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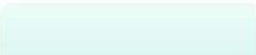
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Important Days



➤ **What is the theme for Breast Cancer Awareness Day 2024?**

- A) Together for a Cure
- B) Be Aware, Save Lives
- C) No one should face breast cancer alone
- D) Pink Ribbon of Hope
- E) Stronger with Support

Answer

C) No one should face breast cancer alone



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Breast Cancer Awareness Day 2024
- **Location:** Global observance with specific campaigns in various countries; October 13 is Metastatic Breast Cancer Awareness Day in the U.S.



Important Days



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Raise awareness about breast cancer, focusing on early detection, treatment, and prevention.
- **Theme 2024:** “No one should face breast cancer alone,” emphasizing peer support among patients and survivors.
- **Campaign Duration:** Part of Breast Cancer Awareness Month (BCAM) observed throughout October.
- **Symbol:** Pink Ribbon (introduced in 1992 through collaboration between SELF magazine and Estée Lauder).



Important Days



History and Significance

- **First Introduced:** 1985 as a week-long campaign by the American Cancer Society and Imperial Chemical Industries.
- **Evolution:** Expanded to a month-long campaign to create awareness about the symptoms, treatments, and need for early detection.
- **Significance:**
 - Breast cancer affects 2.3 million people annually, making it the most common type of cancer worldwide.
 - The campaign highlights stage 4 or metastatic breast cancer, which currently has no cure, and emphasizes systemic change for better patient care.



Important Days



Symptoms of Breast Cancer

- A lump or bump in the underarm or breast area.
- Changes in breast size or shape.
- Dimpling or puckering of the skin.
- Nipple discharge (other than milk).
- Red or scaly skin around the breast or nipple.



Important Days



Treatment Options

1. **Surgery:** Lumpectomy or mastectomy to remove cancerous tissue.
2. **Radiation Therapy:** Eradicates residual cancer cells after surgery.
3. **Chemotherapy:** Uses drugs to prevent cancer cells from proliferating.
4. **Hormonal Therapy:** Blocks hormones that fuel certain cancers.
5. **Targeted Therapy:** Targets specific cancer cell characteristics.



Important Days



Prevention Tips

- **Regular Screening:** Mammograms and clinical breast exams.
- **Healthy Lifestyle:** Maintain a healthy weight and engage in regular physical activity.
- **Limit Alcohol & Avoid Tobacco.**
- **Genetic Testing:** Recommended for those with a family history of breast cancer.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Breast Cancer Awareness Day 2024
Location	Global observance (October 13 for metastatic BC awareness in the U.S.)
Campaign Duration	Entire month of October 2024
Theme	No one should face breast cancer alone
First Introduced	1985 by American Cancer Society and Imperial Chemical Industries
Symbol	Pink Ribbon (adopted in 1992)
Common Symptoms	Lumps, shape changes, nipple discharge, red/scaly skin
Treatment Options	Surgery, chemotherapy, radiation, hormonal, targeted therapy
Prevention Tips	Screening, healthy lifestyle, genetic testing



Important Days



➤ **What is the theme for the International Day of Rural Women 2024?**

- A) Empowering Rural Women for a Better Future
- B) Sustainable Agriculture through Rural Women
- C) Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All
- D) Women in Agriculture: Building Resilient Communities
- E) Zero Hunger through Rural Empowerment



**INTERNATIONAL DAY
OF RURAL WOMEN**

Answer

C) Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All



Important Days



Event and Location:

- **Event:** International Day of Rural Women 2024
- **Date:** October 15, 2024
- **Location:** Globally celebrated, with events by institutions like CGIAR (Consultative Group for International Agricultural Research).



Important Days



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Theme 2024: "Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All"**
 - Highlights the essential role of rural women and girls in food production and distribution.
- **Purpose:**
 - Recognize the vital contribution of rural women in global food systems.
 - Promote gender equality (SDG 5) and zero hunger (SDG 2) through empowering rural women.



Important Days



CGIAR's Role in 2024 Campaign

- CGIAR emphasizes the importance of enhancing the resilience and leadership of rural women to promote sustainable agriculture.
- Innovative agricultural communities led by women are crucial for achieving food security and environmental sustainability.



Important Days



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	International Day of Rural Women 2024
Date	October 15, 2024
Theme	Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All
Primary Focus	Highlight rural women's role in food production
Key SDGs	SDG 2 (Zero Hunger) and SDG 5 (Gender Equality)
Challenges Faced	Unequal power, food insecurity
Organizing Institution	CGIAR (Global agricultural research organization)
Goal	Build resilient, sustainable food systems led by rural women



➤ **Which Indian duo secured India's first-ever women's doubles medal at the Asian Table Tennis Championships?**

- A) Manika Batra and Ayhika Mukherjee
- B) Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee
- C) Manav Thakkar and Harmeet Desai
- D) Achanta Sharath Kamal and Manika Batra
- E) Sutirtha Mukherjee and Manika Batra

Answer

B) Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee



SPORTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024
- **Location:** Tournament Venue (not explicitly mentioned in the news)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **India's Performance:**
 - India secured three medals at the event, including:
 1. Women's Doubles Bronze: Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee.
 2. Women's Team Bronze: Manika Batra, Ayhika Mukherjee, and Sutirtha Mukherjee.
 3. Men's Team Bronze: Achanta Sharath Kamal, Manav Thakkar, and Harmeet Desai.
- **Women's Doubles Historic Medal:**
 - Ayhika and Sutirtha defeated South Korea's Kim Nayeong and Lee Eunhye in the quarterfinals to secure India's first-ever women's doubles medal in the tournament.
 - They were defeated by Japan's Miwa Harimoto and Miyuu Kihara in the semifinals.



