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Important Days



➤ **What was the main theme of the 2024 International Day of the Girl Child?**

- A) Girls' Participation in Sports
- B) Educating Girls for a Better Tomorrow
- C) Girls' Vision for the Future
- D) Celebrating Girls' Cultural Achievements
- E) Reducing Child Marriage through Community Engagement

Answer

C) Girls' Vision for the Future



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** International Day of the Girl Child 2024
- **Location:** Globally, with special nationwide celebrations in India
- **Date:** October 11, 2024



Important Days



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Global Theme for 2024: "Girls' Vision for the Future"**
 - Highlights the need for action and hope amid challenges faced by girls worldwide.
 - Emphasizes empowerment and encourages girls to shape their own futures.



Important Days



Challenges Faced by Girls Globally:

- **Climate Crisis Impact:**
 - Disruption of education and increased risks of child marriage in disaster-hit areas.
- **Conflict and Political Instability:**
 - Heightened risks of violence, displacement, and trauma for girls in conflict zones.
- **Poverty and Economic Challenges:**
 - Limited access to quality education, healthcare, and economic opportunities.



Important Days



Nationwide Celebration in India

- **Organized by:** Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD)
- **Duration:** October 2–11, 2024 under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP)
- **Focus:**
 - Engage communities and stakeholders in discussions on girls' rights and empowerment.
 - Promote education, leadership, and gender equality among young girls.



Important Days



Key Activities Across States and UTs:

- **Gujarat:** Seminars, empowerment rallies, and rangoli competitions.
- **Bihar:** Plantation drives and awareness workshops at Anganwadi Centres.
- **Madhya Pradesh:** Kanya Pujan and Beti Janmotsav to celebrate the birth of daughters.
- **Chhattisgarh:** Health awareness programs and an oath-taking ceremony.
- **Assam:** Campaigns on child marriage prevention and discussions on education.
- **Uttar Pradesh:** Girls appointed as District Collectors and SPs for a day, showcasing their leadership potential.
- **Uttarakhand:** "Coffee with DM" segment, promoting open discussions between girls and district officials.



Important Days



Important Terms Explained:

- **Beti Bachao Beti Padhao (BBBP):**
 - A government initiative aimed at promoting education and empowerment of the girl child, addressing issues like child marriage and gender-based discrimination.
- **International Day of the Girl Child:**
 - Established by the United Nations in 2011 to recognize and promote girls' rights and create a global platform for advocacy.



Important Days



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD)**
 - **Minister:** Smt. Annpurna Devi
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
- **United Nations (UN)**
 - **Founded:** 24 October 1945
 - **Headquarters:** New York, USA
 - **Secretary-General:** António Guterres



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Event	International Day of the Girl Child 2024
Theme	Girls' Vision for the Future
Global Observance Date	October 11, 2024
India's Celebration Duration	October 2–11, 2024 (10 days) under Beti Bachao Beti Padhao
Organizing Body in India	Ministry of Women and Child Development (MWCD)
Key Activities in India	Seminars, Kanya Pujan, plantation drives, "Selfies with Daughters" campaigns
Challenges Highlighted	Climate crisis, conflict, poverty, and economic challenges
Key Focus Areas in India	Girls' education, leadership, and child marriage prevention



Important Days



➤ **What is the theme for World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) 2024?**

- A) Conservation of Wetlands
- B) Reducing Pollution for Birds
- C) Insects for Birds
- D) Safe Migration Routes
- E) Protecting Birds from Climate Change

Answer

C) Insects for Birds



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** World Migratory Bird Day (WMBD) 2024
- **Observation Dates:** May 11 and October 12, 2024
- **Theme for 2024:** "Insects for Birds"



Important Days



Mandates and Objectives:

- **WMBD's Objective:** Raise global awareness about the importance of conserving migratory birds and their habitats.
- **Focus of 2024:**
 - Highlight the critical role that insects play in supporting bird survival during migration and breeding seasons.
 - Insect population decline threatens the survival of many bird species, making it harder for them to complete their migratory journeys successfully.



Important Days



History of World Migratory Bird Day

- **Established:** 2006 by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) and the Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species of Wild Animals (CMS).
- **Significance:** Promotes international cooperation to protect migratory birds and their habitats, engaging governments, organizations, and communities.



Important Days



Significance and Role of Insects in Migration

- **Migratory Birds' Dependence on Insects:**
 - Insects such as beetles, caterpillars, and flies provide essential energy to birds.
 - Migratory birds like warblers, swallows, and flycatchers rely heavily on insects during migration for fuel to complete their journeys.
 - Without insects, bird migration patterns and breeding success are severely affected.
- **Impact of Declining Insect Populations:**
 - Overuse of pesticides and habitat destruction are leading to rapid declines in insect populations.
 - The campaign promotes organic farming, sustainable agriculture, and reducing pesticide use to reverse these trends.



Important Days



Global Initiatives and Collaboration

- **Protection of Bird Habitats:**
 - WMBD 2024 emphasizes the need to protect birds in World Heritage Sites, Biosphere Reserves, and Ramsar Wetlands from threats like avian flu.
 - UNESCO World Heritage Centre is conducting webinars to help manage the spread of avian influenza in key ecosystems.



Important Days



Key WMBD Messages for 2024

- **Sustainable Practices:**
 - Reduce pesticide use and promote organic farming to support insect populations.
 - Restore habitats such as wetlands, forests, and grasslands for insects and birds.
 - Raise awareness about the importance of insects for migratory birds.



Important Days



Static GK Information:

- **Convention on the Conservation of Migratory Species (CMS)**
 - **Founded:** 1979
 - **Headquarters:** Bonn, Germany
 - **Objective:** Promote the conservation of migratory species and their habitats globally.
- **United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)**
 - **Founded:** 1972
 - **Headquarters:** Nairobi, Kenya
 - **Objective:** Coordinate international environmental activities and promote sustainable practices.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Event	World Migratory Bird Day 2024
Observation Dates	May 11 and October 12, 2024
Theme	Insects for Birds
Established	2006 by UNEP and CMS
Key Objective	Raise awareness about the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats
Significance of Insects	Vital food source for birds during migration and breeding
Key Threats	Insect population decline due to pesticides, habitat loss, and climate change
Global Initiatives	Protecting bird habitats from avian influenza, promoting organic farming



Important Days



- **What is the theme for the International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) 2024?**
- A) Community Engagement for Disaster Preparedness
 - B) Education as a Lifeline for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction
 - C) Building Resilient Infrastructure for Safer Communities
 - D) Youth Leadership in Climate Change Adaptation
 - E) Disaster-Free Future through Technological Innovations



Answer

B) Education as a Lifeline for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) 2024
- **Date:** October 13, 2024
- **Theme for 2024:** “Education as a Lifeline for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction”



Important Days



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:**
 - Promote the importance of education in preparing children and youth to handle disasters.
 - Equip youth with skills and knowledge to respond effectively during emergencies.
 - Encourage education systems to incorporate disaster risk reduction (DRR) strategies.
- **Call to Action:**
 - Invest in safe schools and build resilient education infrastructure.
 - Incorporate disaster preparedness and climate change adaptation into school curricula.
 - Empower youth to become agents of change in disaster management within their communities.



