoting the sustainability of the cotton sector globally.**
- **Bihar CM Nitish Kumar unveils Gudiya mascot and logo for Women's Asian Champions Trophy 2024 in Rajgir.**
- **CBDT forms a committee to simplify the Income-tax Act and reduce litigation, inviting public suggestions.**
- **Kotak Mahindra AMC launches the Kotak MNC Fund to invest in leading MNCs across various sectors and geographies.**
- **LIC increases stake in Bank of Maharashtra from 4.05% to 7.10% through QIP.**
- **Manish Tiwary to succeed Suresh Narayanan as Nestlé India MD from August 1, 2025.**
- **Vera Voronova and Ysabel Calderón Carlos win MIDORI Prize 2024 for biodiversity conservation.**



# QUICK RECALL



- **Victor Ambros and Gary Ruvkun win 2024 Nobel Prize for discovering microRNA, a key player in gene regulation.**
- **Sudhakar Rao of ICFAI Group named one of “Marketing Mavericks 2024” for his exceptional marketing achievements.**
- **Malabar 2024 naval exercise to be held in Visakhapatnam with India, US, Japan, Australia.**
- **India advocates for updated probiotic guidelines and nutrient standards at the Codex Committee session in Germany.**
- **GREEN Meghalaya Plus scheme launched to conserve 50,000 hectares of forest with financial incentives.**
- **PM Modi inaugurates Banjara Virasat ‘Nagara’ Museum in Washim, Maharashtra, showcasing Banjara culture.**
- **IAF Air Show 2024 held at Marina Beach, Chennai enters Limca Book of Records with over 15 lakh attendees.**
- **SAIL and BHP sign MoU to explore decarbonisation technologies for steelmaking at SAIL’s blast furnaces.**



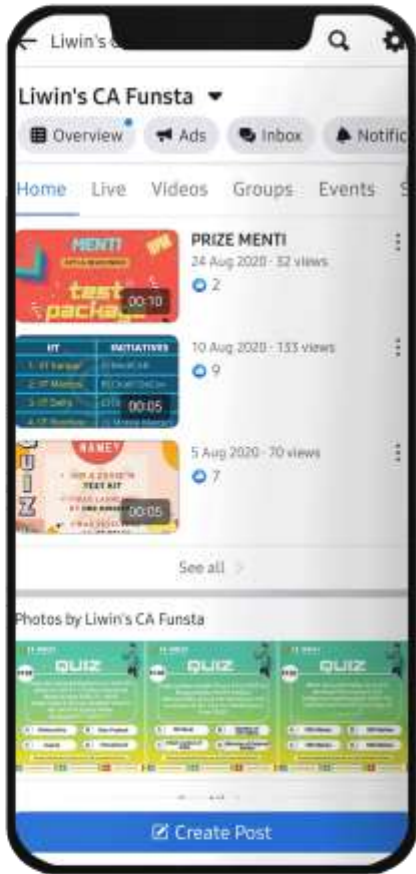
# QUICK RECALL



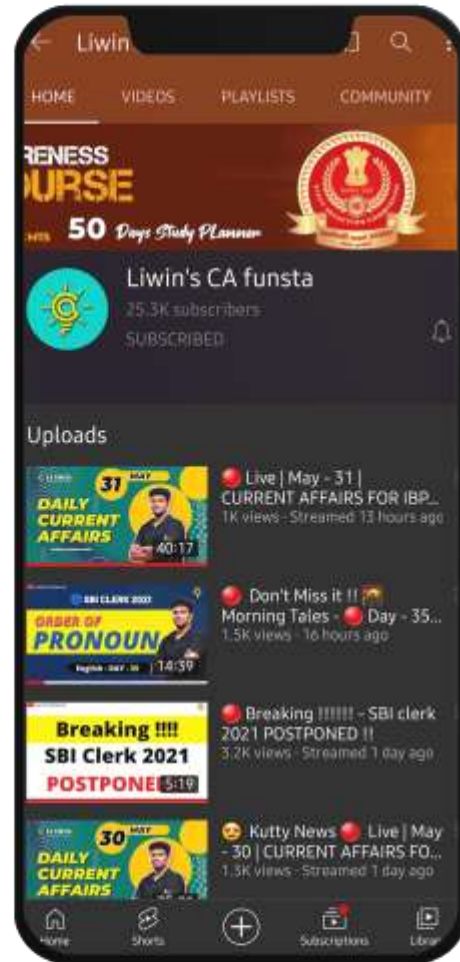
- **Dak Ghar Niryat Kendra helps local entrepreneurs connect to global markets, says PMG Krishna Kumar Yadav.**
- **ADIA opens an office in GIFT City, Gujarat, to enhance investment activities in India.**
- **Rubber Board launches 'Replant & Reap Reward' campaign to boost natural rubber production and reduce imports.**



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