Performance in Men's Events

- **Men's Team Bronze:**
 - Achanta Sharath Kamal, Manav Thakkar, and Harmeet Desai secured India's third consecutive men's team bronze, though they lost to Chinese Taipei in the semifinals.
- **Men's Singles:**
 - **Manav Thakkar:** Shocked world No. 14 Jang Woojin (South Korea) but lost to Baldwin Chan (Hong Kong) in the pre-quarterfinals.
 - **Manush Shah:** Gave a tough fight against Lin Yun-Ju (Chinese Taipei) but lost in a close match.



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Asian Table Tennis Championships 2024
Medals Won by India	Three (Two bronzes in women's categories, one in men's)
Women's Doubles Bronze	Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee
Women's Team Bronze	Manika Batra, Ayhika Mukherjee, Sutirtha Mukherjee
Men's Team Bronze	Achanta Sharath Kamal, Manav Thakkar, Harmeet Desai
Men's Singles Highlight	Manav Thakkar defeated world No. 14 Jang Woojin



RANKING



➤ **What global rank did the Indian School of Business (ISB) achieve in the Financial Times Executive MBA (EMBA) Ranking 2024?**

- A) 30
- B) 40
- C) 50
- D) 35
- E) 45

Answer
B) 40



RANKING



Event and Location:

- **Event:** ISB ranks 40th globally in the Financial Times (FT) Executive MBA (EMBA) Ranking 2024.
- **Location:** Hyderabad, India



Key Highlights of ISB's Performance

- **ISB Ranking Highlights:**
 - 8th in Alumni Network
 - 7th in Salary Today (Current salaries of graduates)
 - 19th in Percentage of Salary Increase (Growth in salary post-graduation)
- **Unique Achievement:** ISB is the only Indian business school to feature in the FT EMBA 2024 rankings.



About ISB's PGPMAX Program

- **Program:** Post Graduate Programme in Management for Senior Executives (PGPMAX)
- **Target Audience:** Senior executives, experienced professionals, and business owners with 10+ years of work experience.
- **Purpose:**
 - Equip participants with skills to lead, innovate, and grow businesses.
 - Focus on research-backed learning and global best practices.



RANKING



Static GK Information:

- **Indian School of Business (ISB)**
 - **Founded:** 2001
 - **Campuses:** Hyderabad and Mohali
 - **Deputy Dean, Academic Programmes:** Deepa Mani



RANKING



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	ISB ranked 40th globally in FT EMBA Ranking 2024
Global Rank (Overall)	40
Alumni Network Rank	8
Salary Today Rank	7
Salary Increase Rank	19
Unique Achievement	Only Indian business school in FT EMBA 2024 Ranking
Program Focus	Senior executives and experienced professionals



➤ **What is the name of the initiative launched by SBI Foundation and Villgro to support agritech startups?**

- A) Innovate India
- B) Innovators for Bharat
- C) Agritech for Tomorrow
- D) Startups for Sustainability
- E) Bharat Green Tech

Answer

B) Innovators for Bharat



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the 'Innovators for Bharat' initiative
- **Location:** Bangalore International Centre, Bengaluru
- **Date:** October 14, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Partners:**
 - SBI Foundation
 - Villgro (Social enterprise incubator)
 - NABKISAN (NBFC partner providing catalytic capital)
- **Objective:**
 - Support 14 agritech startups focusing on:
 - Reducing post-harvest losses
 - Creating value from agricultural waste
 - Mitigating CO2 emissions
 - Two-Year Target:
 - Impact 10,000 individuals
 - Promote sustainable practices on 60,000 acres of land
 - Prevent 15,000 tonnes of CO2 emissions



Program Highlights

- **Initial Funding:** ₹3.25 crore from SBI Foundation
- **Catalytic Capital:** Total of ₹6 crore with matching contributions from NABKISAN
- **Support for Startups:**
 - Mentorship, technical assistance, and market linkages by Villgro
 - Field trials and pilots in partnership with civil service organizations
- **Selected Startups:**
 - Bharat Rohan, RAAV Techlabs, Marut Drones, Navork Innovations
 - GreenSupply, E-Feed, Krimanshi, Agrosperity (Kivi), and more



Static GK Information:

- **SBI Foundation**
 - **Founded:** 2015
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
 - **MD & CEO:** Sanjay Prakash
- **Villgro Innovations Foundation**
 - **Founded:** 2001
 - **Headquarters:** Chennai, Tamil Nadu, India
 - **Focus:** Incubating social enterprises in sectors like agriculture, health, and climate



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Launch of 'Innovators for Bharat' initiative
Partners	SBI Foundation, Villgro, NABKISAN
Location	Bangalore International Centre, Bengaluru
Funding	₹3.25 crore (initial) + ₹6 crore (total capital)
Focus Areas	Agriculture, post-harvest losses, CO2 reduction
Impact Target	10,000 lives, 60,000 acres, 15,000 tonnes CO2 reduction
Selected Startups	Bharat Rohan, RAAV Techlabs, Marut Drones, E-Feed



➤ What is the interest rate offered under the 400-day 'Utsav Deposit Scheme' introduced by Bank of Baroda?