Important Days



History of IDDRR

- **Established:** 1989 by the United Nations General Assembly during the International Decade for Natural Disaster Reduction.
- **Permanent Observance:** Became a permanent observance through a 2009 UN resolution.
- **Global Framework:** IDDRR supports the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030), aimed at:
 - Reducing disaster risks and losses.
 - Minimizing damage to lives, health, and economic assets.



Important Days



Significance of IDDRR 2024

- **Youth and Disaster Preparedness:**
 - Young people are disproportionately impacted by disasters, affecting their health, safety, education, and well-being.
 - Schools play a critical role in ensuring disaster-resilient education systems capable of responding to emergencies.
 - Empowering children with disaster knowledge promotes community resilience and creates a culture of prevention.



Important Days



Significance of IDDRR 2024

- **Alignment with the Sendai Framework:**
 - The Sendai Framework emphasizes building capacity for future generations to manage risks.
 - The 2024 theme aligns with the broader goal of reducing global disaster losses by promoting education-based preparedness.



Important Days



Global Collaboration for Disaster Risk Reduction

- **UNESCO and other international organizations promote:**
 - Safe schools and the integration of climate change adaptation strategies into education.
 - Strengthening cooperation among governments and communities to build resilient societies.



Important Days



Important Terms Explained

- **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030):**
 - A global agreement aimed at reducing disaster risks and minimizing losses by improving preparedness and resilience.
- **Disaster Risk Reduction (DRR):**
 - Strategies to reduce the vulnerability of people and infrastructure to disasters, ensuring minimal loss of life and property.



Important Days



Static GK Information:

- **United Nations (UN)**
 - **Founded:** 1945
 - **Headquarters:** New York, USA
 - **Secretary-General:** António Guterres
- **Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction**
 - **Adopted:** 2015
 - **Duration:** 2015-2030
 - **Focus:** Reducing disaster risk, building resilience, and protecting lives and livelihoods globally.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Event	International Day for Disaster Risk Reduction (IDDRR) 2024
Date	October 13, 2024
Theme for 2024	“Education as a Lifeline for Youth in Disaster Risk Reduction”
Objective	Empower children and youth to handle disasters through education
Global Framework	Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction (2015-2030)
Call to Action	Invest in safe schools and integrate disaster preparedness into curricula
Established By	United Nations General Assembly
Permanent Observance Since	2009



➤ **What is the primary achievement of Nima Rinji Sherpa at the age of 18?**

- A) Climbing Mount Everest in record time
- B) Becoming the youngest person to summit Mount Kanchenjunga
- C) Reaching the summit of Mount Shisha Pangma on his first attempt
- D) Becoming the youngest person to summit all 14 eight-thousanders
- E) Completing the first winter ascent of Mount Shisha Pangma



Answer

D) Becoming the youngest person to summit all 14 eight-thousanders



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Nima Rinji Sherpa becomes the youngest climber to summit all 14 of the world's eight-thousanders
- **Final Summit:** Shisha Pangma (8,027 meters or 26,335 feet) in Tibet
- **Summit Date:** October 9, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Ultimate Achievement:**
 - Conquering all 14 eight-thousanders is regarded as the pinnacle of mountaineering achievements.
 - These climbs are extremely challenging due to the “death zone” above 8,000 meters, where oxygen is insufficient for prolonged human survival.
- **Nima’s Journey:**
 - Started High-Altitude Climbing: At the age of 16, scaling Mount Manaslu in August 2022.
 - Summited Mount Everest and Mount Lhotse back-to-back in 2023.
 - Conquered Kanchenjunga: His 13th eight-thousander, in June 2024.
 - Completed the journey with Shisha Pangma as his final peak on October 9, 2024.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Previous Record Holder:**
 - Mingma Gyabu “David” Sherpa, a Nepali climber who summited all 14 peaks by the age of 30 in 2019.



Sherpa Contributions and Recognition

- Nepali Sherpas have traditionally supported foreign climbers by:
 - Carrying equipment
 - Fixing ropes
 - Preparing routes
- However, with climbers like Nima Rinji Sherpa, Sherpas are gaining recognition for their own mountaineering prowess.
- Nima Nuru Sherpa, President of the Nepal Mountaineering Association, remarked that Nima's achievement "broke stereotypes," demonstrating that anything is possible with determination.



14 Highest Peaks in the World (Eight-Thousanders)

1. Everest – 8,848 m
2. K2 – 8,611 m
3. Kanchenjunga – 8,586 m
4. Lhotse – 8,516 m
5. Makalu – 8,463 m
6. Cho Oyu – 8,201 m
7. Dhaulagiri – 8,167 m
8. Manaslu – 8,163 m
9. Nanga Parbat – 8,125 m
10. Annapurna I – 8,091 m
11. Gasherbrum I – 8,068 m
12. Broad Peak – 8,047 m
13. Gasherbrum II – 8,035 m
14. Shisha Pangma – 8,027 m



Locations:

- **Himalayan Range:** 10 peaks
- **Karakoram Range:** 4 peaks (in Nepal, China, Pakistan, and India)



Important Terms Explained:

- **Death Zone:**
 - The altitude above 8,000 meters (26,247 feet) where the oxygen level is too low to sustain human life for long.
 - Extreme weather, freezing temperatures, and strong UV radiation pose additional risks in this zone.
- **Shisha Pangma:**
 - The 14th highest peak in the world, located in Tibet.
 - Stands somewhat separately from the main Himalayan range.



Static GK Information:

- **Nepal**
 - **Capital:** Kathmandu
 - **Currency:** Nepalese Rupee (NPR)
 - **President:** Ram Chandra Poudel
 - **Prime Minister:** Pushpa Kamal Dahal
- **Nepal Mountaineering Association (NMA)**
 - **Founded:** 1973
 - **Headquarters:** Kathmandu, Nepal
 - **President:** Nima Nuru Sherpa



SPORTS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Nima Rinji Sherpa Becomes Youngest to Summit All 14 Eight-Thousanders
Final Summit	Shisha Pangma, Tibet (October 9, 2024)
Previous Record Holder	Mingma Gyabu "David" Sherpa (Age 30 in 2019)
Youngest Achiever	Nima Rinji Sherpa (Age 18)
First Climb	Manaslu (August 2022)
Simultaneous Summits	Everest and Lhotse (2023)
Notable Peak Summited in 2024	Kanchenjunga (June 2024)
Challenges in the Death Zone	Low oxygen, freezing temperatures, extreme weather, UV exposure



➤ **What was the primary reason for the decline in the Average Ticket Size (ATS) of UPI transactions in H1 2024?**

- A) Increase in high-value transactions
- B) Shift towards smaller transactions
- C) Decrease in the number of P2P transactions
- D) Reduction in UPI users
- E) Decline in in-store payments

Answer

B) Shift towards smaller transactions



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Surge in UPI transactions by 52% in H1 2024
- **Location:** India



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Report:** Worldline's India Digital Payments Report
- **Key Metrics:**
 - **Transaction Volume:**
 - Grew by 52% year-on-year from 51.9 billion (H1 2023) to 78.97 billion (H1 2024).
 - **Transaction Value:**
 - Increased by 40% from ₹83.16 trillion to ₹116.63 trillion between January 2023 and June 2024.
- **Average Ticket Size (ATS):**
 - Decreased by 8% from ₹1,603 to ₹1,478, indicating a shift towards smaller transactions.