- A) 6.5%
- B) 6.8%
- C) 7.3%
- D) 7.5%
- E) 7.1%

Answer
C) 7.3%



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of 'Utsav Deposit Scheme' by Bank of Baroda (BoB)
- **Date:** October 14, 2024
- **Location:** Pan India



Scheme Details

- **Utsav Deposit Scheme:**
 - **Tenure:** 400 days
 - **Interest Rate for General Citizens:** 7.3%
- **Revised Interest Rates on Term Deposits (TDs):**
 - **For 3 to 5 Years:** Increased from 6.5% to 6.8%



Purpose of the Scheme

- Launched for the festive season, aiming to attract deposits by offering competitive interest rates.
- **Boosts Savings:** Provides attractive returns to customers during the festive period.



Static GK Information:

- **Bank of Baroda (BoB)**
 - **Founded:** 1908
 - **Headquarters:** Vadodara, Gujarat, India
 - **MD & CEO:** Debadatta Chand
 - **Tagline:** India's International Bank



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Launch of 400-day 'Utsav Deposit Scheme'
Interest Rate (400-day Utsav)	7.3%
Interest Rate (3 to 5 Years TD)	Increased from 6.5% to 6.8%
Bank	Bank of Baroda
Launch Purpose	Attract deposits during festive season



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who has been given the additional charge as CEO of the Government e Marketplace (GeM)?

- A) P K Singh
- B) L Satya Srinivas
- C) Anurag Jain
- D) Amit Yadav
- E) Alok Sharma

Answer

B) L Satya Srinivas



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** L Satya Srinivas appointed as the CEO of GeM (Government e Marketplace) on an additional charge.
- **Location:** Department of Commerce, Government of India



APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Reason for Additional Charge:**
 - P K Singh, the former CEO of GeM, was appointed as Secretary of the Ministry of Renewable Energy.
- **New CEO (Additional Charge):**
 - L Satya Srinivas, an IRS officer (1991 batch) from the Customs & Indirect Taxes cadre and currently Additional Secretary in the Department of Commerce, has been entrusted with this role.



APPOINTMENTS



About Government e Marketplace (GeM)

- **Launch Date:** August 9, 2016
- **Purpose:**
 - Facilitate online procurement of goods and services for all central ministries and departments.
 - Promote efficiency, transparency, and ease of public procurement through an electronic platform.



APPOINTMENTS



Static GK Information:

- **Government e Marketplace (GeM)**
 - **Founded:** August 9, 2016
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Current CEO (Additional Charge):** L Satya Srinivas



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	L Satya Srinivas appointed CEO (Additional Charge) of GeM
Reason for Appointment	Former CEO P K Singh appointed Secretary, Ministry of Renewable Energy
Current Position of Srinivas	Additional Secretary, Department of Commerce
GeM Launch Date	August 9, 2016
GeM's Purpose	Online public procurement by government ministries and departments



APPOINTMENTS



➤ **Who has been appointed as the CEO, Chairman, and Managing Director of Indian Railways Financial Corporation (IRFC)?**

- A) Alok Sharma
- B) Manoj Kumar Dubey
- C) P K Singh
- D) L Satya Srinivas
- E) Amit Yadav

Answer

B) Manoj Kumar Dubey



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Manoj Kumar Dubey appointed as CEO, Chairman, and MD of Indian Railways Financial Corporation (IRFC).
- **Location:** New Delhi, Headquarters of IRFC



APPOINTMENTS



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Term:** Dubey will serve for five years or until further orders.
- **Previous Achievements:**
 - An IRAS officer (1993 batch), known for driving digital innovation and PPP initiatives.
 - Played a key role in high-speed rail and dedicated freight corridor projects at the PPP Directorate of the Railway Board.
 - Won the National Award for Outstanding Service in 2011 for his innovative financial practices within the Ministry of Railways.



APPOINTMENTS



Key Contributions and Initiatives

- **Public-Private Partnerships:**
 - Key projects include locomotive factories with General Electric (USA) and ALSTOM (France).
- **Director (Finance) & CFO, CONCOR:**
 - Led corporate restructuring and addressed legacy issues related to land leasing and tariffs with Indian Railways.
 - Increased shareholder base from 55,000 to 300,000, reflecting investor confidence.



APPOINTMENTS



Academic Background

- **Graduation and Post-graduation:** Hindu College, University of Delhi.
- **MBA:** Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad (2011-13 batch); awarded Silver Medal by the President of India.
- **Pre-Civil Services Career:** Worked with UTI, promoting rural participation in mutual fund schemes.