Sector Contributions and Market Leaders

- **Market Leaders:**
 - PhonePe holds the largest market share, followed by Google Pay and Paytm.
- **Sector Insights:**
 - In-store transactions (e.g., grocery and clothing) accounted for 53% of transaction value.
 - Online sectors (e-commerce, utilities) contributed 81% of transaction volume.
 - POS terminals increased by 17% during H1 2024.
- **P2P vs. P2M Transactions:**
 - **P2P (Peer-to-Peer) transactions:** Increased marginally.
 - **P2M (Peer-to-Merchant) transactions:** Experienced a 4% decline in ATS, suggesting smaller-value transactions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **UPI (Unified Payments Interface):**
 - A real-time payment system developed by the National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI) that allows users to transfer money between accounts instantly.
- **ATS (Average Ticket Size):**
 - The average value per transaction. A decline in ATS indicates that people are making smaller-value transactions more frequently.
- **POS (Point of Sale) Terminal:**
 - A device used by merchants to accept digital payments through cards or UPI-based apps.



Static GK Information:

- **PhonePe**
 - **Founded:** 2015
 - **Headquarters:** Bengaluru, Karnataka
 - **CEO:** Sameer Nigam
- **National Payments Corporation of India (NPCI)**
 - **Founded:** 2008
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra
 - **CEO:** Dilip Asbe



Tabular Summary:

Event	UPI Transactions Surge by 52% in H1 2024
Location	India
Report By	Worldline's India Digital Payments Report
Transaction Volume (H1 2024)	78.97 billion (up 52% from 51.9 billion in H1 2023)
Transaction Value (H1 2024)	₹116.63 trillion (up 40%)
ATS Decline	8% (from ₹1,603 to ₹1,478)
P2M ATS Decline	4%
Market Leaders	PhonePe, Google Pay, Paytm
Sector Contribution	Grocery & clothing (53% value), e-commerce & utilities (81% volume)
POS Terminals Growth	17%



➤ **What is the primary purpose of Amicus Capital's ₹125 crore investment in Equirus Group?**

- A) To acquire a majority stake in Equirus Group
- B) To improve Federal Bank's operational capabilities
- C) To support Equirus Group's growth, operational enhancements, and technology investments
- D) To expand Amicus Capital's insurance broking business
- E) To finance a merger between Equirus and Federal Bank

The logo for Amicus Capital Partners, with 'AMICUS' in large orange letters and 'CAPITAL PARTNERS' in smaller blue letters below it, separated by a thin blue horizontal line.The logo for Equirus, featuring a green stylized icon of three curved lines above the word 'equirus' in a green sans-serif font.

Answer

C) To support Equirus Group's growth, operational enhancements, and technology investments



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Partial exit of Federal Bank from Equirus Group, with Amicus Capital investing ₹125 crore
- **Location:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
- **Date:** October 11, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- Amicus Capital has invested ₹125 crore in Equirus Group for an undisclosed stake.
- Federal Bank has partially exited the company as part of the investment.
- **Key objectives of the investment:**
 - Capital expansion
 - Technology investments
 - Talent acquisition and operational improvements
 - Risk management



Mandates and Objectives:

- **New Investors:**
 - Kishor Patil, Ajai Kumar, N Sivaraman, Yagnesh Dosshi, Krishna Jha, Anand Archak, Abhishek Goyal, Badri Mohapatra, Shankar Valiya, and Deepak Singhal
 - Ajay Garg, Managing Director of Equirus Group, emphasized the investment's role in expanding leadership in investment banking and wealth management, and enhancing technology for better outcomes.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Amicus Capital Partners:**
 - A private equity firm specializing in growth-stage funding, focusing on sectors such as financial services and technology.
- **Equirus Group:**
 - A financial services firm offering investment banking, insurance broking, and asset management.
 - Supported at inception by Rakesh Jhunjunwala, a prominent investor.
- **Federal Bank:**
 - A private sector bank in India offering retail and corporate financial services.
 - Its partial exit reflects strategic portfolio realignment.



Static GK Information:

- **Federal Bank**
 - **Hq:** Kochi, Kerala
 - **Executive Director:** Harsh Dugar
 - **Tagline:** Your Perfect Banking Partner
- **Equirus Group**
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
 - **Founded:** 2007
 - **MD:** Ajay Garg
- **Amicus Capital Partners**
 - **Founded:** 2015
 - **Co-Founder:** Mahesh Parasuraman



Tabular Summary:

Event	Federal Bank's Partial Exit from Equirus Group with ₹125 crore Investment by Amicus Capital
Location	Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
Date	October 11, 2024
Investment Value	₹125 crore
Investors	Amicus Capital, Kishor Patil, Ajai Kumar, and others
Exiting Party (Partial Exit)	Federal Bank
Use of Funds	Capital expansion, technology upgrades, talent acquisition, and risk management
Significance	Strengthening Equirus Group's investment banking and asset management capabilities



➤ **What is the net direct tax collection in India as of October 10, 2024?**

- A) ₹9.51 lakh crore
- B) ₹13.57 lakh crore
- C) ₹11.25 lakh crore
- D) ₹7.13 lakh crore
- E) ₹22.07 lakh crore

Answer

C) ₹11.25 lakh crore



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Surge in India's net direct tax collection
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** October 11, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- As of October 10, 2024, the net direct tax collection has increased by 18.3% to reach ₹11.25 lakh crore.
- **Key Components of the Tax Mop-Up:**
 - Personal Income Tax (PIT): ₹5.98 lakh crore
 - Corporate Tax: ₹4.94 lakh crore
 - Securities Transaction Tax (STT): ₹30,630 crore
 - Other Taxes (Equalisation Levy, Gift Tax, etc.): ₹2,150 crore
- **Refunds:**
 - Refunds worth ₹2.31 lakh crore have been issued between April 1 and October 10, 2024, reflecting a 46% growth from the same period last year.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Comparison with Previous Year:**
 - Tax collection during the same period last year stood at ₹9.51 lakh crore.
- **Gross Tax Collection:**
 - On a gross basis, the collection grew by 22.3% to ₹13.57 lakh crore.
 - Breakdown of Gross Collection:
 - **PIT:** ₹7.13 lakh crore
 - **Corporate Tax:** ₹6.11 lakh crore
- **Target for the Fiscal Year:**
 - The government has budgeted to collect ₹22.07 lakh crore from direct taxes in FY24.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Direct Tax:**
 - Taxes paid directly to the government, such as personal income tax (PIT) and corporate tax.
- **Securities Transaction Tax (STT):**
 - A tax levied on transactions in securities through stock exchanges.
- **Equalisation Levy:**
 - A tax applied to cross-border digital transactions involving Indian customers.
- **Refunds:**
 - Excess tax payments returned by the tax department to taxpayers, often due to advanced payments exceeding final tax liabilities.