APPOINTMENTS



Static GK Information:

- **Indian Railways Financial Corporation (IRFC)**
 - **Founded:** 1986
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **New CEO, Chairman, and MD:** Manoj Kumar Dubey



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Manoj Kumar Dubey appointed CEO, Chairman, and MD of IRFC
Duration of Tenure	Five years or until further orders
Previous Role	Director (Finance) & CFO, CONCOR
Batch	IRAS, 1993
Notable Achievements	PPP locomotive factories with GE (USA) & ALSTOM (France)
Educational Background	Hindu College, University of Delhi; MBA from Indian School of Mines, Dhanbad
Award	National Award for Outstanding Service (2011)



APPOINTMENTS



➤ Who recently assumed charge as the Director General of Medical Services (Navy)?

- A) Alka Mittal
- B) Madhuri Kanitkar
- C) Kavita Sahai
- D) Priya Singh
- E) Nita Mittal

Answer
C) Kavita Sahai



APPOINTMENTS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Kavita Sahai assumes charge as Director General of Medical Services (Navy)
- **Date:** October 14, 2024
- **Location:** New Delhi, India



APPOINTMENTS



Significance of the Appointment

- **First Woman Officer:** Kavita Sahai becomes the first woman officer to hold the position of Col Commandant of the Army Medical Corps.
- **Recent Appointment:** Comes soon after the Ministry of Defence (MoD) appointed the first female Director General of Armed Forces Medical Services.



APPOINTMENTS



Key Role and Responsibilities

- **As Director General of Medical Services (Navy), Sahai will oversee:**
 - Medical services within the Indian Navy
 - Ensure operational readiness of medical units
 - Manage healthcare services for Navy personnel and their families



APPOINTMENTS



Static GK Information:

- **Indian Navy**
 - **Founded:** 1612 (as East India Company's Marine)
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Chief of the Naval Staff:** Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi
- **Armed Forces Medical Services (AFMS)**
 - **Founded:** 1948
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Role:** Provides healthcare to armed forces personnel



APPOINTMENTS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Kavita Sahai assumes charge as DG Medical Services (Navy)
Date	October 14, 2024
First Woman Achievement	First female Col Commandant of Army Medical Corps
Current Role	Director General of Medical Services (Navy)
Key Responsibility	Overseeing Navy's healthcare and medical operations
Headquarters (Indian Navy)	New Delhi



AWARDS



➤ **Who won the 2024 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences for their studies on how institutions influence prosperity?**

- A) Abhijit Banerjee, Esther Duflo, and Michael Kremer
- B) Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson
- C) Paul Krugman, Joseph Stiglitz, and Robert Shiller
- D) Angus Deaton, Amartya Sen, and Robert Lucas
- E) David Card, Joshua Angrist, and Guido Imbens



Answer

B) Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, and James Robinson



AWARDS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Announcement of the 2024 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences
- **Date:** October 14, 2024
- **Location:** Stockholm, Sweden
- **Award:** Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel



Award-Winning Research

- **Recipients:**
 - Daron Acemoglu
 - Simon Johnson
 - James Robinson
- **Awarded For:**
 - Their studies on how institutions are formed and their impact on prosperity.
 - Their work has contributed to a deeper understanding of how political and economic institutions shape economic outcomes and development.



AWARDS



Prize Details

- **Prize Money:** 11 million Swedish crowns (~\$1.1 million)
- **Nobel Committee:** Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences



Static GK Information:

- **Sveriges Riksbank Prize in Economic Sciences in Memory of Alfred Nobel**
 - **First Awarded:** 1969
 - **Awarding Body:** Royal Swedish Academy of Sciences
 - **Founder:** Sveriges Riksbank (Sweden's central bank)



AWARDS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Award	2024 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences
Recipients	Daron Acemoglu, Simon Johnson, James Robinson
Awarded For	Studies on how institutions affect prosperity
Prize Money	11 million Swedish crowns (~\$1.1 million)
Location	Stockholm, Sweden



- What is the name of the first ship of the Multi-Purpose Vessel project launched on October 14, 2024?



- A) Samudrak
- B) Sahyadri
- C) Samarthak
- D) Shakti
- E) Samarpan

Answer

C) Samarthak



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Launch of the first ship of the Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV) project
- **Date:** October 14, 2024
- **Location:** L&T Shipyard, Kattupalli, Chennai
- **Chief Guest:** Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi, Chief of the Naval Staff
- **Launched by:** Mrs. Shashi Tripathi, President of NWWA (Navy Wives Welfare Association)



Ship Details

- **Name of the Ship:** Samarthak (meaning Supporter)
- **Dimensions:**
 - **Length:** 106 meters
 - **Width:** 16.8 meters
 - **Maximum Speed:** 15 knots
- **Functions:**
 - Towing ships
 - Launching and recovering targets
 - Operating autonomous vehicles
 - Serving as a trial platform for indigenous weapons and sensors



Significance of the Project

- **Contract Signed:** March 25, 2022, between the Ministry of Defence and L&T Shipyard.
- **Aatmanirbhar Bharat and Make in India:**
 - Reflects the Indian Navy's commitment to indigenous shipbuilding.
 - Demonstrates private sector involvement in defence manufacturing, in line with India's self-reliance initiatives.



Static GK Information:

- **Indian Navy**
 - **Founded:** 1612 (as East India Company's Marine)
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Chief of Naval Staff:** Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi
- **Larsen & Toubro (L&T) Shipyard**
 - **Headquarters:** Mumbai, Maharashtra, India
 - **Shipyard Location:** Kattupalli, Chennai



DEFENCE



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Launch of the first ship of Multi-Purpose Vessel (MPV) project
Ship Name	Samarthak
Location	L&T Shipyard, Kattupalli, Chennai
Date	October 14, 2024
Chief Guest	Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi
Launched by	Mrs. Shashi Tripathi, President NWWA
Key Capabilities	Towing ships, autonomous vehicles, testing indigenous weapons
Length and Width	106 meters long, 16.8 meters wide
Speed	15 knots



DEFENCE



- **Which insurance company has partnered with the Indian Navy to provide life insurance coverage for its civilian personnel?**

- A) HDFC Life Insurance
- B) ICICI Prudential Life Insurance
- C) SBI Life Insurance
- D) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
- E) LIC of India

Answer

D) Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance



DEFENCE



Event and Location:

- **Event:** MoU signed between Indian Navy and Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company (BALIC)
- **Date:** October 14, 2024



Mandates and Objectives

- **Objective:**
 - Provide tailored life insurance solutions for the Indian Navy's civilian personnel.
 - Offer comprehensive coverage at affordable rates to support naval civilians and their families.



Significance of the Collaboration

- This initiative aligns with efforts to ensure financial security for personnel working within the Indian Navy.
- Bajaj Allianz Life will offer a variety of life insurance products designed to meet the specific needs of the naval civilian community.



Static GK Information:

- **Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company (BALIC)**
 - **Founded:** 2001
 - **Headquarters:** Pune, Maharashtra, India
 - **MD & CEO:** Tarun Chugh
 - **Tagline:** "Life Goals. DONE."
- **Indian Navy**
 - **Founded:** 1612 (as East India Company's Marine)
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Chief of the Naval Staff:** Admiral Dinesh K Tripathi



DEFENCE



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Indian Navy signs MoU with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance
Date	October 14, 2024
Objective	Provide life insurance solutions for naval civilian personnel
Insurance Provider	Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance Company (BALIC)
Coverage Focus	Comprehensive, affordable life insurance products
Indian Navy Headquarters	New Delhi



➤ **Which organization in India recently received WHO approval for meeting global standards for a functional vaccine regulatory system?**

- A) National Pharmaceutical Pricing Authority
- B) Indian Council of Medical Research (ICMR)
- C) Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation (CDSCO)
- D) Drug Price Control Board
- E) Food Safety and Standards Authority of India (FSSAI)



Answer

C) Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation (CDSCO)



Event and Location:

- **Event:** WHO approves India's vaccine regulatory system.
- **Location:** India; assessment conducted by WHO headquarters experts from Geneva.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Objective:** Align India's vaccine regulatory system with WHO's global standards of safety, efficacy, and quality.
- **Assessment Period:** September 16–20, 2024.
- **Review Purpose:**
 - Re-benchmark India's regulatory framework using GBT Version VI.
 - Assess the maturity level and performance of India's regulatory system.
 - Document India's adherence to WHO's core regulatory functions.



Important Terms Explained:

- **WHO Global Benchmarking Tool (GBT):**
 - A tool for evaluating the performance and standards of national regulatory authorities (NRAs).
 - Updated to Version VI with stricter benchmarks.
- **National Regulatory Authority (NRA):**
 - Refers to India's regulatory body, CDSCO, responsible for ensuring pharmaceutical product quality.
 - WHO's prequalification programme ensures that vaccines meet international safety and efficacy standards.



Static GK Information:

- **Central Drugs Standards Control Organisation (CDSCO)**
 - **Founded:** 1940
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Union Health Secretary:** Punya Salila Srivastava
- **World Health Organization (WHO)**
 - **Founded:** 7 April 1948
 - **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
 - **Director-General:** Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	WHO approves India's vaccine regulatory system
Location	India
Assessment Period	September 16–20, 2024
Evaluating Organization	World Health Organization (WHO)
Indian Institutions Involved	CDSCO, National Regulatory Authority of India
Significance	India retains maturity level 3 with high marks in vaccine regulation functions.
Upgrade in Standards	Evaluated using GBT Version VI (stricter than previous version)



- **When was Central Rule first imposed in Jammu and Kashmir, following its division into two Union Territories?**

- A) August 5, 2019
- B) October 31, 2019
- C) June 19, 2018
- D) November 28, 2018
- E) December 19, 2018

Answer

B) October 31, 2019



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Lifting of President's Rule and formation of a new government in Jammu and Kashmir.
- **Location:** Jammu and Kashmir, Raj Bhawan, Srinagar.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **President's Rule Imposed:** Initially announced in December 2018 after political instability.
- **Transition to Central Rule:**
 - On October 31, 2019, Jammu and Kashmir was reorganized into two Union Territories (J&K and Ladakh).
 - Lieutenant Governor (LG) Administration replaced the elected government.