Static GK Information:

- **India**
 - **Capital:** New Delhi
 - **Currency:** Indian Rupee (₹)
 - **President:** Droupadi Murmu
 - **Prime Minister:** Narendra Modi



Tabular Summary:

Event	Surge in India's Net Direct Tax Collection
Location	New Delhi, India
Date	October 11, 2024
Net Direct Tax Collection	₹11.25 lakh crore (18.3% growth)
Gross Direct Tax Collection	₹13.57 lakh crore (22.3% growth)
PIT (Net)	₹5.98 lakh crore
Corporate Tax (Net)	₹4.94 lakh crore
Securities Transaction Tax (STT)	₹30,630 crore
Refunds Issued	₹2.31 lakh crore (46% growth)
Government's Target for FY24	₹22.07 lakh crore



- **What is the primary focus of IREDA's newly approved subsidiary?**
- A) Develop traditional energy sources
 - B) Manage retail and B2B business in the renewable energy sector
 - C) Provide financial aid for fossil fuel projects
 - D) Export solar energy to neighboring countries
 - E) Establish coal-based power plants



Answer

B) Manage retail and B2B business in the renewable energy sector



Event and Location:

- **Event:** IREDA receives approval from DIPAM to create a wholly-owned subsidiary.
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** October 11, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Organizer:** Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency (IREDA)
- **Approval By:** Department of Investment and Public Asset Management (DIPAM)
- **Objective:**
 - Handle retail business under government schemes, including:
 - PM-Suryaghar (Rooftop Solar)
 - PM-KUSUM (renewable energy promotion in agriculture)
 - Expand into other B2C segments in the renewable energy sector.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Subsidiary's Focus Areas:**
 - Renewable Energy (RE) projects, including Electric Vehicles (EVs), energy storage, and green technologies.
 - Promote sustainability, energy efficiency, and carbon footprint reduction.
- **IREDA's Current Role:**
 - IREDA, under the Ministry of New and Renewable Energy, is a non-banking financial institution supporting projects in renewable energy and energy conservation.
- **Financial Performance:**
 - IREDA posted a 36% increase in profit after tax (PAT) for Q2 FY24, reaching ₹387.75 crore, compared to ₹284.73 crore during the same quarter last fiscal year.



Important Terms Explained:

- **PM-Suryaghar Scheme:**
 - A government initiative promoting rooftop solar installations to reduce energy dependence and promote clean energy.
- **PM-KUSUM Scheme:**
 - A scheme that supports solar energy for agricultural activities through pumps and grid-connected solar power plants.
- **DIPAM:**
 - The Department of Investment and Public Asset Management, responsible for strategic disinvestment and asset monetization of public-sector enterprises.



Static GK Information:

- **IREDA (Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency)**
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Founded:** 1987
 - **CMD:** Pradip Kumar Das
- **DIPAM (Department of Investment and Public Asset Management)**
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Founded:** 2016
 - **Responsible For:** Disinvestment and asset management of government enterprises



Tabular Summary:

Event	IREDA Receives DIPAM Approval for a New Subsidiary
Location	New Delhi, India
Date of Announcement	October 11, 2024
Organizer	IREDA (Indian Renewable Energy Development Agency)
Approval By	DIPAM
Subsidiary's Focus	Retail & B2B business in Renewable Energy (RE)
Key Schemes Handled	PM-Suryaghar (Rooftop Solar), PM-KUSUM
Additional Focus Areas	EVs, energy storage, sustainability, and energy efficiency
Q2 FY24 Profit after Tax (PAT)	₹387.75 crore (36% growth)



➤ **What is the target size of India's textiles sector by 2030?**

- A) USD 90,000 crore
- B) USD 200 billion
- C) USD 350 billion
- D) USD 500 billion
- E) USD 28,000 crore

Answer

C) USD 350 billion



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India's Textiles Sector Targets USD 350 Billion by 2030
- **Location:** India
- **Reported Date:** August 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Current Growth:**
 - 11% Year-on-Year Growth reported in Ready-Made Garments (RMG) exports in August 2024.
 - This growth highlights strong export performance and potential for future expansion.
- **Projected Size by 2030:**
 - India's textile sector is projected to grow to USD 350 billion by 2030, driven by:
 - End-to-end value chain capability
 - Strong raw material base
 - Large export footprint
 - Expanding domestic market



Key Government Schemes Driving Growth

- **PM MITRA Parks:**
 - Seven parks sanctioned under the PM Mega Integrated Textile Region and Apparel (PM MITRA) Park Scheme.
 - Investment Target: Rs. 90,000 crore over the next 3-5 years.
 - Each park will attract Rs. 10,000 crore investment, generating:
 - 1 lakh direct jobs
 - 2 lakh indirect jobs



Key Government Schemes Driving Growth

- **Production Linked Incentive (PLI) Scheme:**
 - Aims to boost production of MMF (Man-Made Fibers), fabrics, and technical textiles.
 - **Expected Investment:** Rs. 28,000 crore
 - **Projected Turnover:** Over Rs. 2,00,000 crore
 - **Job Creation:** Around 2.5 lakh jobs
- **National Technical Textiles Mission:**
 - Focuses on research and startups in areas like:
 - Geotextiles, agro textiles, and protective textiles
 - Medical, defense, and sports textiles
 - Eco-friendly textiles
- **State-Level Policy Support:**
 - State governments are introducing policies to complement central initiatives and bolster growth.



Recent Developments

- **PM MITRA Park Inauguration:**
 - Prime Minister Narendra Modi laid the foundation stone for a PM MITRA Park in Amaravati, Maharashtra.
 - These parks will offer world-class infrastructure and plug-and-play facilities to position India as a global textile manufacturing hub.



Important Terms Explained:

- **PM MITRA Parks:**
 - Integrated textile parks designed to attract investment and create employment through world-class infrastructure.
- **PLI Scheme:**
 - A government initiative to boost domestic production by offering financial incentives for meeting production targets.
- **National Technical Textiles Mission:**
 - A specialized initiative to promote innovation and research in high-tech textile segments.



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Textiles**
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Minister:** Piyush Goyal
- **India**
 - **Capital:** New Delhi
 - **Currency:** Indian Rupee (₹)
 - **Prime Minister:** Narendra Modi
 - **President:** Droupadi Murmu



Tabular Summary:

Event	India's Textiles Sector Targets USD 350 Billion by 2030
Current RMG Export Growth	11% Year-on-Year Growth (August 2024)
Target Size by 2030	USD 350 billion
Key Government Schemes	PM MITRA Parks, PLI Scheme, National Technical Textiles Mission
PM MITRA Parks Investment	Rs. 90,000 crore (1 lakh direct & 2 lakh indirect jobs)
PLI Scheme Investment	Rs. 28,000 crore
PLI Scheme Job Creation	2.5 lakh jobs
PM MITRA Park Inauguration	Amaravati, Maharashtra



AWARDS



➤ **Why was Nihon Hidankyo awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 2024?**

- A) For promoting nuclear energy
- B) For diminishing international military alliances
- C) For advocating against the use of nuclear weapons
- D) For humanitarian work in war-torn regions
- E) For organizing peace summits

Answer

C) For advocating against the use of nuclear weapons



AWARDS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Nihon Hidankyo wins the Nobel Peace Prize 2024
- **Location:** Oslo, Norway
- **Announcement Date:** October 11, 2024



AWARDS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Awarded To:** Nihon Hidankyo, an organization of survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki.
- **Reason for the Award:**
 - Recognized for activism against nuclear weapons and promoting peace efforts.
 - The prize honors survivors who have turned their painful memories and suffering into advocacy for peace.
 - Awarded amid a global context of increasing nuclear tensions.



AWARDS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Significance of the Award:**
 - The Nobel Committee, chaired by Jørgen Watne Frydnes, highlighted that the taboo against nuclear weapons is currently under pressure.
 - Nihon Hidankyo follows in the footsteps of past Peace Prize recipients like the International Campaign to Abolish Nuclear Weapons (2017) and Joseph Rotblat and the Pugwash Conferences on Science and World Affairs (1995), all working towards eradicating nuclear arms.



AWARDS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Global Relevance:**
 - Awarded against a backdrop of ongoing global conflicts, especially in Ukraine, Sudan, and the Middle East.
 - Reflects Alfred Nobel's original intent to reward efforts towards reducing armed conflicts and promoting peace initiatives.
- **Prize Details:**
 - The Nobel Peace Prize carries a cash award of 11 million Swedish kronor (\$1 million USD).
 - Unlike other Nobel Prizes, the Peace Prize is decided and awarded in Oslo, Norway, following Alfred Nobel's will.



AWARDS



Important Terms Explained:

- **Nihon Hidankyo:**
 - A Japanese organization representing survivors of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, advocating for nuclear disarmament.
- **Jørgen Watne Frydnes:**
 - Chair of the Norwegian Nobel Committee, which decides the Nobel Peace Prize recipients.
- **Alfred Nobel's Will:**
 - Nobel specified that the Peace Prize should honor efforts that promote peace, fraternity between nations, and reduce standing armies.



AWARDS



Static GK Information:

- **Norwegian Nobel Committee**
 - **Founded:** 1897
 - **Headquarters:** Oslo, Norway
 - **Chair:** Jørgen Watne Frydnes
- **Japan**
 - **Capital:** Tokyo
 - **Currency:** Japanese Yen (¥)
 - **Prime Minister:** Fumio Kishida



AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Nihon Hidankyo Wins Nobel Peace Prize 2024
Location of Announcement	Oslo, Norway
Date of Announcement	October 11, 2024
Awarded To	Nihon Hidankyo (Atomic Bomb Survivors' Group)
Reason for Award	Advocacy against nuclear weapons
Prize Amount	11 million Swedish kronor (\$1 million USD)
Chair of Norwegian Nobel Committee	Jørgen Watne Frydnes
Context	Rising nuclear tensions and ongoing global conflicts



➤ **What is the primary focus of the Special Campaign 4.0 by the Department of Military Affairs?**

- A) Conduct military exercises along the border
- B) Develop new defense infrastructure projects
- C) Achieve workplace cleanliness, space management, and reduce public grievance pendency
- D) Increase military personnel recruitment
- E) Train armed forces for disaster management



Answer

C) Achieve workplace cleanliness, space management, and reduce public grievance pendency



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Special Campaign 4.0 launched by the Department of Military Affairs (DMA)
- **Location:** Across various Defence Establishments in India, including border areas
- **Campaign Duration:** October 2 – October 31, 2024
- **Progress Monitoring:** Daily tracking of achievements and goals



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Organizing Body:** Department of Military Affairs, Ministry of Defence
- **Key Achievements (First Week):**
 - Files Reviewed: 1,19,240
 - Sites Cleaned: 835 campaign sites
 - Rules Identified for Review: 170
 - Revenue Earned from Scrap Disposal: ₹10,16,08



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Campaign Focus Areas:**
 - General cleanliness and beautification of workplaces and surroundings
 - Space management and scrap disposal to improve operational efficiency
 - Weeding out old records for better document management
 - Reducing pendency in public grievances including those from MPs, PMO, and state government references
 - Timely disposal of appeals and parliamentary assurances



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Preparatory Phase:** Conducted in September 2024, with specific targets for each defense unit and formation.
- **Participation:**
 - Units and formations from the Indian Army, Navy, and Air Force are actively involved.
 - Campaign extends to remote and border areas.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Department of Military Affairs (DMA):**
 - A department under the Ministry of Defence, responsible for military operations, reforms, and policy implementation.
- **Weeding Out Records:**
 - The removal of outdated and unnecessary documents to optimize storage and management of important files.
- **Pendency Reduction:**
 - Focus on resolving public grievances, parliamentary assurances, and references from the PMO and state governments.



Static GK Information:

- **Department of Military Affairs (DMA)**
 - **Founded:** 2019
 - **Head:** General Anil Chauhan (Chief of Defence Staff)
- **Ministry of Defence**
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Minister:** Rajnath Singh



DEFENCE



Tabular Summary:

Event	Special Campaign 4.0 by Department of Military Affairs
Location	Across Defence Establishments, including border areas
Campaign Duration	October 2 – October 31, 2024
Organizing Body	Department of Military Affairs, Ministry of Defence
Key Achievements (First Week)	1,19,240 files reviewed, 835 sites cleaned, 170 rules identified for review
Revenue Earned from Scrap	₹10,16,08
Objectives	Cleanliness, space management, reduce grievance pendency
Preparatory Phase	September 2024
Participants	Indian Army, Navy, Air Force units and formations



- What is the primary focus of the 3rd edition of Swavlamban 2024, organized by the Indian Navy?
- A) Launching new naval combat operations
 - B) Strengthening naval diplomacy with foreign countries
 - C) Promoting innovation and indigenisation through collaboration with startups and MSMEs
 - D) Training new recruits for maritime security
 - E) Conducting joint military exercises with other countries



Answer

C) Promoting innovation and indigenisation through collaboration with startups and MSMEs



Event and Location:

- **Event:** 3rd Edition of Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar – Swavlamban 2024
- **Location:** Bharat Mandapam and Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
- **Dates:** October 28–29, 2024



DEFENCE



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Organizer:** Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:**
 - Strengthen the innovation and indigenisation ecosystem within the Navy.
 - Convert innovative proposals into prototypes through collaboration with MSMEs and startups under the iDEX Scheme.
 - Build on insights from the first two editions of Swavlamban to drive further development of niche technologies.
 - Focus on products and technologies including:
 - Air and surface surveillance systems
 - Autonomous systems in aerial, surface, and underwater domains
 - Artificial Intelligence (AI) and quantum technologies



Key Activities at the Seminar

- **Exhibition:** Display of advanced technologies and innovations on October 28–29, 2024 at Pragati Maidan, Hall 14.
- **Interactive Sessions:** On October 29, 2024, policy makers, innovators, startups, and venture capitalists will discuss:
 - Emerging technologies
 - Indigenisation and future warfare
 - Boosting the innovation ecosystem
 - Financial and policy frameworks to support innovation



Important Terms Explained:

- **iDEX Scheme (Innovations for Defence Excellence):**
 - A scheme launched by the Ministry of Defence to promote innovation and collaboration between the defense sector, startups, and MSMEs.
- **NIIO (Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation):**
 - An initiative by the Indian Navy to boost indigenous technology development and reduce dependence on foreign imports.