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Change with Revocation:**
 - Omar Abdullah, with support from Congress, CPM, AAP, and independents, staked claim to form the government.
 - Assembly Reinstated: Elected representatives will resume legislative functions.
 - A cabinet headed by Omar Abdullah will govern, reducing direct intervention by the central government.



Important Terms Explained:

- **Jammu and Kashmir Reorganisation Act, 2019:**
 - **Law that bifurcated the former state into two Union Territories:** Jammu & Kashmir and Ladakh.
 - Redefined governance structures, giving the LG executive powers in certain areas.
- **Article 356 of the Constitution:**
 - Provision under which President's Rule can be imposed in a state due to governance breakdown.
 - Not applicable to Union Territories, hence direct governance was exercised via the LG after October 31, 2019.



Static GK Information:

- **Jammu and Kashmir**
 - **Capital:** Srinagar (Summer), Jammu (Winter)
 - **Lieutenant Governor:** Manoj Sinha
 - **Proposed Chief Minister:** Omar Abdullah (National Conference)
- **National Conference (NC)**
 - **Founded:** 1932
 - **Founder:** Sheikh Abdullah
 - **Current Vice President:** Omar Abdullah



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	President's Rule lifted, NC to form new govt in J&K
Location	Raj Bhawan, Srinagar
Former President's Rule	Announced on December 19, 2018
Central Rule Implemented	October 31, 2019
New Chief Minister	Omar Abdullah (to be sworn in)
Assembly Strength	National Conference + allies hold 55 seats
Significance	Elected representatives regain control over governance



- Which technology company has partnered with MSDE to launch an AI Assistant for the Skill India Mission and establish 5 Centers of Excellence?

- A) Google
- B) Microsoft
- C) Meta
- D) Amazon
- E) IBM

Answer
C) Meta



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Partnership between MSDE (Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship) and Meta
- **Location:** Five Centers of Excellence at NSTIs in Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Jodhpur, Chennai, and Kanpur



Mandates and Objectives:

- **AI Assistant:**
 - Powered by Meta's Llama open-source model
 - Integrated into the Skill India Digital (SID) Portal
 - Provides 24/7 assistance to students, offering quick access to course information, Q&A, lecture summaries, and job listings
 - Available on WhatsApp with support for English, Hindi, and Hinglish, including voice capabilities
- **Centers of Excellence (CoEs):**
 - Focus on Virtual Reality (VR) and Mixed Reality (MR) technologies
 - Located at five NSTIs to equip students and trainers with immersive and engaging learning environments



Technical Partners and Key Stakeholders

- **Sarvam AI:** Technical partner for developing and deploying the AI chatbot
- **Skillveri:** Technical partner responsible for VR and MR resources, curriculum, and training at CoEs
- **Meta India:** Shivnath Thukral, VP and Head of Public Policy, emphasized the role of AI, VR, and MR in economic and educational transformation



Static GK Information:

- **Ministry of Skill Development & Entrepreneurship (MSDE)**
 - **Founded:** 2014
 - **Minister of State (Independent Charge):** Shri Jayant Chaudhary
- **Meta Platforms, Inc.**
 - **Founded:** 2004
 - **Headquarters:** Menlo Park, California, USA
 - **CEO:** Mark Zuckerberg



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Partnership between MSDE and Meta
Launch Date	October 14, 2024
AI Model Used	Meta's Llama Open-Source Model
AI Assistant Availability	Skill India Digital Portal and WhatsApp
CoEs Locations	Hyderabad, Bengaluru, Jodhpur, Chennai, Kanpur
Technical Partner (AI Chatbot)	Sarvam AI
Technical Partner (CoEs)	Skillveri
Minister of State (MSDE)	Jayant Chaudhary
Key Technology Focus	AI, VR, and MR for enhanced skilling



➤ What ethanol blending target has India set to achieve by 2025?



- A) 10%
- B) 15%
- C) 20%
- D) 25%
- E) 30%

Answer
C) 20%



Event and Location:

- **Event:** 12th CII Bioenergy Summit 2024
- **Location:** New Delhi
- **Union Minister:** Shri Nitin Gadkari, Minister for Road Transport and Highways



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Theme of the Summit:** “Fuelling the Future - Securing India’s Green Growth Goals”
- **Ethanol Blending Milestones:**
 - Blending increased from 1.53% in 2014 to 15% in 2024.
 - **Target:** 20% ethanol blending by 2025.
 - Research ongoing to introduce 15% ethanol blending in diesel.
- **Ethanol Ecosystem Initiatives:**
 - 400 ethanol pumps to be set up by Indian Oil Corporation in Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, and Maharashtra.
 - Discussions with automakers to introduce flex-engine cars and ethanol-powered two-wheelers.



Key Biofuel and Energy Projects

- **Waste-to-Energy Initiatives:**
 - Production of bio-CNG from rice straw in 475 projects across states like Punjab, Haryana, and Karnataka.
 - Panipat plant processes agricultural waste (parali) into biomass, helping mitigate stubble burning and air pollution.
- **Bio-bitumen Research:**
 - Led by the Central Road Research Institute (CRRI) to reduce bitumen imports.
- **Energy Self-Reliance Goals:**
 - Reducing fossil fuel import cost of ₹22 lakh crore annually.
 - Expanding farmers' role from "Annadata" to "Urjadata" (energy-giver) and "Hydrogen-Data" (hydrogen-giver).