Static GK Information:

- **Indian Navy**
 - **Founded:** 1612 (as the East India Company's Marine)
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Chief of the Naval Staff:** Admiral R. Hari Kumar
 - **Motto:** "Sham No Varunah" (May the Lord of the Oceans be Auspicious Unto Us)
- **iDEX Scheme**
 - **Launched:** 2018
 - **Ministry:** Ministry of Defence, Government of India



DEFENCE



Tabular Summary:

Event	Swavlamban 2024: Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Seminar
Location	Bharat Mandapam and Pragati Maidan, New Delhi
Dates	October 28–29, 2024
Organizer	Indian Navy's Naval Innovation and Indigenisation Organisation (NIIO)
Key Focus	Innovation and indigenisation through collaboration with startups and MSMEs
Technologies Highlighted	AI, quantum technologies, air & surface surveillance, autonomous systems
Interactive Sessions	Emerging technologies, future warfare, innovation ecosystem, and indigenisation



➤ **What is the primary theme of the 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits held in Vientiane, Laos?**

- A) Building Economic Prosperity
- B) ASEAN: Strengthening Cultural Exchange and Cooperation
- C) ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience
- D) ASEAN: Promoting Climate Action and Sustainability
- E) Economic Autonomy and Regional Development



Answer

C) ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** 44th and 45th ASEAN Summits
- **Location:** Vientiane, Laos
- **Date:** October 9, 2024
- **Theme:** "ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience"



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Lao President Thongloun Sisoulith urged ASEAN member countries to promote:**
 - Peace, stability, and sustainable development
 - Multilateralism to strengthen regional cooperation
- **The Summits present an opportunity to build a more integrated and resilient ASEAN community to respond to global challenges.**



Key Themes and Future Directions

- **Addressed by Lao Prime Minister Sonexay Siphandone:**
 - Identified nine priorities for ASEAN 2024 to achieve greater connectivity and cooperation.
 - Emphasized the need for timely cooperation to address:
 - Armed conflicts
 - Economic difficulties
 - Complex geopolitical situations
- **ASEAN Community Vision 2045:**
 - Outlines long-term goals for integration, peace, and sustainability among member states.



About ASEAN

- **Full Name:** Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN)
- **Established:** August 8, 1967
- **Headquarters:** Jakarta, Indonesia
- **Founding Members:** Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, and Thailand
- **Current Membership: 10 countries**
 - Includes Brunei, Cambodia, Laos, Myanmar, and Vietnam



Key Objectives of ASEAN

- Promote Regional Peace and Stability
- Foster Economic Growth and Integration through initiatives like:
 - **ASEAN Economic Community (AEC):** Focus on regional economic integration and free trade
 - **ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA):** Promotes intra-regional trade by reducing tariffs
- Encourage Cultural Exchange and Cooperation
- **Multilateralism:** Collaboration on regional and global challenges



Key Principles of ASEAN

- Non-Interference: Respect for independence and sovereignty of member states
- Consensus-Based Decision Making
- **Equality**: All member states have equal rights



Recent Developments

- **ASEAN Outlook on the Indo-Pacific:** A vision for cooperation with a focus on Indo-Pacific regional stability
- **COVID-19 Response:** Collaborative efforts to mitigate health and economic impacts of the pandemic



Challenges ASEAN Faces

- **Geopolitical Tensions:** Balancing relations with China and the U.S.
- **Internal Conflicts:** Addressing differences among member states
- **Economic Disparities:** Bridging the economic gap between wealthier and less developed members



Static GK Information:

- **Laos**
 - **Capital:** Vientiane
 - **Currency:** Lao Kip (LAK)
 - **President:** Thongloun Sisoulith
 - **Prime Minister:** Sonexay Siphandone
- **ASEAN**
 - **Founded:** 1967
 - **Headquarters:** Jakarta, Indonesia



INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	44th and 45th ASEAN Summits
Location	Vientiane, Laos
Date	October 9, 2024
Theme	ASEAN: Enhancing Connectivity and Resilience
Organizing Country	Laos
ASEAN Headquarters	Jakarta, Indonesia
Founding Members	Indonesia, Malaysia, Philippines, Singapore, Thailand
Current Membership	10 Countries
Major Initiatives	ASEAN Economic Community (AEC), ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA)
Recent Developments	ASEAN Outlook on Indo-Pacific, COVID-19 Response



➤ **What is the primary goal of the Amaravati Drone Summit 2024?**

- A) Promote tourism in Andhra Pradesh
- B) Showcase drone innovations to attract international investors
- C) Establish Andhra Pradesh as a hub for Drone System Design and Drone Enabled Services
- D) Launch India's first government-approved drone manufacturing unit
- E) Train local youth for careers in aviation



Answer

C) Establish Andhra Pradesh as a hub for Drone System Design and Drone Enabled Services



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Amaravati Drone Summit 2024
- **Location:** Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh, India
- **Date:** October 22–23, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Organized by:** Andhra Pradesh Drones Corporation (APDC)
- **In Collaboration With:** Bharat Drone Association (Technology Partner)
- **Objective:**
 - Position Andhra Pradesh as a hub for:
 - Drone System Design and Manufacturing (DSDM)
 - Drone Enabled Technology and Services (DeTS)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Summit Goals:**
 - Unify government officials, technology innovators, and industry leaders.
 - Drive innovation in drone technology to address societal and industrial challenges.
 - Highlight advancements in UAV (Unmanned Aerial Vehicle) technology, emerging industry trends, and new collaborative opportunities.
- **Significance of Collaboration:**
 - Bharat Drone Association, India's largest drone industry body, will contribute its expertise and foster the growth of the sustainable UAV ecosystem in India.
 - Major (Retd) Ganesan, President of Bharat Drone Association, emphasized the partnership's focus on leveraging drone technology for solving critical societal and industrial issues.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Drone System Design and Manufacturing (DSDM):**
 - Developing and producing drones for various applications, from defense to agriculture and logistics.
- **Drone Enabled Technology and Services (DeTS):**
 - Leveraging drones to deliver services such as surveillance, aerial mapping, and delivery logistics.
- **Bharat Drone Association:**
 - India's largest industry association promoting the UAV ecosystem by bringing together manufacturers, innovators, and policymakers.