Static GK Information:

- **Confederation of Indian Industry (CII)**
 - **Founded:** 1895
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **President:** R. Dinesh
- **Ministry of Road Transport and Highways**
 - **Founded:** 1942
 - **Current Union Minister:** Shri Nitin Gadkari



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	12th CII Bioenergy Summit 2024
Location	New Delhi
Union Minister	Shri Nitin Gadkari
Ethanol Blending Achievement	15% in 2024
Target Blending by 2025	20%
Ethanol Pumps Location	Karnataka, Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh, Maharashtra
Bio-CNG Projects	475 projects using rice straw
Research Focus	Bio-bitumen and biomass conversion



➤ Which country is hosting the 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA) for the first time in 2024?

- A) United States
- B) Japan
- C) India
- D) Germany
- E) United Kingdom

Answer
C) India



Event and Location:

- **Event:** 19th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA)
- **Location:** New Delhi, India
- **Date:** October 14–18, 2024



Mandates and Objectives:

- **Organizers:** Hosted by India's CDSCO (Central Drugs Standard Control Organization) in collaboration with WHO.
- **Participants:** Regulatory authorities, policymakers, and health officials from 194 WHO member states.
- **Objective:** Strengthen global drug regulation systems by sharing knowledge, fostering partnerships, and developing frameworks for safe and effective medical products.



Highlights of the Conference

- **India's Role in Healthcare and Pharma:**
 - Pharmacy of the World: India provides 50% of the world's vaccines and supplies essential medicines to 150 countries.
 - India houses the largest number of US FDA-approved plants outside the USA.
- **Achievements of CDSCO:**
 - 95% regulatory processes digitized, increasing transparency and trust.
 - 8 operational drug testing labs and 38 state-level testing labs.
 - Mandatory QR codes on 300 drug brands and APIs for improved drug traceability.



Highlights of the Conference

- **Biosecurity and Future Preparedness:**
 - Focused discussions on smart regulation, medical devices, and AI in healthcare.
 - Addressing challenges like antimicrobial resistance (AMR) and post-pandemic global health issues.



Static GK Information:

- **Central Drugs Standard Control Organization (CDSCO)**
 - **Founded:** 1940
 - **Headquarters:** New Delhi, India
 - **Drugs Controller General of India (DCGI):** Dr. Rajeev Singh Raghuvanshi
- **World Health Organization (WHO)**
 - **Founded:** 1948
 - **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
 - **Director-General:** Dr. Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	19 th International Conference of Drug Regulatory Authorities (ICDRA)
Location	New Delhi, India
Dates	October 14–18, 2024
Organizer	CDSCO in collaboration with WHO
Participants	194 WHO member states
Key Topics Discussed	AMR, AI in healthcare, smart regulation, medical devices
Focus on Pharma Sector	50% of global vaccine supply from India



➤ Which event did Union Minister Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurate on October 14, 2024?

- A) WTSA 2024
- B) Global Standards Symposium (GSS) 2024
- C) India Telecom Summit
- D) Digital Economy Forum
- E) International Technology Congress



Answer

B) Global Standards Symposium (GSS) 2024



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Event and Location:

- **Event:** Global Standards Symposium (GSS) 2024
- **Date:** October 14, 2024
- **Location:** Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
- **Host:** Department of Telecommunications (DoT), India
- **Organizer:** International Telecommunication Union (ITU)



Mandates and Objectives:

- **GSS 2024 Purpose:**
 - Discuss international standards in the context of emerging technologies.
 - Set the stage for the World Telecommunication Standardization Assembly (WTSA) from 15–24 October 2024.
- **Participants:**
 - 1,500 policymakers, experts, and ministers from 194 ITU member states.
 - Key attendees include Jyotiraditya M. Scindia, Doreen Bogdan-Martin (ITU Secretary-General), and Dr. Neeraj Mittal (DoT Secretary).



Key Highlights from the Inauguration

- **India's Digital Achievements:**
 - 5G rollout across 98% of districts in 36 states and UTs within 22 months.
 - Innovations such as UPI, Aadhaar, and DigiLocker, used by 300 million users with 6.75 billion documents stored.
 - 5G technology is projected to contribute \$450 billion to the Indian economy by 2040.
- **AI Challenges:**
 - The deployment of AI must be ethical and transparent, with robust frameworks addressing concerns like privacy and bias.
- **Focus on Standards:**
 - Standards foster innovation, interoperability, and ensure the responsible deployment of technologies.



Static GK Information:

- **International Telecommunication Union (ITU)**
 - **Founded:** 1865
 - **Headquarters:** Geneva, Switzerland
 - **Secretary-General:** Doreen Bogdan-Martin
- **Department of Telecommunications (DoT), India**
 - **Secretary:** Dr. Neeraj Mittal
 - **Role:** Oversees India's telecom sector, including digital and communication policies.