Static GK Information:

- **Andhra Pradesh**
 - **Capital:** Amaravati
 - **Chief Minister:** Y. S. Jagan Mohan Reddy
 - **Governor:** S. Abdul Nazeer
- **Bharat Drone Association**
 - **Founded:** 2019
 - **President:** Major (Retd) Ganesan



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Amaravati Drone Summit 2024
Location	Amaravati, Andhra Pradesh
Date	October 22–23, 2024
Organizer	Andhra Pradesh Drones Corporation (APDC)
Technology Partner	Bharat Drone Association
Objective	Establish AP as a hub for Drone System Design and Drone Enabled Services
Significance	Advance UAV technology to address societal and industrial challenges
Participants	Government officials, industry leaders, and technology innovators



- **What was the primary focus of the India Digital Agri Conference 2024?**
- A) Promote organic farming practices
 - B) Build India's first agricultural university
 - C) Transform agriculture through digital tools and data-driven solutions
 - D) Reduce exports of agricultural products
 - E) Launch India's largest rural credit scheme



Answer

C) Transform agriculture through digital tools and data-driven solutions



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** India Digital Agri Conference 2024
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** October 11, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Organizers:**
 - Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture (ICFA)
 - IIT Ropar TIF – AwaDH
- **Chief Guest:**
 - Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi, Secretary, Department of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
- **Objective of the Conference:**
 - Promote digital agriculture to modernize the agricultural landscape in India.
 - Empower farmers with real-time data for better decision-making and boost rural livelihoods.
 - Foster collaboration between policymakers, researchers, industry experts, and farmers to adopt innovative solutions and sustainable practices.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Key Highlights:**
 - Discussions on cutting-edge technologies for transforming traditional farming systems.
 - Policy dialogue to align government frameworks with new technologies.
 - Building climate-resilient agricultural systems through digital tools.
 - Market linkages via digital platforms to improve supply chains and smallholder farmers' livelihoods.



Key Dignitaries and Participants

- **Dr. Akhilesh Gupta:** Former Secretary, SERB
- **H. E. Mr. Jagannath Sami:** High Commissioner, Republic of Fiji
- **H. E. Mr. Isse Abdillahi Assoweh:** Ambassador, Republic of Djibouti
- **Mr. Navneet Ravikar:** CMD, Leads Connect Pvt. Ltd.
- **Smt. Suneeti Tuteja:** Senior Director & Head, Food & Agriculture Dept., BIS
- **Dr. Radhika Trikha:** CEO, IIT Ropar-TIF AwaDH



Important Terms Explained:

- **Digital Agriculture:**
 - Use of digital tools, data-driven platforms, and technology to modernize and optimize farming activities.
- **Climate-Resilient Agriculture:**
 - Agricultural practices that adapt to changing climatic conditions to ensure food security and sustainable farming.
- **Market Linkages:**
 - Connecting farmers directly with markets to streamline supply chains and boost incomes through digital platforms.
- **ICFA (Indian Chamber of Food and Agriculture):**
 - An organization promoting agri-business and food industry development in India.



Static GK Information:

- **IIT Ropar (Indian Institute of Technology, Ropar)**
 - **Location:** Ropar, Punjab, India
 - **Founded:** 2008
- **India**
 - **Capital:** New Delhi
 - **Currency:** Indian Rupee (₹)
 - **Prime Minister:** Narendra Modi
 - **President:** Droupadi Murmu



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	India Digital Agri Conference 2024
Location	New Delhi, India
Date of Announcement	October 11, 2024
Organizers	ICFA and IIT Ropar-TIF AwaDH
Chief Guest	Dr. Devesh Chaturvedi, Secretary, Dept. of Agriculture & Farmers' Welfare
Objective	Transform agriculture through digital tools and data-driven solutions
Key Schemes Discussed	Digital Agriculture Mission
Additional Focus Areas	Market linkages, climate-resilient farming, and sustainable growth



➤ **What is the primary objective of the ₹500 crore 'Innovative Projects' component under the PM-Surya Ghar Yojana?**

- A) Establish solar parks in rural areas
- B) Develop new coal-based energy solutions
- C) Encourage advancements in rooftop solar technologies and business models
- D) Provide free solar panels to large industries
- E) Promote traditional energy sources



Answer

C) Encourage advancements in rooftop solar technologies and business models



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Notification of Scheme Guidelines for the 'Innovative Projects' component under PM-Surya Ghar: Muft Bijli Yojana
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date of Notification:** October 8, 2024
- **Announced By:** Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Scheme Objective:**
 - Encourage innovations in rooftop solar technology, business models, and integration techniques.
 - Support startups, institutions, and industries to pilot new technologies like:
 - Blockchain-based peer-to-peer solar trading
 - Smart materials
 - Solar rooftops integrated with electric vehicles and battery storage
- **Outlay: ₹500 crore for Innovative Projects under the scheme.**
- **Implementation Agency:**
 - National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Financial Assistance:**
 - Up to 60% of the project cost or ₹30 crore, whichever is lower.
 - Annual awards for innovation up to ₹1 crore to incentivize further advancements.
- **Overall Scheme:**
 - **PM-Surya Ghar:** Muft Bijli Yojana was approved on February 29, 2024, with a total outlay of ₹75,021 crore.
 - **Objective:** Increase the share of rooftop solar capacity and empower residential households to generate their own electricity.
 - **Implementation Period:** Till FY 2026-27



Important Terms Explained:

- **Blockchain-based Solar Trading:**
 - A decentralized energy trading system allowing consumers to buy and sell solar power without intermediaries.
- **National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE):**
 - A premier research and training institute under MNRE, responsible for advancing solar energy solutions.
- **Battery Storage Integration:**
 - Combining rooftop solar setups with battery storage systems to store excess energy for later use.



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)**
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Minister:** Raj Kumar Singh
- **National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)**
 - **Location:** Gurugram, Haryana, India
 - **Established:** 2013



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Launch of 'Innovative Projects' Component under PM-Surya Ghar Yojana
Location	New Delhi, India
Notification Date	October 8, 2024
Organizer	Ministry of New and Renewable Energy (MNRE)
Implementation Agency	National Institute of Solar Energy (NISE)
Total Outlay of Scheme	₹75,021 crore
Funding for Innovative Projects	₹500 crore
Financial Assistance	Up to 60% of project cost or ₹30 crore, whichever is lower
Additional Incentives	Annual awards up to ₹1 crore for innovations
Scheme Duration	Till FY 2026-27



➤ **What is the primary reason for establishing the Kaimur Tiger Reserve in Bihar?**

- A) Promote tourism around Shergarh Fort
- B) Address overpopulation of tigers in Valmiki Tiger Reserve
- C) Increase forest area for wildlife research
- D) Establish the first tiger reserve in Bihar
- E) Create a new eco-tourism zone in Bihar



Answer

B) Address overpopulation of tigers in Valmiki Tiger Reserve



Event and Location:

- **Event:** In-principle approval for Kaimur Tiger Reserve as Bihar's second tiger reserve
- **Location:** Kaimur district, Bihar
- **Announcement Date:** October 11, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Current Situation:**
 - Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR) was Bihar's only tiger reserve, housing 54 tigers.
 - VTR has exceeded its carrying capacity, which ideally supports 45 tigers.
- **Objective:**
 - Establishing the Kaimur Tiger Reserve will:
 - Relocate tigers from VTR to prevent overpopulation and promote genetic diversity.
 - Manage the growing tiger population and maintain ecological balance.
 - Protect biodiversity and enhance wildlife conservation efforts.



Significance of Kaimur Tiger Reserve

- Largest forest area in Bihar with 1,134 square kilometers and 34% green cover.
- **Connectivity:**
 - The forest connects to wildlife corridors in Jharkhand, Uttar Pradesh, and Madhya Pradesh, enhancing its importance for tiger conservation.
- **Tourism Development Plans:**
 - A buffer zone will be created around Shergarh Fort to attract tourists.
 - 58 nearby villages will be accommodated as part of the development plan.



Historical Context

- **Tiger Sightings:**
 - Tiger sightings in Kaimur were reported by forest officials in 2018 after a long gap since 1995.
- **Expert Evaluation:**
 - A team of experts, including AJT Johnsingh (former Director, Wildlife Institute of India), recommended Kaimur's designation as a tiger reserve.



About Tiger Reserves

- **Definition:**
 - Protected areas for tiger conservation, which may include national parks or wildlife sanctuaries.
 - Notified under Section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972, on the advice of the National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA).



About NTCA

- **Full Form:** National Tiger Conservation Authority
- **Founded:** Under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 (amended in 2006)
- **Function:**
 - Provides statutory authority to Project Tiger to ensure effective management of tiger reserves.
 - Ensures accountability between central and state governments for tiger conservation.
 - Supports livelihoods of people living around tiger reserves.



Static GK Information:

- **Bihar**
 - **Capital:** Patna
 - **Chief Minister:** Nitish Kumar
 - **Governor:** Rajendra Vishwanath Arlekar
- **NTCA (National Tiger Conservation Authority)**
 - **Founded:** 2006 (under Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972)
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi
 - **Objective:** Strengthening tiger conservation efforts across India



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Event	Approval of Kaimur as Bihar's Second Tiger Reserve
Location	Kaimur district, Bihar
First Tiger Reserve in Bihar	Valmiki Tiger Reserve (VTR)
Reason for Establishing Kaimur Forest Area of Kaimur	Address overpopulation in VTR and promote genetic diversity
Significance	1,134 sq km (largest forest area in Bihar) High green cover (34%) and links to wildlife corridors in neighboring states
Development Plans	Buffer zone around Shergarh Fort; inclusion of 58 nearby villages
Historical Context	Tiger sightings resumed in 2018 after a 23-year gap
Regulating Authority	National Tiger Conservation Authority (NTCA)



QUICK RECALL



- **International Day of the Girl Child 2024 focuses on "Girls' Vision for the Future."**
- **World Migratory Bird Day 2024 will be observed on May 11 and October 12.**
- **IDDRR 2024 focuses on education as a critical tool for disaster preparedness among youth.**
- **Nima Rinji Sherpa becomes the youngest person to summit all 14 eight-thousanders at age 18.**
- **UPI transactions surged by 52% in H1 2024, reaching 78.97 billion transactions.**
- **Amicus Capital invests ₹125 crore for growth and operational upgrades in Equirus Group.**
- **India's net direct tax collection grew 18.3% to ₹11.25 lakh crore by October 10, 2024.**
- **IREDA to launch a subsidiary focusing on retail and B2B businesses in renewable energy.**
- **India's textiles sector aims to reach USD 350 billion by 2030.**



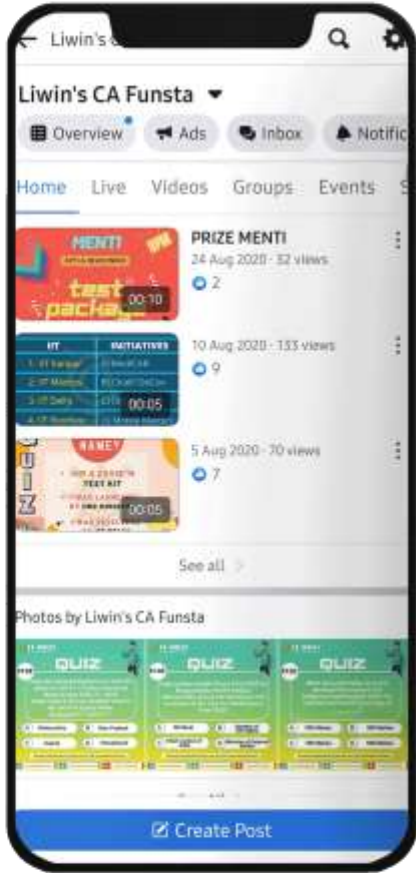
QUICK RECALL



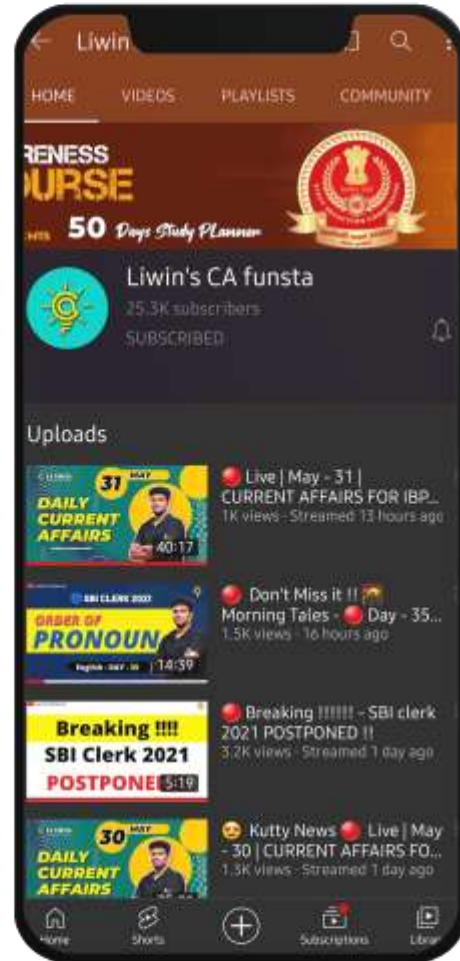
- **Nihon Hidankyo won the 2024 Nobel Peace Prize for advocacy against nuclear weapons.**
- **Special Campaign 4.0 focuses on cleanliness, scrap disposal, and grievance resolution across defense units.**
- **Indian Navy to host Swavlamban 2024 on October 28–29, promoting innovation and indigenisation.**
- **44th and 45th ASEAN Summits focus on enhancing connectivity and resilience in Vientiane, Laos.**
- **Amaravati will host the national-level Drone Summit 2024 on October 22–23.**
- **India Digital Agri Conference 2024 held in New Delhi promotes technology-driven agricultural innovation.**
- **MNRE launches a ₹500 crore component to promote innovation in rooftop solar technologies.**
- **Kaimur district approved as Bihar's second tiger reserve to manage tiger population and promote biodiversity.**



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