NATIONAL AFFAIRS



Tabular Summary:

Aspect	Details
Event	Global Standards Symposium (GSS) 2024
Location	Bharat Mandapam, New Delhi
Date	October 14, 2024
Host	Department of Telecommunications (DoT), India
Organizer	International Telecommunication Union (ITU)
Key Speaker	Jyotiraditya M. Scindia
Focus Areas	Standards, AI regulation, 5G, Digital Economy
WTSA Dates	October 15–24, 2024



QUICK RECALL



- **Pink Ribbon is the global symbol of breast cancer awareness since 1992.**
- **Theme 2024: "Rural Women Cultivating Good Food for All" highlights rural women's role in food systems.**
- **Ayhika Mukherjee and Sutirtha Mukherjee clinched India's first-ever women's doubles bronze at the Asian TT Championships.**
- **ISB ranks 40th globally in FT's Executive MBA Ranking 2024.**
- **Innovators for Bharat by SBI Foundation and Villgro supports 14 agritech startups.**
- **Bank of Baroda offers 7.3% interest under the 400-day 'Utsav Deposit Scheme'.**
- **L Satya Srinivas takes over as CEO of GeM on an additional charge.**
- **Manoj Kumar Dubey has been appointed CEO, Chairman, and MD of IRFC for five years.**



QUICK RECALL



- **Kavita Sahai becomes the first woman DG Medical Services (Navy) and Col Commandant of Army Medical Corps.**
- **Acemoglu, Johnson, and Robinson win the 2024 Nobel Prize in Economic Sciences.**
- **Samarthak, the first Multi-Purpose Vessel, was launched on October 14, 2024, at L&T Shipyard, Chennai.**
- **Indian Navy partners with Bajaj Allianz Life Insurance to secure insurance for its civilians.**
- **CDSCO received WHO approval for India's functional vaccine regulatory system after meeting global benchmarks.**
- **President's Rule lifted in J&K; Omar Abdullah to lead the new government with NC's 55-seat alliance.**



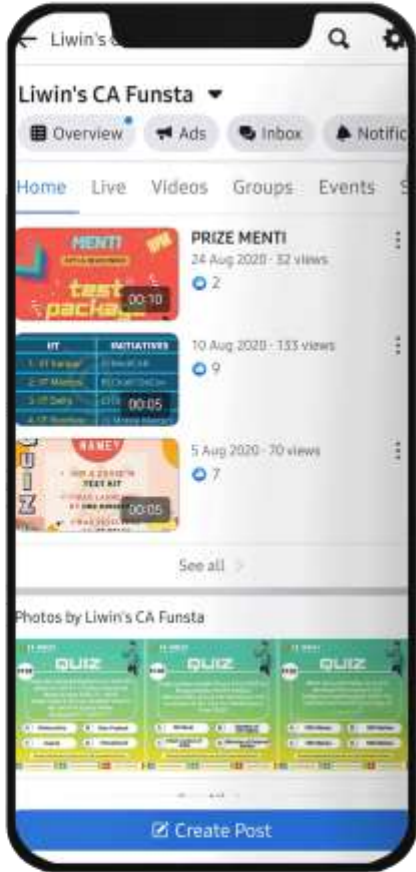
QUICK RECALL



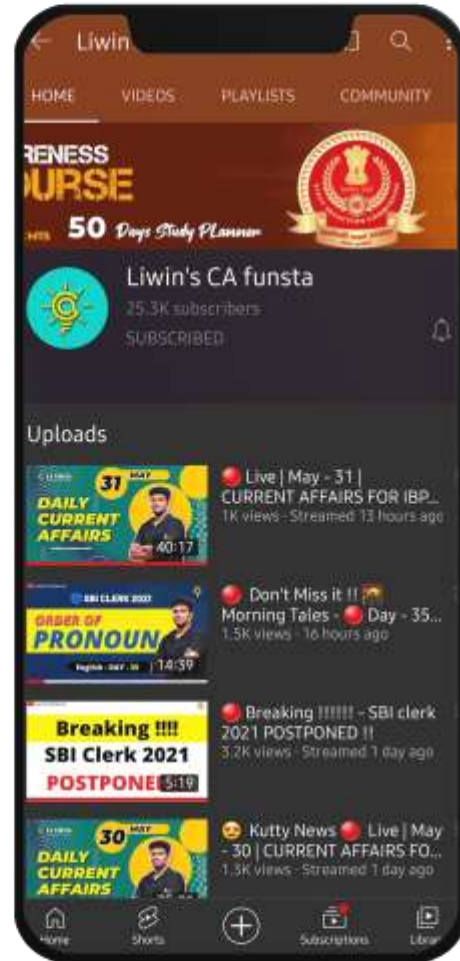
- **MSDE and Meta partner to launch AI assistant and set up 5 VR/MR CoEs at NSTIs.**
- **India aims to achieve 20% ethanol blending by 2025 to reduce fossil fuel imports.**
- **India hosts the 19th ICDRA for the first time in New Delhi.**
- **Jyotiraditya M. Scindia inaugurated the Global Standards Symposium (GSS) 2024 in New Delhi.**



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